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Lochgilphead's turn now Campbeltown completed

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

As councillors hailed the 'incredible transformation' of Campbeltown sparked by the CARS scheme, Lochgilphead looks forward to its own renaissance under the same initiative.

Named the 'most improved place' under the 2020 SURF awards, Campbeltown has just finished its Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS) programme.

At the latest meeting of the council's Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands (MAKI) area committee, Councillor John Armour described the improvement in the town as 'incredible', joining the committee in praising project officer James Lafferty for his work in leading the scheme.

Mr Lafferty now turns his attention to Lochgilphead, where a similar town centre CARS project, worth around £1.3 million, is under way with £970,000 from Historic

Environment Scotland (HES) and £386,000 allocated by Argyll and Bute Council.

Though the five-year scheme officially started on the April 1, 2020 the pandemic interrupted, so HES granted a one-year extension.

Some progress was made despite Covid and one priority

'We hope to see scaffolding erected either later this year or by the spring'

Lochgilphead building has been addressed so far, with tenders for other work due to be issued shortly.

A budget of £403,000 has been set for a small repair projects and shopfront improvements scheme, due to be launched in August and to be followed by initial expressions of interest.

More than £900,000 is available to be spent on three

priority building projects, with a contribution from building owners.

Training and education schemes will also be run as part of the project.

Speaking at the MAKI area committee meeting as Lochgilphead CARS project officer, James Lafferty said: 'We're obviously getting to know Lochgilphead and where the money needs to be spent, so we need to be careful where the funding is allocated, but we hope to see scaffolding erected either later this year or by the spring.

'The shop front scheme, public realm project and the front green are definitely whetting the appetite in Lochgilphead, which is positive.

'It's all set up; we've got our design team and we've had initial discussions with building owners.

'Basically the first year has been written off, so we now have the full five years to work up the scheme and any parallel projects as well.'



A bucket of hope on the green

OK, so it's a photograph of a digger – but that's not the point.

The arrival of machinery this week to begin the 1.5 million project to redevelop Lochgilphead front green is hugely significant for the town.

As reported in last week's Argyllshire Advertiser, the project has been a dream

for many years – and it was bordering on surreal to see Hawthorn Heights contractors starting work after so many delays and false starts.

The green will be closed, at least in part, for the duration of the works, which it is hoped will be complete by early next year.

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Abusive behaviour

At about 12.15pm on Wednesday May 26 at Blarbuie Woodland, Lochgilphead, a 46-year-old woman behaved in an abusive manner. The woman was later traced, charged and issued with a recorded police warning.

Camper damaged

On Saturday May 29 at around 1.50pm a white Fiat Autotrail motorhome was damaged on the A83 at Lochgair by having the driver's side mirror struck by another motorhome travelling towards Lochgilphead, which failed to stop and report the collision.

Police are investigating the incident and are appealing for witnesses or anyone with information to contact them on 101 or anonymously through Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Services return to Lochgilphead

Lochgilphead Parish Church will reopen for Sunday worship on June 6.

The Church of Scotland building is limited to a maximum of between 24 and 32 spaces - depending on whether people come on their own or in a couple - in the sanctuary. Seating has been reduced to allow for two metre distancing to be maintained.

If you wish to attend a service, you are asked to pre-book by phoning 01546 602087 after 5pm. Online reflections and worship will continue on Facebook on Sunday mornings.

Scarce community cash to be allocated

Argyll and Bute Council will pay just over half of grant funding requests from community projects in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands.

A document before council members on the authority's Supporting Communities Fund has said that more than £43,000 had been requested, but only £22,500 could be allocated.

Officers at the local authority recommended the money should be shared among 12 different initiatives, with nine earmarked to receive no award.

Councillors agreed to the proposals at the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands Area Committee on Wednesday June 2.

Four projects are earmarked to receive the maximum grant of £2,500, including East Kintyre Community Council for work at Wellpark Wood Community Space.

Inveraray Community Council is also recommended to receive the same sum to hire a consultant to complete a community action plan.



Mid Argyll Multiple Sclerosis Centre has been recommended for £2,500 to help with printing booklets and support outreach visits and phone calls for those in need.

Kintyre charity Shopper-Aide Ltd has had funding earmarked for accompanied excursions for people

The Lochgilphead-based MS Centre will receive £2,500. Pictured are MS Centre outreach worker Claire Cameron, left and finance officer Isobel MacIntosh.

affected by the Covid situation.

A report by officers to councillors said: 'The total Supporting Communities Fund (SCF) budget made available by the council for allocation in Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands for 2021/22 is £22,500.'

'Following consultation on the SCF with the community and recommendations from this agreed at council on November 26 2020, organisations can apply for up to £2,500 and the period of spend is 18 months.'

'This is what the respondents of the consultation wanted. Improvements were also made to simplify the application process. The SCF is a popular fund and has attracted 23 applications from the Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Islands requesting £43,622.96 in

funding. Due to Covid-19 restrictions applicants who received funding in 2020/21 were granted an extension to carry funds forward to March 2022.

'Where an organisation has been recommended for an award and received funds in 2020/21, the award recommended within this report is either for a different project or the original award has been spent and an end of project monitoring form received.'

The projects not recommended for a grant award are operated by Artmap Argyll, Campbeltown Community Council, Craignish Village Hall and Dunadd Community Enterprise.

Also recommended to miss out are Family Mediation Argyll and Bute, the Minority Ethnic Carers of People Project, South Kintyre Seniors Forum and This Is Islay.

The ninth project, operated by Allenergy, has been referred to the Community Planning Partnership for assistance with its efforts to reduce fraudulent activity due to Covid-19.



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Show will be back – bigger and better

For the second year in a row, Mid Argyll Show has been cancelled.

Other than the war years, at no other time in its long history has the show failed to have been held for more than a single year.

The difficult decision was taken by the show committee at a meeting on May 27.

Mid Argyll Show chairman David Renwick explained: 'We reluctantly decided, due to the current Covid restrictions and associated uncertainty, that the 2021 Mid Argyll Show has had to be cancelled.'

'The decision was not taken lightly, and we even considered holding some sort of stock judging or restricted show for members of the society only.'

'After a good deal of discussion, it was decided that we should either go for a normal show or not at all.'

'The committee's plan now is to bounce back 'bigger and better' on Saturday August 13, 2022.'

'Heartwarming' milestone reached in Covid vaccination programme

The chairman of NHS Highland has praised staff as it was announced that three quarters of people in the health board area have received their first dose of the Covid vaccine.

By June 1, 198,132 people had been vaccinated through NHS Highland, covering Argyll and Bute.

Health board chairman Professor Boyd Robertson said: 'The scale of the task in delivering the programme across our vast area stretching from Caithness and Sutherland to Kintyre and Helensburgh cannot be overstated. All involved have risen to the challenge magnificently and deserve to be commended.'

'They include our GPs and their practice colleagues, our teams of vaccinators, and the support staff working behind the scenes. It has been an impressive display of teamwork, planning and professionalism.'

'The first vaccine was administered in December 2020 and we are now fast approaching the 200,000 mark. I would



like to thank members of the public from across the north Highlands and Argyll and Bute for the way they have responded to the vaccination offer. It has been heart-warming to see them come forward in their thousands to be vaccinated.'

The NHS Highland chairman has praised staff as almost 200,000 people receive their first vaccination.



Youngsters are sure to be delighted about the return to rugby practise.

Rugby returns to Mid Argyll

Rugby is returning to Mid Argyll after a lengthy lay-off in the pandemic.

Mid Argyll Rugby Club secretary and youth coach Lee Buckley said that mini rugby training will take place at Lochgilphead's Ropework pitch. He said: 'We are only just getting back to it as we couldn't run "cluster clubs" on the pitch at the high school as primary schools weren't allowed to mix – so it would have meant only pupils from Lochgilphead could attend.'

'We took the decision last week to hire the Ropework on a Tuesday night for three weeks. The first session was held on Tuesday June 1 with 11 kids, so that's a good start.'

The next training session for P4-7 kids will be held at the

Ropework on June 8 and June 15; both sessions from 4-5pm.

'We are hoping some previous players return and some new ones give it a go for the first time,' continued Lee.

'There is no need to contact the club prior to turning up, anyone in that age band can come and give it a go.'

But the sport is not just for children in the region. Lee explained: 'We are also hoping to run adult Tartan Touch games from next Tuesday.'

'The time and location are still to be confirmed but everyone who is interested can keep an eye out on the Mid Argyll RFC Facebook page for details.'

'It doesn't matter if they are first timers or experienced players.'

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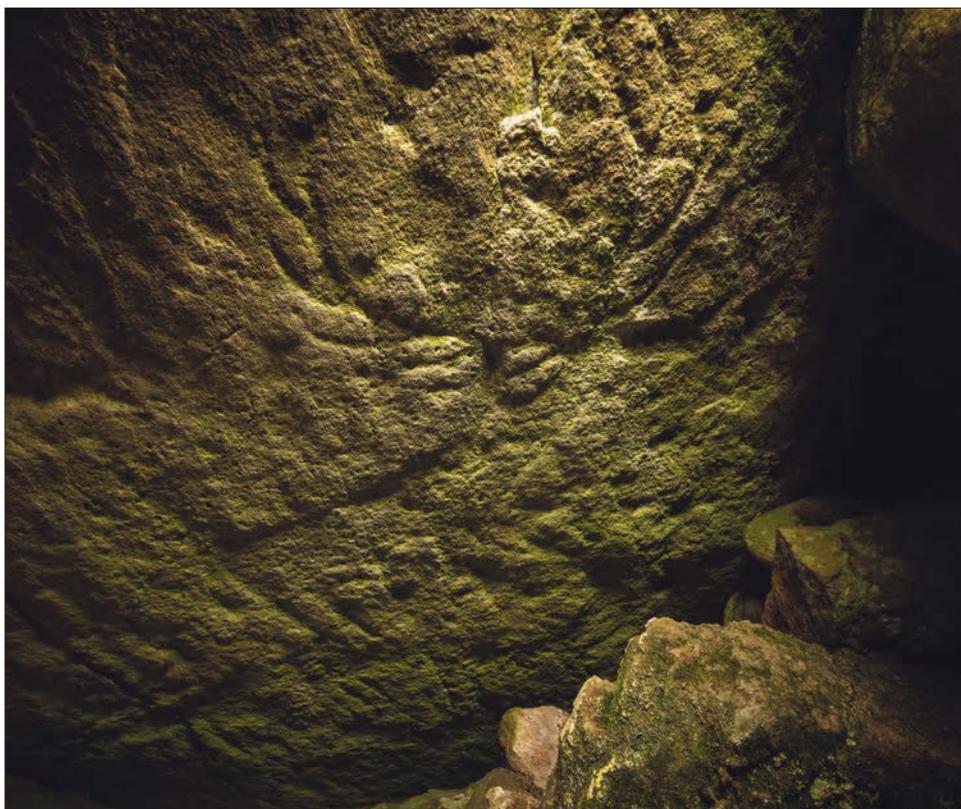
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Chance Kilmartin Glen discovers

Earliest known animal carvings in UK



Above: Deer antlers can be seen carved into the rock. Left: An impression of the rock art by Hamish Fenton.

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Prehistoric animal carvings, thought to be between 4,000 and 5,000-years-old, have been discovered for the first time in Scotland in Kilmartin Glen.

The animal carvings, hidden inside Dunchraigaig Cairn, are the earliest known in Scotland

and the first clear examples of deer carvings from the Neolithic to Early Bronze Age in the UK.

This is also the first time ancient animal carvings have been discovered alongside cup and ring markings in the UK.

Discovery of the 4,000 to 5,000-year-old artwork shatters long-held perceptions

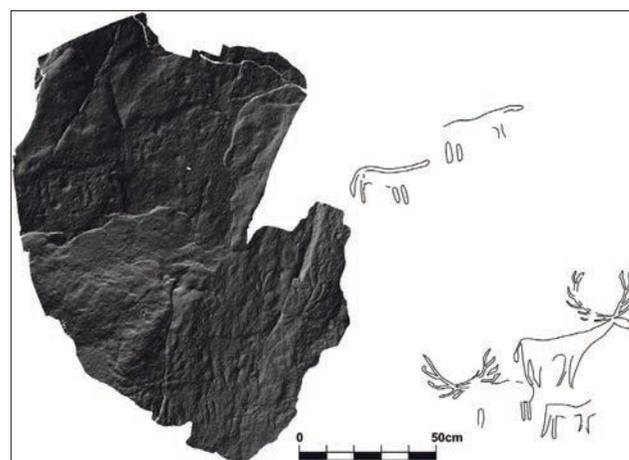
about prehistoric cultures and adds to the reputation of Kilmartin Glen as a site of global significance.

The carvings were discovered by chance by Oxfordshire man Hamish Fenton, who has a background in archaeology, while visiting Kilmartin Glen.

The carvings are located inside the cairn on the capstone of an Early Bronze Age burial cist.

Kilmartin Glen has one of the most important concentrations of Neolithic and Bronze Age remains in Scotland, including some of the finest cup and ring markings in the country.

Dr Tertia Barnett, principal investigator for Scotland's Rock Art Project at Historic Environment Scotland (HES), said: 'It was previously thought that prehistoric animal carvings of this date didn't exist in Scotland, although they are known in parts of Europe, so it



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Light changes view of prehistory

Rock found inside Dunchraigaig Cairn

is exciting they have been discovered here for the first time in the historic Kilmartin Glen.

'This extremely rare discovery completely changes the assumption that prehistoric rock art in Britain was mainly geometric and non-figurative.'

'While there are a few prehistoric carvings of deer in the UK, the only other ones created in the Early Bronze Age are very schematic.'

'It is remarkable that these carvings in Dunchraigaig Cairn show such great anatomical detail and there is no doubt about which animal species they represent.'

'This also tells us the communities were carving animals as well as cup and ring motifs which is in keeping with what we know of other Neolithic and Bronze Age societies, particularly in Scandinavia and Iberia.'

'Until now, we did not know of any area in Britain with both types of carvings, which poses questions about the relationship between them and their significance to the people that created them.'

Following Hamish's discovery, experts from Scotland's Rock Art Project examined the carvings to confirm their authenticity.

This included using innovative technology in their analysis.

A structured light scan was carried out by HES digital documentation experts to create an accurate and detailed 3D model with photographic texture and various visualisation techniques were then applied to the model in order to reveal more details of the carvings

than would have been visible to the naked eye.

Dr Barnett added: 'Digital techniques are being used more and more frequently to create precise 3D models of rock art and reveal details that were previously unknown to us or that we only suspected.'

'Digital technology is becoming increasingly important for archaeology, particularly

'This incredible discovery in Dunchraigaig Cairn makes us wonder if other animal carvings...are hidden in expected places'

for rock art, and is a key to unlocking the hidden secrets of our past.

'This incredible discovery in Dunchraigaig Cairn makes us wonder if other animal carvings previously unknown to the UK are hidden in unexpected places in our ancient landscapes, waiting to be uncovered in the future.'

The cairn, which is in care of HES, is 30m wide and contained three stone burial chambers, or cists.

The third cist, where the carvings are located, was dug directly into the ground, lined with drystone cobbled walls and capped with an unusually large stone over 3.5m long.

The remains of up to 10 individuals, some cremated, were also discovered here when the site was initially excavated in

the 1860s, as well as artefacts including a whetstone, a greenstone axe and a flint knife.

Hamish Fenton said: 'I was passing Dunchraigaig Cairn at dusk when I noticed the burial chamber in the side of the cairn and decided to slide inside with my torch.'

'As I shone the torch around, I noticed a pattern on the underside of the roof slab which didn't appear to be natural markings in the rock.'

'As I shone the light around further, I could see that I was looking at a deer stag upside down and, as I continued looking around, more animals appeared on the rock.'

'This was a completely amazing and unexpected find and, to me, discoveries like this are the real treasure of archaeology, helping to reshape our understanding of the past.'

The cairn is currently closed while HES carries out further evaluation and puts measures in place to protect the extremely rare and delicate ancient carvings.

Kilmartin Museum curator Dr Sharon Webb MBE said: 'The archaeology of Kilmartin Glen is extraordinary and every new discovery adds to its international importance.'

'Future research will help us to understand how this amazing and unique art fits into the story of the glen, which is really exciting.'

'We're in the process of rebuilding the museum with a £7.5 million redevelopment and we'll be including interpretations of this rock art in the new exhibitions when they open in 2023.'



Dr Tertia Barnett, principal investigator at Scotland's Rock Art Project, Historic Environment Scotland.



Dr Joana Valdez-Tullett, research assistant at Scotland's Rock Art Project, investigates the site at Dunchraigaig Cairn.

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DELIVERY THROUGHOUT ARGYLL

Martin's got the power – thanks to Ardrishaig Bothy

Words and photographs
by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Modern e-bikes the way forward says Lochgilphead PC

A Mid Argyll man has spoken of his experience as a born-again cyclist, just in time for Bike Week.

But his epiphany would never have happened without the help of the Ardrishaig Bothy and Cycling UK's Alec Ohnstad.

Lochgilphead-based police officer Martin Balkeen gave up on e-bikes 15 years ago after arriving at work sweaty and exhausted one time too many, thanks to a dead battery.

When the Ardrishaig Bothy let him try out a modern e-bike, it was a revelation which got him pedalling again for good.

Having used a bike on patrol around Lochgilphead, the 45-year-old is no stranger to the benefits of cycling.

'When you're on patrol in a car you're in a bubble,' he said.

'Cycling around is better as people want to talk to you and you can get places quickly.'

Around 15 years ago Martin bought an e-bike with the intention of cycling to work. Hoping for a peaceful and enjoyable commute through four miles of Glashan Forest from Lochgair to the town, it didn't quite work out that way.

Poor battery life and power combined with a two-mile-long uphill section of forest track meant the bike wasn't up to the job.

'It was one of the first generation of e-bikes and I made a mistake and bought a cheap one.



Martin Balkeen is a born again e-biker. 51_a23E-bike_MartinBalkeen04



The power unit on Martin's new e-bike. 51_a23E-bike_MartinBalkeen05

'I heard about the Ardrishaig Bothy and that was the ideal way to give it another go'

'The battery only lasted one trip and it didn't have enough power so I was arriving knackered and really sweaty.'

He considered buying a replacement, but his experience

and the cost put him off, not to mention the two-hour journey each way to Glasgow and the nearest e-bike shop.

'Going to Glasgow is no good as I needed to try it out on the hills here as that's where I'd be using it.'

'I heard about the Ardrishaig Bothy and that was the ideal way to give it another go.'

Ardrishaig Bothy, set up by Cycling UK in partnership with Scottish Canals and

funded by Smarter Choices Smarter Places, supports people to experience better health and reduced car dependence by walking and cycling.

When Alec offered Martin a free loan of a modern e-bike, the difference was huge.

Gone was the huge battery pack and heavy frame.

In its place was a smaller but more efficient battery and a more powerful motor and he arrived at work feeling ener-

gised rather than exhausted. With confidence it was worth the investment, he bought a new e-bike and now enjoys his commute through the forest with wildlife for company.

'It's gi-normous fun riding the forest tracks.'

'The other day I had to slow down for a herd of deer, but sometimes I meet other cyclists and walkers.'

'When I was trialling the e-bike I passed someone riding a conventional bike who had sweat pouring off him.'

'I'm using the car a lot less, which is helping to cut emissions and pollution.'

'I feel much fitter than before, which is important as I wanted to be in better condition in case I get Covid-19. I want to have some protection.'

He added: 'It really helps to think about the working day

ahead, then to debrief on the way home.'

'Any tension or stress can be worked out.'

And more exploration is definitely on the cards for Martin.

'I'd like to use the bike to explore the area a bit more.'

'I moved here 20 years ago from East Kilbride as I didn't want to live in the city any more, but I haven't explored a hundredth of the area yet.'

Bike Week, organised by Cycling UK, runs until June 5 and focuses on cycling's benefits to physical, mental and emotional well-being.

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Community Noticeboard

KILMARTIN MUSEUM

Kilmartin Museum Redevelopment Project

Community Update Event

Saturday 5th June
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Drop in to chat to team members about the project & build at the Pop Up Café area, Kilmartin Museum.

London society's support for Kilmartin Museum

Members raise £35,000 for education room

Plans for a revamped Kilmartin Museum have been given a lift with a generous donation towards an education space in the new building, writes Colin Cameron.

The Highland Society of London took on the challenge of fundraising on behalf of Kilmartin Museum in 2019, organising events as well as putting out an appeal to individual members for donations.

Last week the society announced it had reached its £35,000 target – enough to build and fit out an education room in the new museum, ready for its planned re-opening in 2023.

President of the Highland Society of London Duncan Byatt said: "The society is delighted to be associated with the expansion of the Kilmartin Museum and to have funded the education room in the new building.

"We hope this will enable much greater numbers of visitors to learn about the

fascinating ancient history of Kilmartin Glen and ignite their interest in archaeology and local rock art.

"The new museum is exactly the sort of project members of the Highland Society of London look to get behind and we wish it and the Kilmartin Museum team great success in the future."

The donation was welcomed by Kilmartin Museum education team lead Julia Hamilton.

Support

"We are delighted to have the support of the Highland Society of London," she said, "and I'm really looking forward to having a dedicated space to deliver the learning service after many years of managing in inadequate facilities."

The dedicated space will allow the education team to work with a wide range of schools, the Young Archaeologists and Wildlife afterschool club, as well as a variety of activities for adults including talks, workshops and lectures.

Families urged to apply for support grant

Jenni Minto MSP is urging eligible families in Argyll and Bute to apply for this year's Best Start Grant School Age Payment, as applications opened this week.

The payment is open to families who get tax credits or certain other benefits and have a child who was born between March 1, 2016 and February 28, 2017.

It is part of five family payments delivered by Social Security Scotland that also includes: Best Start Foods; Best Start Grant Pregnancy and Baby Payment; Best Start Grant Early Learning Payment and Scottish Child Payment.

Best Start food payments are set to increase to £4.50 per week on August 1 to support low income families to buy healthy food for children under the age of three.

The area's MSP said: "The Scottish Government is working to ensure that every



Jenni Minto MSP.

child in Argyll and Bute has the best start in life and these payments – which have been described as 'game-changing' – form part of that effort to build a fairer, more equal Scotland.

"The Best Start payments have been vital in ensuring children in Argyll and Bute and across Scotland have the best start in life, with around £5,000 of support being provided by the time a child turns six."

An impression of the planned education room, by Reiach & Hall Architects.



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Retiral for Iain does not mean just drifting away



Iain MacNicol is looking forward to retirement. 51_a23IainMacNicol04

Sergeant MacNicol hangs up his hat after 30 years of police service

by Colin Cameron
editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk

Three decades of experience will leave Lochgilphead police station with the retirement of Sergeant Iain MacNicol.

Just before he heads out the door for the final time as a full-time police officer, he took time to chat to the Argyllshire Advertiser about his time in the force.

He was brought up on the family Turnalt Farm, Barbreck, and started his working life on farms in Perthshire and latterly as a cattleman in Fife. Enjoyable as the work was, he was looking for something different, so applied to join the police.

In 1991, at the age of 23 and married to Morag the year before, he joined Tayside Police after a lengthy recruitment process.

He will officially retire on June 30 at the age of 53, though annual leave meant he effectively finished on Thursday June 3. Except, not quite.

'I'm planning to go into work on June 30,' he explained, 'just so that I can walk out the door on my last day. I didn't want to watch the clock and just drift away.'

Constable Iain MacNicol's first posting was in Perth for a two-year probationary period, during which time he and Morag lived in police accommodation in Auchterarder before later building a house in Muthill.

Probation over, he was posted to Crieff, also covering Auchterarder.

He said: 'That was a good area to work. It was a rural area, but it also has the A9 running through it, with the volume of traffic.'

An interest in the traffic side of policing saw him spend eight years as a road policing officer in Tayside Police from 1998.

Promoted to sergeant out of road traffic in 2006, he worked in Crieff and Perth for three years before moving 'home' to Lochgilphead in 2009.

Coming back to Argyll, he says, 'felt fine'.

He continued: 'It was the same job, but because Tayside

and Strathclyde were separate forces, the office systems were different, so that took a bit of getting used to.

'And I had to resign from Tayside to join Strathclyde. I remember, on the Sunday before I started, hoping that nothing happened before I joined on the Monday.'

Policing, like society, has changed greatly over the past 30 years. In a world of diminishing resources for issues such as mental health, officers these days have to deal with many more welfare incidents than would have been the case in the past.

'As a service which is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, a lot of the people who find themselves in difficulty fall to the police to deal with,' he said.

'The growth of the internet and social media have generated new challenges to the police, often linked to mental health.

Then there's the increase in telephone, text and online fraud.

'That is the crime of the current time,' said Sergeant MacNicol. 'These crimes have developed and the criminals could be anywhere in the world, so it's difficult to detect.'

The past year has been dominated by Covid, something which brought its own hurdles for the police.

He said: 'The pandemic has been a big factor over the past 14 months. There have been new Covid rules to understand and apply on the ground, with a light touch approach generally being taken.'

'We've had to carry on doing the same jobs, obviously taking precautions.'

Variety, the spice of life, is never lacking in the police.

'You never know what's round the corner,' he said.

One day, he and a Tayside traffic colleague were sitting in their patrol car waiting for the end of their shift when they received a call about a car travelling very slowly on the A9.

Tracing the vehicle they asked the driver to pull over but he carried on. After forcing the car to a halt, it turned out the car was packed with

cannabis.

The two officers received a commendation from Tayside Police and the drugs mule was jailed – all because his car let him down on the dual carriageway.

Sergeant MacNicol continued: 'It's been a good career for me and I can certainly recommend it. I've enjoyed meeting and working with people from all walks of life.'

'But it's the right time. I've done my bit.'

He (half) joked: 'Nobody ever came to me with solutions – just problems.'

Life beyond the police certainly won't be idle.

He and Morag are members of Mid Argyll Tri and Cycle Club and plenty of fitness events are on the horizon.

He added: 'I'll also be helping out on the farm in busy periods and we have a holiday cottage in Cairnbaan to look after.'

'And as far as jobs are concerned, I'm just going to take it as it comes, but at this point I'm looking to have a wee break.'

Contemplating retirement, he said: 'It feels strange and it's come up quickly. I'm not one of these folk who marks off the calendar – that's just wishing your life away.'

Paying tribute, fellow Lochgilphead Sergeant Martin Balkeen said: 'Iain has been a good friend and colleague and we've worked well together.'

'He's got a huge amount of experience and is someone who is very good at the details. And there is his farming knowledge, too, which has been useful.'

He added: 'Iain will be missed around the office.'

Lochgilphead Inspector Paul Collins said: 'Lochgilphead Police Office will certainly miss Iain.'

'Not only is he an experienced and extremely knowledgeable officer, but he is very well liked and respected by everyone here.'

'From the day I arrived he has been invaluable and has done absolutely everything possible to help me settle in.'

'We all wish him every happiness in his retirement. It is certainly well deserved.'

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Taste Argyll's stunning scenic trails

Visitors to Argyll will be able to 'eat the view' in an imaginative new project inspired by the region's stunning scenery and top-notch food and drink, writes Colin Cameron.

Wild About Argyll's Taste of Place trails will see food and drink producers prepare a selection of limited edition 'eat the view' picnics – with everything on the menu created from the sights around.

Tourists will then be guided to an 'Insta-worthy' viewpoint to savour the sights they are enjoying.

From freshly caught seafood to wild food heaven from Scotland's own rainforest, the specials will be handmade to pick up from a neighbouring restaurant or café located

along five new food and drink trails with various themes – seafood; spirit and beer; farm produce; vegan and coffee and cakes.

The aim is to encourage tourists to visit our glorious region, experiment with unique dining experiences in stunning locations, meet the producers and enjoy a world-class staycation on Scottish soil.

Iain Jurgensen, chairman of Argyll and The Isles Tourism Co-operative, said: 'Argyll has built a strong reputation for top quality food and drink with its world class distilleries, seafood and numerous award-winning eateries featuring sensational local produce thanks to the consistent levels of rainfall and relatively mild, year-round

One of Argyll's scenic gems - Carradale Bay looking across to Arran. Photograph: Raymond Hosie.

temperatures. With ongoing high demand for the great outdoors, the Taste of Place trails have been designed to offer visitors an immersive experience as part of their travels around the destination this year; to allow them to sample every single ingredient that goes into the dishes, and to be able to speak with the artisan producers who lovingly prepare it.'

'The Taste of Place Trails combine many of the strengths of the Argyll and Isles region into one distinct offering,' said VisitScotland regional director David Adams McGilp.

'We know from our insights

that even pre-pandemic, visitors want a much more immersive experience in the places they go, to create a more meaningful emotional connection and memories.

'Food and cultural tourism are a key part of this trend and will contribute to the economic recovery from the pandemic.'

'Tourism and events will help to rebuild the Scottish population's well-being.'

'Everyone deserves a holiday and Argyll and the Isles and all it offers is the perfect antidote after lockdown.'

The Taste of Place is a partnership led by Argyll

A tempting seafood selection from Tobermory Fish.



and the Isles Tourism Co-operative with support from VisitScotland Growth Fund, Food from Argyll, Argyll and Bute Council and CalMac.

The 'eat the view' specials will be available at The Fisherman's Kitchen on Seil, Tobermory Fish, Cakes in a Callbox near Loch Awe, Food from Argyll's

Café at the Pier in Oban, The Blairmore Café near Dunoon, Argyll Coffee Roasters near Tighnabruach, Gleneedale House on Islay and Beinn an Tuirc Distillery and Café in Kintyre, to name but a few.

More information on the trails can be found on the Wild About Argyll website.

Worried about rising energy bills? Home Energy Scotland is here to help

Advertorial

If you are worried about the impact on your energy bills while staying in more or working from home, you're not alone. A 2020 survey by Home Energy Scotland showed that nearly half (44%) of people working from home are worried this will lead to an increase in unaffordable energy bills.

This is where we can help you. Home Energy Scotland is funded by the Scottish Government to help you reduce your heating costs and make your home warmer and more energy efficient.

Making your home more energy efficient can have a big impact on your bills. We can help you access help worth up to £5,000 to cover the cost of energy saving home improvements, through the Scottish Government's Warmer Homes Scotland programme.

Case study

Mrs P got her ageing boiler replaced with a new, more efficient central heating system through the Warmer Homes Scotland scheme. She told us her home is now much easier to heat:

"I was having difficulty heating the flat previously, but I now find myself going and turning the heating down! I've had such a good experience, there was no problem at all."



Over 22,000 homeowners and private tenants across Scotland have benefited from help from the scheme since it was launched in 2015, each of them saving around £300 on their energy bills per year too.

Furthermore, eight out of ten supported households have received completely free energy efficiency measures. Most have received improvements worth over £5,000.

Impartial advice and support just a free call away

Grant Mackay, Home Energy Scotland advice centre manager in the Highlands and Islands, said:

'If you're worried about heating your home or rising energy bills you could have a warmer home like Mrs P, and save hundreds of pounds on your energy bills too. It's potentially a win-win and all you need to do is call us free on 0808 808 2282 to find

out if you qualify for support.

'We also offer interest-free loans funded by the Scottish Government with cashback of up to 75% for energy efficiency improvements like solid wall insulation, double glazing or a new renewable heating system.'

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Home Energy Scotland can help you access the scheme and find out if you're eligible for free energy saving home improvements like insulation and heating, on average worth around £5,000.

Making your home more energy efficient can help reduce your bills, keeping your home warm for less. Their service is free and impartial so get in touch today – call free on **0808 808 2282** or visit homeenergyscotland.org



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Recognising all the volunteers who support our communities

Volunteers have long been the lifeblood of communities across Argyll and Bute and this has never been more true than during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Amazing volunteer-led work over the past year helped so many people during a time of need.

Kintyre Community Resilience Group came together in the very early days of lockdown and with the help of volunteers collected prescriptions, provided shopping and a friendly face and voice to many people who would otherwise have been completely isolated.

Mid Argyll Transport Volunteers have kept the wheels turning in their locality by taking people to their Covid vaccination appointments, delivering shopping and medication collections, as well as their normal medical and dental runs.



Takki Sulaiman, chief executive of Argyll and Bute TSI.

Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface (TSI) is hosting this year's Volunteer Awards in partnership with LiveArgyll and sportscotland in recognition of such volunteers.

The award ceremony will

be held virtually this month. Takki Sulaiman, chief executive of Argyll and Bute TSI, said: 'The volunteer response to support our communities was both informal and formal. We all recognised the

'So many people stepped forward to deliver food, medicine, walk dogs..'

potential risks to physical and mental health of people left alone to fend for themselves, cut-off as we were from friends and family.

'So many people stepped forward to help deliver food, medicine, walk dogs, pick up deliveries and provide valuable socially-distant human support.'

Mr Sulaiman added that in Argyll and Bute, more than 1,000 volunteers made themselves available by adding their names to the portal developed by Argyll and Bute TSI with support from Argyll and Bute Council.

'On top of this, there was a myriad of unrecorded acts of support, humanity and kindness carried out by charities, community groups and informal networks,' he said.

'It has shown us that whilst

public services can and must deliver vital core services – and they should be properly funded – we can only build resilient and sustainable communities if we all lend a hand.

'At the same time, volunteering must not be seen as a cheap way to cover gaps in public services caused by austerity. It has to add something different or value added and that is often related to a personal touch.'

Mr Sulaiman added: 'As someone who is new in post, I have had the pleasure of meeting many people over the past few weeks who were able to share their stories of help and support given in kindness at a moment of need.'

'For instance, the seasonal workers stranded in Kintyre with no recourse to public funds helped by local people to volunteers shopping for

those unable to leave their homes.'

Before the pandemic, according to figures collated by Volunteer Scotland, 25 per cent of people in Argyll and Bute volunteered formally through an organisation or a group.

In 2018-19 they provided a staggering 2.7 million hours of help, worth more than £35 million to the local economy.

'Argyll and Bute TSI is working hard to see how this volunteering model can be extended and supported so that we avoid volunteer fatigue,' said Mr Sulaiman.

'Our awards are just one small way of saying thank you but it has to be backed up by support so watch this space over the coming year for our plans to further support volunteering in Argyll and Bute.'

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Super seagrass to be restored in Loch Craignish

Craignish-based charity Seawilding will join forces with Project Seagrass and the Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) in a pioneering community-led seagrass restoration project at Loch Craignish.

Seagrass (*Zostera marina*) is an important inshore marine habitat which seizes carbon faster than a rainforest.

It turns bare sand habitat into a structurally complex, productive ecosystem full of marine life.

It is also a nursery ground for cod, pollack, whiting, plaice, herring and sea bass.

In Loch Craignish there are 10 small degraded meadows and the £145,409 project, funded by the Scottish Government's Biodiversity Challenge Fund, aims to improve an existing meadow by a quarter of a hectare this autumn.

If successful, the plan is to roll it out to other coastal community groups.

Seagrass seed will be gathered by hand, processed in a mobile unit and planted in hessian bags on the seabed.

Seawilding and members of the Craignish community will run the project while Project Seagrass provides technical help and SAMS, based near Oban, offers environmental monitoring and eDNA sampling.

'This is a really exciting project and builds on our plans to restore one million native oysters to Loch Craignish,' said Danny Renton, Seawilding's founding director. It's



Loch Craignish seagrass. Photograph: Iris Bevan/Craignish.info.

proof positive that communities can and need to play a leading role in the restoration of inshore marine habitats which have been so degraded by scallop dredging, bottom trawling, pollution and aquaculture.'

NatureScot chief executive Francesca Osowska said: 'During lockdowns people around the world have valued the direct physical and well-being benefits of nature.'

'More than ever before, people are starting to understand fully and support powerful arguments to put nature at the heart of our emergence from this crisis.'

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The Easy Club band fills the air with music outside the Cairnbaan Hotel.

Cairnbaan rocks with Easy Club

The music of the Easy Club Mid Argyll delighted people gathered outside Cairnbaan Hotel on a warm, dry Saturday afternoon.

The Easy Club players were delighted to be performing together again on May 29 – and there will be more such days in the coming months, weather permitting.

And, as coronavirus restrictions allow, there will be workshops and shows at Lochgilphead Resource Centre.

New players are always welcome and they don't have to be, in the words of co-ordinator Hugh Fife, 'old, white, male and ugly'.

Young entrepreneurs are inspiring their future peers

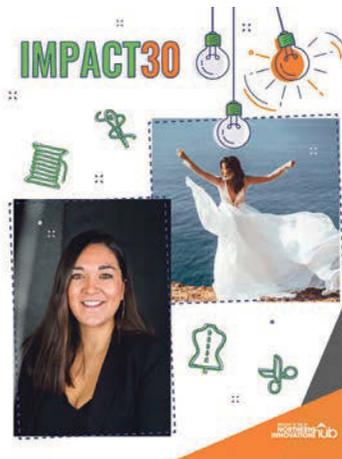
Young business leaders in the Highlands and Islands are encouraging others to apply to a year-long programme to develop the next generation of entrepreneurs.

IMPACT30 is a fully-funded business growth programme offering tailored support from industry specialists.

The programme is open to people aged 35 and under in key decision-making roles in young, ambitious businesses.

It forms part of the Northern Innovation Hub, a project led by Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

It is funded from £11m from the UK Government as part of the Inverness and Highland City Region Deal and £1.7m awarded through the European Regional Development Fund Scotland Programme 2014-2020. So far, 76 businesses have signed up. Among them is Kirsty



Kirsty MacLennan found real benefit from the IMPACT30 programme.

MacLennan from Fort William. Kirsty took the plunge and launched Kirsty Elizabeth Studio in 2020, focusing full-time on her business for the first time.

With her debut bridal collection launched in July 2020, alongside the unveiling of a new website and brand identity, her progress since

joining IMPACT30 exceeded her expectations.

'The value started from day one,' recalls Kirsty. 'Straight away I got help to figure out who my customer would be. The programme mentors made me think about things that hadn't occurred to me before.'

'I immediately started to question why, if I was going

to be giving it my full focus, wasn't I doing what I really dreamed of?'

'So my business objectives and vision changed from day one. I focused on what I wanted to achieve and a new version of myself emerged in the months that followed.'

Northern Innovation Hub development manager Lizi Blackwood said: 'IMPACT30 is about giving participants the chance to learn with and from the growing network of young entrepreneurs in the region, fuelling the ambition, energy and commitment needed to succeed.'

'We would urge others to consider an application and we look forward to welcoming new young business leaders on to the programme this summer.'

The deadline for the next round of applications is June 21.



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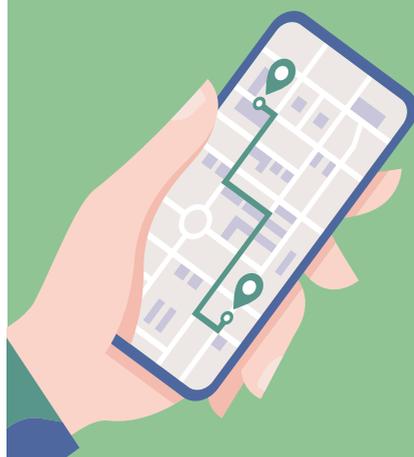


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A message to all members old and new from Gillian at Slimming World

I know the last 13 months have been tough and so many people have faced many struggles, some with their health and many of us with work and money issues. Added to that, the lack of social interaction and just being able to do the day to day things that seemed insignificant back in 2019, it's been a mentally very trying time. I really hope you and your family and friends are all ok and feeling more positive as we take these first tentative steps back to a bit of normality.

I know I have messaged you previously about returning to group and I totally understand that the time and circumstances probably just weren't right for you. Do forgive me for reaching out once again but I just don't want to leave anyone behind who may need my help but may also be worried about returning.

I know that you previously joined my group with an aim in mind – to lose weight and to feel healthier - and, if that's still the case and you were thinking about returning, just know you'll be in great company with absolutely no judgement. Whatever has happened during the last year, the first step back to Slimming World will see you flying again in no time. Now that things are returning to normal, we'll all be thinking about the future and that may include holidays, weddings or many other special occasions and I would just love to help you prepare for that.

The brilliant news is we have a range of options for returning!

- you can return for just the cost of the weekly fee, £5.95 (£5.65 seniors) and carry on from where you left off
- If it would motivate you to achieve awards again, we can set it so that, even if you've previously had awards but have regained some weight, you will get those certificates and shiny stickers all over again as you catch back up!
- You could rejoin and start again from scratch and have a new pack if you need one for just £10.95 (£10.65 seniors)
- A 6 week countdown course comes with no joining fee up to 28th May so just £29.75 (£28.25 seniors) which saves you one weeks fee
- We have an offer coming up on 30th May – 19th June for a 12 week countdown course (£64.50 / £61.50 seniors for starting from scratch or £59.50 / £56.50 seniors for current members – which means 2 free weeks AND you get a fabulous new recipe book 'Fast & Free'

Our groups are super safe with all protective measures in place – this includes strict limits on numbers which means everyone has to book their place in group. If you want to return do get in touch soon to check session times and availability as places are filling fast.

Gillian xx

slimmingworld.co.uk

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Smile, you're on canine camera

CCTV is being used to stop dog owners from leaving their pets' poo behind in Argyll and Bute, a report has revealed.

Council officials have also outlined other measures to prevent fouling after nearly 350 offences were recorded between April 2019 and March 2021.

The area's dog wardens had their full-time equivalent (FTE) post count slashed by more than 50 per cent under the council's budget for the 2021/22 financial year. And a senior council officer says there are limited other options available to ensure dog owners clear up after their pets.

The information was revealed in a report for the council's environment, development and infrastructure committee at its virtual meeting on June 3.

Executive director Kirsty Flanagan said: 'Officers have successfully deployed CCTV at known locations where dog fouling is an issue. This acts as a deterrent and encourages dog owners to pick up their

CCTV being used as budget cuts hit dog warden numbers



Far left: Your best friend - but clean up after them.

Left: Now you could be on camera while leaving your dog's mess behind.

and is therefore a highly effective deterrent.

'Our enforcement warden service has been reduced from nine to four FTEs due to reductions in the funding available to the council. This means that warden coverage across the area is limited. No dog fouling signs are in place across many parts of Argyll and Bute.'

Ms Flanagan added: 'Limited information is received from members of the public regarding offending individuals.'

'Where information is received and where individuals are prepared to give evidence,

we are able to pursue the individual responsible for allowing their dog to mess by issuing a fixed penalty providing a written statement is provided by the witness and where the council has reason to believe an offence has been committed.

'Unfortunately few individuals are prepared to provide written evidence which would be required for the council to progress any dog fouling matter through the courts.'

Ms Flanagan added that a 2017 proposal to 'name and shame' owners responsible for dog fouling was a non-starter due to legal advice.

dog mess and behave responsibly. Argyll and Bute Council environmental wardens currently enforce legislation that allows officers to issue £80 fixed charge notices to people who fail to lift their dog's mess as long as they are observed doing so. The penalty

was increased from £40 to £80 in April 2016 by the Scottish Government. The fixed penalty charges are set by government. The council does not have the ability to vary these charges.

'Enforcement activity is carried out by wardens, who are also involved in commercial

waste, fly tipping, parking, control of dog notices, litter enforcement and education and pest control.

'Our wardens' presence in dog walking areas usually results in owners picking up after their dogs and very few penalty notices being issued

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YOUR PICTURES

Reader Liz McLean sent us this photograph showing a splash of springtime colour.

It was taken by Liz on May 27 while walking the Tileworks trail on the Moine Mhor National Nature Reserve in Kilmartin Glen. Liz said there were 'masses of intense blue accompanied by a wonderful scent'.

Like Liz, many of us, would think of the flower as a bluebell. But that is not strictly true in Scotland.

The photograph shows spring-flow-

ering hyacinth – *Hyacinthoides non-scripta* – which is known across much of the UK as a bluebell.

In Scotland, we have the Scottish bluebell, an entirely different species which is known as the Harebell in other parts of the country. 'Our' bluebell – *Campanula rotundifolia* – is summer flowering and grows among drier grasslands from the hills to the coast.

Send your favourite photographs for publication to editor@argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk



Car parks to be opened up for staycationers

Seventeen sites in Argyll and Bute are to be made available to campervans as part of a pilot scheme to help with 'staycations' in the area.

Members of Argyll and Bute Council's environment, development and infrastructure committee discussed the plans at a virtual meeting on June 3.

Under the proposal, self-sufficient campervans, with their own toilets, will be able to park.

The sites, spread across the region, are all free car parking areas or laybys, while a small number have their own toilets.

They have, however, been allocated without public consultation, with feedback from communities to be monitored to help shape the scheme in future.

A report to the committee by executive director Kirsty Flanagan said: 'A number of sites have been identified and will be publicised as available for potential parking sites during the day with potential for overnight stays as part of a pilot project which will be monitored.'

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WEST PROPERTY CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY



Emma Robertson



Sofia Al-Hosani

West Property is celebrating its 10th anniversary - a decade which has taken the company from one person based in Oban to seven-strong team with offices also in Fort William and Tobermory.

What originally began as a letting company - and letting is still the core business - has expanded very successfully into property sales as well.

'West customers were so pleased with our letting service that they began to ask if we would sell for them, or find properties, and this side of the business has grown accordingly,' said Gavin MacKinnon, commercial director.

Amongst the work being done in this 10th anniversary year is a planned revitalisation of the West Property website.

'Digital marketing changes rapidly - incredibly so if you look back over our first 10 years - It is important that companies like us are always at the top of our game online,' Gavin said, 'as important as our online presence is, people are at the heart of West Property's success.'

'We never forget that homes are a family's major investment, whether renting, letting, buying or selling and clients and customers will always value the personal touch and expertise of dealing with knowledgeable, local people.'

West Property deals with long-term lettings of good-quality properties of all sizes and prices. They offer a fully-managed service, matching the right property and the right tenant, taking care of all the legalities and paperwork, including photographic inventories.

The business covers Fort William and Lochaber, the Ardnamurchan Peninsula and inland to Crianlarich; Oban and Lorn, down

through Inveraray to Lochgilhead and as far south as Tarbert, Loch Fyne. The addition of the Tobermory office also means West handles property lettings and sales on the islands of Mull and Iona.

Gavin added: 'Everyone on the team at West Property is local and has roots in their communities. Between us this makes for a thorough knowledge and appreciation of what it means to live in the West Highlands.'

West Property currently employs seven people, however that is set to increase. West is expanding the lettings team, meaning more opportunities for local people. Get in touch if that's of interest!

Over the last 10 years West Property has worked in partnership with locally-based trades people and specialists and developed a network of skilled workers to call on to maintain letting properties as part of its wrap-around service.

'We have built up excellent working relationships with contractors throughout the area,' Gavin said, 'it is all part of the West Property way of doing business.'



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Rhona Forbes



Lucy Hallett



Claire MacLachlan



Gavin MacKinnon



Jodi MacLean

“
West customers were so pleased with our letting service that they began to ask if we would sell for them, or find properties
”



WEST PROPERTY PEOPLE

Emma Robertson, Lettings Team:

Emma grew up on the Isle of Seil and is a former Oban High School pupil; currently she lives in the town.

Sofia Al-Hosani, Lettings Team:

Sofia is another former Oban High School pupil and has always lived in the area. She currently lives in Kilninver.

Rhona Forbes, Financial Controller:

Originates from East Lothian and has lived in Oban for nearly 10 years, Rhona has vast experience within the property industry.

Gavin MacKinnon, Commercial Director:

Lochaber High School former pupil, Gavin is a well-known face in the Fort William and Lochaber business community and he manages the business and the team at West Property.

Lucy Hallett, Sales Agent:

Lucy is based in Oban and lives in the town herself. She is originally from Lochgilphead so she knows Oban, Lorn and Mid Argyll inside out.

Jodi MacLean, Sales Agent:

born and bred on Mull, Jodi and her young family live in Salen and she can tell you everything you need to know about island life.

Claire MacLachlan, Sales Agent:

Claire belongs to Fort William where she also went to school at Lochaber High and currently lives in Inverloch.



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Lochgilphead to receive much-needed attention

Few would disagree with the Councillor John Armour's view that the transformation is 'incredible' in Campbeltown.

There is not so much cash in the pot for Lochgilphead, but we have an experienced CARS officer in James Lafferty who knows what he's doing.

The trick is to maximise every opportunity, and we would encourage town centre property owners to engage with the spirit of the regeneration scheme and together help lift the town.

We have said it many times before but with the front green scheme, Colchester Square/Argyll Street improvements, the CARS scheme and other initiatives around the area, this is a time when Lochgilphead is the focus for much-needed investment.

As the centre of local government, it is a shame it has been neglected over the years – but at least there is some ambition now for the town.

Redrawing prehistory

We've always known Kilmartin Glen was a special place.

Far from the isolated spot it seems today, in the past it was a centre – a place of importance for all kinds of reasons.

The discovery of animal carvings – the first of their kind in the UK – might suggest that people travelled here from far-flung places, taking their culture with them.

And it strengthens the case for the glen to be classified as a world heritage site.

Just in time for Kilmartin Museum to reopen in a couple of years' time.

Accelerating ferry improvements

Sir,

The Clyde and Hebrides Ferries Community Board had a positive meeting with the new transport minister Graeme Dey MSP.

The minister confirmed the position the island communities found themselves in through a lack of resilience in the fleet had to be addressed.

He understands the frustration and anger that exists across the network and has committed to doing all he can to improve the immediate situation and work with stakeholders to plan a more resilient and sustainable service going forward.

It was confirmed proposals to hire in additional tonnage is at an advanced stage and other proposals for short to medium-term improvements would be considered.

The minister also recognised the important part the communities' voice can play in future planning and the benefit an inclusive approach can bring to future developments.

The minister also wishes to have a good working relationship with the Ferries Community Board and the island communities they serve.

Our board looks forward to working effectively with the minister and other stakeholders to ensure that the unacceptable level of damage to the social and economic fabric of our islands across the network will not be repeated.

The board had separate sessions with senior Transport Scotland officials, the chief executive of CMAL and the managing director of CalMac.

Options were discussed around the condition and age of the fleet and particularly around what short term alternative options there were.

Are there other ways of working or modifying restrictions to immediately gain more capacity and can we understand what prohibits more flexible solutions?

Questions were asked around the dry docking as to whether all essential repairs were done and if better investment in time and resources in dry docking would prevent future breakdowns.

There was general agreement this would be a positive move, although it was recognised that

longer dry docking periods would mean longer periods of vessels being unavailable unless we brought spare tonnage into the fleet.

The urgent efforts to obtain new tonnage was welcomed.

The board also emphasised the need for a clear programme of investment from the finance identified in the last budget.

We were clear that communities' voices must be heard in the formulation of the programme.

Best value for money has to be achieved and consideration given if all the needs of the service will be met within these resources in an acceptable timeframe.

The board emphasised to all parties the disastrous consequences of the present situation on communities, individuals and businesses and offered to work constructively to accelerate improvements that will meet the needs of our communities.

Our board will follow up on the main points raised with the appropriate bodies and look forward to further meetings with the minister.

Angus Campbell, chairman, Ferries Community Board (Clyde and Hebrides).

Nominate a lottery hero for a national award

Sir,

The 2021 National Lottery Awards are open for entries.

Once again, the annual search for the UK's favourite National Lottery-funded people and projects will recognise those individuals and organisations who have made an extraordinary impact in their community – especially during these unprecedented times.

As part of The National Lottery Awards, we want to celebrate those whose selfless dedication and fantastic work makes such a difference in villages, towns and cities across the country.

Encompassing all areas of National Lottery funding, you nominate local legends and hometown heroes in the categories of culture; arts and film; community/charity; heritage and sport. In addition, there will be a young hero award for someone under the age of 18.

Groups or organisations are eligible to enter the National Lottery Project of the Year category, where shortlisted finalists will face a public vote later in the year.

All award winners will receive a National Lottery Awards trophy and £3,000 for their organisation.

Nominations can be made via www.lottery-goodcauses.org.uk/awards.

All nominees must have been funded by the National Lottery or be associated with a National Lottery funded project.

Entries must be received by midnight on June 7.

Jonathan Tuchner, National Lottery Awards, Glasgow.

Irresponsible littering on Islay must stop

Sir,

I have been contacted by many of my constituents from across Islay about the ongoing littering problem at Donald Caskie Square in Bowmore.

Unfortunately this matter has been dragging on for months now and I have discussed this at length with Islay Community Council, council colleagues, businesses and the head teacher of Islay High School.

It's clear to me patience is running out and that something needs to be done.

If police had a presence in the square, particularly over the lunch time period, this would help to prevent a lot of the littering that has been taking place.

I have also been getting complaints about Morrison Court in Bowmore.

It goes without saying this is a minority of people who are not bothering to use bins, but sadly this is something that affects everyone.

A litter-strewn location looks dirty and unsightly, making it a less pleasant environment for those who live in or use it.

This irresponsible behaviour should not be tolerated.

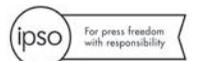
Councillor Alastair Redman, Kintyre and the Islands.

HAVE YOUR SAY

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Thought for the Week

As a 'DIYer', I like to learn new skills. Books and YouTube help, but most of my learning has come through conversations, learning from the experience of others and learning by mistakes.

I remember my first attempts at bricklaying. I was concentrating on ensuring the bricks were laid horizontally. I did not think to check the vertical plane.

I may have had a newly purchased spirit level but only referring to one bubble and not the other two was a time costly mistake. Perhaps I should have used a plumbline.

A plumbline was a key tool for all the grand historic buildings we see around the world. A weight on a string with the aid of gravity.

Have you ever thought about the internal plumbline that humans have?

Natural law is experienced in some way by all humans.

Think about it this way: someone who seemingly has no conscience about stealing, feels and knows a great injustice done to them if someone steals from them. Where does truth and justice come from?

In a world awash with relativism where it is taught that there are no absolutes apart from what society and culture dictates, natural law is a God-given plumbline.

The question is, am I willing to listen to that inner voice? The prophet Isaiah spoke about the coming to earth of the Christ as being like a plumbline and a corner stone.

Just as my DIY attempts are better for following a standard datum point, I determined years ago to build my life on the rock that is the message of Christ.

When I'm getting off course, He's the reference point to get me back on track.

Reverend Chris Holden, The Fishermen's Mission.

LOCHGOILHEAD

The Tunnock's caravan wafer has arrived in Lochgoilhead.

In collaboration with the famous Scottish brand, Argyll Holidays has converted a three-bedroom static caravan at Drimsynie from the standard green to something a little tastier.

The headline-grabbing move involves more than just a paint job as the interior of the themed van is filled with Tunnock's products for the sweet-toothed holidaymaker.

NORTH CONNELL

A farmer has appealed to dog owners to keep their pets on a lead after a Suffolk gimmer on her North Connell farm had her neck 'ripped open' in an attack.

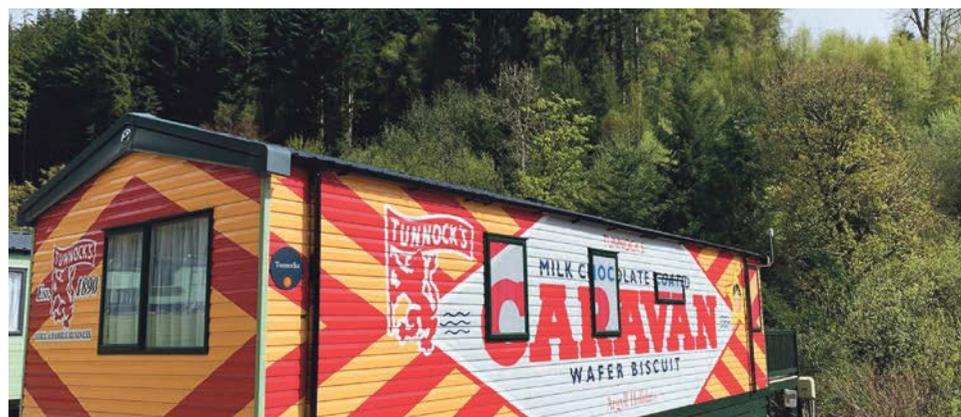
Achnacreebeag farmer Julie Campbell said: 'Her neck was ripped open. The vet said she was lucky to still have a jugular.'

'The dog had also gone for her belly and she had teeth marks all down her back end.'

Julie made the shocking discovery when she was checking her flock on May 26.

The attack has been reported to police but the identity of the dog and its owner is still unknown.

'We've had quite a few attacks over the years but she is the first to have survived,' added Julie. 'It was obviously a big dog that did this to her. I would never want to shoot a dog but the harsh



The sweet-toothed and colourful addition to the holiday park at Lochgoilhead.

HELENSBURGH

The owners of a caravan park near Helensburgh have applied for planning permission to add 19 touring pitches.

Rosneath Castle Caravan Park also wants to add a wash building and shower/toilet units on land to the west of its existing site, which is accessed off the B833 road.

Plans which have been made available in Argyll and Bute Council's planning portal show the site adjacent to an area known as Wallace's Loup. The proposed pitches are located in one row of eight and one of 11.

A decision is expected from council planning officers by the middle of July.

KINTYRE

A new Kintyre gin school has raised a glass to its first graduates.

Beinn an Tuirc Distillers, home of Kintyre Gin, has used its time in lockdown to expand and grow, opening its own gin school - Kintyre's first - following a relaxation in Covid-19 rules.

Located on Torrisdale Castle Estate, the gin school was created in response to the high number of visitors to the distiller since it opened in 2016, the increased demand for tours and the volume of tourists expected in the region following the recent launch

of the Kintyre 66 route. The school can take up to 12 people per class, Covid-19 restrictions permitting, with a three-and-a-half-hour tutorial.

This is a fun experience whilst teaching people how to make their bespoke bottle of gin and learn about the history of the spirit.

Guests have the opportunity to try a perfect serve of their own gin and make a cocktail before receiving a Kintyre Gin School graduation certificate.

Learning is fun at Kintyre's first gin school.



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From field to fork, ocean to plate, Argyll's taste is truly amazing. Come and enjoy!

1. Bridge Cafe Ltd

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Open: Monday, Tuesday & Friday 10am-3pm, Wednesday & Thursday 10am - 4pm, Saturday 11am-3pm. Closed Sunday
Address: 3 Soroba Ln, Oban PA34 4HX
Tel: 01631 564647



2. Tesco Cafe

Convenient family dining cafe, sit in or takeaway, serving hot and cold food to order.
Open: Monday - Saturday 8am-5pm, Sunday 9am-4pm.
Address: Lochside St, Oban PA34 4HP



3. Bossards Patisserie

Freshly baked bread and healthy filled rolls, home-made soups and a large selection of yummy cakes.
Open: Monday - Saturday 9am-4pm
Address: 1 Gilbralter Street, Oban, PA34 4AY
Tel: 01631 564641



4. Roxy's Coffee & Tea House

Serving delicious home-made food for breakfast, lunch & brunch. Available for sit in and takeaway. Free Wifi and dog friendly.
Open: Monday - Saturday 9am-5pm
Address: 7 Argyll Square, Oban PA34 4AZ
Tel: 01631 570307



5. Cafe Shore

Offering a variety of breakfast items from 8am followed by delicious home baking, home-made soups and a variety of sandwiches, paninis and baguettes from lunch time. Available for sit in and takeaway.
Open: Monday - Saturday 8am-4pm
Address: Station Rd, Oban PA34 4LN
Tel: 01631 563076



6. Costa Coffee

A large brand name with local values, serving a great range of authentic coffee drinks along side snacks and cakes.
Open: Monday - Saturday 7.30am-6.30pm, Sunday 8.30am-6pm
Address: 1 Station Rd, Oban PA34 4NU
Tel: 01631 567183



7. Food From Argyll at the Pier

A co-operative organisation made up of food producers from throughout this area. Passionate about serving local, quality food
Open: Monday - Saturday 8.45am - 3.30pm, Sunday 8.45am-2pm
Address: The Ferry Terminal, Oban PA34 4DB
Tel: 01631 563636



8. Hinba Coffee Roasters

Pure Air - Pure Taste - Pure Hebridean. Speciality Coffee Roasters from the Isle of Seil brought to Oban. Serving coffee from around the globe with tasty treats.
Open: Monday closed, Tuesday - Friday 9.30am-4pm, Saturday 10am-4pm, Sunday 10am-3pm
Address: 62 George St, Oban PA34 5SD
Tel: 07946 591747



9. Taste of Argyll Kitchen

Field to fork cafe and fine dine. Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner with a range of home-cooked, local produce.
Open: Monday - Thursday 10am-5pm, Friday & Saturday 10am-9pm, Sunday 10am-3pm
Address: 9 Argyll St, Oban PA34 5SG
Tel: 07882 226675



10. Kronks Deli

Situated on the beautiful seafront of Oban, serving a wide range of breakfast and lunch options.
Open: Monday - Saturday 8am-4pm, Sunday 9am-4pm
Address: 7 Stafford St, Oban PA34 5NJ
Tel: 01631 358019



11. The Little Bay Cafe

Small cafe with great service, offering tasty breakfasts and sandwiches to lunchtime paninis, home made soup, seafood specials and more.
Open: Monday - Sunday 9am-5pm
Address: 9 Stafford St, Oban PA34 5NJ



12. Julies Coffeehouse Oban

A popular and friendly cafe opposite the Oban Distillery. Catering in the finest handmade cakes, afternoon teas and favourite lunchtime items. Advisable to call and reserve a table.
Open: Monday & Saturday 10am-4pm, Tuesday - Friday 10am-4.30pm, Sunday Closed
Address: 33 Stafford St, Oban PA34 5NH
Tel: 01631 565952



13. The Little Potting Shed Café

100% Vegetarian menu from knowledgeable owner - also available - Vegan, Gluten Free, Lactose Intolerant options. Dog friendly
Open: Monday - Sunday 9am-5pm
Address: 5 John St, Oban PA34 5NS
Tel: 01631 358150



14. Oban Chocolate Shop

Friendly, spacious seafront café and gift shop making handmade chocolates, home baking and waffles on the premises.
Open: Monday - Sunday 10am-5pm
Address: 34 Corran Esplanade, Oban PA34 5PS
Tel: 01631 566099



15. Retrophenia & Talamh coffee oban

Vintage clothing and retro items, partnered with Talamh coffee and brownies.
Open: Monday - Sunday 9am-5pm
Address: 71-75 George St, Oban PA34 5NN



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Plants galore at village's first plant share and picnic

Whitehouse residents had a blooming marvellous time at their first community event in more than a year, writes Hannha O'Hanlon.

The village hall committee hosted an outside plant share and picnic recently after a relaxation of Covid-19 rules allowed a gradual move towards more meetings and events.

More than 50 green-fingered people from Lochgilphead to Campbeltown met safely in a pleasant, sunny weather window.

Gardeners who had a surplus from this year's sowings, cuttings or divisions brought them along to share, while those who hadn't had much success could benefit.

Herbs

There was a fantastic range of fruit and vegetables, including broccoli, cucumbers, tomatoes, lettuce, gooseberries and aubergines.

Herbs included lemon balm, fennel, oregano and bedding plants such as rudbeckia, pansies and antirrhinums proved popular.

There were even house plants – money plants, geraniums and begonias.

For many people, even though they didn't actually

bring a picnic, it was an opportunity to meet up with friends and neighbours they hadn't seen for months and a chance to chat with newcomers.

New planters sponsored by Glenbarr Garden Centre, The Garden Shop in Campbeltown and Sloan Builders were also admired.

As an added bonus, nearly £270 was donated to help towards the re-opening.

Grown

Whitehouse Village Hall committee looks forward to welcoming everyone back to the village in August for the third annual grow and show event, by which time these embryonic plants will hopefully have grown.



Green-fingered folk from Lochgilphead to Campbeltown met up again.



Plants will hopefully grow for the third grow and show event.



There were fruit, vegetables and plants.



Gardeners gathered to swap plants.

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Rural Scotland – straight to your screen

It's time to dig out your best dealer boots, grab your bunnet and head for the Highland Show.

Sitting on your couch at home, that is.

The Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland (RHASS) is gearing up for its livestreamed Royal Highland Showcase, in partnership with Royal Bank of Scotland.

Over the week of June 14 to 20 the showcase, a first in the UK, will see the best in livestock judging, equestrian, food and drink and rural skills streamed live online from Ingliston showground in Edinburgh. It was created following the cancellation of the Royal Highland Show earlier this year due to the Covid-19

pandemic. Thousands are expected to tune in to watch farm animals, witness Scotland's delicious larder and experience the country's vibrant culture including music, traditional crafts and rural skills – all from the comfort of their home.

Access will be free and with four live streams providing nine hours of action over seven days, the showcase will give the audience an unprecedented view of the finest livestock in Scotland and provide a greater insight into the world of judging.

Hours of on-demand content can also be accessed, with insights not only for the agricultural enthusiast, but for those who might never have been to the show before.



The Royal Highland Showcase will be a platform for the best of rural Scotland.

The showcase will include pre-recorded features on the Scottish championships for bread, dairy and handcrafts alongside sheep shearing, forestry and farriery skills and presentations and industry talks.

Educational content from the Royal Highland Education Trust (RHET) will include videos, activities to do at home or in the classroom, a teacher-focused webinar, and meeting their volunteers.

More than 5,000 schoolchil-

dren have already signed up to participate in the showcase directly from their classrooms.

For food lovers there is a host of celebrity chefs lined up to present live cookery demonstrations.

The chefs selected have all featured at previous shows and come from across Scotland, from Aberdeenshire in the north down to Border country, with a fantastic range of dishes. Chefs include Neil Forbes of Café St Honoré and Craig Wilson, 'The Kilted Chef'.

The Royal Highland Showcase follows detailed planning in collaboration with the Scottish Government, which provided up to £750,000 in support.

RHASS chairman Bill Gray said: 'Our farmers never

stopped through the pandemic and neither will we. We know how much the show means to our members, the wider agricultural community and the show-going public.

'This innovative event will act as a bridge between the no-show year of 2020 and the planned 180th show in 2022, the bicentennial anniversary of our first show.

'I'd encourage everyone to log on for what will be a truly unique showcase of the best that rural Scotland has to offer.'

Strict Covid-19 protocols are in place for staff and participants making the event happen.

All content can be accessed via www.royalhighlandshow.org from Monday June 14.

Collie pups for sale, 4 males, one black and white, three black, white and tan. Sire registered.

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- Made from high-tensile steel
- All hurdles are 8 railed x 970mm high
- All hot-dipped galvanised finish
- 3000mm (3m) long
- Includes all joining pins/stakes

OPTION 1

20-foot race, 100-foot holding pen

£1975 + VAT

Comes with a 100-foot holding pen and 20-foot race, 2 x 2-foot swing gates and all joining pins/stakes included. Our system will safely hold 150 fully grown sheep (approx)

PARTS LIST:

- 14 x 3m (8 railed) sheep hurdles
- 12 x joining pins/stakes
- 2 x 2-foot swing gates

ALL PRICES SAME AS 2020



OPTION 2

16 foot sheeted race, 2 way shedding gate, galvanised gate, race joiner. 100 foot of penning, will comfortably hold 200-250 fully grown sheep, **£2,395 + VAT.**

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The system is easy to move and erect where required and can be easily modified to suit your requirements. Also ideal for TB testing and the cattle sliding gate gives full control of the livestock from outside the race and stops the race from spreading out.

MAIN FEATURES:

- Made from high-tensile steel
- All hurdles are 6 railed x 1.75m high
- A funnel is incorporated into the race-way
- All hot-dipped galvanised finish
- 3000mm (3m) long
- 20-foot race
- 60-foot holding pen. Includes all joining pins/stakes
- Total 200-feet of penning

PARTS LIST:

- 10 x 3m (6 railed) cattle hurdles
- 12 x joining pins/stakes
- 1 x sliding gate

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Applications to **Frances Ryan**
01546 8302100 or 260 or
07775 835586 or CV to
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Project Worker – Housing

FTE Salary £27,300

Working 3 days per week for 40 weeks Tarbert & Skipness Community Trust want to appoint a Project Worker – Housing with experience of working with communities to advance the case for Tarbert and Skipness to address the housing needs of our communities by:

- Helping to secure a phased programme of house improvement and development of all tenures that meets local priorities
- Engaging the community, developers, statutory and voluntary organisations to maximise the delivery of housing in Tarbert and Skipness.

The service can be provided on a direct employment, self-employment or freelance basis. The contract will initially be until the end of March 2022.

For further information please contact info@tsct.co.uk for an information pack.
Closing date **Friday 18th June**.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

The applications listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be viewed electronically through Argyll and Bute Council website at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk. Having regard to Schedule 6, Part 3, s10 of the Coronavirus (Scotland) Act 2020, documents are only available to inspect electronically at this time. Customers requiring assistance can contact us by e-mail: planning.hq@argyll-bute.gov.uk or tel. 01546 605518.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) ADVERT STATEMENT
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 (AS AMENDED), RELATED PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
21/00921/PP	Alterations and conversion of 8 flats to form 3 townhouses	Achnaba House, Achnaba, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute, PA31 8RY
21/00887/PP	Erection of Fence	Land Between Tower View And Argyll Court, Inveraray, Argyll And Bute
21/00741/PP	Erection of dwellinghouse and detached garage and formation of vehicular access	Plot 3, Port A'Buorrain Farm Dalkeith, Glenbarr, Tarbert, Argyll And Bute

Written comments can be submitted online <http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/planning-and-environment/find-and-comment-planning-applications> or to Argyll and Bute Council, Development Management, Kilmory Castle, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT within 21 days of this advert. Please quote the reference number in any correspondence. Any letter of representation the Council receives is considered a public document and will be published on our website. Anonymous or marked confidential correspondence will not be considered. A weekly list of all applications can be viewed on the Councils website. Customers are requested to use electronic communication where possible during the coronavirus pandemic as our ability to process postal mail is restricted.

To find out more about living and working in Argyll & Bute visit us at:
www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra – Ghàidheal agus Bhòid



THE MACHRIHANISH GOLF CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of The Machrihanish Golf Club will take place on Friday 25th June in the Machrihanish Golf Club, at 7.30pm.

Due to restrictions please confirm attendance with the secretary.

A Martin, Secretary



L.M.S Autoservices require a Time Served Mechanic to work in our busy garage.

A DVSA approved MOT Tester would be preferred but not essential. The applicant should have a full driving licence and be self-motivated.

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GOLDEN WEDDING

DUNCAN - DOWNIE
- Colin to Margaret,
June 4, 1971. Present
address: Ralston Road,
Campbeltown.

DEATHS

GILCHRIST - Peacefully
at home, 17 Millers Park,
Campbeltown, on May
30, 2021, Isabel Graham,
in her 77th year, dearly
beloved wife of Sonny
Gilchrist much loved
mum of Kevan, Janna and
Calum, mother-in-law
of Jennifer and Stephen,
loving granny and wee
nana to Stephen, Graham,
Greg, Ryan, Mark,
Janna and Carson and
great granny to Cooper,
Graham, Calvin, Sonny,
Vinnie and Janna.

STEWART - Peacefully at
the Mid Argyll Hospital,
with his family by his side,
on May 31, 2021, Alexander
"Sanders" Stewart, aged
90 years, of 2 Linnet
Cottages, Ardrishaig.
Former plumbing and
heating engineer. Beloved
husband of the late Ishbel
and much loved father of
Alan and Lesley. Much
respected father-in-law
of Fiona and James.
Dearly loved grandad to
John, Harris, Matti and
Fergus. A private funeral
service will take place at
Cardross Crematorium on
June 10, 2021. Donations,

can be made in memory
of Sanders, to Talking
Books - RNIB directly at
www.rnib.org.uk/donate
or via Donald MacDonald
Funeral Directors.

TURNER - Peacefully
on May 26, 2021, in
hospital after a long illness,
Ernest, aged 88 years.
Beloved elder brother of
Alasdair, dear father of
son Roddy, much loved
uncle of Malcolm and
Catherine and great uncle
of John, Calum, Eilidh and
Alasdair. Sorely missed.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CRAWFORD - Ile's
family would like to
thank all who attended
the funeral and stood by
the roadside to pay their
respects. Thank you also
to those who were not able
to attend but who expressed
their thoughts and prayers
for us. We would also like
to thank Stan Lupton,
Funeral Director for his
guidance and support and
all who helped to make
the service as Mum had
wished. We have received
so many expressions of
love and kindness which
has provided invaluable
support for us all. Special
thanks to Ward A at Lorn
and Islands Hospital and
local District Nurses who
provided such kind and
compassionate care. It was
special to us that Mum was
able to be at home for her

last few weeks. All will be
well.

MACGREGOR -
Kathleen, Cameron and
Shona would like to
thank all relatives, friends
and neighbours for the
many kind expressions
of sympathy received
following the recent
sad passing of Donald.
Special thanks to Doctors
and Nursing Staff at the
Mid Argyll Hospital;
Community Nurses;
Argyll Home Carers; the
Mid Argyll Volunteer
Drivers and to Wayne, all
for their care and attention
to Donald over the last
few years. Our thanks to
Rev. David Carruthers
for a comforting service;
Donald MacDonald
Funeral Directors for
caring and efficient
services; and to Morna
for the beautiful floral
tributes. Finally our
thanks to all who paid
their respects on route to
Achnabreac Cemetery.
Donations raised £150
for the National Kidney
Federation.

IN MEMORIAMs

MCMURCHY -
Treasured memories of our
dear mum, granny, great-
granny and mother-in-law
Alice, who sadly passed
away June 9, 2020.
Very sadly missed by all
the family.

CHURCH NOTICES

**SPRINGBANK
EVANGELICAL
CHURCH**



Call to me and I will
answer you Jeremiah 33
verse 3

In person..... or Online...?
Our building is open and
our Service will be in the
church

on **Sunday, 6th June
2021 at 11am**

If you cannot make it
in person, you can still
join us online. To join
the Zoom service, send
your email address to
[officespringbankchurch@
gmail.com](mailto:officespringbankchurch@gmail.com) and you will
be sent a link to join us on
Sunday via Zoom.

Covid restrictions will
apply in the building
- masks and social
distancing
[www.springbankchurch.
org.uk](http://www.springbankchurch.org.uk)

[https://www.facebook.
com/springbankchurch](https://www.facebook.com/springbankchurch)
Contact phone number
01586 551237 - Church
Secretary

**CHURCH OF
SCOTLAND**



**South Kintyre Team
Ministry
Sunday services**

10 am Saddell and Carradale
Church SC002609
10 am Highland Church,
Campbeltown SC002493
11.30am Southend Church
SC005484

Covid 19 restrictions apply
Ministers
Revd Steve Filcher
Revd Christine Fulcher
01586 830504
www.kintyrepsrishes.org.uk

SALVATION ARMY



Our meetings are
Sunday 6th June
Worship service
3pm

Covid 19 measures in
place
If we can be of any
assistance to anyone
during this time please
call us on 01586 552046
Major Ruth Russell
Scottish Charity Number
SCO09359

**GLASSARY,
KILMARTIN AND
FORD PARISH
CHURCH**

Barr Mhor
Kilmartin
**Sunday 6th June 2021
11am**
Mr Jim Malcolm
All very welcome
Please remember to wear
a mask.

**CAMPBELTOWN
FREE CHURCH**



George Street,
Campbeltown
Campbeltown Free
Church
George Street,
Campbeltown
Sunday 6th June
11.15am Worship Service
Rev Finlay MacKenzie
11.15am Sunday School
7.00pm Fellowship
Meeting (by Zoom)
Wednesday 9th June
12.00 noon Prayer &
Bible Study
Covid-19 guidelines apply
All welcome
[www.campbeltownfree-
church.co.uk](http://www.campbeltownfree-church.co.uk)
Scottish Charity Number:
SC046745

**SCOTTISH
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

Christ Church,
Lochgilphead
Sunday 11am
Holy Eucharist
St Columba, Poltalloch
9am Holy Communion
1st Sunday of the month
6pm Evensong
3rd Sunday of the month
(SC013787, 31391)
**CAMPBELTOWN
COMMUNITY
CHURCH**



**A warm welcome
awaits you**
in the Kirk Street Hall at
11:00 am
Sunday 6 June, 10th
Anniversary Service:
Speaker Chris Holden
Pastor Mark Jasper 01586
554 092 [pastor@campbel-
towncommunitychurch.
co.uk](mailto:pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk) [www.campbeltown-
communitychurch.co.uk](http://www.campbeltown-
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& provide opportunities
for worship on-line
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in touch
www.northknapdale.org

**LORNE & LOWLAND
PARISH CHURCH**

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686
Sunday 6th June
Morning Worship
11. 15am
Rev W Crossan
Covid 19 Guidelines
apply
There will be a message
on
our Facebook page
each Wednesday and
Sunday

**SKIPNESS LINKED
WITH TARBERT
LOCHFYNE AND
KILBERRY CHURCH
OF SCOTLAND**

There will be a weekly
service at Skipness 10am
and Tarbert 11.30am - Rev
Lyn Peden
Please wear a face
covering and stay 2
metres apart for the
services
Contact Rev. Lyn Peden
01880 820158 for pastoral
care
Charity number Tarbert
SC002622 Skipness
SC004280

**WESTLOCHFYNESIDE
CHURCHES
(Cumloddan, Inveraray
and Lochgair)**

Charity No: SC016665
Sunday 6th June 2021
There will be a service in
Lochgair Church at
10.00am
The service will be led by
Rev. Dorothy Wallace
Please phone Mrs Jean
Smith
On 01546 886328 to
reserve
a seat due to limited
numbers.
There will be a service in
Inveraray Church at
11.30am
The service will be led by
Rev. Dorothy Wallace
Masks must be worn
when attending either
church.

**ST. KIERAN'S,
ST. JOHN STREET,
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01586 552160
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Wednesdays, 10am
(please book),
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Mondays, Tuesdays,
Wednesdays, Fridays,
Saturdays, 10am
All liturgies are Live
streamed: [https://www.
facebook.com/campbel-
townrcchurch](https://www.facebook.com/campbeltownrcchurch)
A Parish of the R.C.
Diocese of Argyll and the
Isles; Charitable Trust,
a registered Scottish
Charity, SC002876
Parish Priest: Fr. A. Wood

**ARDRISHAIG AND
SOUTH KNAPDALE
PARISHES**

Sunday 6th June
Services in
Achahoish at 9:45am
(including Holy
Communion)
and
Ardrishaig at 11:00am
(Acts 11)
(Covid19 control
measures apply)
Weekly Reflections
will continue to be
available
at the gates of the
churches

**LOCHGILPHEAD
PARISH CHURCH**



**SUNDAY 6TH JUNE
2021**
11.00am WORSHIP
SERVICE
Rev. Hilda Smith
Covid restrictions will
apply, including social
distancing which has the
effect of reducing the
number of people who
can attend. Places must
be booked in advance,
by telephoning (01546)
602087 after 5.00pm.
More info at [www.lp-
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Lochgilphead Parish
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Star roar back to dump Dunoon

Lochgilphead Red Star 6
Dunoon Ams 3

SAFL Jimmy Marshall Cup

Red Star bounced back from poor starts to both halves to see off Dunoon in a nine-goal thriller at the Lochgilphead Joint Campus.

The match on Saturday May 29 was less than two minutes old when the visitors took the lead after a cross into the box was cleared as far as their midfielder, who hammered home an excellent strike from 25 yards out.

Star responded with a fine finish of their own as Lee MacLean slotted the ball home from the edge of the box to level matters eight minutes in.

The home side edged in front after 20 minutes when Coll McCallum powered home a header after an excellent corner delivery from Ciaran McPhie. Dunoon got themselves level at the interval after slack play in the Star midfield allowed them the chance to break and equalise after a well-worked move.

The second half began in disastrous fashion for Star as they

conceded after young keeper Jake Weir misjudged a cross ball and it fell kindly to the Dunoon forward who finished from close range for his second goal of the day.

Star remained 2-3 down until the last 25 minutes when they got control again. After creating a number of chances the ball finally fell to Stuart MacLean, who kept up his goal-scoring record in Argyll derbies by finishing well.

Star edged themselves back in front again soon after. This time the ball fell to Aaron Moore 10 yards out and the captain hammered home, much to the relief of the Star bench.

Dunoon tried to battle back yet again but Star were well in command now and added well taken goals by Chris Hart, who came off the bench and made an excellent impact, before Gregor McGeachy finished the scoring off late on to secure a 6-3 victory for the RJD-sponsored Lochgilphead side.

Red Star's group campaign finishes on Saturday June 5 against Tarbert at the joint campus 3G pitch with a 1pm kick off.

Scrum down for rugby



Mini rugby is returning to Mid Argyll, as coaching sessions resume with Mid Argyll Rugby Club. Pictured is a reminder of the joy of mini rugby from pre-pandemic days. Turn to page three to read all about it.

Ladies and gents battle for Tarbert medals

Tarbert Golf Club ladies and gents gathered for their respective medals in glorious weather.

The Glenralloch course was in fine condition on Saturday May 29 as Sheena Ferguson took the honours in the ladies' event with a 58, followed by Georgie Dickson on 61 and Angela Vernel on 64.

In the gents' section it was Chris McArthur who romped in with a nett 56 to leave the rest of the field trailing in his wake. The usual suspects were next; Bruce McLean on 61 and Peter McLean jnr on 63. On Saturday June 5 the Harbour Gallery gents' open takes place. The club is grateful to Stuart Herd for his support.

Young Connor McCrae headed to Glenberrie Golf Club last Sunday for his first stroke play in the Stephen Gallacher foundation event. He took third place with 49, only one shot behind the winner on 48. This week he heads to Machrihanish for the first round of the Junior Championship.

Fun in the sun as Kathleen sizzles

Members had a great time on an almost midge-free evening at Lochgilphead Golf Club's Fun Texas Scramble.

The event and teams on Thursday May 27 were organised by club captain James Scott and there were a few smiles when the winning team, with a fantastic nett score of 25, was James Scott, Ruan McKellar and Chris McIntyre. There are another two such evenings planned for later in the year.

A good turnout of gents took to the course in lovely weather on Saturday May 29 to compete for the Ann Williams Trophy.

The winner, with a fantastic score of a nett 61, was Drew Swan, closely followed by Alex MacAulay with a nett 65.

The ladies played for the Rosalind Flanagan Memorial Trophy.

This was won by Kathleen Young with a tremendous eight-under-par score of 44 points; in second place with 29 points was Ele Hunter.

Kathleen's golf is on fire and her name can be expected on the winners list many more times this year.

Bowling season

Catch up on all the exploits from an action-packed season at Lochgilphead Bowling Club on the Argyllshire Advertiser website – www.argyllshireadvertiser.co.uk



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