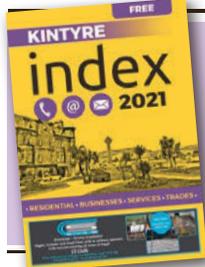


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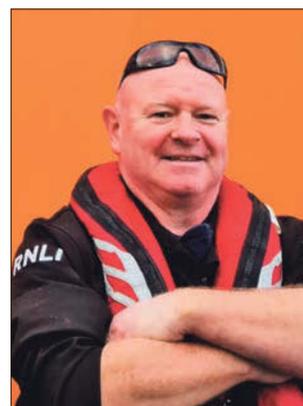
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Left, top to bottom: David Young; David Armour and David Macpherson.



Right, left to right: David Brown; David Cox; David Mayo and David Fyfe.



# Meet the Kintyre heroes who are all called David

by Hannah O'Hanlon  
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Analysis commissioned by a British name label manufacturer has revealed David as the UK's most heroic name of 2020, something which may come as little surprise to people in Kintyre, which has more than its fair share of admirable men of that moniker.

Courier readers will already be familiar with the good deeds carried out by several Davids last year, including

David Brown, who ran, walked or cycled five kilometres every day of 2020 to raise money for various charities; David Young, from Glencaigs Farm, who welcomed people to his fields of sunflowers, poppies and wildflowers throughout August in exchange for donations to Kintyre charity Shopper-Aide; David Armour, who cycled more than 500 miles during September to raise funds for Diabetes UK and David Macpherson, who revealed plans to raise money

for key workers ahead of his attempt to become the first person to reach the summit of Ben Nevis in a special wheelchair.

But there are many more Davids who deserve recognition who have helped the community through one of the most challenging years in many people's lives.

They include David Mayo, chairman of the board of directors at Campbeltown Community Business (CCB) which owns and operates

Campbeltown Picture House (CPH), David Fyfe, head teacher of Campbeltown Grammar School (CGS), and Campbeltown RNLI coxswain David Cox.

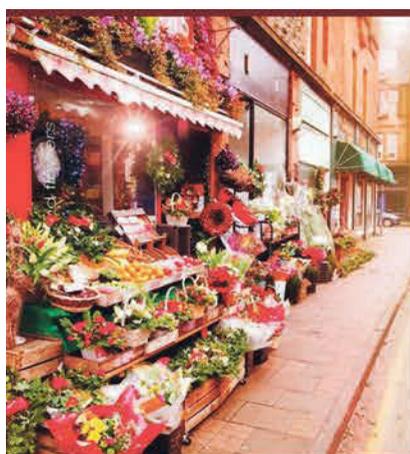
Mr Mayo and his team have faced considerable challenges over the past year, during which the Covid-19 pandemic caused severe disruption to the whole hospitality sector, forcing difficult decisions to be made.

Substantial funding support had to be found to keep the

operation afloat and to allow the cinema to open as much as possible during the periods of lockdown. Following enforced shut-down in March 2020, CPH was able to re-open from September to December, one of very few cinemas in the UK to do so.

At CGS, Mr Fyfe had to consider the variety of needs of the school's children and their parents, his own needs and those of his family as he supported the entire network

**Continued on page three.**



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# Project to remember artist behind town's sculpture

by Hannah O'Hanlon  
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

To mark the centenary of his birth, the family of a renowned Scottish artist, who worked with students to create a Campbeltown sculpture, is inviting members of the public to share their stories about his work.

The Mapping Memories project went live on Thursday December 31, on what would have been George Wyllie's 99th birthday.

The Glasgow-born artist, who has ancestral links to Kintyre, died at the age of 90 in 2012.

In 1996, with the help of pupils from the art department at Campbeltown Grammar School, he created the Ro-Ro sculpture of a birlinn-style boat which sits atop a stone plinth near the town's New Quay to mark the restoration of the short-lived ferry service



between Kintyre and County Antrim.

It was unveiled in October 1998 by Campbeltown Grammar School pupils Collette Sloey and Alan Downie at a ceremony attended by fellow pupils, members of the public, Argyll and Bute councillors and members of Campbeltown Community

Council, as well as Mr Wyllie himself. In addition to tracking artworks which exist in the public domain and in public collections, the Mapping Memories project aims to include the locations and details of the artist's major temporary installations, such as the Straw Locomotive (1987) and the Paper Boat (1989) which now



George Wyllie's approach to art took him across Scotland and beyond. Photograph: George Wyllie Estate.

The Ro-Ro sculpture of a birlinn-style boat which sits atop a stone plinth near Campbeltown's New Quay.

exist only in memory and archive material.

Throughout the year leading up to what would have been Mr Wyllie's 100th birthday on Hogmanay 2021, the George Wyllie Estate will welcome public contributions to the project and will publish previously unseen material from the artist's own archive.

By visiting [www.georgewyllie.com](http://www.georgewyllie.com) anyone can add audio or video recordings, text, photographs and film as well as the geographical location of the work about which they are posting.

A second blog on the website called Just For Fun asks people to share the ways in which Mr Wyllie inspired them to get creative.

Announcing the digital launch of the trail, the artist's eldest daughter, Louise Wyllie, said it would form a permanent marker of her father's 'out and about' approach to art, which took him across the UK and beyond.

She said: 'My father used to say that his definition of public art was art the public couldn't avoid and there are hundreds of sculptures, installations and artworks out there; some of which we know about, like the Running Clock in Glasgow, and others

which were temporary, such as his most famous artworks, the Straw Locomotive and the Paper Boat.

'There are works of my father's out there - in pubs, houses and gardens - that we don't know a lot about and it's important to us that we find out more about them.

'We'd like to collate as much information as possible to create the art trail map.

'The project will act as a window into the past, allowing people to discover my dad's temporary installations, which were often his most ambitious and influential works.

'So we're asking the public - communities, artists, curators, critics, welders, shipbuilders, school pupils...anyone who worked with my father, who remembers his temporary installations, or knows the whereabouts of public sculpture, to contribute to this project by sharing their stories.'

## Stricter lockdown measures in force

A new lockdown, similar to the one brought in last March, came into force on Tuesday.

In a statement on Monday afternoon, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said the tougher restrictions were necessary to give vaccines a head-start and win the race against Covid-19.

The most difficult decision of all was that schools will remain shut until at least February 1.

Staying at home will be a legal requirement again, with people only being allowed to leave home for essential purposes. Where possible, people must also work from home.

New guidelines will be given to people in the shielding category, said the first minister, who added that places of worship would also close again except for broadcasting services and conducting funerals and weddings with only restricted numbers able to attend - 20 for funerals and five for weddings. No wakes will be allowed.

Interaction between households will be limited.

While the frequency of exercise outdoors is not restricted with members of one or an

extended household, there is a maximum of two people from two different households. Under 11s are not included.

No one is allowed to travel into or out of Scotland unless essential.

During her address, Ms Sturgeon said Scotland was about four weeks behind the position in London and South East England, saying the situation was more concerning now than it was in March last year, close to reaching April's peak.

She said NHS services in Scotland were coping presently but the situation was getting more challenging.

The first minister gave assurances the restrictions would not be kept in place any longer than necessary.

'I'm sorry to ask this after nine hard months but for everyone's sake and safety please stick with it,' she said.

These rules will apply across the Scottish mainland until at least the end of January, and will be kept under review.

Island areas, apart from Skye, will remain in level three but will be monitored carefully.

## Window smashed

Police are investigating and appealing for witnesses after a window at the mixed martial arts gym (formerly the Scout Hall) in John Street, Campbeltown, was smashed between 6pm on Thursday December 24 and 12pm on Saturday December 26.

## Speeding driver

A 30-year-old lorry driver was stopped on the A83, near Killegruer, at about 4.25pm on Tuesday December 29, and charged with exceeding the speed limit.

## Woman assaulted

A 21-year-old man was arrested and charged on Monday January 4 with assaulting a woman in High Street, Campbeltown, at about 8am on Thursday December 31.

## Abusive behaviour

A 27-year-old man was arrested at about 7.45pm on Tuesday December 29, at Mansefield Road, Port Ellen, Islay, and later charged with behaving in an abusive manner. The man was also charged with struggling with officers and attempting to kick one.

**Police are appealing for witnesses or anyone with information on the above or any incident to phone 101 or anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.**

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## Call for clarity on vaccine schedule

Shadow Health Secretary Donald Cameron has urged First Minister Nicola Sturgeon to ensure there is a clear schedule in place for people in vaccination priority groups to receive their Covid-19 jabs.

Mr Cameron put his request to the first minister after she made a statement on Covid-19 in the Scottish Parliament on Monday. The Highlands and Islands MSP said it was important every health board in Scotland issued information giving the time and place vaccinations would take place. Speaking afterwards, Mr Cameron said: 'It is essential we have clarity on the vaccine roll-out.'

On Tuesday, Scottish public service trade union UNISON Scotland called on the Scottish Government to honour scheduled dates for staff to receive their second dose of Pfizer/BioNTech Covid-19 vaccine or risk thousands of vaccination slots being wasted across the country.

The change in the Scottish Government's policy means health boards have been instructed not to administer the scheduled second dose of the vaccination and instead re-book other staff for a first dose of the vaccination in their place.

The announcement, which was made on December 31, came into effect on Tuesday.

Willie Duff, UNISON Scotland's head of health, said: 'There was no consultation with trade unions on this policy change and it is not supported by clear evidence from Pfizer which will seriously diminish the trust and confidence of staff who had consented to the two doses. It is vital the Scottish Government commits to the scheduled second dose vaccination dates.'

# Peugeot 'Westie' hits the road with Shopper-Aide

by Hannah O'Hanlon  
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Christmas came early for Campbeltown charity Shopper-Aide with the delivery of a new vehicle on December 18.

The Peugeot 308SW was funded by West Kintyre Community Fund (WKCF) and came with one year's paid road tax, courtesy of Campbeltown Motor Company, which sold the car at a competitive price.

Shopper-Aide provides support and services, including shopping, housekeeping and, under normal circumstances, by organising numerous social activities, for those in Kintyre aged over 60. From March 23 2020, at the start of the initial lockdown, until December 31 2020, the charity delivered 3,940 grocery orders to older people in Kintyre.

Joan Stewart, the charity's project manager, told the Courier: 'Without the support of organisations like WKCF and Campbeltown Motor Company, we could not help the older people of Kintyre and Gigha the way we do. Their ongoing support is overwhelming.'

The new car will join Shopper-Aide's fleet of vehicles, all of which have names - Cherryaide, Sapphire, Snowball and Blueberry, which is due to be sold soon. Margaret Pratt, convener of WKCF, asked that this car be called Westie.

Margaret said: 'The WKCF trustees are very pleased to be able to present Shopper-Aide

with the new car to support the excellent work the charity and its dedicated band of staff and volunteers undertake on behalf of the community of West Kintyre and the wider Kintyre area.

'The community of West Kintyre and, I am sure, the wider area are more than grateful to Shopper-Aide for the amazing expansion of its service to include so many more members of the community during these recent difficult months of the pandemic.

'The charity has helped to include many of those who may have felt isolated or concerned as to how they would cope with the fast-changing situation they found themselves in, for which we are more than grateful.'

The WKCF was set up four years ago to administer the community benefit funds received from Freasdaill Windfarm near Whitehouse. The fund operates under different criteria to that of the West Kintyre Windfarm Trust in that it was set up to specifically help develop, support and encourage the long-term sustainability of the community and its residents in three main areas:

■ Further education bursaries to anyone under the age of 50 residing in the West Kintyre Community Council area who wishes to undertake a further education course, approved apprenticeship or first degree;

■ Start-up grants to new entrepreneurial businesses commencing operations within the West Kintyre Community Council area;



From left: Margaret Pratt from West Kintyre Community Fund, Susan Paterson from Shopper-Aide and Alistair Gorman from Campbeltown Motor Company with the new vehicle.

■ Assisting the further development of current or new projects or groups within the area and the wider community

by the offer of larger grants to help with the longer term sustainability of these groups or projects via funding that,

in the opinion of the trustees, will either enhance or develop services to the residents of Kintyre.

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## Meet the Kintyre heroes all called David

Continued from page one.

of staff, which includes several more Davids - music teacher David Cosgrove and maths teachers David Hamilton and David MacDonald.

The heroic work of all the school's staff through lockdown ranges from supervising vulnerable and key workers' children in the HUB and the challenges of online learning, to packing and distributing food parcels and delivering hot lunches in the community.

As lifeboat coxswain, Mr Cox leads a crew which includes several heroic Davids - David Mullen, David Ward, David Campbell, David Colville

and David Reid. Despite still having to attend all call-outs, in full kit and PPE, the team's training came to a halt soon into the first lockdown, but they were eventually able to return to training on a two-week rotation, one week on land, the other offshore.

Having to physically distance proved incredibly hard for the crew, with multiple people required to safely carry out some tasks.

Even small rescues using the Y-Boat - the vessel on top of the Severn-class lifeboat, not to be confused with the inshore rescue boat which is towed on a trailer - presented

challenges given the amount of space on the boat.

Masks were, and continue to be, worn inside the wheelhouse at all times and when working closely together outside on the deck.

These Davids - and, of course, so many other people in the community - helped to navigate the community through unprecedented and challenging circumstances in many different ways.

If anyone knows of a heroic David who deserves a shout-out, please let the Courier know by emailing editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk or telephoning 01586 555453.

## Health chief to take up national role

The chief officer of Argyll and Bute Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP) is to take up a national social care role with the Scottish Government.

Joanna Macdonald will join the Scottish Government once a successor has been appointed to lead the HSCP. The move has been hailed as an opportunity for the needs of rural and island communities to help influence national policy.

David Park, the NHS Highland interim deputy chief executive, thanked Ms Macdonald for her service.

He said: 'Joanna has been a huge asset to the partnership and to NHS Highland more widely in her nine years with the organisation.'

'She has played a vital role in our response to the Covid-19 pandemic and is endlessly supportive of the people in our care.'

'Joanna is a champion, in particular for those in remote communities.'

'Her experience, expertise and humour will be greatly missed and we wish her all



Joanna Macdonald.

the best in her new role.' Ms Macdonald said: 'We all have families or friends who need social care services at some point in their lives.'

'It will be a privilege, therefore, to contribute to developing national social care policies that work for the people who need them.'

'I will be sorry to leave Argyll and Bute. It is an amazing place and I will continue, where I can, to support its success.'

Recruitment for the role of chief officer is expected to begin soon.

## ACHA chairman 'humbled by staff effort' in pandemic

by Hannah O'Hanlon  
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Staff at a social housing association have been praised for maintaining services to tenants in 2020 despite the pandemic.

Argyll Community Housing Association (ACHA) is Scotland's eighth largest housing association and provides more than 5,000 affordable homes for rent, equivalent to more than 10 per cent of the population for Argyll and Bute.

Jim Milne MBE, the outgoing chairman, praised the workforce in the recently-published report for 2019-20.

Mr Milne wrote: 'Every staff member, from the chief executive Alastair MacGregor down, has endeavoured to maintain as normal a service as possible given the restrictions placed on them. I have been proud to have been your chairman during this period and been humbled by the efforts made by the staff, many 'over and



ACHA's outgoing chairman Jim Milne MBE, left, is being replaced by Councillor Roddy McCuish, right.

above', to keep a safe roof over the heads of our tenants.'

He added: 'We will come through this crisis, but the way ACHA operates will probably be different and some changes will depend on medical advances over the next few months and possibly years. It would be wrong to speculate on the future at this moment.'

At ACHA's annual general meeting in September, Mr Milne bowed out from the chairmanship after five years

in the role, handing over to Councillor Roddy McCuish.

Chief executive Alastair MacGregor said: 'We are always pleased when we meet or exceed our targets but that doesn't mean we are relaxing our efforts to provide the best service for our tenants and stakeholders.'

He said a major focus for the association was energy efficiency and tackling fuel poverty.

Figures for 2019-20 show that

£56.9 million passed through ACHA during the financial year. There was £26 million of income – the bulk of which was £22.5 million from rents and grants worth £2.7 million and other income amounting to £800,000.

The report said: 'Over the year we paid out £30.9 million. Of this, £16.3 million was spent on existing houses, £9.8 million through the investment programme and £6.5 million on repairs and maintenance.'

'We spent £7.3 million on services and running the organisation, £3.4 million was paid out on building new houses, there is £2 million of other costs and we paid £1.9 million of interest on loans.'

Nearly 90 per cent of tenants feel the rents they pay are good value for money – higher than the Scottish national average.

The report said: 'We are working hard to improve the quality of your home and deliver excellent service. This year we managed to collect 98 per cent of all rent due.'

## SCOTTISH FIELD

January issue



Exclusive  
So that was  
2020 feature

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# 'Incredible efforts' of Argyll residents recognised in New Year's Honours

by Hannah O'Hanlon  
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

People from across Argyll have been recognised in the 2021 New Year's Honours list.

Anne S Paterson, Argyll and Bute Council's chief education officer until her retirement last month, has been awarded an OBE for her services to education.

Anne started her career as a teacher in Park Primary School, Oban, and went on to work for almost 39 years in delivering education services for young people in Argyll and Bute. Her successes include becoming Scottish Head Teacher of the Year in 2006 and, as head teacher of Inveraray Primary School, leading the creation of a centre for excellence for outdoor learning.

Anne, from Minard, said: 'I was lost for words when I heard the news I had been

recognised in the New Year Honours. I have been very fortunate to have spent my career in the area that I love and serving the communities of Argyll and Bute through the education service.

'I have worked with some amazing people who have gone above and beyond for the children and young people in the area. This team work has always been core for me and is something I will value for ever. 'It is quite a fantastic honour to have been selected and a really special way to mark my retirement.'

Councillor Yvonne McNeilly, policy lead for education, added: 'Wholehearted congratulations to Anne on this well-deserved award. Anne's career shows the great opportunities that exist for teachers in Argyll and Bute. Her successes highlight our progress in making this area an excellent place for young



Anne S Paterson, former chief education officer, is being awarded an OBE.



Catherine Paterson, founder of the Dochas Carers' Centre, is to receive an MBE.



SAMS scientist Christine Campbell is to receive an MBE.

people to learn. Anne's work in developing outdoor learning is a great example of our drive to identify and progress education opportunities that help young people succeed. Very well done.'

Fellow Mid Argyll resident Catherine Paterson, founder of the Dochas Carers' Centre

in Lochgilphead, is honoured with an MBE for her services to healthcare and social care in Argyll and Bute, while Captain Barbara Campbell from Dunoon gets an MBE for her work with vulnerable people as master of the charity Jubilee Sailing Trust. Also on

the list were accordionist (Duncan) Fergie MacDonald from Acharacle, who receives an MBE for services to Scottish traditional music; former Scottish Rugby president Dee Bradbury, from Oban, with an OBE for services to rugby; postmaster Keith

John Desmond Rutherford is to be awarded a BEM for his services to Colonsay and neighbouring Oronsay and Christine Campbell, a scientist at Oban's Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS) is to receive an MBE in recognition of her dedication to Europe's largest living culture collection of algae and protozoa (CCAP). Christine, who is also a trade union stalwart at SAMS and has been a guide leader in North Connell since 2000, more recently taking on the role as district commissioner for North Lorn, said her nomination was a surprise.

'I was unaware I had been nominated,' she said. 'I think of this honour as a reflection of the contributions made by my team workers in CCAP, the Prospect union and Girlguiding Argyll, as all three areas of my activity were part of the case made.'



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## FROM OUR FILES

## TEN YEARS AGO

Friday January 7 2011

## Gates locked at Skykon

The fight is on to save the Skykon factory at Machrihanish, its 130 jobs and the prospect of many more in its new extension, which is lying completed but empty.

The workforce was told not to return to work after the holiday break because there was no money to pay them but the company's order book could be its salvation.

Colin Dempster and Andrew Davison of Ernst and Young have been appointed administrators of Skykon Campbeltown Limited. Its Danish parent went into administration last month.

Mr Davison said: 'We are currently reviewing the facility's financial position and order books with a view to assessing its immediate trading prospects.'

'Some initial expressions of interest have been made and all options will be explored.'

## TWENTY FIVE YEARS AGO

Friday January 5 1996

## Thaw cuts water supplies

The New Year thaw brought water shortages to much of Kintyre and the islands.

Strathclyde Regional Council water workers, Argyll and Bute District Council housing maintenance teams, local plumbers and even the police were swamped with calls as pipes burst and water supplies were cut off.

Many homes served by Aucha Lochy water



In 1996: Courier reporter Jamie McIvor captured this beautiful winter view of Campbeltown Loch from the windows near the top of Lorne and Lowland Church's tower.

treatment works near Campbeltown were cut off on New Year's Day as the water pressure dropped due to burst pipes.

The treatment plant was hit by a shutdown which has been blamed on a computer problem.

As more burst pipes thawed out and started leaking, demand rose beyond the level which could be met by the treatment plant and its depleted storage tanks.

As the amount of water available fell, so did the water pressure and homes on higher ground lost their supplies.

Many parts of Southend were without water for 24 hours because there was not enough pressure in the pipes from Aucha Lochy to feed the pumping station at Auchencorvie.

A water department spokesman said the high demand for water had mainly been caused by the amount wasted by burst pipes.

## FIFTY YEARS AGO

Thursday January 7 1971

## Fans' bus cancelled unexpectedly on eve of disaster match

The Ne'erday clash between Glasgow soccer rivals Rangers and Celtic is normally attended by a bus-load of Campbeltown Rangers supporters.

This year, however, for the first time since the local Rangers Supporters Association was founded in 1947, no bus travelled to the game.

Secretary of the association, Mr Peter McKinley, 21 John Street, Campbeltown, explained that only 17 supporters showed any interest in the game and the minimum number required to make the trip financially possible is 30.

The bus was cancelled on the evening before the match.

Mr McKinley told the Courier that he was relieved the trip had not been possible.

The exit at which 66 people were killed and hundreds injured at Ibrox Park on Saturday was the one always used by the Campbeltown contingent of supporters, he said.

Mr McKinley is organising a dance and raffle in aid of the Ibrox disaster fund. Local beat group, the Sloe-Gin, will play at the dance without charge on Friday January 29.

Mr McKinley hopes to have the raffle organised by the beginning of next week.

## ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

Saturday January 1 1921

## New Year holiday attractions

The entertainments arranged in town for the New Year holidays present attractions of an ample and varied description.

Out of doors football holds the field with a series of interesting games arranged for New Year's Day and the following Monday.

The evenings can be pleasantly filled by a series of entertainments of great promise, while an exceptionally large exhibition of poultry, pigeons, cage birds and rabbits has been organised by Campbeltown Ornithological Society.

The local Picture House management have made very complete arrangements for the crowds who are sure to include in the holiday rounds a visit to 'the pictures'.

During Saturday, Monday and Tuesday, continuous shows will be given from 2 o'clock in the afternoon, doors opening at 1.30.

The principal picture for Saturday is entitled 'In the Hollow of Her Hand' and it will be supplemented by a number of other interesting films both topical and humorous. A change of picture will be made on Monday and again on Tuesday when the principal films will be 'The Judgement of the Desert' and 'The Merry-Go-Round' respectively. The latter will be continued on Wednesday and will be followed on Thursday, Friday and Saturday with a striking film entitled 'The Snares of Paris'. This varied programme will be welcomed by patrons and should result in sustained interest in shows at the Picture House during the holiday period.



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# Rabbits and Red Cross Parcels

## DOWN MEMORY LANE



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The Courier continues to share more from Campbeltown soldier Gunner Neil MacLean's previously unpublished prisoner of war diary. Gunner MacLean was captured following the 51st Highland Division's surrender at St Valéry-en-Caux during the Second World War.

The diary, and several photographs of Neil during and after the war, were supplied by Neil's son Calum, who knew nothing of the diary until after his father's death.

This week continues from April 1942:

Up to the 25th unloading lime and coal. 26th, some men had to go out to work so we cut for it and Alex and I had the day off. The bulk issue has been given to all work parties, yet we have not had any so asked the guard to phone Stalaig about it and he is going for it tomorrow. 29th, Red Cross Parcel (RCP) and cigarettes arrived for one month. No bulk issue left for us to receive and I think we were better off with the parcels. We sure enjoyed a good meal once again. The work we are on is very heavy and we were going down the

hill but the old RC will pull us back up again.

May 2nd - 1st of May being a holiday all over Germany. We did not have it here in Tiegndoff, they held it on the 2nd, so we all had a free day but had to go to work tomorrow which is a Sunday. 4th - went to work in the repair shop, changed places with Finlay as my side was giving me a bit of trouble with the heavy work. All very nice to you in the shop. 5th - More ration cards arrived today for the heavy work we were doing so we should be well off now along with the RCPs. 6th - received 21 letters today. This is my record so far.



Making a water tank for one of the engines inside... Pretty heavy going.

May 11th- Birthday just like any other day. 17th - Went to see the boys who work at the brewery and had a nice time. 19th - asked the boss for a piece of ground for a garden and received four different pieces. One piece outside our billet he fenced off for us and it looks very smart. We planted potatoes, carrots, beetroots, cabbage and cauliflowers, lettuce, beans and some peas. Up hill now, everything doing

well. 31st - Boys came over to see us from the brewery.

June 1st - Working with another man in the repair shop who mends the wagons and carriages. We get on very well together and he gives me plenty of work to do on my own. When no repairs in, we make new wagons so I am always learning something new.

12th - Being two-year prisoner today and working we could not celebrate but arranged to celebrate it with the boys at the brewery on the 14th.

Went there after dinner and had a couple of bottles of beer and a talk. At 4.30pm we had tea and home-made duff, made out of biscuits, then cheese then meat and bread and home-made scones. Had a walk around and looked at the rabbits in the garden, then settled down for a good sing-song. Two [illegible] of home then off to bed after a very enjoyable evening.

17th - three men arrived today to work in the repair shop. All English men. 19th - received two rabbits tonight from the brewery so hope they will do alright. Received another rabbit from the brewery, all doing well. 29th - 200 cigarettes from Connyglen. 150 French in Argyll.

July 1st - Bought five rabbits and hut, combined 50M. The next morning one of them had eight young ones. All doing well. One of our young rabbits died so that leaves seven. Everybody is after them as they are off a good strain, so when they are four weeks old we intend to give them away to the men we work with. 8th - Some new chaps arrived. 15th - Another three chaps arrived. 28th - Parcel from Connyglen, posted in January, our RCP and cigarettes are coming up every month.

Routes to places from September 1st 1939:

Campbeltown to Aldershot. 1940: Boarded to France via Southampton, landed Le Harve, Bolbeck, Armin Semes, Arras, Bethume, Le Doulain, Bouvange, Thirst, Moiningen, Klangs, St Margarets, Budding, Yates, then to a sawmill in and out woods till we reached the Somme district around Redcamp... then up to St Vararie. Taken prisoner and marched Forges, Le Odur, Hignuns, Lehetalain, Arrans (rest), Donnalld enthal, Doullins, St Palbethine, Seclin, Tourina (Belgium), Reninaig, Marcchode, Aalst, Lokerlin, Moorlik. Train through Holland, barge to Germany, Emmerith, Bochile (Poland).

1941: Shoken, Wongrowing, Strelno, Surdof, Prusia, Willenburg, Morien werder.

1942-1943-plus: Lousenhoff, Willenburg, Lugenhof.

Continued in next week's Courier.

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## A community of heroes

This week's front page article highlights the heroic efforts of several Kintyre Davids but, it goes without saying, that many people have shown their heroism and altruism through their actions, particularly over the last year.

Too many people to name individually have proven they are worthy of being titled heroes – worthy of admiration for their courage, outstanding achievements or noble qualities – through innumerable acts of kindness, generosity and selflessness.

It is all the little things which are done day-in, day-out, in addition to the large-scale community efforts, which make a difference and all deserve admiration and recognition.

There are also many other Davids whose good deeds deserve to be mentioned but, unfortunately, we do not have space to recognise each and every one of them so please let those mentioned on the front page represent them all.

The research which identified David as the most heroic name of 2020 also listed the top five names for each gender: Male names: 1 David, 2 Paul, 3 George, 4 Michael, 5 Tom; Female names: 1 Jessica, 2 Katie, 3 Amelia, 4 Rebecca, 5 Hannah.

After the year we've just endured, we think everyone deserves to be called a hero.

If, however, you think there is someone – who doesn't have to be called David – who deserves a particular mention for their heroism, please let us know and we would be happy to shine the spotlight on their efforts.

## Support for blind and partially sighted people

The Covid crisis has prompted a greater sense of social cohesion and solidarity but it has also exposed and exacerbated some of the barriers blind and partially sighted people still face.

Access to online shopping slots, a lack of essential health information in formats such as audio and Braille and confusion over whether social distancing allowed for blind and partially sighted people to still be guided added to the distress many felt.

The first lockdown came out of the blue when we had little real-life experience of managing a national emergency.

But it is now more essential than ever that we learn the lessons and ensure no-one falls through the safety net.

Another period of enforced confinement during the winter months will hit some particularly hard.

During the first lockdown, RNIB Scotland and other charities worked extremely hard to ensure the needs of the most vulnerable were met – at a time when even the most able in society were thrown by the suddenness and uncertainty the crisis created.

We negotiated set online shopping slots for people with sight loss, worked with public bodies to ensure the often vital information they put out was available in formats accessible

# GET INVOLVED

email [editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk](mailto:editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk)

to everyone and clarified the rules on guiding people with a visual impairment.

These gains must be reinforced as we returning to another nationwide lockdown.

Currently, around 178,000 people are living in Scotland with significant sight loss.

Although most are over the age of 60, around 3,500 children and young people also have a visual impairment. The RNIB Helpline remains available on 03031 239999 and information continues to be broadcast on RNIB's Connect Radio station.

The RNIB Talking Book library posts and downloads thousands of titles in audio and other formats.

Find out more at [www.rnib.org.uk/scotland](http://www.rnib.org.uk/scotland)  
**James Adams, director,**  
**RNIB Scotland.**

## Thank you to players of People's Postcode Lottery

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to players of People's Postcode Lottery in Scotland after an incredibly challenging year for us all.

Since 2005, players across Britain have raised more than £600 million for good causes, which is incredible.

Sightsavers has been grateful to receive more than £6 million of this.

Money raised by players has been indispensable in helping Sightsavers to fund, in 2020 alone, eye services for more than 49,000 people and more than 500 sight-saving cataract surgeries.

In 2020, funding also helped us to support the Covid-19 response.

Children with disabilities kept learning throughout the pandemic thanks to distance learning equipment and teacher training, PPE and hygiene kits.

Children like Marie in Sierra Leone benefited. She is blind and was in danger of being left behind when schools closed, until she was given a typewriter, a radio and assistance so she could keep studying.

So, once again, a big thank you to all the players in Scotland for your generosity.

To find out about some of the lives being turned around by players' support, please head over to [www.sightsavers.org/ppl](http://www.sightsavers.org/ppl) or give Sightsavers a call on 0800 089 2020.

**Dr Caroline Harper CBE,**  
**Sightsavers CEO.**

## Proud of those who kept us connected during lockdown

Scots have taken to online technology like never before to keep in touch during this difficult time.

When we first went into lockdown, there were concerns on whether our networks would cope with this big increase in online traffic. But, although customers' use of data more than doubled during the period, our networks were able to stand up to the demands.

I'm immensely proud of the role my colleagues have played in keeping the country connected during this crisis.

From the engineers who keep our broadband and mobile networks connected, to the vital contact centre staff in Glasgow, Dundee, Greenock, Edinburgh and Thurso, helping people when they need it most.

I'm proud also of the role our people played in supporting the NHS in Scotland during the crisis, including working with the Scottish Government to quickly provide communications to the temporary hospitals.

The pandemic has shown the vital role digital technology and internet connectivity now plays in all our lives.

## Press policy



At The Campbeltown Courier, we endeavour to ensure all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time. If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing [editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk](mailto:editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk); telephoning the chief reporter on 01546 602345 or write to the Group Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB. We will try to resolve your issue in a timeous, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can call IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email [inquiries@ipso.co.uk](mailto:inquiries@ipso.co.uk). IPSO is an independent body that deals with complaints about the editorial content. We will abide by its decision.

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If all homes and businesses are going to stay ahead, we know that fast and reliable broadband and good mobile coverage is going to be essential for the post-Covid recovery.

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Jane Wood,  
BT Group Scotland director.

## Brexit outcome disastrous for Scottish farmers

As always in such matters, the UK-EU Brexit deal will invariably throw up more than a few surprises aside from the usual headlines heralding a British 'victory' in negotiations.

The fact that, for example, seed potatoes are not to be included in the deal will be deeply damaging to our rural economy. Scottish seed potato farmers are one of the biggest exporters of potatoes, used in the production of chips and crisps, in the world.

The sector in Scotland accounts for around 80 per cent of UK production and is worth about £122 million annually.

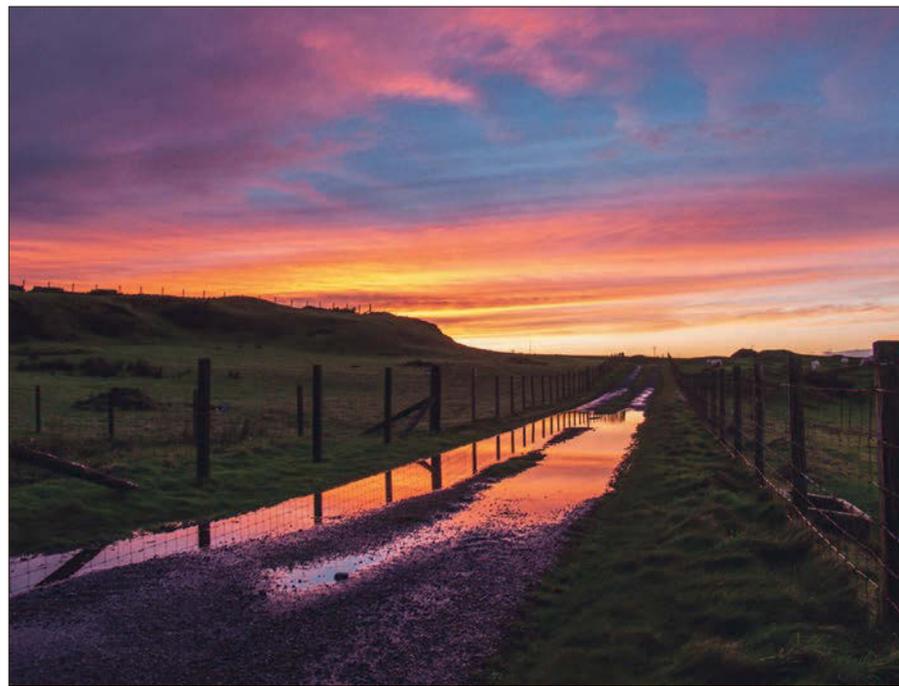
One fifth of these exports goes to the EU, amounting to more than 20,000 tonnes a year.

This is clearly a disastrous Brexit outcome for Scottish farmers and like all other aspects of Brexit, foisted on Scotland against its will.

A terrible negotiating failure on the part of the Tory government and a devastating blow to an extremely valuable part of Scotland's farming industry, I am sure it will not be the first damaging impact to be highlighted once the deal is fully analysed.

Alex Orr,  
Edinburgh.

## PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



Kintyre residents are used to seeing beautiful sunsets but now, thanks to photographers including Robert Westerman, we are able to share them with the rest of the world. Robert took this shot, and another similar one, of a particularly stunning sunset at Machrihanish one Friday evening in December. Both photographs were used by the BBC, this one on the broadcaster's main weather forecast report and the other during Reporting Scotland's weather segment. 'It's nice to show off our part of the country when we can,' Robert said. If you have a photograph you would like to share, please email it to [editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk](mailto:editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk) or send it via the Courier's Facebook page.

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The Editor welcomes letters and emails for publication, however we reserves the right to shorten, amend or refuse to print them. Names and addresses MUST be supplied to indicate good faith, although details can be withheld from publication. Phone numbers, if available, should be included. Anonymous letters will not be considered.

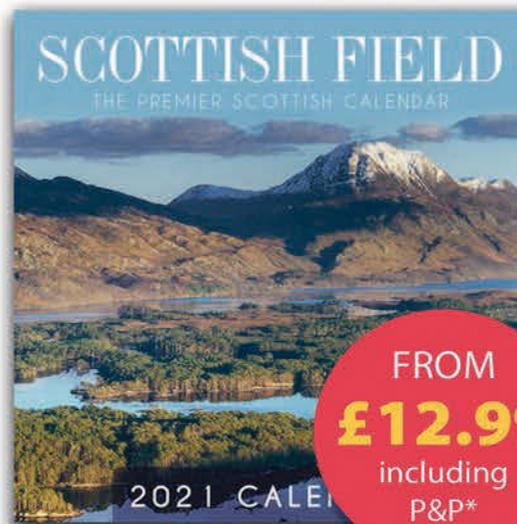
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Goodbye 2020 – and good riddance, none of us are going to miss you, unless we own shares in a company that makes online meetings apps.

So roll on 2021 as we all work on becoming Covid free and getting back to the good things in life.

It is time to get ready with a new look at life, with a New Year and a new you.

### ***Losing weight and feeling great***

Uh-oh! When the time comes to go back into the workplace do you have a wardrobe full of smart office clothes that might be a little too tight... maybe even a lot too tight?

If the lure of the biscuit tin and the sweetie jar have proved irresistible in 2020 as you worked from home, it is now time to get back on track.

We have only a few more months to go, hopefully, until the virus suppression lockdowns and vaccinations begin to take effect, so get cracking.

All the established slimming clubs have switched to online and if you enrol now you will be able to go to weigh-ins when allowed and step on those scales in front of all the other club members and feel so proud of yourself.

Even if you do not have weight to lose, how about making this the year that's all about eating better? Another thing we have learned during lockdown is how to enjoy cooking for ourselves and upping our culinary skills.

Food cooked from scratch tastes so much better than ready meals and doesn't have so many artificial flavour enhancers and no preservatives. There is something so satisfying and uplifting about home cooking.

Better still; why not start to buy more food from within our region? The last year gave local producers a great chance to shine and highlight their produce – be they grown, raised or made here in the West Highlands and islands.

You would be amazed at how many people have realised now what so many of us have known for so long – that locally-sourced eggs, be they chicken, duck or goose, taste way superior to supermarket ones.

In Oban, Fort William and Lochgilphead and in smaller villages and the islands you can find so many local artisan suppliers and farmers markets.

### ***Get yourself in a good place***

Life's current circumstances have shown us all the need for reliance; not just physical but emotional as well.

Let's be honest here – there cannot be one of us who has not gone right to the edge during these uncertain times. Some of us have been able to pull things back together far better than others.

There is no condemnation in this; perhaps one of the best things to come out of this disastrous Covid experience is that people will be more open and accepting about the need for good, positive mental health. We will be more aware of our own needs and those of our family, friends, neighbours and colleagues.

There is plenty of counselling available, on line and wherever possible, in person.

The Martyn's Monday Club for men and its spin-off clubs for women and young people in Oban are a shining example of the help that is available.

There are so many websites to visit, podcasts to listen to and even courses to enrol in.

Keeping positive is so important. Argyll College and West Highland College have many new courses available for you to expand your horizons, learn new skills and help you on your career path.

That does not mean sitting there like Pollyanna, or becoming an ostrich with your head in the sand and ignoring everything, in the hope it all goes away.

One of the best ways to keep yourself positive is to surround yourself with quality information.

We have said it before and will never tire of saying it again: always rely on good resources for your information like The Oban Times. Use government, Council and NHS websites, the BBC and STV and national and local press. We are owned by companies which all work within the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO) guidelines – for real news.

### ***Expert advice***

Financial problems can be the one of the worst aspects of this crisis; as many people find themselves furloughed or their hours drastically cut back.

In an area such as ours there is a number of people who rely on the tourism and hospitality sectors for all of, or a major boost to, their incomes.

If you fall into this category, make sure you seek advice sooner rather than later, if you think you are might run into difficulty. Good financial planning is worth its weight in gold and you can still have appointments with advisors online.

### ***Life goes on, online***

Exercise and a good pub quiz is what the UK wants most from the internet!

YouTube's Culture and Trends team issued a report on 2020 and 'the trends and behaviour defining the evolution of digital culture in 2020'.

Kevin Allocca, who heads the team, said when the report was issued that 'this is an important moment to examine in the history of pop culture' because of the Covid pandemic.

Topping the UK chart was Joe Wicks who received an MBE in October. He has said his videos' success is one of his 'proudest achievements'.

Jay Flynn, a pub landlord from Lancashire, who hosted his own pub quizzes before lockdown has now found himself with a massive audience.

He began Jay's Virtual Pub Quiz on You Tube for a local audience and has found himself with nearly 150,000 joining in live on Thursday evenings.

And don't forget our own superstars of The Oban Times podcast, available each week. Make sure you listen to David Buchanan's retirement podcast – a classic!

# Change your career, change your life



After a year full of uncertainty and change, it's time to take the reins and get your career back on the right track. Whether you're thinking about retraining, or changing your career path, you'll be able to get recognised qualifications with Argyll College UHI, all whilst studying right here in Argyll.

Starting late January, we have a range of part-time single unit courses available that can be completed before June from as little as £86. The courses are a great way to get a taster for one of our full-time courses, gain additional skills, or help you reskill in a new area. So, if you're ready for a pivot in 2021, this could be exactly what you need.

If the thought of returning to the office is enough to send you stir crazy, why not get outdoors and try one of our Horticulture units. A great way to gain new skills in the garden, these units are perfect for both beginners, and the green-fingered among us. Whether you're simply looking to get your garden in shape for Spring or want to turn your hobby into something more.

Computing is a rapidly growing sector of employment and now, more than ever, has become fundamental to the way we live,

work, and socialise. Gaining skills within this area can open up the world of technology and a vast array of exciting career opportunities. Our single unit courses cover topics such as Digital Forensics, Ethical Hacking and Computer Games Development and serve as a taster for our full-time HNC Computing course starting in September.

If you're new to the world of work, or returning after a break our Business, Admin and IT courses could be for you. Covering a range of topics from customer care, digital marketing, databases and personal enterprise skills, these courses will prepare you for the modern-day office environment and increase your employability.

For most people, it's only natural to change and what better time than now to try something new – especially as many of us have time to fill whilst remaining at home! So, if you love life in Argyll but think you have to move away to get the qualifications you need, think again. Find out how we can help you hit the ground running as the new year approaches.

Visit [www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk](http://www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk) to find out more.

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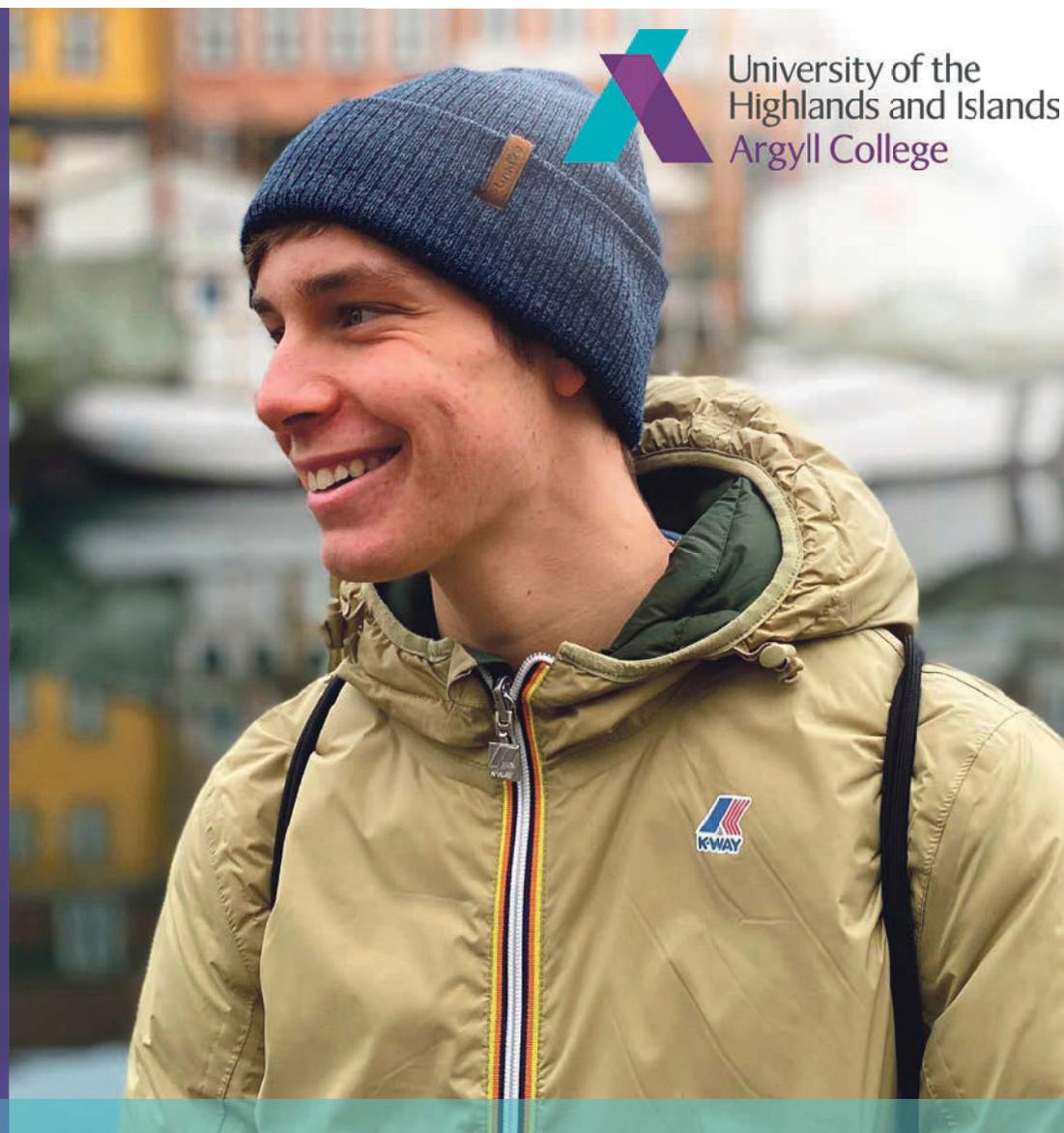
Considering a career change in the new year?  
Or are you thinking about new opportunities?  
It's **never too late** to start learning.

We have lots of shorter courses starting from January to help **build your skills**, including:

- Business Law: An Introduction
- Horticulture: Plant Recognition & Use
- Computing: Ethical Hacking
- Administrative Procedures
- Computer Games Development
- Plants & Habitats: Ecology & Conservation

... and **lots more** options on our website!

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# Make 2021 your year



**At Slimming World, we understand the impact these past months have had on our health, our happiness and our weight. If you'd love to make a fresh start this new year, we're here to support you all the way to your dream weight.**

Things have been a little different in 2020 but the range of support you get is still provided by Slimming World, call Gillian today on 07796 040803 to become a member.

You will enjoy an amazing package of support, including our generous, flexible eating plan, a tailored activity plan, and the motivation, understanding and care that's at the heart of Slimming World.

Make this the year you discover that Slimming World feeling for yourself – a fresh start that lasts a lifetime!

## Individual dietary needs

Food Optimising caters for members with special dietary requirements or conditions affected by diet, including diabetes, Coeliac disease, lactose intolerance and IBS.

Consultants and members have access to a variety of health fact sheets to help incorporate their dietary needs into Food Optimising, for example, highlighting gluten and dairy free products.

## What's your favourite Slimming World recipe?



## Free2GO - 11 to 15 year olds

It's no secret that young people are eating less healthily, have a less active lifestyle and are suffering from weight-related problems like diabetes at a much earlier age.

To help young people in the very best way it can, Slimming World has launched Free2Go – a specially devised healthy eating plan, which focuses on the power of Free Food and Healthy Extras and encourages the step-by-step reduction of less healthy foods like burgers, chocolate and confectionary.

## MEET THE TEAM



**Gillian MacCorquodale**  
Consultant

Hi, I'm Gillian, I joined SW as a member in 2006 and lost 3 stone. I have been a consultant now for 10 years and absolutely love my job. SW Oban has over 300 members, many of whom who have achieved their targets and many more well on the way. SW Fort William, that started a couple of years ago, is a huge success and in high demand. We look forward to welcoming you into group and helping you achieve your goals.

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**Around the markets**

United Auctions Stirling, Sunday January 3, sold 4,374 prime sheep comprising of 3,716 prime hogs selling to an average of 231.36ppk and 658 ewes and rams.

Old season lambs (3,716) – West Park (BTex) £122.00; Luckenburn (BTex) £120.00; Berrydyke (BTex) £117.00; Easter Ochtermuthill (BTex) £116.00; The Green (Tex) £119.00; Westhall (Tex) £117.00; The Green (Tex) £116.00; Longfauld (Tex) £115.00; North Inchmichael (Suf) £115.00; Drumdownie (Suf) £113.50; Blythbank (Suf) £108.00; North Inchmichael (Chev) £112.00 and £110.50; Newhouse of Glamis (Chev) £105.50; Easter Craigduckie (Cross) £108.50; Wardhead (Mule) £105.00; Luckenburn, North Deanhead & Blythbank (Mule) £100.00; Gilston (Chev/Mule) £104.00; Whirrieston (BF) £102.00; Whirrieston and Smithy Hillock (BF) £101.00; North Deanhad (BF) £100.00.

Old season lambs ppk (3,716) – Easter Buckleyvie (BTex) 322.00ppk; Newton of Crathie (BTex) 276.00ppk; West Park (BTex) 270.00ppk and 268.00ppk; Newton of Crathie (Tex) 269.00ppk; Torrax (Tex) 261.00ppk; South Ballaird (Tex) 260.00ppk; Newton of Crathie (Chev) 245.00ppk; Hallhill (Chev) 241.00ppk; Loanhead of Duchally, Snawdon and Newton of Crathie (Chev) 240.00ppk; Claish (Cha) 239.00ppk; Easter Buckleyvie (Suf) 238.00ppk; Wardhead (Suf) 237.00ppk and 236.00ppk; Fullarton and Pittenkerrie (Suf) 237.00ppk; Gilsotn (Chev/Mule) 236.00ppk; Cretlevane (Mule) 233.00ppk; Dupplin Estate (Mule) 231.00ppk; Blythbank (Mule) 227.00ppk; Ardacheranmor and Bows (BF) 233.00ppk; Bows (BF) 232.00ppk; West Bracklinn and Whirrieston (BF) 230.00ppk.

Ewes (658) – Westhall (Tex) £138.00; Carrat (Tex) £120.00; Wester Cambushinie (TexX) £118.00; Over Finlarg (TexX) £110.00; Westhall (Suf) £126.00; Smith Hillock (SufX) £114.00; Fullfordlees (SufX) £107.00; Over Finlarg (BFL) £93.00; Cretlevane (BFL) £91.00; Calfward (Mule) £90.50; Carrat (Mule) £90.00; Blythbank (Mule) £88.00; Woodhead of Mailer (Mule) £86.00; Powblack (Hamp) £90.00; Craighall (Chev) £88.00; Over Finlarg (Chev) £72.50; Dustydrum (Chev) £82.00; Kinclaven (Chev/Mule) £85.50; Gledamph (BF) £71.50; Blythbank (BF) £67.50; Over Finlarg & Auchenrivoch (BF) £67.00.

Tups – Cretlevane (Tex) £135.00; Fleurs (Tex) £128.00; Over Finlarg (Tex) £117.00; Over Finlarg (Lley) £109.00; Gledamph (BF) £94.00.

**Cards stacked in industry's favour, says NFUS president**

A new year, a new perspective, writes Andrew McCornick, president of NFUS Scotland, in his New Year message.

The new and untested trading environment would be different but with many of the same worries over potential tariffs and quotas, he said.

'There are and will be issues and NFUS will take them on and seek remedies.

'However, as I look to 2021, it is not about the cards we have been dealt on Brexit, trade deals, policy or weather.

'It is how we play our hand and I firmly believe that, as an industry, we have the cards stacked in our favour,' he added. With the world population growing, Scotland's 'multifunctional land' could meet growing demand.

'Let us have credibility for farmers by investing in bioeconomy, bioenergy, agro-forestry, precision farming and shorter food chains – support for which is within the Government's gift,' he said.

'In 2021, the black cloud of Covid-19 needs to be swept away, a process driven by the vaccines our scientists have developed and lessons learned on the things we should do better but also how we have adapted and adopted new methods for good.

'Agriculture also urgently needs delivery of an ambitious coherent policy delivering a sustainable profitable industry that addresses climate change, biodiversity and an increasing demand for nutritious high standard and welfare food. Procrastination has a price.

'Brexit will go by, like foot and mouth, the oil crisis and the great depression, but we need enough freedom and flexibility to be able to innovate and chose our own paths through it as well. We need to throw open our doors to the public and build trust on what we do and how we do it. There is huge potential from selling our story both on farm and in the food chain.'

He finished by adding: 'I wish everyone health, wealth and happiness for the coming year.'



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PUBLIC NOTICES

**Argyll and Bute Council**  
**PLANNING**  
**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**  
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](http://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](mailto:planning.hq@argyll-bute.gov.uk) or tel. 01546 605518.

Ref. No.	Proposal	Site Address
20/02215/PP	Re-painting of shopfront from Black to Chiltern White and Mallard Green	6 Longrow South, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6AH

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 Council's 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:  
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Source: YouGov 2018

**Argyll and Bute Council**  
**EDUCATION SERVICE**  
**EDUCATION (SCOTLAND) ACT 1980**  
**CHOICE OF SCHOOL AND REGISTRATION**  
**OF INFANT BEGINNERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS -**  
**SESSION 2021/2022**

All children who reach the age of five years between 1 March 2021 and 28 February 2022 should register for education during the week commencing 18 January 2021.

Usually children attend their local school however parents can make a request to place their child in any school under the management of the education authority. This is known as a placing request.

P1 registration, including placing requests for starting in August 2021, will take place online using the council's website. Details of the link will be published using social media and on the website. If you are unable to access the online registration form please call your local school week beginning 18 January 2021.

A list of all schools and documents relating to registration can be found on the council's website [www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/education-and-learning/placing-your-child-school](http://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/education-and-learning/placing-your-child-school), this includes:-

- Gaelic Medium Education
- Denominational Schools
- Non-denominational Schools.



**Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence**

Callum Simpson trading as Septic Tank Services Ltd of Camus Stack, Kilmichael Glassary, Lochgilphead, PA31 8QL is applying to change an existing licence as follows:  
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## Thought for the Week

Can we miss the beauty of a journey when our eyes are too focused on the destination?

Our new Christmas movie this year was the Pixar film Soul. This animated fantasy revolves around a character named Joe. He is a part-time music teacher, with a passion for jazz, whose life has not gone the way he expected.

Long story short, he gets an opportunity to play with his dream band. After this amazing gig, we find his character outside the jazz club, downcast and not feeling any different.

His friend says: 'You're like a fish who's looking for the ocean only to discover that the water you're in is the ocean.'

He missed the joy of the day-to-day experiences, thinking the big dream would make everything better. What a lesson. We can chase the dream only to miss the journey.

Life in front of us is to be grasped and appreciated daily. As King Solomon said all those centuries ago: 'It is good for people to eat, drink and enjoy their work under the sun during the short life God has given them and to accept their lot in life.' Ecclesiastes 5:18.

2020 reminded us to appreciate the people and the things around us a lot more.

Dreaming and aspiring for better days is not wrong but let us not miss today while waiting for change.

Today - this day - is to be lived and enjoyed. Today - this day - is a day I can look up or I can look down. Today - this day - we have an opportunity to appreciate people and show love and kindness.

Whatever the destination, there is beauty on the way.

**Reverend Chris Holden, The Fishermen's Mission.**

## COWAL

## A creative blast from Scotland's past

An Argyll-based theatre company which regularly visits Kintyre's schools is sending cheer across the globe with innovative video messages from Scotland's past.

The Walking Theatre Company (TWTC) is a social enterprise based in Glendaruel, on the Cowal peninsula, producing outdoor theatre across Scotland and beyond.

With the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, TWTC's full diary of performances was emptied, leaving its core company of professional actors and creative practitioners without employment for the foreseeable future.

Like many creative companies, the pandemic forced TWTC to take its work online, exploring opportunities to connect with audiences during such uncertain times.

Searching for innovative ways to reconnect with audiences at home and abroad, TWTC's creative director Sadie Dixon-Spain created the 'Clanagram', creating paid employment for actors and producing virtual keepsakes for audiences.

Clanagrams are personalised video greetings, sending friends and family near and far love and good cheer, as TWTC's team of professional actors bring to life a selection of Scotland's great names.

An ideal gift for those with Scottish heritage, Scots in exile or simply lovers of all things Scottish, it is a unique message from a Scottish hero, sent to them directly to celebrate a special occasion, or simply just to make them smile.

Visit [www.clanagram.com](http://www.clanagram.com) to become a member of Bonnie Prince Charlie's army and receive a message from the Young Pretender himself, a recitation of poetry by the national bard or a tale from Scotland's most famous outlaw, Rob Roy.

The arts have suffered immensely due to the Covid-19 pandemic, while tight restrictions continue to press pause on the live events industry.

With the creation of digital performances and offerings such as Clanagrams, TWTC aims to continue finding innovative ways of performing, bringing theatre back to audiences and offering creative professionals employment once again.



## WEST KINTYRE

## Wild Westport

Nothing blows away the cobwebs like a walk along Westport Beach on Kintyre's west coast.

The beach, the longest in mainland Argyll, is one of the jewels in Kintyre's crown and usually draws surfers and tourists from near and far all year round.

At the moment, however, under the strict

new lockdown measures introduced this week, which limit travel to just five miles from home, it is much quieter than usual and is frequented mainly by walkers, runners and dog-walkers living nearby.

This photograph, taken by Mid Argyll-based amateur photographer Aileen Gillies in December, shows the beach's rugged coastline and its wild beauty.

Messages can be sent from a selection of Scotland's great names including Bonnie Prince Charlie.



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## CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited.

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

1 Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.

2 The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.

3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.

4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance

of the advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.

5 Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.

6 The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.

7 The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear.

In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may

be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

8 Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.

9 The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to

the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order. 10 Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.

11 Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.

12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

DEATHS

**BAPTY** - Suddenly at the Campbeltown Hospital, on January 1, 2021, Neil Stuart Bapty, in his 71st year, Bayview, Low Askomil, Campbeltown, dearly beloved husband of Helen Hamilton and a much loved father and grandfather.

**CAMPBELL** - Peacefully at home, Beinn Ghlas, Furnace on December 31, 2020, Alexander (Alex) Campbell in his 87th year. Beloved husband of the late Pearl MacCallum. Dearly loved and adored father of Hazel, Ronnie, Carol and Lorna. A much respected father-in-law of Ronnie, Mhairi, Douglas and Alastair. Devoted and proud Papa and Old Papa. Alex was a highly respected member of the local and surrounding communities, and a stalwart of Kilmory Shinty Club. A private family service was held in Cumlodden Parish Church, Furnace on Thursday, January 7, 2021, followed by Interment at Kilevin Cemetery, Crarae.

**GREENWOOD** - Peacefully at home, 2 School Park, Carradale, on January 1, 2021, Kenneth Greenwood (Ken) in his 78th year, dearly beloved husband of Molly, loving dad of Vicki, Yvette and Laura and a loving grandfather and great-grandfather.

**WATSON** - Peacefully at home, 24 Albyn Avenue, Campbeltown, on January 5, 2021, with family by his side, Robert Watson (Bobby) in his 96th year, much loved brother of Nancy, Sandy and the late Margaret, Donnie and Billy and a dear and loved uncle. Funeral service private in line with current government guidelines. Bobby's funeral will take place on Friday, January 8. The cortege will leave the home address, 24 Albyn Avenue, at 12 noon. We will travel down Millknowe, along Aqualibrium Avenue, around the Cross and up Main Street on our way to Keil Cemetery, Southend. Anyone wishing to pay their last respects to Bobby may do so along our route. Please remember to observe social distancing.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**MCCOY** - The family of the late Margaret and Ken McCoy would like to convey sincere thanks to family, friends and neighbours for the kind expressions of sympathy, flowers and cards of condolence following the devastating loss of their parents. Heartfelt thanks to the Community Nurses who attended to Mum when she was still at home; to Drs Lazarus, Norrie, Toledo, Anderson, and to all the amazing and wonderful nurses who attended to our Mum and Dad during their

time in hospital. Sincere thanks to Kenneth Blair and his staff for their dignified professionalism; to Fr. Tony Woods, David McEwan and Bill Brannigan for delivering a beautifully personal service; to The Glen for a lovely tea, and finally, a huge thank you to everyone who joined us to pay their respects to Ken and Margaret on their final journey. They will both be sorely missed.

IN MEMORIAM

**CAMPBELL** - In loving memory of our precious son Kenneth.

Loved and missed every day  
Forever in our hearts  
- Love Mum and Dad xx

**MCCALLUM** - Muriel January 7, 2018.

It broke our hearts to lose you  
But you did not go alone  
For part of us went with you  
The day God called you home  
- Lots of love, Richard and Sharon xxx

**MCLEAN** - Agnes. Promoted to Glory on January 6, 2008. Our dearest Nana - we love and miss you always.

- Senga, Sean and Millie and Maureen and family. Precious memories of our dear Mum - forever in our hearts, Rene and Flora. Also our beloved sister and a much-loved and missed auntie, Carolin McLean  
- Promoted to Glory on January 6, 2018.

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



...God has said, 'Never will I leave you; never will I forsake you.' Hebrews 13 V 5

**Our building is currently closed but you are welcome to join our online Praise and Worship Zoom Service on Sunday, 10th January 2021 at 11am**

To join us online send your email address to [officespringbankchurch@gmail.com](mailto:officespringbankchurch@gmail.com) for an invitation to Sunday's Zoom meeting [www.springbankchurch.org.uk](http://www.springbankchurch.org.uk)  
<https://www.facebook.com/springbankchurch>  
Contact phone number 01586 551237 - Church Secretary

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND



South Kintyre Team Ministry

Due to the new regulations there will be no services held in the churches but an online service can be viewed on the South Kintyre Team Ministry page on YouTube.  
Ministers  
Revd Steve Fulcher  
Revd Chris Fulcher  
01586830504  
[www.kintyreparishes.org.uk](http://www.kintyreparishes.org.uk)

SALVATION ARMY



Our meetings in the hall are currently cancelled  
Gospel message will be available via our FB page every Sunday

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

CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH  
George Street, Campbeltown



Sunday 10th January

In line with the current Covid restrictions, there will be no services held in the church building for the rest of January.

Rev Rodger Crooks will record the service for this Sunday and it will be available on our website (see below) and on YouTube.

4.00pm Sunday School (by Zoom)

7.30pm Youth Group (by Zoom)

Wednesday 13th January

12 noon Prayer & Bible Study (by Zoom)  
[www.campbeltownfree-church.co.uk](http://www.campbeltownfree-church.co.uk)

Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



Church services and activities suspended until further notice

Please feel free to contact us

Pastor Mark Jasper  
01586 554 092  
[pastor@campbeltown-communitychurch.co.uk](mailto:pastor@campbeltown-communitychurch.co.uk)  
[www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk](http://www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/campbeltowncommunitychurch](https://www.facebook.com/campbeltowncommunitychurch)  
SC043322

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

in Mid-Argyll & Arran  
The Eucharist will be streamed live each Sunday at 11am on Facebook  
at [ChristChurchLochgilhead](https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchLochgilhead) and on [www.midargyllepiscopalchurches.co.uk](http://www.midargyllepiscopalchurches.co.uk)

ST MARGARET'S RC CHURCH  
Lochgilhead

Suspension of Public Worship

Masses will continue to be Live Streamed via our YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC5MuOWIKEBfHQBQD37ui6yA>

Please check our Facebook page and parish website for weekly Mass times and latest information.

Fr. Ronald Campbell  
01546 602380  
[lochgilhead@rcdai.org.uk](mailto:lochgilhead@rcdai.org.uk)  
(SC0002876)

NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

charity number SC001002

Although our buildings are closed

we are still active.

Our website is full of information & provide opportunities for worship on-line  
Please look it up & keep in touch  
[www.northknappdale.org](http://www.northknappdale.org)

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH

Barr Mhor, Kilmartin

Please note due to lockdown restrictions our church is closed until further notice. We will be back in action as soon as it is safe to do so. Until then stay safe.

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686

Due to Covid 19 restrictions  
There will be no services in the church during January.  
Commencing 13th January there will be a message on Facebook each Wednesday and Sunday commencing Wed. 13th January  
Rev W Crossan

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Due to the COVID lock down restrictions the Tarbert and Skipness churches will remain closed until further notice

ST KIERAN'S RC CHURCH

Current restriction announced by the Scottish Government mean it is necessary to close places of worship. Therefore, Holy Mass will regrettably only be celebrated without people present and will be broadcast on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/campbeltownrcchurch>) and Zoom (Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6593787274>), at 10am Friday-Wednesday. Anyone requiring pastoral care should contact Fr. Wood: 01586 552160 or [campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk](mailto:campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk).

ARDRISHAIG AND SOUTH KNAPDALE PARISHES

There will be No Services in Ardrishaig or Achahoish Churches until further notice.

ANNOUNCEMENTS COURIER ANNOUNCEMENTS

find us on facebook  
[www.facebook.com/argyllshireadvertiser](https://www.facebook.com/argyllshireadvertiser)  
[www.facebook.com/campbeltowncourier](https://www.facebook.com/campbeltowncourier)

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# Organisers planning 'live' MOKRUN race comeback

by Hannah O'Hanlon  
editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk

Kintyre's single biggest sporting event is to make a comeback this year after being cancelled in 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Mull of Kintyre 10K and Half-Marathon Run (MOKRUN) committee hopes to hold the usual annual event in Campbeltown on Sunday May 30.

Gail Williams, race director, said: 'We hope that restrictions, which are currently in place due to the coronavirus pandemic, will be lifted by then and that the event can go ahead, albeit with new



Competitors in the 2018 10K race making their way along Dalaruan Street and High Street.

measures in place to limit close contact between runners and to keep everyone safe.'

There will no registration

tent at this year's event, with all race numbers being posted out instead and race information emailed to participants in

advance. The 106 places which were not deferred from 2020 will not be released, reducing the number of participants to

**'It is fully the committee's intention to host a live event, but we acknowledge if this is not possible a virtual race is the best alternative.'**

assist with social distancing. Everyone who did not request a refund of their 2020 entry fee has a place in the 2021 race.

All other Covid-secure measures to be introduced will be explained in the race information email issued closer to the time.

Gail added: 'Unfortunately, there will not be the usual post-race ceilidh in 2021 as we feel it is unlikely to be acceptable to hold an indoor event of that size in May.'

'However, this is a part of the traditional event weekend which we will bring back in future years.'

Entries for the junior race, to be held on Saturday May 29, will not be opened until nearer the time, when organisers can be certain the event can go ahead. As much notice as possible will be given before race entry opening through the group's website [www.mokrun.com](http://www.mokrun.com) and its Facebook page @mokrun.

In the event public gatherings of this size are still unable to



MOKRUN race director Gail Williams approaching the finishing line in 2019's 10K race.

be staged in May, the race will become a virtual event, where participants will be invited to complete a 10K or half-marathon distance in their home area between May 30 and June 13 and submit proof of their run. T-shirts and medals will be posted out to participants on completion.

Gail said: 'It is fully the committee's intention to host a live event, but we acknowledge that if this is not possible a virtual race is the best alternative, after the cancellation of the 2020 event.'

'We hope to see you in May 2021. Stay safe.'

## New Year's Day dippers undeterred



There was no official Dip For Dosh this year but that didn't stop seven hardy souls from four families taking to the icy waters of Campbeltown Loch off Dalintober Beach on January 1. Last year, almost 50 people took part in the seventh annual event, organised to raise awareness of and funds for the Dalintober Beach regeneration project, but plans were put on ice for this year's event in light of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Photograph: Kenny Craig.

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In the event public gatherings of this size are still unable to



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