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Hospitality sector celebrates launch of area's Kintyre 66

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

Hospitality business owners the length and breadth of Kintyre are toasting a new 66-mile circular route, which launches today, Friday April 30, attracting tourists to all parts of the peninsula.

Kintyre 66, or K66, has been described as Scotland's answer to the fabled US highway Route 66 and encourages visitors to slow down and enjoy the ride as they take in the area's breathtaking views and stunning coastlines by bike, foot or car.

Covering six key regions – West Kintyre; Gigha; Machrihanish and Southend; Campbeltown; East Kintyre; and Tarbert and Skipness – a new map will provide options for starting at any part of the route.

It also pinpoints trails, places to explore, natural heritage sites, wildlife watching spots and food and drink to enjoy along the way.

Niall Macalister Hall, chairman of the Explore Kintyre and Gigha tourism and marketing group which is behind the campaign, said: 'With a record staycation summer expected this year, K66 has been developed to encourage visitors to explore the whole of Kintyre – slowly and at their leisure – with plenty of open

'After a long and stressful 12 months for everyone, it's a good feeling to launch the route'

spaces and places of interest branching off the main route.

'After a long and stressful 12 months for everyone, it's a good feeling to be able to launch the route and we look forward to welcoming travellers to our friendly community in the months to come.'

Mr Macalister Hall's sentiments were echoed by owners

of some of the area's tourism and hospitality businesses, which have suffered in recent months as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. They have welcomed the launch of the route just in time for the summer season.

Johnny Beveridge, owner of Dunlossit House B&B in Machrihanish, said: 'The K66 initiative is great in that it encompasses the Kintyre peninsula and Gigha in one upbeat platform on which visitors can get a holistic view of the choices of what is here for things to do, see and enjoy and services that are available.

'It also gives a nudge to explore all corners with an easy to follow route guide. We hope potential visitors will see this as a 'must do' route in Scotland and will be encouraged to come, see and experience what Kintyre and Gigha has to offer. They won't be disappointed.'

Liz Scott of The Steading at Barmore, self-catering cottages near Tarbert, said she is

Continued on page five.



Southend's Andrew Rathey received a raucous welcome home from his family as he crossed a bunting finish line after completing a two-day, 25-mile trek to raise vital funds for the Mairi Semple Cancer Fund. For more on Andrew's Scotland's Virtual Kiltwalk challenge, turn to page 12.



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Fond farewell to free church minister

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

Parishioners have said a fond farewell to Reverend Dr Rodger Crooks after his final service at Campbeltown Free Church.

After three-and-a-half years as the church's minister, Rodger is retiring. He and his wife Joan are moving, but thankfully not far, as Rodger is taking on the role, for the next two years, of resident supply minister for the Free Church of Scotland congregations in Tarbert and Lochgilphead, to where the couple is moving.

It seems that Argyll has found a place in the hearts of Rodger and Joan, who came to Campbeltown in 2017 after Rodger served as minister in Northern Ireland for more than 36 years.

Despite the Covid-19 restrictions, 36 of a congregation attended Rodger's final service in Campbeltown last Sunday, and afterwards they were able to present the couple with a bouquet of flowers and a specially-commissioned painting of Campbeltown by



Rodger and Joan Crooks following last Sunday's service and presentation.

the Scottish landscape artist Jane MacRae.

In making the presentation, church elder Graham Moller began by quoting from Psalm 90, which says: 'We spend our years as a tale that is told.'

He added: 'I can't believe it was just three-and-a-half years ago that I stood here welcoming Rodger and Joan to this church. Time flies – so it is so important that any who are unsaved put their trust in

But Rev Crooks and his wife will not be moving too far away

Christ now because time goes just like that.

'On behalf of the congregation, we would like you to accept these tokens of our appreciation for your ministry with us. Thank you for your zeal in spreading the good news of the gospel in the peninsula and for your friendship, fellowship and hospitality – for your patience, prayerfulness and concern for all you came across. And we must thank you, Joan, for your excellent baking!

'You will both be a hard act to follow; we will all miss you. But we are glad that you won't be too far away in Lochgilphead and we trust that the Lord will bless your ministry there and in Tarbert, and open many doors of opportunity to spread the Word.'

In thanking the congregation, Rodger said that when he and Joan first visited, exactly five years ago, the weather was beautiful, the scenery was gorgeous and they fell in love with

the place. And when, through the congregation's invitation, God opened the door, they were delighted to come to Campbeltown.

He said that their time here had helped to consolidate the work. Being involved in ministry was like a relay race – you have to play your part and then hand on the baton to someone else. They had run their race and now it was time to hand over. They had very much enjoyed their time and were thankful to God to have been part of the work here.

Joan also expressed her thanks to the congregation who had made them feel so much at home; they have become like family to the couple.

The congregation is in good heart and possibly stronger than it has been for more than 30 years. It has now been promised permission to get a minister for a minimum of five years and it is hoped that a new minister will be settled before too long.

POLICE FILES

Vehicle seized

A car on the A83 near Tayinloan was stopped by police at about 3.10pm on Tuesday April 20 and routine checks revealed there was allegedly no insurance and no MOT in force for the vehicle. The driver, a 48-year-old man, was charged with the offence and the vehicle was seized.

Vehicle damaged

Between 10.30am and 12.30pm on Tuesday April 20, in Dalaruan Street, Campbeltown, a white Land Rover Discovery car was damaged when its rear bumper and bodywork were struck by another vehicle, which failed to stop and report the collision.

Women assaulted

At about 6.30pm on Wednesday April 21, in Lochend Street, Campbeltown, a 46-year-old man was arrested, and later charged with behaving in an abusive manner and assaulting two women.

Cannabis

At about 1.45am on Saturday April 24, in Kinloch Road, Campbeltown, two males, aged 16 and 17, were stopped and searched by

police and found in possession of a small amount of cannabis. They were charged and issued with recordable police warnings.

Drug search

A flat in Big Kiln Street, Campbeltown, was searched by police at about 10pm on Saturday April 24. A 51-year-old man was charged for being found in possession of cannabis and cocaine.

Wall damaged

At about midnight on Saturday April 17, at the Glebe, Bowmore, Islay, a wall was damaged after being struck by a vehicle which failed to stop and report the collision.

Reckless conduct

At about 2.40pm on Saturday April 24, at Flora Street, Bowmore, Islay, a 54-year-old man allegedly behaved in an abusive manner and threw a boulder at a man in a digger, smashing a window. Police are investigating.

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.

Insurance provider donates to Campbeltown's memorial helipad

NFU Mutual agents and their staff at the company's Campbeltown branch recently nominated The Robert Black Memorial Helipad to receive a donation of £6,451.62 from a national £2 million fund.

In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, NFU Mutual insurers announced the £2 million fund in February to help front-line charities during 2021.

To ensure these donations

reach all corners of the UK, NFU Mutual's agents in 300 offices nationwide have been asked to nominate local charities.

Eric Spence, manager of South Kintyre Development Trust (SKDT), responsible for the ongoing operation and maintenance of the helipad, said: 'We are extremely grateful for this generous donation from NFU Mutual which will allow us to manage and main-

tain the Robert Black Memorial Helipad over the coming years. This is a vital lifeline service and will literally save lives by reducing transfer time for critical patients to and from hospitals in Glasgow. This donation will ensure that the helipad is able to be used as and when necessary all year round.'

Chris Hushwaite, agent for NFU Mutual in Campbeltown, said: 'My team and I are happy to be able to

support SKDT with the ongoing maintenance and management costs of the helipad with our share of NFU Mutual's Agency Giving Fund. The Robert Black Memorial Helipad will be an asset to our community for many years to come and is a fitting tribute to Robert.'

SKDT manager Eric Spence accepted the donation.



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Six-month project to upgrade water supply

Scottish Water is to start a second phase of investment to deliver essential upgrades to its water network infrastructure in Campbeltown.

The £800,000 project to replace a 2.3-kilometre (1.5-mile) section of pipework at Dalaruan Street, High Askomil and Low Askomil Walk, will start on May 10, for approximately six months.

The work will improve the resilience of supply to customers in the area and reduce the risk of bursts.

It is expected that some roadworks will be required during the water works, which may include a temporary traffic lights system.

At certain points, there may also be some restrictions required on access and parking. Signs will be in place to inform road users.

If there is any need to turn off water supplies for customers, Scottish Water will give at least 48 hours' notice, with the date and

time of any interruptions and advice on what to do in these circumstances.

This project follows the completion of a similar project to replace around three miles of pipework between Campbeltown and Machrihanish in November last year.

Georgina Reid, Scottish Water's corporate affairs regional manager, said: 'We are delighted to be able to start the latest phase of works which will address a history of bursts on the local network, causing interruption to supplies for our customers.'

'This is part of our commitment to ensure the community benefits from an increased resilience in the water network and that customers continue to enjoy fresh, great tasting drinking water.'

The project will be delivered by Amey, supported by Campbeltown firm McFadyen Contractors Ltd.

Inflatables warning after lifeboat's first shout of year

Campbeltown Lifeboat Station has issued a fresh warning to beachgoers after its first call-out of 2021 involved the multi-agency rescue of a child on an inflatable.

The RNLI Campbeltown crew was paged at 1.25pm following reports of a 12-year-old girl being blown off-shore on an inflatable near Blackwaterfoot on the Isle of Arran.

By 1.32pm, Campbeltown's all-weather lifeboat, the Ernest and Mary Shaw, was launched with coxswain Fraser McNair, navigator Archie McFadyen, mechanic Robbie Lamont and crew members Willie Livingstone, Gregor Menzies, Warren Tait and David Mullen onboard.

When the lifeboat arrived at the scene, Rescue 199 coast-guard helicopter from HM Coastguard Prestwick was already there but had chosen not to attempt a rescue because of

the capsize risk from the rotor downwash. Campbeltown's lifeboat was guided into shallow water where crewman Gregor entered the sea and assisted the girl on to the boat.

Arran's inshore lifeboat then transferred the girl ashore to waiting and anxious friends.

Following the rescue, involving two lifeboats, the helicopter and a warship, Campbeltown RNLI coxswain David Cox issued a fresh reminder to people about beach safety and the dangers of using inflatables.

He said: 'Inflatables really are not designed for beach use and if they are used, users should only do so in a wind onshore situation, and under STRICT supervision. The use of inflatables should be restricted to pools, ponds and small lakes.'

In the event of an emergency, dial 999 and ask for the Coastguard.



The Arran and Campbeltown lifeboats at the incident off Blackwaterfoot with the rescue helicopter. Photo Neil Arthur

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New brass recruits give the town's band a buzz

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

A new beginners' programme run by Campbeltown Brass has created a real buzz.

After seeing the success of a similar programme run by former Campbeltown Brass member Mark Good at Riverside Youth Band in Port Glasgow, Campbeltown Brass Buzzers – abbreviated to CBBz – was launched.

In a promotional video encouraging youngsters to sign up before the April 10 deadline, Campbeltown Brass conductor Stephanie Mitchell explained the initiative, open to all children in the Campbeltown area, is designed to give youngsters their first taste of reading and playing music.

All CBBz members are taught musical concepts and the beginners' steps on how to play a brass instrument.

Each child receives a new pBuzz – a plastic instrument played by buzzing the lips



Some of the new recruits who have joined Campbeltown Brass Buzzers.

together so they vibrate and blowing into the mouthpiece – and weekly lessons, completely free of charge. The 20 new CBBz recruits, aged between seven and 11, took part in a

three-day introductory course during the final week of the Easter holidays, after which they were able to read and play several tunes, including an old favourite – Hot Cross Buns.

The youngsters have now begun their weekly interactive sessions – currently online – on a variety of fun themes including jungle and baking, led by tutors Stephanie, Tanya McDonald and Kirsten Souter, who are all previous principal cornet players of Campbeltown Brass.

The tutors hope to hold a summer camp at which point CBBz members will be able to move on to brass instruments before joining the training band.

The youngsters will then be able to rise up the ranks and hopefully one day join Campbeltown Brass, an award-winning band formed in 1983.

Stephanie, Tanya and Kirsten all spoke very highly of the

young musicians and the CBBz programme.

Kirsten said: 'I was delighted to be asked by Stephanie to help tutor CBBz.'

'It has been an enjoyable couple of weeks and I look forward to watching them develop their skills.'

Tanya added: 'I've had a brilliant time getting all our new-starts going on our CBBz course.'

'It's great to see so many local children so eager to learn music. I'm sure there will be lots more fun to come.'

Stephanie said: 'I have been absolutely blown away with the number of new recruits. I have definitely had just as much fun as the youngsters have and I'm looking forward to seeing all their smiley faces every week.'

For those who didn't manage to sign up in time, there will be another Campbeltown Brass Buzzers intake. Email cbnew-starts@gmail.com for more information.

Happy lockdown birthday Audrey

With the country still under some lockdown restrictions, people may be unable to celebrate their birthdays with friends and extended family as they normally would.

To help make their day a little more special, the Courier would like to give a shout-out to everyone celebrating a lockdown birthday, including this birthday girl.



Audrey Jopson

Audrey Jopson, from Campbeltown, celebrated her 70th birthday last Wednesday, April 21. Everyone at Kintyre Link Club hopes she had a fabulous day.

Former church to be turned into community hub

Plans to turn a former church in Clachan into a community hub have been given the green light.

Argyll and Bute Council's planning, protective services and licensing (PPSL) committee last week approved the proposal by Clachan Village Hall committee, despite 12 objections from the public.

Eight expressions of support were also received for plans to change Achnaha, a category B-listed building

constructed in 1878 as a free church but more recently used as a house, to a community hub.

A council planning officer had recommended approval without the need for a public hearing.

The report said: 'Notwithstanding concerns of some people who have made representations of objection on grounds of traffic congestion and road safety hazards directly resulting from the proposed change of use, officers

consider that the day-to-day community-type uses typical of a village community hall will be of such a modest scale as to have minimal impact on the public/private road infrastructure.

'In addition, the central village location will offer an opportunity for users to travel to the hall by foot or bike as opposed to a very short car journey.'

It was felt the times when the hall would be used to capacity would be occasional and there was sufficient

overspill parking nearby. In relation to neighbouring homes, the report said the former church was appropriate as a hub and village community activities at it would not have detrimental effect on the residential area in terms of noise or disturbance.

The former church, more recently used as a house. 50_c18clachanhall02



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The Bible Society with baking stall. Ian Rutledge cheese maker

Thankyou for your continued support, and any more new stalls would be welcome.

Hospitality sector celebrates launch of area's Kintyre 66

Continued from page one
looking forward to being able to share news of the K66 route with her guests and helping them plan their way round.

'There are so many things in Kintyre which have been kept almost like a well-guarded secret so it is fantastic to have this welcome initiative,' she said. 'Pointing out the 'must stop, must see' on the stunning route will help visitors focus on reasons to spend more than just a few hours zooming round the peninsula which can only be a good thing.'

John and Sharon Bell, proprietors of The Ashbank Hotel in Carradale, are glad the route will encourage tourists to visit all parts of the 'fascinating and varied' peninsula.

They said: 'So often visitors to Kintyre only scratch the surface. Kintyre 66 gives us the opportunity to showcase the whole area and provides a great way to make sure guests

experience everything we offer.

'As business owners on the east of Kintyre, we're looking forward to more folk coming to explore and discover the road less travelled and we're hoping that K66 will bring them to our door.

'Our priority is to find out what interests every guest who joins us - either as a resident or in the bar - so that we can help them make the most of their time here.

'Kintyre 66 will help us to guide and advise everyone so that they fill every minute of their visit to Kintyre in the way they enjoy the most.'

Nick Fletcher, owner of the Argyll Hotel, Bellochantuy, added: 'We are delighted to see the Kintyre 66 launch. It is a chance to showcase all that Kintyre has to offer.

'And in doing so, with its goal of encouraging people to take their time exploring the penin-

sula, it should bring a wealth of economic benefits to the many hard-pressed businesses that have toiled through lockdown. It will help to support the local economy and local jobs.'

Although the main route of the CalMac-supported Kintyre 66 is on the mainland, visitors are encouraged to take ferry journeys to the islands of Gigha, Islay and Jura to the west and Arran to the east, extending their break.

Jane Millar, development manager for the Isle of Gigha Heritage Trust, said: 'K66 will no doubt support a welcome boost to our local economy after a year of limited trade. The trust is pleased to see aspects within the K66 brand that reflects Gigha's aspirations for the island, which includes supporting a sustainable approach to tourism.

'We want to encourage visitors to slow down, leave their car behind and explore Gigha's

hidden heritage, our captivating culture and our unspoiled landscape.

'Our Gateway to Gigha project will see new pathways that will make the island more accessible by foot or bike, to reduce our carbon footprint, protect our environment and allow visitors to enjoy a peaceful island experience.'

The K66 map and downloadable visitors' guide is available at www.explorekintyre.co.uk



Above: The K66 map is available to download online.
Left: Kintyre 66 encourages tourists to visit all parts of the peninsula.
Photograph: Raymond Hosie.

BOTH VOTES

SNP

Thursday, 6 May

This May 6th vote

Jenni Minto for

Argyll & Bute

Minto, Jenni
Scottish National Party (SNP)

Scottish National Party (SNP)
Nicola Sturgeon for SNP First Minister

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SNP

Promoted by Marie-Claire Docherty on behalf of Jenni Minto, both of Argyll & Bute SNP PO Box 9, Tighnabruaich, PA21 2YY

Meet the candidates for the Argyll co

There are four candidates standing for election on May 6 to the Argyll and Bute Scottish Parliamentary constituency.

On the day, voters will also be asked to vote for their choice of candidates from the Highlands and Islands regional list, which can be found at www.campbeltowncourier.co.uk.

Here the four constituency candidates explain in their own words, why you should vote for them.

Donald Cameron, Scottish Conservative and Unionist

As your MSP, my priority will be securing jobs and livelihoods for local people as Scotland recovers from the pandemic. We must not allow the SNP to distract us with arguments over the constitution.

We should focus on tackling depopulation and creating opportunities for our young people.



I will campaign for improvements to our infrastructure. We need better ferries with greater capacity given the disastrous failure of the SNP to deliver the ferries they promised.

Too many of our roads are substandard, given the weight of traffic they now carry – the Scottish Conservatives will establish a £200m national roads fund to help fix potholes and upgrade our local roads.

And we badly need a permanent solution for the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful which is such an important route for residents and businesses here.

After 14 years of promises from the SNP, it is inexcusable that we still haven't a firm date for this. I will insist on a

detailed plan with a budget, timescale and completion date of 2024, rather than the never-ending cycle of consultations which have got us nowhere.

We require adequate super-fast broadband to encourage businesses to invest and create jobs for local people.

The Scottish Conservatives guarantee the rollout of full-fibre broadband to all by the end of this new parliamentary term.

I will speak up for our crofters and farmers who make such a vital contribution to the local economy.

And I will campaign against the SNP's relentless centralisation of services which imposes Central Belt control over matters which should be decided locally.

Finally, I want to see us take advantage of the strength of the United Kingdom.

The vaccination programme delivered by the UK Government, and the furlough scheme which is protecting thousands of jobs across Argyll and Bute, shows what the UK

can do when we act together.

There really is a brighter future ahead if we forget the old constitutional battles and concentrate on what unites us.

Let's focus on what really matters. That's what I am resolved to do, if elected your MSP.

Jenni Minto, Scottish National Party

This election is the most crucial Scottish Parliament election – this is your chance to put Scotland's future in Scotland's hands.

This election is about the right to decide who leads Scotland's recovery from Covid and makes the decisions on economic, social and environmental recovery.

The SNP puts people at the heart of its policies.

For families struggling to make ends meet the SNP will double the game-changing Child Poverty Payment to £20, helping around 3,500 families in Argyll and Bute.



All eligible children will get 1,140 hours of free childcare from August and laptops for learning will be delivered to every single schoolchild.

The Young Person's Guarantee will ensure those between 16 and 24 have the opportunity of university, college, an apprenticeship, training or work experience programme, secure a job or take part in a formal volunteering programme.

Scotland has one of the world's best food larders and the SNP will enshrine the right to food into law. A local food strategy will be produced which supports locally-based production, cutting food miles and enabling more people

to enjoy locally grown food. Argyll and Bute's infrastructure will be further supported: new affordable homes will be built, a permanent solution for the A83, fit for purpose ferries and the R100 voucher scheme for broadband rollout.

The SNP will invest in new, good green jobs, support people to grow businesses and reskill for the jobs of the future – stemming population decline.

A new Land Reform Act will be introduced with a pre-emption to support community buyouts, and the Scottish Land Fund will be doubled to £20m.

To encourage population growth on our islands an Island's Bond of up to £50k will be offered to young people and families to make the move to or stay on our islands.

Investment in our NHS and establishing the National Care Service will ensure the best possible solution for those being cared for, their families and those looking after them.

The SNP puts people first. Only independence will

Help Campbeltown's tree of hope grow to look on the bright side

As the latest lockdown restrictions are eased, two charities have teamed up to ask people to share their hopes for the future, writes Hannah O'Hanlon.

Kintyre charity Shopper-Aide has joined forces with Argyll and Bute-wide charity ACUMEN (Advancing Community Understanding of Mental and Emotional Needs) to encourage members of the community to help grow a 'tree of hope' which will be displayed in the window of Shopper-Aide's Longrow office in Campbeltown.

West Argyll ACUMEN development worker Sarah McFadzean is

asking people to use a cut-out template, or any piece of paper, to note down how they are feeling and what they are looking forward to.

These can then be deposited into a post box on the street outside Shopper-Aide's office or emailed to sarah.mcfadzean@acumennetwork.org

A recent study by researchers at the University of Surrey has explored strategies for maintaining emotional well-being during lockdown and suggests training one's perspective forward.

The researchers investigated the value of three emotional strategies

for dealing with lockdowns: sentimentally looking back toward previous, better times; gratitude, or thinking about the good things currently in one's life and picturing good things in the future.

The aim of the 'tree of hope' is to focus on positive aspects of the future and it is hoped it will go some way towards maintaining emotional well-being as restrictions ease.

Throughout the pandemic and before, Shopper-Aide has been working with people aged over 60 from across Kintyre and Gigha on projects such as memory books and a playlist for life.

Both initiatives involve conversations which look back at nostalgic memories that evoke happy feelings.

Part of ACUMEN's work involves raising awareness of the importance of looking after mental and emotional health while challenging stigma to overcome misconceptions around mental health.

Sarah hopes that by encouraging people to note down their hopes for the future, it will create a sense of positive anticipation about the coming months and enable people to picture good things in the future.

She added that ACUMEN is also looking for people with their

own experience of mental health across Argyll and Bute to help to increase levels of involvement in groups discussions, meetings and partnerships.

Anyone interested in joining a new mental health forum for Mid Argyll, Kintyre and the Isles is asked to get in touch by emailing sarah.mcfadzean@acumennetwork.org

She said: 'By becoming a member of the mental health forum, people can take part in a number of different activities, including focus groups, attending meetings, working alongside services and people who use services.'

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Constituency in the Scottish elections

put Scotland's future into Scotland's hands.

Alan Reid, Scottish Liberal Democrat

I am the Liberal Democrat candidate for Argyll and Bute and at the top of the Liberal Democrat Highlands and Islands list.

I ask for your vote on both ballot papers. I finished second to the SNP in the last Holyrood election and ask for your support to finish first this time.

The Rest and Be Thankful is a vital access to Argyll.

We must have a two-lane temporary diversion road by the end of the year, followed by a permanent solution, protected from landslides as quickly as possible, in a lot less time than the 10 years the SNP says it will take.

Liberal Democrats will guarantee a job for all 16-24-year-olds.

We will support people to access retraining and further



education with a new Training Bond.

We will guarantee a job for every qualified teacher to cut class sizes.

NHS staff have put in extra shifts and sacrificed their own wellbeing to keep us safe.

We will recognise and support their efforts.

We will undertake an urgent plan to catch up on the backlog of treatments.

There was a crisis in mental health even before the pandemic, with long waiting lists. We will train more mental health specialists for community cen-

tres, hospitals, workplaces and schools. The recovery must be a green one.

That means switching to electric vehicles with a network of charging points throughout the country. It means training people in green jobs of the future. It means insulating homes.

Superfast broadband must be rolled out everywhere.

Years ago, I warned the SNP Government that if they didn't build more ferries, the ageing fleet would be in drydock regularly.

Unfortunately, they ignored my warnings.

Mull and Islay must get new ferries.

I cannot understand why the Scottish Government won't buy the catamaran identified by the Mull and Iona Ferry Group.

I am opposed to another independence referendum.

It would be an enormous distraction from the vital work of recovering from the Covid pandemic.

I ask for your support on both ballot papers to put the recovery first.

Lewis Whyte, Scottish Labour

I'm currently a student at the University of the Highlands and Islands but I've previously worked in IT, hospitality, and the third sector before and during my degree.

I've also been a martial arts instructor for seven years.

I was raised in rural parts of the Highlands by a single mother who often worked two jobs just to make ends meet.

I know the struggles of working-class people in rural areas because I've lived them.

On housing, Scottish Labour is proposing to build 120,000 new carbon neutral social homes across Scotland, and Argyll and Bute should be a priority due to its severe shortage of social housing stock.

We're also proposing to put in effective rent controls and set limits on the number of second homes that can be within a community.

On job opportunities, we plan to revitalise the economy



in every part of the country through our National Covid Recovery Plan.

This would include a focus on sustainable community investment, a Business Restart Fund, and a job guarantee for all young people.

I know that two of the biggest issues in Argyll and Bute are the ferries and the Rest and Be Thankful.

Scottish Labour is proposing proper investment in a fleet fit for the future.

In the short-term we need to lease and purchase ferries to mitigate the failing old fleet,

and in the long-term build vessels here in Scotland suited to the routes they use and increase the total number of vessels so we can set new routes and have more regular services alongside reserves for emergency use.

Now that Transport Scotland has selected option one, Glen Croe, we need to make sure that the consultation on the exact replacement route is completed quickly and properly to ensure work starts soon. In the meantime, we need to put preparations in place to use the Old Military Road and the Forestry road in opposite directions for when the Rest is shut.

I urge you to take a fresh look at Scottish Labour, we're campaigning for some fantastic policies to tackle a variety of rural issues.

Please consider using both of your votes for Scottish Labour.

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BUILT IN

Get your kicks on K66

Kintyre's breathtaking scenery and unspoiled coastlines are no secret to those of us who live or were born here, but with the area being a bit off the beaten track it is something of a hidden gem.

With the 'staycation' market set to boom this year, the launch of the Kintyre 66 route – and a chance to tell the world all about our little slice of heaven – couldn't come at a better time.

After more than a year of disruptions, being forced to close and alter the services they offer, it is no wonder Kintyre's hospitality and tourism business owners are welcoming the campaign's launch.

With similar routes in countries across the world cementing destinations' places on the tourist map, this could be the start of something big for the place most of us are lucky enough to call home.

Please take care at the beach

It is no surprise that Campbeltown RNLI's first call-out of the year coincided with lockdown restrictions easing.

People are understandably desperate to hit the beach, with weeks of good weather only making the draw stronger, but the last thing we want is a tragedy.

The incident off Arran must have been very frightening for the youngster who was swept out to sea on an inflatable, but it provides a valuable lesson for us all.

Royal Mail's design a stamp for pandemic heroes

I hope parents will encourage their children to take part in Royal Mail's stamp design competition to honour the heroes of the pandemic.

The competition is open to children aged between four and 14 years. Eight designs will be chosen to become stamps which will be on sale across the UK.

Children may choose to illustrate frontline workers in health or social care.

They may want to celebrate other key workers who have kept the country going, including refuse collectors, cleaners, teachers, supermarket workers, public transport staff, delivery drivers or, indeed, postmen and postwomen.

Or they might highlight the volunteers who have helped in their communities or raised money for charity, such as the late Captain Sir Tom Moore. The competition is open until Friday May 28. A panel of judges will select the winners. As with all special stamps, the final eight designs will be sent to HM The Queen before they can be printed and issued as stamps. The winners will be announced in the autumn.

We cannot wait to see who children choose to honour on their stamp. The past year has been very difficult for everyone, so let's show the heroes of the pandemic just how much we appreciate what they have done for us.

Full details can be found at www.royalmail.com/stampcompetition

David Gold, director of external affairs and policy, Royal Mail.

Children's mental health must be a priority

As a coalition of leading providers of care and

support to vulnerable children and young people, we welcome the consensus there is between the major political parties in the Scottish Parliament election to tackling the growing mental health crisis in our young people.

We have for some time raised concerns over a potential lost generation of vulnerable children and young people, whose mental health is being impacted even further by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The commitment by the political parties to focus on mental health, increasing investment in support services and intervention strategies, is therefore to be appreciated and must be a priority for the next parliament.

Our children are remarkably resilient, but the frightening statistics on the deteriorating mental health of many of them presents a compelling case for a national crusade to address what is a mental health pandemic, underpinned by considerably greater resourcing.

This mental health crisis is one we can address, but it will require a similar energy and commitment to that which was demonstrated for Covid-19 if we are to achieve this and prevent many young people giving up on their futures – and themselves.

The Scottish Children's Services Coalition: Kenny Graham, Falkland House School; Lynn Bell, LOVE Learning; Stephen McGhee, Spark of Genius; Niall Kelly, Young Foundations.

Please create a hedgehog haven in your garden

The British Hedgehog Preservation Society is asking people to create a haven for the UK's only spiny mammal this Hedgehog Awareness Week, May 2 to May 8.

Gardens are a stronghold for hedgehogs and we can make their lives so much easier with very little effort. Tips will be given out on our social media accounts during the week using #hedgehogweek with daily competitions to win 'hedgehoggy' prizes.

There are many things we can all do to help hedgehogs.

Here are just a few:

■ Make sure hedgehogs can access your garden with a 'hedgehog highway'. A five inch square gap in the bottom of fences or walls should do it. Once created, you can log these on the BIG Hedgehog Map at www.bighedgehogmap.org

■ Create a log pile that will offer shelter and natural food

■ Build a hedgehog home – see plans at www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/hedgehog-homes

■ Move piles of rubbish to a new site on the day you are burning it and check it carefully before setting light to it, lighting from only one side so that there's an escape route should you have missed anything

■ Check areas carefully before mowing or strimming

■ Ensure netting is kept at a height that allows hedgehogs to pass safely under it

■ Check compost heaps carefully before digging the fork in

■ Stop using pesticides and poisons

■ Cover drains or deep holes

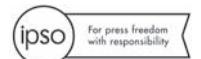
■ Ensure there is an easy route out of ponds and pools.

Our gardens take up such a lot of habitat and by each making our own plot more hedgehog-friendly, we can improve a huge amount of habitat for them.

If you don't have a garden yourself, you can still help by contacting public space managers, neighbours, family and friends to ensure they are all doing their bit.

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; 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. IPSO is an independent body that deals with complaints about the editorial content. We will abide by its decision.



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We urge everyone to become a 'hedgehog champion' for their area at Hedgehog Street – a project run by the British Hedgehog Preservation Society and our partners People's Trust for Endangered Species.

Join more than 93,000 'champions' by signing up free at www.hedgehogstreet.org. You will get an email with top tips on how you can help hedgehogs each month and there's even a Hedgehog Street app you can download from the App Store or Google Play.

Fay Vass, chief executive, British Hedgehog Preservation Society.

Maternal Mental Health Awareness Month

Despite lockdown restrictions easing, many parents of neonatal babies in Scotland continue to face challenges in being with their premature or sick baby.

In the past year, parental access at many units has been restricted, with parents often unable to attend together and some limits on the length of time they can stay.

As part of Maternal Mental Health Awareness Month this May, Bliss is raising awareness of the devastating impact of these restrictions.

In a Bliss survey of more than 500 UK parents of neonatal babies born in the past 12 months, who are already at a high risk of experiencing mental health difficulties, 92 per cent said they felt isolated and 69 per cent said their mental health has become worse. Bliss is calling on the NHS to introduce a national roadmap for a return to usual 24/7 parent access on neonatal units as a matter of urgency and to work with NHS trusts in Scotland and beyond to implement it consistently across the country.

Caroline Lee-Davey, chief executive, Bliss Scotland.

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



Photographer Aileen Gillies took this springtime snap during a visit to Campbeltown last week. Last year, Aileen, who lives in Lochgilphead, raised thousands of pounds for charity from selling calendars featuring her photographs - £5,128 for the Macmillan suite at Mid Argyll Hospital and £650 for Kintyre charity Shopper-Aide - and she has plans for more in the future. If you have a photograph you would like to share, please email it to 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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TEN YEARS AGO

Friday April 29 2011

'Swept under the carpet'

Bus services across Kintyre are being slashed as Argyll and Bute Council desperately tries to save money.

Community groups including the Red Cross will see their funding cut back as nearly £500,000 goes from the council's discretionary transport funding which covers rural and community routes as well as some ferries. More than 30 rural services across Argyll and Bute will go, while many others will operate a reduced service from today. The decision to slash the services was taken by the 16-member executive committee of the council last week, a move condemned by Kintyre's Councillor Donald Kelly.

The Argyll First councillor said: 'This decision should have been brought before the whole council. A big decision has been swept under the carpet.'

The budget was reduced by £451,035, from £726,035 to £275,000.

Douglas Hendry, executive director of customer services, said: 'Our process is not to fund routes where there is alternative transport available or where there are less than 2,000 people travelling annually.'

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Friday April 26 1996

Piper's march wins prize

The Campbeltown piper who won a competition to compose a tune to mark a battle in which

FROM OUR FILES



In 1996: Major Hamish Clark presented George McIntyre, centre, with a quaich for his composition of a march to commemorate the Battle of Longstop Hill. Major Duncan McMillan, who won the Military Medal at the battle, is also pictured.

many of his comrades fought was presented with his prize on Tuesday – the battle's 53rd anniversary.

Mr George McIntyre from Meadowburn won a competition run by the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders to compose a 6/8 march in memory of

the Battle of Longstop Hill in 1943. On Tuesday, Longstop Day, Major Hamish Clark, retired, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders travelled to Campbeltown to present George with a specially engraved quaich at a ceremony at the Argyll Hotel.

Many Kintyre men fought at the battle which was one of the decisive moments in the Second World War against the Germans in North Africa. Major Duncan McMillan, who won the Military Medal at the battle, attended the ceremony along with many of George's other old army friends.

Before he handed the quaich to George, Major Clark said: 'I really can't think of anyone more appropriate to have won the competition than George McIntyre himself. If George had not been taken prisoner in 1940, he may well have fought at Longstop.'

Receiving the quaich, George said: 'It gives me great honour to achieve this.'

Ian McKerral from Kintyre and District Pipe Band then gave the first public performance of the tune.

FIFTY YEARS AGO

Thursday April 29 1971

The end of the road for Paul

Paul McCartney, who is staying at High Park Farm, Campbeltown, has made a giant step towards severing all his connections with the other three Beatles.

John Lennon, George Harrison and Ringo Starr abandoned their appeal against a High Court order on Monday, putting the affairs of their company, Apple, in the hands of a receiver. The three now face a legal costs bill estimated at £100,000.

Mr Morris Finer, QC for John, George, Ringo and Apple, told the appeal court on Monday they now considered it was in the common interest to explore ways of allowing Paul to free himself from the partnership by agreement.

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Mr David Hurst QC, on behalf of Paul, said: 'He will most willingly enter into the proposed negotiations to achieve his freedom from the partnership by consent rather than by court action.'

What does Paul feel about the rise and fall of the Beatles?

Two Courier men drove up to High Park Farm to find out what the man in the centre of it all felt about things. Apart from being obviously excited about his latest and most important success, Paul did not like saying anything about the matter. Though polite and friendly, he made it quite clear he does not see any point in giving interviews or saying anything remotely sensational.

After 10 years of being harried and hustled by journalists and photographers, never having a minute's peace to himself, always having been the centre of attraction, never having been able to pop in to the 'local', is it any wonder Paul is determined to live as quietly as possible?

He seemed as happy as a sand-boy, out there in the wilds.

When we approached him, he had obviously been brushing down one of his horses because he still held a horse brush in his hand.

His wife Linda looked the essence of happiness as her golden hair mirrored the warm sunshine. The children yelled and gurgled contentedly and even Martha, the English sheepdog, seemed happy.

The farm house itself has been extensively renovated, a new roof having been constructed and the farm work appears to be progressing normally.

Paul himself has changed, outwardly at any rate. Gone is the Beatle mop, the style which was copied the whole word over. Gone is the boyish grin, which once sent screaming thousands into ecstasy.

What has taken the place of these characteristics? Paul now sports a beard. The hair remains longish but it is brushed back, revealing the full extent of his forehead. The smile is no longer boyish.

The former bass-guitarist/song-writer with the most influential and certainly most famous foursome the world has ever known has changed.

Paul will probably continue to compose such brilliant songs as Maybe I'm Amazed and Another Day, but to millions of people, from Campbeltown to Honolulu, pop music will never be the same again.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO Saturday April 30 1921 Sparks and flashes

There would be some fluttering this week among the ladies in the town who are liable to serve on a jury, summonses to appear on the occasion of a forthcoming jury trial having been issued to 24 ladies and 24 gentlemen. These are first jury summonses issued to women in this district.

III
The 8th Argylls Defence Battalion, raised in connection with the present emergency, is encamped near Bridge of Allan.

III
The customary assemblies which mark the close of Mr J B M'Ewen's dancing classes will be held in the Town Hall on Friday May 6.

III
A generous gentleman who has a business connection with the town and country has given the Governor of Campbeltown Poorhouse £2 to be expended in tobacco for the smokers and tea and sugar for the others in the institution.

III
The contract for the daily motor mail service between Campbeltown and Tarbert — the existing one expires in July — has been secured by Mr A M M'Conachie, Low Dunashery, Tayinloan.

Family echoes of the McNabs of Argyll

When Tees-side woman Clare Frith started looking into her family history, her research revealed deep Argyll roots mingled with family tragedy and sacrifice.

Clare first contacted our sister newspaper the Argyllshire Advertiser looking for help researching her maternal great-great-grandfather Alexander McNab.

Online records showed his birthplace as 'Inchial Argileshire', which turned out to be the parish of Glenorchy and Inishail at the head of Loch Awe.

Alexander McNab was born there to Alexander senior and Margaret McNab in 1863 — one of a family of three brothers and four sisters — and moved south to Burnley in Lancashire in the 1880s.

In Lancashire in 1888, he married Janet Wardrope, who came from Milngavie outside Glasgow, and they went on to have 12 children.

Going back a few generations, Clare's research has traced Alexander's great-grandfather, John McNab, born in Kilbrandon in the area around Loch Melfort in 1760.

His son Peter, born around 1780, went on to farm in Connel and is recorded in the 1861 census as an 80-year-old, farming 75 acres at South Ledaig, though he is described as a 'smith' in an earlier record.

Born in 1822, Peter's son Alexander grew up to work in farming around Glenorchy. In the 1851 census he is recorded as a ploughman at Barbreck.

'Our' Alexander seems to have been a blacksmith when he moved from Argyll to Burnley to start a new life.

Sadly, two of Alexander and Janet's family died as young children.

Later, however, they found themselves — like so many other families — caught up in the horrors of the First World War.

They lost three sons — Andrew, aged 25, missing in action, 1916; Alex, 27, missing in action, 1917; and John, 23, missing in action, 1918 — during the war.

The grief the family must have borne is unimaginable. The boys' names are recorded on three separate First World War memorials in Belgium and France.

Clare said: 'What a tragedy losing your sons. Andrew, Alex and John were brothers of my great-grandma, Grace McNab Bridge.'

Alexander died in 1944 at the age of 81, after being hit by a tramcar in Blackpool during the blackout. He was living with daughter Grace and her family at the time. A short newspaper



Private Andrew McNab, one of three McNab brothers killed during the First World War.

DOWN MEMORY LANE

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Alexander McNab, born in Argyll in 1863.

report from the time describes him as a 'retired blacksmith'.

Clare was born in Blackpool and moved to Tees-side, via a spell in Dumfries, through her husband David's employment.

Though her great-grandmother Grace passed away in 1968, Clare believes she can detect

echoes of the past in her own family today. She explained: 'My son, who is in army, has just trained in music and learned the bagpipes.'

'Little bits keep popping up. My other son is into blacksmithing, which is also in the family.'

And while she has never visited Argyll, Clare would love to once Covid restrictions have eased.

'I had a look at images of Loch Awe and have been reading up about the area. It looks amazing.'

If anyone has any other information on this branch of the McNab family, please email editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk and this will be passed on to Clare.

Right: Clare's great grandmother, Grace McNab Bridge, as a young woman in the early 20th century.



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Kiltwalkers cross paths in challenges

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

A Kintyre man taking part in Scotland's Virtual Kiltwalk says he will never forget the kindness of strangers who stopped to donate money to him.

Over two days, last Friday and Saturday, Andrew Rathey walked from his home at Pennyland Farm in Southend to Campbeltown and back via the single-track Learside road, a total distance of about 40 kilometres (24.8 miles), to raise money for the Mairi Semple Cancer Fund, a Kintyre charity that financially supports people suffering from cancer.

Andrew signed up to the charity challenge just a couple of weeks ago and, having not walked such a long distance since he took part in the 2015 Kiltwalk, he decided to undertake the trek in two parts.

He had warm weather both days as he enjoyed his solitary walks, taking in some of Kintyre's most spectacular views and taking on some of

the area's most challenging hills.

He told the Courier he has been 'overwhelmed' by the support and positive comments he has received before, during and after his walks.

'Starting out on Friday, my trepidation was banished when, after only one kilometre, I was given an additional two donations,' he said. 'It's the sheer kindness that carries you onwards.'

'As I was walking along the road outside Campbeltown on Saturday, a car passed me, slowed and stopped and the driver called to me and gave me another donation. This was such a touching moment as the gentleman and his wife had clearly been among many people who were waiting to pay their respects as a funeral cortège travelled through the town, as he was wearing a black tie.

'To be showing respect for the passing of a friend or relative but still be compassionate enough to consider giving a donation to a stranger passing



in a kilt for a charity...this single act by this couple will be remembered by me forever and I respect them.'

Further on, Andrew bumped into a group of fellow Kiltwalkers - Callum Miller, 18, Andrew Johnstone and Gregory Wemyss, both 19, and Sophie Miller and Nicola Wareham, both 20 - who were stepping out to raise money for The Halliday Foundation, Cancer Research UK and Alzheimer Scotland.

The five Campbeltown Grammar School graduates were about a third of the way

into their almost 30-mile journey from Campbeltown to Southend via the Learside road and back to Campbeltown via the main B842 road.

'They were very nice, polite and happy,' Andrew said, 'a shining example of our hope for a better society, a credit to themselves and their parents.'

Views of Ailsa Craig, the Ayrshire coast and Northern Ireland lifted Andrew's spirits when the steep hills and 'never-ending' twists towards the end of his walk began to take their toll.

However, with his home in

Nicola Wareham, Callum Miller, Sophie Miller, Gregory Wemyss and Andrew Johnstone, the fellow Kiltwalkers that Andrew Rathey bumped into during his charity challenge.

sight, he says the final five or six kilometres - three to four miles - flew past. He was welcomed home by his wife Hilary and daughter Tripti, who 'made enough noise to awaken the valley' as they cheered him across a bunting finish line.

Andrew has received donations from as far afield as California, Stoke-on-Trent and Dunoon and the total raised on his fundraising page was £413 when the Courier went to press. This will be boosted by 50 per cent, thanks to philanthropist and Kiltwalk supporter Sir Tom Hunter of The Hunter Foundation.

'This has been a wonderful experience and I would like to thank everyone who has supported me in whatever way,'

Andrew said. After reaching the finish line, Andrew and his family spotted the young Kiltwalkers making their way towards Southend along the single-track road.

'We waited until they reached a gap in the hedgerow and, although we are about half a mile off the road, we just erupted with whooping,' he said.

Sophie told the Courier: 'There were many people clapping as we went round which definitely motivated us and the local police stopped and encouraged us towards the end.'

'Family and friends drove out with food and drinks for us along the way, including Keith Dickson who delivered slushies, given to us from Olly's Street Food.'

'It was an all-round brilliant experience and all for three great causes. After 27.18 miles [43.7 km], I think we could all confidently say we went home feeling every mile. All five of us would just like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has donated.'

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Gardening tips for spring flowers

Tomorrow (Saturday) marks the first day of May, a great gardening month and probably the last month you can plan for your summer colour in the garden.

For those with limited space, bedding plants will give you maximum effect and can really make a statement.

If you are taking a long-term view, a garden full of reliable flowering shrubs is also an option.

Whatever garden you have, watering and weeding are the key watchwords for May.

It is essential to water newly planted fruit trees, roses and shrubs regularly to help their root systems get established.

It is also the time of year when many plants demand more water as they start their major growth period.

Top watering tips include every time you plant something, water it in well, make a moat of soil round newly planted plants so that water doesn't run off and goes to the roots, water pots and containers so that water appears right to the top of the pot and get a water butt.

If you have a drainpipe, you have a natural water supply so a simple garden solution for May is to ensure you have adequate water storage. If you buy and fit a water butt, it will provide you with water for the garden in an environmentally

friendly way and on a regular basis.

Annual weeds will be popping up now, so weeding borders once a week to prevent weed seedlings establishing is a good idea.

The problem with the most common weeds, such as nettles, dandelions and bindweed, is they are very tough.

They can continue to grow in conditions that make most garden plants fade away. They do that, in part, by using the moisture, nutrients and light of the plants around them.

A great plant to get you into the summer gardening spirit is the pretty petunia – perfect for containers and hanging baskets and a great choice for instant colour.

It can flower all summer long, providing you deadhead regularly, and comes in a variety of colours to suit any garden palette.

Petunias are also available in different blooms including single, double, ruffled or smooth petals.

They can be striped, veined or solid in colour and most sold today are hybrids developed for specific design purposes such as fragrance.

They need full sun and can't tolerate frost but can grow in a wide range of soils and thrive in multi-purpose compost when planted in containers.

Keeping on top of garden



maintenance is crucial in May. The garden is coming alive so there is plenty to keep you busy.

Here are some jobs you should be thinking about this month from the Royal Horticultural Society:

- Plant out seedlings and young plants
- Watering and weeding
- Start spraying roses to stop black spot and mildew
- Fast growing hedges will need a trim
- Plant hanging baskets and containers
- Plant salad leaves seeds
- Tie up climbers
- Feed spring bulbs for next year
- Plant out tomatoes
- Mow the lawn

Petunias are perfect for containers and hanging baskets and a great choice for instant colour.

Creating a buzz in school grounds

Argyll and Bute school pupils will be getting up close and personal with nature this summer as a result of a kind donation of flower seeds from the directors of Slange Var, an award-winning non-alcoholic drink.

Company founder Sarah Dougan lives in Argyll and offered the seeds to schools to encourage and enhance biodiversity in school grounds.

The bee, bird and butterfly and wet meadow mixes were sent out by Scotia Seeds Ltd and will be sown by pupils over the next few weeks.

Argyll and Bute Council's policy lead for education Councillor Yvonne McNeilly said: 'These seeds are a wonderful educational resource and will benefit our young people in a number of ways.'

'Not only will they help build on our existing work around the importance of biodiversity, but they will support our outdoor learn-



ing activities and provide a beautiful pop of colour to our school grounds. Thank you to Slange Var for this kind donation.'

Ms Dougan said: 'Slange Var supports seed-planting projects in Scotland and overseas to combat climate change.'

'I'm delighted to be working with the council's biodiversity team and schools across Argyll and Bute to help raise awareness of biodiversity and support pollinators.'

'Click before you dig' safety advice

With the sun shining and more people spending time outside, Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) Distribution has teamed up with Energy Networks Association (ENA) to encourage gardeners to stay safe.

While horticultural and home projects increased last year as a result of the coronavirus pandemic, so too did safety incidents where underground cables were struck by members of the public working on their gardens and homes, with 408 incidents recorded across SSEN's regions in Scotland and central southern England.

Fortunately, not all of these incidents resulted in an injury, but each of them had the potential for a more serious, if not fatal, outcome.

This is why it is so important

that people stay safe by making sure they are aware of any potential underground cables before they carry out any work that involves breaking ground.

SSEN's safety website is a valuable source of information for anyone planning gardening or groundworks.

Ahead of any work, the distribution operator is encouraging people to think carefully about their projects, then 'click before they dig' and refer to the guidance on its website at www.ssen.co.uk/safety/home

SSEN and ENA have also issued this advice for gardeners, to help them work safely:

■ Be aware of the location of underground electricity before digging or excavating

■ Request location details and plans from energy network companies well in advance of work starting

■ For bigger projects, use a cable avoidance tool to identify the presence of buried cables before you start to dig and rescan the area as your work progresses

■ Hand dig - use safe digging techniques to dig trial holes to establish the line and depth of underground electricity

■ Always assume underground cables are live. If they appear to be damaged, do not approach them and contact your electricity network operator using the free-to-call 105 emergency number

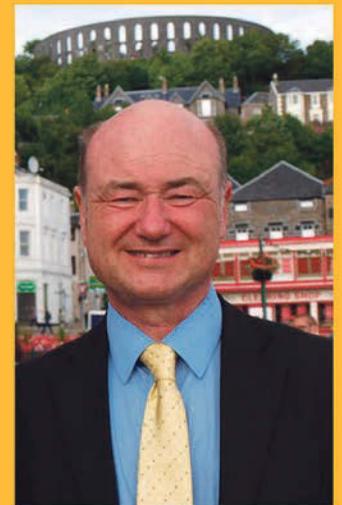
■ Take care when lowering the ground levels as there may be underground cables in the area

■ If you damage an underground electricity cable, vacate the excavation area immediately, phone 105 and keep everyone clear.

Alan Reid - Scottish Liberal Democrats

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2016 Scottish election result in Argyll & Bute

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The perfect lockdown antidote

David Adams McGilp, VisitScotland regional director for Argyll, West Dunbartonshire and East Dunbartonshire, right, discusses the prospects for the visitor economy as tourism and hospitality re-open:

'We hope the end of April signals the start of a brighter period for the visitor economy in Argyll and The Isles, Helensburgh, Loch Lomond, Dunbartonshire and across the country.

'Colleagues and I have been looking forward to tourism and hospitality re-opening since we found out the islands and mainland would emerge from 'stay local' at the same time, which allows visitors to return to businesses and attractions in every corner of our geography and economy. I know businesses and operators on the islands welcomed this decision because it gave them the clarity their potential customers were seeking so they could book with confidence.

'The visitor economy is worth £440 million on average every



David Adams McGilp, VisitScotland's regional director, says 'we won't just push a button and tourism will recover'.

year to the region [i] so the more businesses, operators, jobs and communities that can benefit from tourism and hospitality re-opening the better.

'We are changing the way we view tourism and events, considering the welfare of communities as much as we value the needs of the visitor.

'We have an opportunity to reset our plans for growth, based on a more responsible

future where a growing num-

ber of visitors want to give back to communities.

'It can be a challenge to get the balance right but if businesses, communities and visitors all play their part, we believe everyone will benefit.

'We won't just push a button and tourism will recover. We've had a year of very little investment, job losses and business closures. It will take time and significant investment to get

us back to a thriving industry.

With the right support, tourism and events can lead the economic recovery and boost inward investment where it's needed most.

'We are confident Argyll and The Isles, Helensburgh, Loch Lomond and Dunbartonshire can look forward to a strong performance this summer. In some UK coastal and rural locations, occupancy rates in 2020 exceeded 2019. We know Scotland is a popular destination for UK residents and, as we saw last year, there was a real desire from Scots to explore their own country. Our marketing will focus on inspiring people across the UK to make Scotland their destination of choice this year and support the recovery of Scottish tourism. The rise in new domestic visitors did present challenges and pressure on local amenities last year so our marketing campaign for Scots is #RespectProtectEnjoy to help maintain our stunning landscapes by leaving no physical trace of a visit.

'The Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund, admin-

istered by VisitScotland, has given out £9m to 43 projects across the country since 2017 including eight across Argyll and the Isles and Loch Lomond area to improve toilets, car parking and access roads.

'We've been promoting and stocking more than 300 suppliers and craftmakers via our Shop Local iCentre network including at Bowmore, Craignure, Oban, Rothesay, Aberfoyle and Balloch. Please drop in to these iCentres across the region if you are a visitor or a resident to speak to our friendly team of experts. There are lots of great examples of sustainable, inclusive businesses and operators to be found and we'd urge visitors and residents to support them.

'Look out for holders of The Green Tourism Scheme like Argyll Estates and Inveraray Castle, East Cambusmoon Farm self-catering holiday cottages and Hebrides Cruises.

'Along with many partners and tourism businesses, this commitment to responsible tourism can show tourism is a force for good, creating

economic and social value in every corner of Scotland and enhancing the well-being of everyone who experiences it.

'Tourism makes Scotland richer, economically and socially, and without it Scotland would be a much poorer place.

'There's lots to look forward to and I can't wait to travel the Kintyre 66 route, a new 66-mile loop around Kintyre and over to Gigha.

The road takes in the west and east coasts of the peninsula from the top at Kennacraig to the bottom at Campbeltown. And for foodies, the five new Taste of Place Trails have something for everyone.

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

'Everyone deserves a holiday and Argyll, the Isles, Helensburgh, Loch Lomond and Dunbartonshire, and all it offers, will be the perfect antidote after lockdown.'

[i] Insight Department, Argyll & The Isles factsheet, 2019 Argyll and the Isles Factsheet 2019 (visitscotland.org)

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Dr Kate Cowcher, centre, with St Andrews alumni and project research assistants Meredith Loper, left, and Elikem Logan, right, with modern African artworks at Lochgilphead High School in 2019.

Rediscovered notable African artwork to go on public display

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

An overlooked collection of modern African art in Argyll and Bute schools has been rediscovered by academics at the University of St Andrews.

The collection, which belongs to Argyll and Bute Council, is to now go on public display.

The paintings, prints and drawings from Uganda, Kenya, Zambia, Tanzania and South Africa, were bought for the Argyll Collection, a public art initiative founded by writer Naomi Mitchison, who lived in Carradale before her death in 1999 aged 101, and art advisor Jim Tyre, in the early 1960s for the people of Argyll and Bute.

In the years since they were purchased, the historical significance of these works had been overlooked.

New research reveals they are by some of the continent's most notable modernist artists

and together they provide an insight into the interests and concerns that pervaded the era of independence.

Dar to Dunoon: Modern African Art from the Argyll Collection will exhibit 12 works of modern art from east and southern Africa at Dunoon Burgh Hall from May 21. The collection has been the subject of a partnership with the School of Art History at the University of St Andrews, led by Dr Kate Cowcher, in conjunction with Madeleine Conn, cultural co-ordinator for Argyll and Bute Council.

As a result of the research project, 10 out of 12 works can now be confidently attributed to major modernist artists including Tanzania's Samuel Ntiro, Uganda's Jak Katarikawe, Zambia's Henry Tayali and South Africa's Lucky Sibya.

Dar to Dunoon will exhibit the works of these artists, along

with their biographies and related material. Dr Cowcher said: 'The Argyll Collection is a rich public collection of mostly Scottish art and these important African additions about which little was known. It has been remarkable to uncover their histories.'

Naomi acquired these works primarily for use in schools, where she hoped children in Scotland's rural communities could study and enjoy them.

The title of the exhibition derives from an archival find - a letter sent from Dar es Salaam to Dunoon in 1967 by the artist and diplomat Samuel Ntiro, who became Tanzania's Commissioner of Culture.

Naomi had bought Ntiro's 'Chopping Wood' in Dar in 1967 and the artist personally packaged and sent it to Scotland, along with a letter and a photograph of himself.

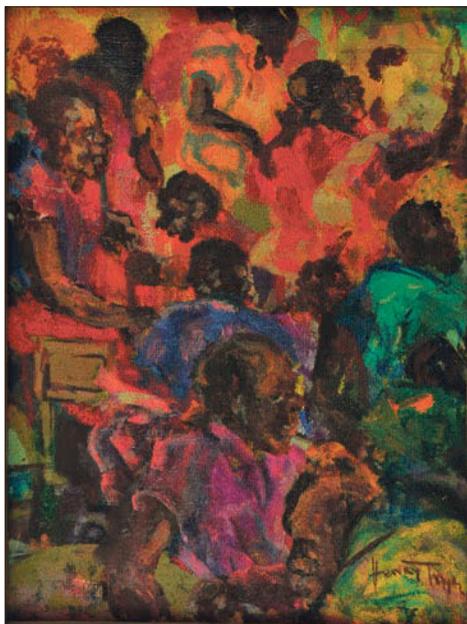
Speaking to the Courier this week, Dr Cowcher, who

has Campbeltown heritage, revealed she uncovered some personal links to the project.

She said: 'My late grandmother, Sheila Cowcher, born Jeannie Robertson Ross, was born in Campbeltown.'

'I first started looking into this project when I was living in the US and teaching at the University of Maryland - but I was so excited at the prospect of learning more about Argyll because it was a place Grandma used to talk about.'

'One surprise was discovering my late great-uncle - my grandmother's brother-in-law Bill McCartney - was head of art at Dunoon Grammar School in the 1960s when Naomi was building up this collection. He knew Jim Tyre well and, I suspect, must have met Naomi. This project has been full of fascinating discoveries, but my personal family connections were entirely unanticipated.'



Right: Artwork by Henry Tayali, title unknown, circa 1971.

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Thought for the Week

At Christmas we received a copy of a lovely book called *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* by Charlie Mackesy.

The boy meets the mole, they both meet the fox, then they are joined by the horse.

It's a book about love, friendship and kindness to others and self. It is dotted with little sayings that are so relevant in these times, regardless of who you are, where you are or how young or old you are.

A little over halfway through the book, the mole asks the boy a question: 'Is your glass half empty or half full?'

How would you answer that question? We continue to live in such odd times and I think it is fair to say it is taking its toll on a lot of folk now.

But so many of the people I talk to are appreciating the small things in life: spring is definitely here – well, most of the time – the birds are returning and the first of the bluebells have appeared in our garden.

'Is your glass half empty or half full?' asked the mole. 'I think I am grateful to have a glass,' said the boy.

That answer made me smile. Some of us are naturally optimistic, others incline to pessimism and, realistically, a lot of us probably switch between the two at the moment.

In the New Testament we read: 'Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus.' (1 Thessalonians (5:16-18))

Each day brings fresh challenges but there is hope and light in the world around us. I hope that helps to keep your glass half full today.

Reverend Chris Fulcher, Church of Scotland, South Kintyre Team Ministry.

Paying tribute to Islay musician Ian Carmichael

Ian Carmichael, who belonged to Islay but lived in Glasgow, passed away peacefully in Glasgow Royal Infirmary on March 3 in his 95th year.

His funeral was held in Glasgow on March 12, though his ashes are to be scattered on his native Islay.

Ian won the Mòd Gold Medal in 1961 in Stirling and had a wonderful reputation among musicians and singers who shared a stage with him through the years.

Most of the information in this piece was kindly passed to me by one such man, Willie Cameron, Acharacle, who described Ian to me as 'a powerful trained voice', 'a very popular entertainer' and, most of all, 'a lovely man'.

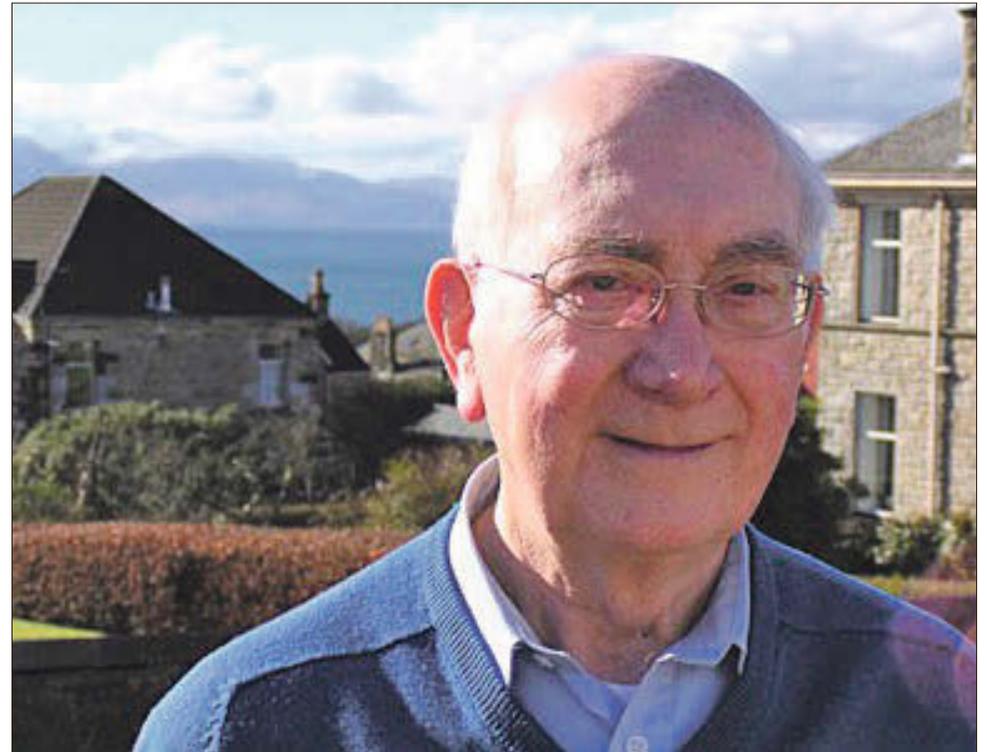
Willie played with him at cèilidhs round the city where Ian was always a welcome guest.

Ian also appeared regularly for a few years in the 1980s at the Park Bar when the pub held a mid-week cèilidh at which Ian alternated weekly with Dougie Gillespie. These were the good old days of the Park Bar lock-in where the craic is still spoken about to this day among those who were lucky enough to be there.

Ian's wife, Mary, would always be on hand to collect him. While those light-hearted and often impromptu cèilidhs were legendary, it should not be forgotten Ian also had a successful television and recording career.

He appeared on TV a number of times, mainly on the Gaelic programme 'S e ur Beatha, and recorded several albums, some under his own name, others with George Smith and The Hebrideans and one with David Silver on the Lismor Label.

Like so many of his generation – including more than three quarters of his classmates in school – Ian was a native Gaelic speaker who first began learning English at five years old and only then, in his own words, 'like a foreigner



Ian Carmichael.

starting from scratch'. Perhaps not surprisingly, the language and culture remained close to his heart throughout his life and he was passionate about its survival.

In an interview for the cover notes of his Highland Heritage album, he said: 'As long as Gaelic singing is kept alive, our traditions will survive over the centuries.'

Ian's own contribution to keeping his beloved

culture alive is unquantifiable. While the singers, musicians and characters of that era will never be replaced, the mantle now passes to generations such as my own and younger to ensure his wish for Gaelic's survival is realised and, with the memory of singers like Ian Carmichael, we have a fine example to follow.

Robert Robertson.

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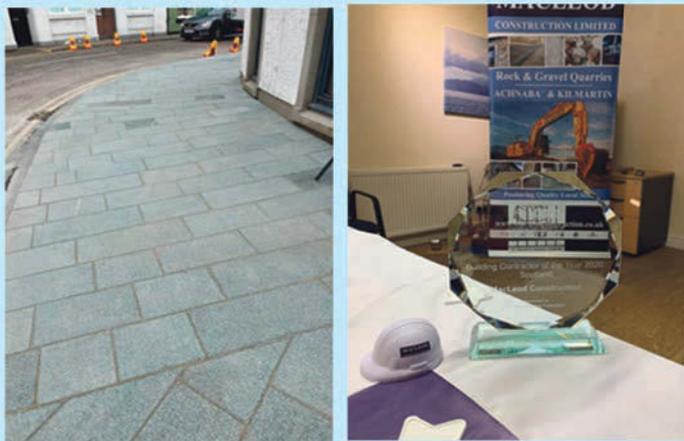
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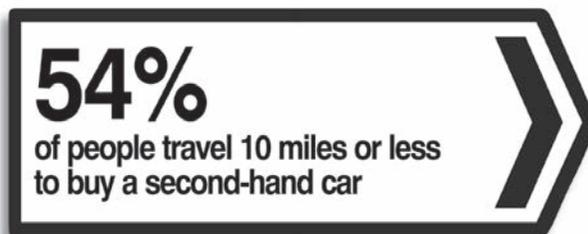
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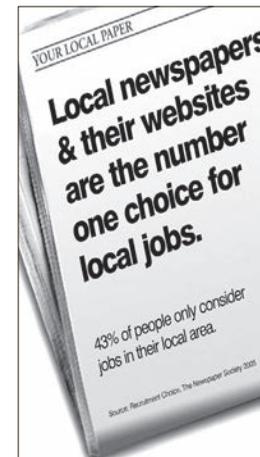
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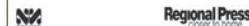
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AGM
Tuesday
11th May 2021
By zoom
For meeting details
please email
tulamben@hotmail.co.uk

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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
21/00381/ MIN	Extraction, processing and despatch of sand and gravel	Land West Of Aros Farm, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute, PA28 6NT
21/00685/PPP	Renewal of Planning Permission in Principle reference 17/00919/PPP (Site for the erection of a dwellinghouse)	Plot 2, Fraoch, Choille, Whitehouse, Argyll And Bute
21/00700/PP	Erection of 2 industrial units	Mull Of Kintyre Industrial Estate, Albyn Road, Campbeltown, Argyll And Bute
21/00684/PPP	Renewal of planning permission in principle reference 17/00917/PPP (Site for the erection of a dwellinghouse)	Plot 3 Fraoch, Choille, Whitehouse, 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 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:
www.argyll-bute.gov.uk
Comhairle Earra - Ghàidheal agus Bhòid

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Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust

COMMUNITY BENEFIT

Applications are invited for funding for the disbursement of community benefit from the above Trust.

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Application forms and guidance can be found on the web site www.tsct.org.uk to be returned to info@tsct.org.uk or to the company office:
Tarbert and Skipness Community Trust,
William Duncan & Co
School Road, Tarbert, PA29 6UL

Closing date for applications is Monday, 31 May 2021

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT FUND

Tarbert & Skipness Community Trust is piloting a new initiative to help community groups within the PA29 area with transport costs.

Further information is available on the web site www.tsct.org.uk

Argyll and Bute Council

PLANNING

ARGYLL COMMUNITY HOUSING ASSOCIATION
NOTICE OF DRAFT PATH DIVERSION ORDER
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
THE ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL (PART OF CORE PATH C444)
OAKFIELD TO EASTFIELD, TARBERT STOPPING UP AND DIVERSION ORDER 2021

Argyll and Bute Council hereby gives notice that it has made an Order under Section 208 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to be known as "The Argyll and Bute Council" (Part of Core Path C444 Oakfield to Eastfield) Stopping Up and Diversion Order 2021 (hereinafter referred to as "the Order") authorising the stopping up of part of the Core Path C444 Oakfield to Eastfield, Tarbert, and its diversion along the closely adjacent alternative routes all as shown by the plans forming Schedule Part 1 annexed and subscribed as relative to the Order. The Order is about to be submitted to the Scottish Ministers for confirmation or to be confirmed as an unopposed Order. The footpath will be stopped up and diverted along the said alternative routes all as more particularly referred to in the Schedule Part 1 annexed and subscribed as relative to the Order. The stopping up and diversion of the footpath is necessary to enable the development comprising generally the erection of 4 Dwelling Houses permitted under Planning Permission reference 20/01532/PP granted under Part III of the said Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to be carried out in accordance with the said planning permission.

A copy of the Order and relevant Plans contained in the Schedule Part 1 showing the footpath to be stopped up and the alternative routes along which it will be diverted and other information contained in the Schedule Part 2 may be viewed by logging on to Argyll and Bute Council's web-site at www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/core-paths during a period of Twenty-eight days following the appearance of the advertisement.

Within that period, any person may make representations or objections with respect to the Order, by written notice to the Head of Legal and Regulatory Support, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT or by emailing Jolyon.Gritten@argyll-bute.gov.uk by noon on Monday 31st May 2021.

If you wish to discuss this please contact Jolyon Gritten, Access Manager on 01546 604 314.

Any such representation or objection should state the name and address of the person making the representation or objection, the matter to which it relates and the grounds upon which it is made. Letters of objection will be replied to after the closing date of the period of objections.

Signed: Executive Director Kirsty Flanagan, Development and Infrastructure Services, Argyll and Bute Council, Kilmory, Lochgilphead, Argyll, PA31 8RT
20 April 2021

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Urgent need to change forestry policy

If Scottish agriculture is to be part of the solution to climate change, there must be a redefined approach to woodland expansion and forestry on agricultural land, writes NFU Scotland Vice President Andrew Connon in the union's website blog.

Mr Connon describes the current fixation with planting trees as naïve at best, certainly short sighted, and having the potential to be damaging in other economic, environmental and social aspects.

He is calling for a balanced approach before it is too late and states that the next Scottish Government must be challenged and be prepared to have a rethink at the earliest opportunity before



Andrew Connon calls for a 'balanced approach to tree planting.'

catastrophic damage is done to Scotland's agricultural industry. He writes: 'I am receiving fresh calls every week

from despairing farmers and crofters across Scotland telling me of another farm or estate destined for tree planting.

'The more of Scotland's limited productive land that shifts from farming to forestry, the more we are likely to simply offshore our emissions or even increase our carbon footprint.

'In addition, land acquisitions for forestry, combined with the potential for carbon trading are already creating inflated land prices that are outwith the reach of commercial farming activities whilst restricting opportunities for new entrants to the industry.'

NFU Scotland has long recognised that tree planting, in the right place, has a key role

to play in tackling the climate and biodiversity crises. It is in favour of farm woodlands that integrate with existing farm enterprises offering many benefits from mixed broadleaf/hardwood and conifer plantings without compromising food production and farm business viability regardless of land ownership or tenure.

'However, NFU Scotland remains opposed to whole farm afforestation on a commercial scale that reduces agricultural activity and food production whilst potentially accelerating land abandonment,' concludes Mr Connon.

Read the full blog at www.nfus.org.uk/news/blog/scotland-needs-a-defined-approach-to-forestry

The true cost of public access

With Scotland's countryside beginning to open up, NFU Scotland's head of policy team Gemma Cooper has used the union's website blog to pose the question, What is the true cost of public access?

While easing Covid restrictions is likely to come as a relief to many, it is already a source of great concern for farmers and crofters as last year saw huge issues with public access.

Organisations such as NFUS were inundated with calls from concerned members – logging problems with out-of-control dogs, livestock worrying, fly-tipping, wild camping, access to farm buildings.

Gemma writes: 'Access to our fantastic countryside must be better resourced and a long-term strategic approach is a critical part of this conversation.'

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MAIN FEATURES:
• Made from high-tensile steel
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OPTION 1
20-foot race, 100-foot holding pen
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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)
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• 2 x 2-foot swing gates

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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.

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• 1 x sliding gate

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DEATHS

FOSTER - Peacefully at Glenaray Ward, Mid Argyll Hospital, on April 27, 2021, Michael Foster, in his 81st year, of 27 Upper Glenfyne Park, Ardrishaig. Submariner and Master Joiner. Beloved husband of Marie, and much loved father of Michael, Paul and Julie. Dear father-in-law of Lou and Donald. Adored grandfather of Holly, John, Shannon and Kelly. A good neighbour and dear friend to many. A private funeral service will be held at Ardrishaig Parish Church today, Friday, April 30, 2021. For those wishing to pay their respects the funeral cortege will leave from Ardrishaig Parish Church at approx. 11.30am, travelling along Chalmers Street, on route to Achnabreac Cemetery.

JOHNSON - Peacefully at the Mid Argyll Hospital, Lochgilphead on April 19, 2021, Edna Johnson, of Tailleur Bay, Inverneill, by Ardrishaig. Beloved wife of the late Eric Johnson. Dearly loved mother of Ian and Wendy. Much loved grandmother of Sarah. A dear neighbour and good friend. A private funeral service will be held on Friday, May 7, 2021, at Cardross Crematorium.

MCKINVEN - Peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital, on April 21, 2021, Jean Brown McKinven, in her 84th year, 104 Longrow, Campbeltown, dearly beloved daughter of the late Malcolm and

Isabella McKinven and a much loved sister of Robert.

MCMILLAN - Peacefully at the Campbeltown Hospital, on April 26, 2021, Robert McMillan, in his 70th year, 4 Ciaran Court, Campbeltown, much loved partner of Wilma Ellis, loving father of Jason, Robert and Andrew and a loving grandfather, brother and uncle.

RENNIE - Peacefully at home, 4 Saddell Street, Campbeltown, with her family by her side, on April 23, 2021, Margaret Rennie née Taylor, in her 72nd year, best friend and proud mum of Iain, Andrew and Rosemary, cherished mother-in-law of Emma, Anita and Robert, amazing and loving wee nana of Abigail, Gavin, Robert, Jack, Jordan, Stephanie and Imogen and a much loved sister, auntie and friend.

WEIR - Jessie Dowling (aged 82) peacefully passed away early on April 25, 2021. She had been battling with lung cancer. Jessie was much loved by her husband Norman, her community family at Ugadale Farm, as well as her son and daughter. Grannie was adored by her three grandchildren. Donations in lieu of flowers to Macmillan Nursing would be appreciated.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

BALLANTINE - The family of the late Jim Ballantine would like to

thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for the many kind expressions of sympathy, flowers, phone calls and messages of support received following their recent sad loss. Special thanks to Rev. David Carruthers for his personal and uplifting service; to Donald MacDonald Funeral Directors for their attentive and caring arrangements, and to Morna for beautiful floral tributes. We would like to extend our thanks to all in the local community who turned out to pay their respects to Dad on his final journey from Ardrishaig Parish Church to Achnabreac Cemetery. He will be sorely missed by many. Finally, grateful thanks also to the local doctors, nursing staff and care teams who attended to Jim during his illness.

REID - The friends of the late Hamish Reid would like to thank all neighbours and everyone who turned out to show their respects and express sympathy following Hamish's sudden passing. Thanks to Campbeltown Police for their support, Rev William Crossan for a comforting service and to Kenny Blair and staff funeral directors for their care.

IN MEMORIAM

MACKAY - In loving memory of my dear son Derek, died April 28, 2019. Loved and remembered every day - Mum.

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



He will not let your foot slip — he who watches over you will not slumber... —Psalm 121:3 In person..... or Online...? Our building is open and our Service will be in the church

on **Sunday, 2nd May 2021 at 11am** when Rod Sharp will Zoom in from USA and bring the message

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 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

<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
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SALVATION ARMY



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Major Ruth Russell
Scottish Charity Number SC009359

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Rev Dr Roderick Campbell
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CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH

George Street, Campbeltown



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Rev David Parker
7.30pm Youth Group (by Zoom)
Wednesday 5th May
12.00 noon Prayer & Bible Study
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SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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Charity number Tarbert SC002622 Skipness SC004280

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Sunday 2nd May
Services in Achahoish at 9:45am and Ardrishaig at 11:00am (Acts 8)
(Covid19 control measures apply)
Weekly Reflections will continue to be available at the gates of the churches

WESTLOCHFYNESIDE CHURCHES

(Cumlodden, Inveraray and Lochgair)
Sunday 2nd May 2021
Cumlodden Church at 10.00am
Sunday service will be led by Rev. Dorothy Wallace
Inveraray Church at 11.30am
Sunday service will be led by Rev. Dorothy Wallace
Masks must be worn when attending either church.
Charity No: SC016665

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A Fyne golfing battle at Glenralloch

The second round of the Fyne Tankard took place Tarbert Golf Club last Saturday in beautiful sunny conditions and just the right amount of breeze to make it interesting.

The course at Glenralloch was in fine condition thanks to the great work that has gone on this year.

Peter McLean junior and his uncle Bruce were enjoying an on-course battle, both of them shooting nett 63, with Peter having the better inward half on the day. Mike Hartly took third on nett 65. When the counting was done, Bruce McLean emerged victorious with a two-round total of 128, taking the first silverware of the season. In second place were Graham Prentice and Chris Smyth on 132.

Best scratch on the day was Bruce MacNab on 71, followed by Kenny MacFarlane on 78 and Mickey MacNeill on 78.

Last Sunday, Tarbert youngster Connor McCrae headed to Swanson Templar Golf in Edinburgh to take part in the Stuart Hutchinson Trophy. This event is run by the Stephen Gallacher Foundation and saw 81 boys and girls of different age groups take part.

Connor played in the under-10 boys' flag section where he came fourth out of 14, on 37, with Alex Martin winning with a score of 34. It was a great start for Connor in his first event. He moves on to Gogarburn Golf Club this Sunday for his next event. He travels with the best wishes of all members at Tarbert Golf Club.

This Saturday sees Dodie's Cup take place at Glenralloch.

Salmon firm scores a winner for centre

Tarbert Soccer Centre has netted funding to buy new kit and equipment.

The financial boost came from the Scottish Salmon Company's (SSC) latest round of community fund awards.

Tarbert Soccer Centre offers weekly training sessions to primary and secondary school boys and girls from Tarbert and the surrounding area.

The children take part in tournaments with neighbouring teams, enhancing their confidence and community spirit while encouraging a healthy lifestyle.

Thanks to the SSC donation, the soccer centre has been able to buy clothing which will allow outdoor training to continue all year round.

The donation has also helped buy additional training equipment, including new footballs.

As a central part of SSC's community charter, the community fund offers employees the chance to nominate busi-



Tarbert Soccer Centre coach Donnie Sinclair with sons Jack and Greg.

nesses, groups and charities that encourage and support health and well-being in the community for a grant of up to £250.

The funding was awarded following a nomination by Donnie Sinclair, committee member and coach at Tarbert Soccer Centre and area man-

ager for SSC at Loch Fyne. Susan McCrae, Tarbert Soccer Centre secretary, said: 'On behalf of the team, we would like to thank the Scottish Salmon Company for its generous donation. The children who attend Tarbert Soccer Centre will benefit greatly from this community fund award.'

'Tarbert Soccer Centre provides an inclusive environment which contributes to children's physical, mental and social well-being. As a community group, led solely by volunteers, this funding is a big help to us.'

Iain MacIntyre, head of production (south) at SSC, said: 'The Scottish Salmon Company is committed to supporting the rural communities in which many of our staff live and work. The centre gives children the chance to take part in regular exercise and promotes community spirit. We hope our donation will support its further growth and success in the future.'

Sergeant secures Dunaverty's May medal

Dunaverty Golf Club players were blessed with another sunny but breezy day for their May medal.

As a result of the gusting wind, scores were relatively high in most cases. Early starter Daniel Sergeant made light of the conditions and recorded an excellent nett score of 59, which was never beaten.

Closest to him was Lee Mathieson, last man out in the evening session, who had a superlative round, reaching the turn in 33 strokes, and on the inward half added 35, to record the best scratch total of the day with a 68.

The next four players all had the same nett score of 65 and places were decided on better inward halves.

Result: 1 Daniel Sergeant 82-23=59; 2 Lee Mathieson 68-6=62; 3 Ricky Tonner 79-14=65 (bih); 4 Bill Brannigan 79-14=65 (bih); 5 Tommy Morran junior 80-15=65 (bih); 6 Alan Goddard 81-16=65.

Tennis coach misses out on prestigious award

Campbeltown Tennis Club coach Colin Hanbidge just missed out on landing one of the most coveted prizes in Scottish tennis, writes Hannah O'Hanlon

Colin, a professionally qualified tennis coach and Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) licensed referee, was one of two people in the running to be named Official of the Year at the Tennis Scotland Awards 2021.



Speaking to the Courier this week, following the online announcement of the results last

Friday, Colin congratulated the winner Olwyn Roy, with whom he often officiates at competitions and has played mixed doubles with in the past, adding: 'You cannot win them all!'

'Olwyn is a referee, line judge and an umpire so has a wide range of officiating duties. I like to spend my time between of-

ficiating, teaching and club development.' Colin has been busy at Campbeltown Tennis Club, leading a coaching session for adult members last Thursday and planning an LTA tennis leaders' course for the end of May.

Anyone interested in taking part is invited to visit the club's Facebook page for more information.

In July, Colin will be officiating at Oban's West Highland Tennis Tournament which this year celebrates its 50th anniversary.



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