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20 page special FREE INSIDE

Pupils have a smashing time with tennis ace Judy Murray

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

Dalintober Primary School pupils had a smashing time on Wednesday when tennis coach Judy Murray OBE put them through their paces.

The former professional tennis player and mother of Jamie and Sir Andy Murray – two of Scotland's most successful tennis stars – travelled to Kintyre to deliver coaching sessions.

It was in response to a Twitter post by additional support needs (ASN) assistant Mairi Campbell about Dalintober's extra-curricular tennis activities, pupil equity and opportunities. Judy replied to the Tweet and offered to come to the school with fellow coach Laura Middleton.

Both ladies are trustees of the Judy Murray Foundation, a charity which aims to improve access to tennis opportunities across Scotland, including in remote areas. It wasn't possible for every student to participate but all P4 pupils,



Dalintober Primary School's P4 class joined Glenbarr Primary School pupils for a tennis masterclass by Judy Murray OBE, front right, and Laura Middleton, front left. 50_c22judy Murray01

P6 and P7 pupils attending the extra-curricular tennis club, some ASN pupils and partner pupils from Glenbarr Primary School were given the chance

to take part on Wednesday afternoon. In the morning, Judy and Laura led an adult session at the school. After school, they coached members

of Dalintober's tennis club at Campbeltown Lawn Tennis Club and a parent-and-child session was held there in the early evening.

In her first visit to Campbeltown, Judy told the Courier she had been coaching at grassroots level for the last eight years. During her Kintyre

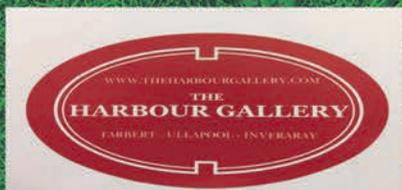
visit, she was glad to be able to coach not just at the school but also in the community, as she believes it is important to show how young people can continue in the sport as they reach adulthood.

Caroline Armour, head teacher of Dalintober and Glenbarr primary schools, told the Courier: 'It is a commitment of our ethos to ensure equity and inclusion for all our pupils and we are grateful to our youth work assistant team – Tracey Brogan, Fraser Cosgrove and Claire Mitchell – for arranging these opportunities. We were thrilled to welcome Judy and Laura to Dalintober to work with our pupils and we are super happy for Miss Campbell. It is down to her that this fantastic visit came about. Thank you, Mairi.'

The school showed Judy and Laura a taste of Kintyre hospitality, ordering lunch from The Kintyre Larder, sweet treats from Muneroy and whisky from Glen Scotia Distillery to be enjoyed après tennis.

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Help for vulnerable adults at risk from online fraud

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

Shopper-Aide is one of more than 50 community groups, organisations and individuals caring for vulnerable adults that are now better informed at preventing clients from becoming victims of fraud.

Representatives from the Kintyre charity, as well as from Carr Gomm, ACUMEN, Alzheimer Scotland, Age Scotland, Family Mediation Services, Carers of West Dunbartonshire and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, tuned in to an online fraud prevention event last Tuesday (May 18).

The Argyll and Bute Third Sector Interface (TSI) event was supported by West Dunbartonshire Community and Volunteering Services (CVS). Increasing incidents of fraud were reported to police

in 2020-21, including online credit card fraud, marketplace fraud and social engineering fraud, where someone pretends to be someone they are not to access people's money.

Samantha Stubbs, strategic development manager for Argyll and Bute TSI, said: 'With [third sector] staff being trusted and well-known faces in communities, they are vital to ensuring the right information is shared with people at the right time.'

Joanna Peet, Nationwide Building Society branch manager, said £455.8 million was lost in 2019 in the UK to 'authorised push payment scams', where people are scammed into sending their money directly to a criminal.

Other scams include 'romance scams' where fraudsters build an online relationship with people to gain their trust before asking them for money



for medical fees and travel expenses.

Banking protocol had stopped £43.5 million of fraud and led to 200 arrests in 2020.

Joanna said: 'This is where any bank or building society staff member who becomes aware of anything suspicious or untoward contacts police for an immediate response.'

'Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the banking protocol has been enhanced to cover

telephone and online banking as well.'

Matthew Corns, Argyll and Bute Trading Standards, spoke of the financial impact frauds can have on the economy and highlighted the wellbeing effect that becoming a scam victim can have on anyone, but especially vulnerable members of the community.

People are more likely to die or enter residential care after becoming a scam victim.

Some of the individuals and community group representatives who tuned in to the online fraud prevention event.

Mr Corns added that people can become a 'friend against scams' by taking part in a free online Trading Standards course.

Sergeant Marcus Littlejohn from Argyll and West Dunbartonshire Police Division provided advice and guidance including tips such as dialling 123 after receiving a call from a scam caller to ensure the line has been cleared.

Often criminals will keep the call running so that when people call their bank afterwards, the scammer can pretend to be this service as well.

Sergeant Littlejohn also spoke about password security sites such as [\[ismypassword.net\]\(http://www.howsecure-ismypassword.net\) and how to check if password and security details have been compromised through the website \[www.havebeenpwned.com\]\(http://www.havebeenpwned.com\)](http://www.howsecure-</p>
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Chief Inspector Emma Grimason, local area commander, added: 'Fraudsters are adapting every day and new types of fraud appear on a regular basis. It is therefore incumbent on us all to keep ourselves informed about the current scams and always be vigilant on how to prevent yourself and those you care for becoming a victim.'

Neighbourhood Watch Scotland sent out alerts from either Police Scotland or Trading Standards, she said.

See <https://member-registration.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/91/Join> or follow Argyll Dunbartonshire Police Division on Twitter and other social media for updates on new fraud trends.



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Classy Campbeltown is new warship name's inspiration

Campbeltown is to have a namesake warship again.

A decade after the last Royal Navy vessel bearing the town's moniker was decommissioned in April 2011, a new HMS Campbeltown is to be built.

The First Sea Lord, Admiral Tony Radakin, has announced the names of five next-generation type-31 frigates for the Royal Navy as HMS Campbeltown, HMS Active, HMS Bulldog, HMS Formidable and HMS Venturer.

The 'inspiration class' vessels' names are drawn from former warships and submarines whose missions and history will 'inspire Royal Navy operations'.

HMS Campbeltown is named after the wartime destroyer which led the 'greatest commando raid of all' at St Nazaire, France, during World War II. In March 1942, the ship rammed the dock gates

and hidden explosives aboard blew up, wreaking havoc in the port and denying its use to major German warships for the rest of the war.

The names also represent the Royal Navy's future vision with HMS Campbeltown symbolising the 'raiding from the sea' focus of the Royal Marines' Future Commando Force.

Admiral Radakin said: 'They represent the best of Britain's world-class shipbuilding heritage and will fly the flag for decades to come.'

Being built at Babcock in Rosyth, the type-31 frigates will replace the five general-purpose type-23 frigates currently in service.

Expected to enter service by 2028, they will carry a crew of up to 105 and will be deployed on duties around the world, working alongside new type-26 frigates dedicated to submarine detection operations.

Cheers to gin school's first-class graduates

by Hannah O'Hanlon
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A new Kintyre gin school has raised a glass to its first graduates.

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

Located on Torrisdale Castle Estate, the gin school was created in response to the high number of visitors to the distillery since it opened in 2016, the increased demand for tours and the volume of tourists expected in the region following the recent launch of the Kintyre 66 route.

Unlike other gin schools, the Kintyre Gin School has a personalised blending approach that differs from the usual distilling process, providing visitors with their own gin cre-



ated to suit their own palette. The school can take up to 12 people per class – Covid-19 restrictions permitting – with a three-and-a-half-hour tutorial, offering a fun experience whilst teaching people how to make their bespoke bottle of gin and learn about the history of the spirit.

Guests have the opportunity to try a perfect serve of their own gin and make a cocktail,

before receiving a Kintyre Gin School graduation certificate.

Beinn An Tuirc Distillers director Emma Macalister Hall said: 'We are extremely excited to launch the Kintyre Gin School and share our love of gin to everyone.'

'It has been a difficult year for local businesses, but we have worked hard in the background to build the school from scratch, and it's

Beinn An Tuirc Distillers director Emma Macalister Hall leading a session at Kintyre Gin School.

rewarding to see it all come together. For us, as a rural business in a remote part of Scotland, we are nothing without our people and our mission has always been to champion the community and create secure employment and career opportunities.

'We have expanded our workforce significantly since beginning production and with further expansions on the horizon, the number will certainly grow.'

'We're offering an unforgettable experience for gin fans to create a delicious spirit, as well as seeing behind-the-scenes of the sustainable production process that makes our gin so great and we're thrilled to open in time for restrictions easing.'

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 **Backwoodsman**

Author Meyrick moves into gangland territory

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

Crime author Denzil Meyrick has taken a break from his best-selling DCI Daley series to pen a modern-day gangland thriller.

With one million copies of the DCI Daley series sold across all formats, Denzil is reaching out with a new voice and in a new direction.

Fans of the television shows *The Sopranos* and *Gangs of London* are likely to enjoy Meyrick's new novel, *Terms of Restitution*, which will be published in hardback in September.

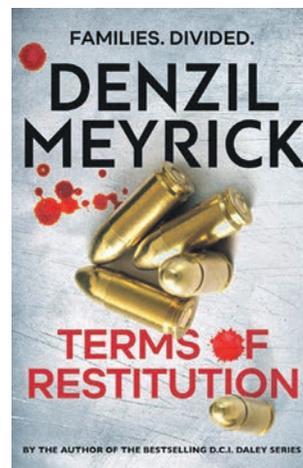
While the DCI Daley novels are set in Kinloch, a fictional town based on Denzil's native Campbeltown, *Terms of Restitution* is a new venture, revealing the darker side of human nature and taking readers to the dark streets of London and the Scottish town Paisley.

Gangland boss Zander Finn is so sickened by the brutal murder of his son in a Paisley pub that he decides to change his life.

Following the advice of his priest and mentor, he moves clandestinely to London and becomes an ambulance driver.

But when his old second-in-command Malky Maloney tracks him down on a London street, Finn knows he must return.

Both his real family and his crime family face an existential threat from Albanian mobsters



Denzil Meyrick, left, moves in a new direction with *Terms of Restitution*. Author photograph: Kirsty Anderson.

struggles to come to terms with the pressure of his two families, his blood relatives and his business family.

'I'm also excited to unveil a new cast of characters, full of strong women like DCI Amelia Langley and Maggie Finn, the formidable matriarch of both Zander's families.

'All told, I'm more than excited to let you spend time with the Finns in *Terms of Restitution*.'

Is this a scintillating one-off? Or will it be the start of a new must-buy series? Denzil's fans from Campbeltown to Canada will be thrilled to find out.

And for those who can't wait, his ninth DCI Daley novel, *For Any Other Truth*, will be published on June 3.

determined to take control of the Scottish underworld.

Facing the forces of law and order under Detective Chief Inspector (DCI) Amelia Langley and a mysterious Italian woman, Finn struggles for survival in a rollercoaster ride of brutality, tenderness, misplaced loyalties and the utterly unexpected.

The path to redemption is a bumpy one and it begins to look like Finn should have stayed in London.

'I'm absolutely thrilled to bring readers something new,' said Denzil, who lives on Loch

Lomondside. 'I'm a huge fan of *The Sopranos* television show. The mix of visceral crime, family life and bags of humour, I think, more accurately represents real life than unremittingly dark noir.

'Thinking about that model, I've used my own approach in *Terms of Restitution*. No-one lives a single-themed life and I believe it's really important, if any authenticity is to be had, that characters inhabit as real and relatable a world as possible. In *Terms of Restitution*, we see the stresses and strains of life on Zander Finn as he



The Kintyre Way walk from Tarbert to Machrihanish is 100 miles long.

Kintyre Way to set up village volunteer groups

The Kintyre Way will use £6,312 of National Lottery funding to set up volunteer groups in villages close to sections of the renowned 100-mile walk.

It was one of 12 community groups from across Argyll and Bute to share in £202,867 of funding from The National Lottery Community Fund.

A Kintyre Way spokesperson said: 'We're absolutely delighted to have been awarded this funding. It will help us establish volunteer groups in villages close to sections of the route. It will also be used to buy equipment for maintenance volunteers including gloves, secateurs

and hi-viz vests as well as much-needed materials for the paths, including timber and hardcore.

'We hope the 12-month project will inspire local interest in maintenance, fundraising and promotion. As always, we'd love to hear from anyone who would like to join our meetings and receive updates. We can be emailed at thekintyreway@gmail.com'

National Lottery Community Fund Scotland chairperson Kate Still said: 'National Lottery players can be proud to know the money they raise is making such a difference, connecting people to others in their communities.'

POLICE FILES

The driver's side of a red Peugeot car was damaged when it was struck by a black Mercedes van which failed to stop and report the collision on the Moss Road, Campbeltown, at about 2.45pm on Monday May 17.

Police are appealing for witnesses or anyone with information on the above or any incident to phone 101 or anonymously call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Pressure on newly-elected MSPs to accelerate A83 Rest and Be Thankful solution

A South Kintyre councillor determined to find a timely solution to a landslide-prone section of the A83 at the Rest and Be Thankful has written to Argyll's nine MSPs.

Argyll First councillor Donald Kelly is calling on members of the Scottish Parliament to put pressure on the govern-

ment to find a permanent solution to the problems. Councillor Kelly said: 'Argyll First has campaigned relentlessly for a permanent solution to be implemented at the Rest and Be Thankful, submitting two petitions to the Scottish Government which led to the formation of the A83 task force and finally getting the government to

agree to implementing a permanent solution. Like many others, we are disappointed and frustrated with the much-mooted timescales associated with the proposed solution. We continue to put pressure on the government to accelerate the work and have written to the nine MSPs who now represent us to do likewise.'



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Out of this world satellite challenge at Machrihanish

More than £70,000 of public sector funding will help to promote Machrihanish as a launch point in Scotland's emerging space sector.

Argyll and Bute Council and Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) have each awarded £36,985 to a joint venture between Machrihanish Airbase Community Company (MACC) and UK Launch Services Limited (UKLSL) for the Mach-21 CanSat competition and Space Careers Conference.

Eleven university teams from across the UK are expected to attend the event, from July 14-16.

Teams will be challenged to design and build simulations of satellites the size of soft drinks cans.

Known as 'CanSats', these will be launched up to an altitude of 500 metres from

Machrihanish Airbase Business Park using low-altitude rockets provided by Raptor Aerospace.

The launch will put components, materials and processes to the test and be judged by an expert panel.

Students will also get an insight into working in the UK space industry through career talks and workshops.

Involvement from the community is encouraged, with an opportunity for school workshops and the chance for people to attend the event, subject to Covid and safety restrictions.

There will be the chance to speak to industry representatives and meet those involved in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) further and higher education.

The funding will help to set up a base capable of low



A Raptor Aerospace Kestrel-100LD rocket was successfully launched at MACC last year.

altitude rocket launch at a launch point on the Scottish mainland. It will be the first step in es-

ablishing the former military base as a spaceport, specialising in payload launches via suborbital, small-scale rockets.

Mach-21 will pave the way for more student launch opportunities at Machrihanish Airbase, creating connections between the site and UK universities.

The event is expected to lead to student-designed rocket launches in 2022, where they can build and launch their own small sounding rockets up to an altitude of 10 kilometres, in addition to CanSats.

Councillor Robin Currie, leader of Argyll and Bute Council, said: 'Once again, MACC is raising the profile of the area with a cutting-edge, innovative project.'

'The competition will bring the brightest minds to the area and this, I hope, will inspire some of our young people to

reach for the stars with their career plans.

'This competition is a great way of showcasing South Kintyre to exactly the businesses we want to see here.'

Morag Goodfellow, HIE area manager for Argyll and the Islands, said: 'The space sector is one of emerging growth for the UK and a great opportunity for the Highlands and Islands. Making the most of this requires fresh thinking and innovation through engagement with the next generation of experts. That's what this event is all about.'

'It will give students a great practical insight into the industry and hopefully inspire many of them to pursue STEM careers. It will also raise the profile of Kintyre within the industry as an excellent location for future space-related activity.'



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BUILT IN

Blowing the whistle for patients and staff

Former police officer Albert Donald, NHS Highland Whistleblowing Champion, offers some thoughts on his role in the wake of the bullying scandal within the organisation uncovered by the 2019 Sturrock Report.

On April 1 this year, the Independent National Whistleblowing Officer service, covering the whole of NHS Scotland, went live to help ensure people know they can raise issues and that they will be listened to.

This unified management process, applied to all health boards across the country, is the latest step taken by the NHS to improve employee culture which is, of course, directly linked to patient care.

It is vital everyone involved with delivering services for NHS Scotland feels confident to speak up if there are con-



Albert Donald, whistleblowing champion.

cerns that public interests are not being best served, for example, when it comes to patient safety.

The new standards apply to anyone involved in delivery of an NHS service, including employees, volunteers, contractors, students and partners.

The national programme has replaced local whistleblowing

policies meaning consistent practices and standards are applied across every health board. This includes Argyll and Bute, which is served by NHS Highland, a health board that covers a large and varied geographical area.

To ensure the public's best interest remains a top priority reports will go to the board every quarter with a breakdown of concerns. This means any emerging trends or common themes are identified at an early stage, concerns are raised, action is taken to rectify the situation and what is learned is acknowledged, shared and, where required, put into practice.

As part of the implementation of the national standards, NHS Highland has unveiled its 'Speak Up, Listen Up' campaign to raise colleague awareness of whistleblowing and

other ways of raising concerns throughout the Highlands and across Argyll and Bute.

It is about encouraging people who work for or with NHS Highland in service delivery to share their concerns, ensuring they are listened to, and that any issues raised are dealt with effectively.

This campaign is also part of ongoing efforts by NHS Highland to address cultural issues around bullying and harassment that were highlighted more than two years ago in an independent review by John Sturrock QC.

Since then NHS Highland has been working with colleagues, former staff, whistle-blowers, the Scottish Government and other stakeholders to improve matters for staff and members of the public.

I am proud to have taken on the independent and impartial

role of whistleblowing champion for NHS Highland and NHS Grampian.

Following my 38 years as a police officer in the north-east of Scotland, I became the independent chairman of three different adult protection committees.

In February 2020, I was appointed to the board of NHS Highland and NHS Grampian as a non-executive director.

The whistleblowing champion role is a new board position designed to ensure national standards are being followed by the organisation.

Everyone involved with NHS Scotland must recognise the importance of whistleblowing for patient care. I am committed to playing my part in this process and urge all those working for NHS Highland in Argyll and Bute to do the same.

Groups urged to apply for Co-op funding

With just a couple of days until the deadline, the Co-op supermarket is urging community groups to apply for a share of its Local Community Fund.

As communities continue to live through the Covid-19 pandemic, the supermarket is inviting grassroots projects in Campbeltown that support access to food, help improve mental wellbeing or provide opportunities for young people to apply for the next round of funding.

Applications close on Sunday May 30. Visit coop.co.uk/causes for more information.

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Young photographers' images in spotlight

Captivating images by some of Kintyre's most promising young photographers are on display at Campbeltown Picture House.

All submissions to The Rotary Club of Campbeltown's Young Photographer of the Year wild nature-themed competition are featured in the exhibition.

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Recognising volunteers who support communities

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



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

Amazing volunteer-led work over the past year, including the creation of Kintyre Community Resilience Group in the early days of the first lockdown, helped so many people during a time of need.

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

The award ceremony will be held virtually in June and there is limited time left to nominate someone deserving of recognition for their volunteer work. Nomination forms are available on Argyll and Bute TSI's website at www.argylltsi.org.uk but they must be submitted by midday today (Friday May 28).

Takki Sulaiman, chief executive of Argyll and Bute TSI, said: 'The volunteer response to support our communities was both informal and formal. We all recognised the potential risks to physical and mental health of people left alone to fend for themselves, cut-off as we were from friends and family.'

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

'On top of this, there were a myriad of unrecorded acts of support, humanity and kindness carried out by charities, community groups and informal networks,' he said. 'It has shown us that whilst public services can and must deliver vital core services – and they should be properly funded – we can only build resilient and sustainable communities if we all lend a hand.'

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

Before the pandemic, according to figures collated by Volunteer Scotland, 25 per cent of people in Argyll and Bute volunteered formally through an organisation or a group. In 2018-19 they provided a staggering 2.7 million hours of help, worth more than £35 million to the local economy.

'Argyll and Bute TSI is working hard to see how this volunteering model can be extended and supported so that we avoid volunteer fatigue,' said Mr Sulaiman. 'Our awards are one small way of saying thank you but it has to be backed up by support so watch this space over the coming year.'

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COVID-19

Meeting up again? You're safest outdoors.

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Smashing opportunity

It is amazing the opportunities that can arise from a simple Tweet.

When Dalintober Primary School additional support needs assistant Mairi Campbell tagged Judy Murray in a Tweet about the school's tennis work, she probably did not expect the coaching ace to offer to come and visit the pupils. The aim of Judy's foundation is to improve access to tennis opportunities across Scotland, taking the sport to rural and disadvantaged areas.

We are lucky here in Kintyre to have a brilliant tennis club, with some fantastic, experienced coaches, and inspirational schools which promote the sport, but we are remote, meaning visits from people like Judy are not always easy to arrange.

A coaching session with the mother of two of the country's best tennis players could be enough to encourage Dalintober's young sports fans to stick in and hone their skills. A simple Tweet could lead to the creation of the future stars of Scottish tennis – let's keep an eye out for Campbeltown names appearing on the scoreboards at Wimbledon!

Clarity over candidate dialogue with voter

On May 7, you printed a letter from Ian Mitchell in which he claimed he did not receive any reply to an email he had sent me asking questions about Liberal Democrat policies.

I replied to Mr Mitchell three hours and 35 minutes after receiving his email. Mr Mitchell acknowledged receipt of these answers.

Alan Reid, Lib Dem candidate at May 2021 election.

Shocked and alarmed by school league table article

I was alarmed and saddened by the headline 'Failing' school is 'betraying' pupils and the community' in last week's Courier.

Coming from a retired Campbeltown Grammar School (CGS) teacher, it is hard to believe that someone who has worked in the profession could have such criticism for his/her fellow colleagues.

Although clearly passionate about the future of CGS, perhaps retirement has helped this individual forget what a challenging job all school staff face. It is commonly known CGS has not had its troubles to seek in recent years

with major staff shortages due to ill health and other unforeseen circumstances. The league tables do not make good reading but, on their own, I don't think they reflect the efforts of the staff. It is a well known fact you can take a horse to water but you cannot make it drink.

Is the behaviour of pupils the greatest barrier to success?

Despite the efforts of teachers to discipline the pupils, there are few deterrents for the offenders, especially where the pupil is aware that, if they ask, the parent will fight their corner instead of backing the school.

The responsibility of teaching our children to behave and respect others needs to be instilled from early years by us all and not just when the child reaches CGS. Maybe the retired teacher should offer his/her skills and visit CGS and see the problems all staff are facing?

It is time for the community to pull together and support our school and encourage our children to believe that a good education is very achievable in CGS.

Happy parent of CGS pupils.

Issues with ageing ferry fleet can't be left on backburner

Recently, an investigation by the Herald newspaper uncovered that 'just over half of

Scotland's lifeline ferry network is operating outwith its working life expectancy', with 16 vessels out of 31 in operation over 25 years old.

Despite the huge challenges created by the Covid-19 pandemic that our hard-working ferry crews have to deal with, residents rightly expect a high quality ferry service that runs on time and has enough space to ensure they can travel to and from the islands, businesses can transport goods to the mainland and tourists can visit our islands to boost the economy.

Unfortunately, cancellations and delays continue to plague routes.

I have been working closely with residents, community councils and other parties to find long-term solutions.

This pressing matter simply can't be left on the backburner.

Councillor Alastair Redman, Kintyre and the Islands.

National Lottery Awards are open for entries

The 2021 National Lottery Awards are open for entries.

Once again, the annual search for the UK's favourite National Lottery-funded people and projects will recognise those individuals and organisations who have made an extraordinary

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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Friday 28th May - Thursday 3rd June

Nomadland (12A)

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Raya & The Last Dragon (PG)

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Sunday 2.30pm & Monday 3.30pm

Godzilla Vs Kong (12A)

Saturday & Sunday 5.30pm
Monday 4.00pm

Peter Rabbit 2: The Runaway (U)

Friday & Sunday 4.30pm
Saturday 1.00pm

RELAXED SCREENINGS

Saturday 3.15pm & Monday 2.00pm

Tom & Jerry: The Movie (PG)

Monday 1.30pm

Local Hero (PG)

Sunday 2.00pm

Alien (15)

Friday 7.00pm

www.campbeltownpicturehouse.co.uk

impact in their community – especially during these unprecedented times. National Lottery players raise £30 million every week for good causes and we know this money is being used in amazing and inspiring ways.

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

Encompassing all areas of National Lottery funding, you nominate local legends and hometown heroes in the following categories: culture, arts and film, community/charity, heritage and sport.

In addition, there will be a young hero award for someone under the age of 18.

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

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

Nominations can be made by completing an entry form at www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/awards.

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

Entries must be received by midnight on Monday June 7.

Jonathan Tuchner, National Lottery Awards.

YOURSTORY

Share with us@campbeltowncourier.co.uk
telephone 01586 554646

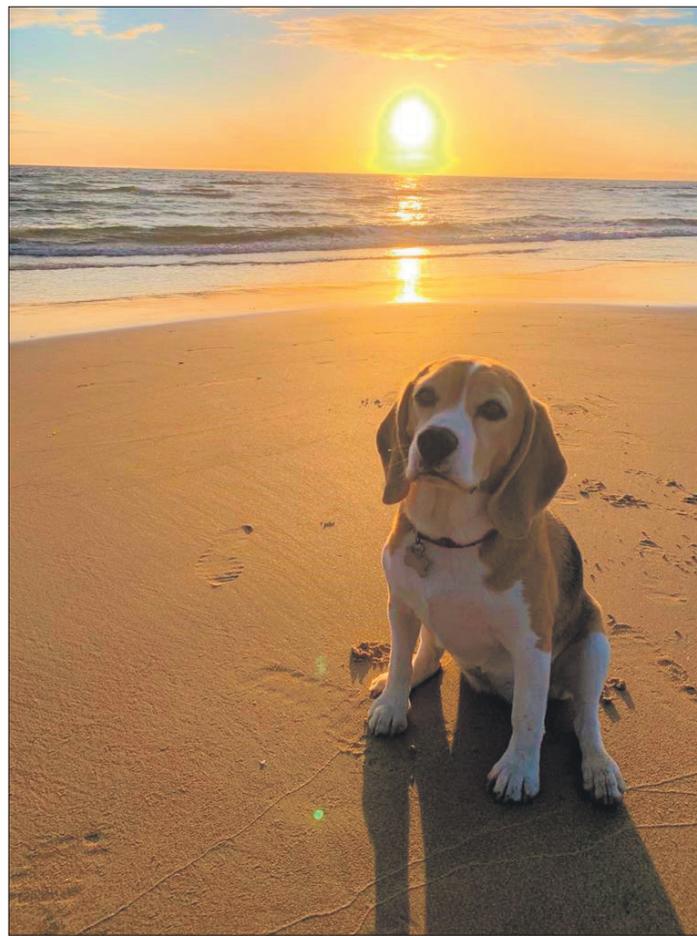
PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK

This week's photograph shows Jura the beagle sitting on Westport beach as the sun sets not far from her namesake island.

Submitted by Jonathon McCreadie from Bridge of Weir, Renfrewshire, the image was taken during a recent trip to visit family and friends in Campbeltown.

Jonathon said: 'We have missed the Kintyre beaches so much during lockdown. Jura loves coming to Campbeltown. She even has her own Instagram account – @jurathebeagle – which details her action-packed adventures sniffing and exploring the beautiful scenes of Kintyre.'

Please email editor@campbeltowncourier.co.uk if you have a photograph you would like to share.



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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.

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

Advertorial

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

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

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

Case study

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

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



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

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

Impartial advice and support just a free call away

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

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

out if you qualify for support.

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

"Our specialists can also give you impartial advice about which improvements would suit your home best."

Loan offers are valid for a year. Loans are administered by Energy Saving Trust and successful loans are subject to an administrative fee of 1.5%, up to a maximum of £150. Energy Saving Trust is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. All loans are subject to availability and terms and conditions apply.

Interested? Give us a call on 0808 808 2282 or visit homeenergyscotland.org for more information.

MAKE YOUR WINTER FEEL LIKE SUMMER

Have you heard about the Scottish Government's Warmer Homes Scotland scheme?

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

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



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Scottish Government

TEN YEARS AGO**Friday May 27 2011****Take over of Skykon factory**

The worry and waiting for staff at the stricken Skykon plant are over.

On Friday, Wind Towers Limited, a joint venture between Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) and Marsh Wind Technology, confirmed it has bought the Machrihanish factory from administrators Ernst & Young, after being granted preferred bidder status for the sale in March.

Wind Towers Limited is back at work now working on maintenance, cleaning and preparing for production to start up again at the end of June.

'It's a day a lot of us never thought we'd see,' said a welder from the factory. 'There have been a lot of worried people in this town.'

The new general manager is Michael Nielsen. He said: 'I am the only person moving here from Denmark. It is important people here take responsibility for the work here and it is important we respect each other.'

'We have a lot to do regarding production and how it's going to look in the future. We have a huge job in front of us.'

He added the firm was already 'in dialogue' with leading players in the market to add to the order book.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO**Friday May 24 1996****Navy men in Wee Toon clash**

Three Royal Navy men were taken to hospital on

FROM OUR FILES

Saturday night following a clash with local men near the junction of Old Quay Street and Shore Street. Police are not revealing how many men were involved but it is understood four Royal Navy personnel were involved in the incident which happened at about 11.30pm.

Two of the navy men were detained in hospital until they could be transferred to their ship, HMS Sandown, which was tied up at Campbeltown's Old Quay.

The third sailor was dealt with by the accident and emergency department at Campbeltown Hospital. One man has been reported to the procurator fiscal for assault.

Detective Sergeant Alistair Barnett said police inquiries were continuing and witnesses were still being sought.

'It is known the street was busy at the time and anyone who witnessed this disturbance is requested to come forwards and contact us.'

FIFTY YEARS AGO**Thursday May 27 1971****Belle comes out on top**

Southend's Belle Robertson won her third Scottish golfing title in six years and said immediately afterwards she would make a bid for the British title, one which has always eluded her.

In the final at Royal Dornoch, Belle defeated the Gullane internationalist Marjory Ferguson by 3 and 2. Earlier in the week, Belle set up a course record of 73.

Both finalists are in the Scottish team to play



In 1996: Cath Black and Catriona Hood braved showers to help publicise the Lorne and Lowland Church Mayfest last weekend – and raised £130 into the bargain.

in the European championships at Granton, Yorkshire, from June 30 to July 3.

To the Emerald Isle – for clams

Two local fishing boats, the Stella Maris (CN165), skippered by Mr Denis Meenan, and the Wellspring (FR406) by Mr David Paterson, on Tuesday evening set off for Ireland where they were trying their luck at clam dredging.

The vessels met with limited success at the clams in this area.

Most of the boats in the Campbeltown fishing fleet are presently 'on the beach' for annual refit and painting operations.

One boat, the Mary McLean (CN193), is look-

ing rather smart after having been re-varnished and fitted with a new wheelhouse, built by the local firm of Buchanan and Gillespie. The Mary McLean is skippered by Mr Duncan McArthur.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO**Saturday May 28 1921****'Fair Day' entertainment**

South Kintyre Sports Council made a promising start to their Fair Day programme last Wednesday.

The weather, fortunately, was perfect and this contributed in no small degree to the pleasure of their outdoor plans.

The Christian Institute Rooms were thrown open, as a club, for all country workers who were made welcome by the committee.

Teas were served in the lower room and, from about 12 o'clock, the centre of attraction changed to the show field, where the challenge football match, between teams representing the northern and southern area, took place.

The XI for the northern side was made up of five players from Drumlemble Sports Club, three from Peninver and three from Kilkenzie. That of the other side was composed of seven players from Achencorvie Sports' Club and four from Southend. The success of this fixture and the keen interest taken in it will be seen from the fact that more than 400 spectators paid to witness it. At first, perhaps, the players were somewhat over anxious, but after a little they settled down and gave a display which, considering the time and opportunity they have had for practise, surprised and pleased the spectators.

Some slips were made on either side and, after a very good game, the southern combination ran out winners, by the odd goal.

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Yes. If you are struggling to download the app or you do not have a smartphone please don't hesitate to call our Pingo helpdesk. They are happy to help with downloading the app or even booking your journey for you. You can contact them on **0141 370 9262**.

For more information visit westcoastmotors.co.uk. You can also join our community Facebook group "Pingo for Dunoon, Cowal and Campbeltown".



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Café... Literary genius Grassie Gibbon...

Look out... little explorers about

Young explorers from Rhunahaorine Primary School have embarked on a quest to discover the history of Kintyre's lookout towers.

The Courier has received letters from the school's pupils appealing for help in finding out about a wartime watchtower near their school, and others like it across Kintyre, as they participate in the John Muir Award initiative.

This is an environmental award scheme with three different levels – explorer, conservator and the one in which Rhunahaorine's pupils are taking part, discovery.

The children have to explore and discover an area and select a spot to undertake conservation activities before sharing their experiences. This is a big commitment for the school, requiring 25 hours of 'on site' work.

After finding out about Scottish-born American naturalist John Muir, his love for nature and his environmental work, the children mapped along their nearest beach and undertook a beach clean.

Nearby, the pupils discovered a trig point and a lookout or watchtower.

They are interested in finding out more about Kintyre's lookout towers and are appealing to Courier readers with any information or stories to send them letters to Rhunahaorine Primary School, Tayinloan, Tarbert, PA29 6XG.

Some of the children are also interested in the rocks on the beach beside the lookout tower at Rhunahaorine.

They collected various examples and took turns smashing them in the hope of finding

geodes – crystals or other mineral matter – inside. They discovered lots of interesting patterns but no real geodes. This is perhaps a lifelong project for some.

Other pupils are interested in the shells and crabs on the beach. Crabs' 'body parts' are often collected and it is deemed a good find if a moveable claw or leg can be worked.

During one visit, the youngsters searched for shark egg cases and, after what seemed



Lochlen Gibbs walking like an explorer with a stick he found on the beach – the school's own John Muir.

to be a fruitless hunt, more than 30 were found in one morning when their eyes became accustomed to what they were searching for. Their findings were submitted to the Shark Trust.

Head teacher Catriona Brown told the Courier she was 'very impressed' with the children's enthusiasm and commitment throughout the project so far.

Mrs Brown hopes to be able to share in the near future if any of the children achieve the award.



DOWN MEMORY LANE

Sponsored by Campbeltown Heritage Centre



The pupils enjoy exploring the beach near their school.



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HOPE

The children are keen to find out more about Kintyre's watchtowers.



Whitehouse hosts outdoor plant share and picnic

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

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

More than 50 green-fingered people from Lochgilphead to Campbeltown met again safely

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

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

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

House plants on offer included money plants, geraniums and begonias.

For many people, even

though they didn't bring a picnic, it was a chance to meet up with friends and neighbours they hadn't seen for months and meet new people.

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

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

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



Clockwise from above: Green-fingered folk from Lochgilphead to Campbeltown met again: Gardeners gathered to swap plants; plants will hopefully grow for the third grow and show event; there were fruit, vegetables and plants.



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Lochaber
Lochgilphead & Dalriada
Campbeltown & Kintyre
The Islands
The Isle of Arran



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**THE ARRAN
BANNER**

YOUR staycation

STARTS HERE!

We all know what a strain Covid-19 has put on our lives over the last year or so but thankfully there IS light at the end of the tunnel and things ARE getting better.

You may want to go off and find sunshine abroad, but you have the most spectacular scenery, restaurants, hotels and activities on your doorstep and the businesses that have struggled so much through all of this will really appreciate your custom.

We have put together some inspirational ideas to help you plan your holiday in Argyll, the west highlands and islands. There are bound to be things you haven't experienced yet, even if you have lived in the west of Scotland all your life. Embrace the opportunity to go and discover the magic – you'll wonder what kept you!



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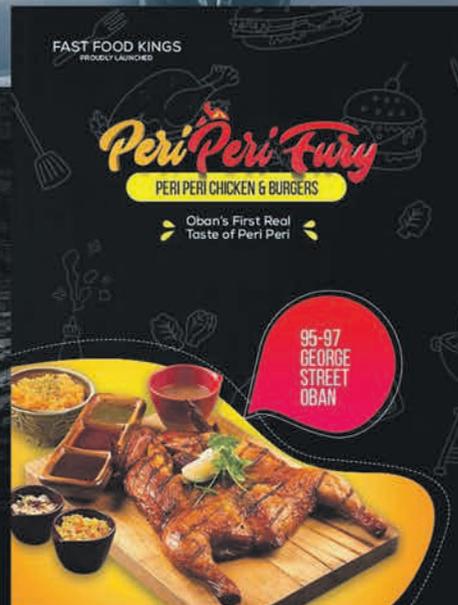
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Oban

By land, sea and air all routes lead to Oban – and so do most West Highland holidays.

A branch of the West Highland Line and the A85 cross-country trunk road to Perth end here and Oban is home to most of the Caledonian MacBrayne Hebridean ferry routes; West Coast Motors has a coach and bus hub here and the latest addition is the Oban and the Isles Airport and its Hebridean Airways services.

Even if you are not planning a holiday here then chances are you will be paying a visit on the way to your destination, but remember, it makes perfect sense to base yourself close to Oban if you are planning a touring holiday.

Here at the Oban Times what

makes us so proud of the town is that anyone can come here and can have their perfect holiday, short or long; you would be surprised at how many people come for a day trip.

Fish and chips or a burger? Oban doesn't have any of the fast food chains and there is serious competition in the town to be the best.

Or fine dining, and the freshest and best seafood from award-winning hotels and restaurants – they don't call Oban the seafood capital of Scotland for nothing. If you don't want to eat in, enjoy one of the seafood shops.

Likewise you can find everything from back-packing hostels to Victorian mansions turned into tranquil, luxuriously-appointed hotels listed

amongst Europe's finest. In between there is every kind of B&B and independent hotel to suit your budget and style. Pubs and bars serve local food, beers and a fine array of whiskies – as you would expect from a town with such a famous distillery.

Stunning scenery on the doorstep, otters gambolling on the foreshore and seals people-watching from the harbour are all set against the bustle of a busy, friendly and thriving town with a great shopping mix of national chains and privately-owned stores.

The old Oban Times building is host to a museum and the historic McCaig's Tower (never call it a folly) watches over the town.

Join in the fun when we can have festivals and events again; there is always plenty of live music and we have our own

community-owned cinema. Or you can sit and watch the world go by as the ferries, lighthouse vessels, fishing and fish farm boats come and go along with the yachts on the pontoons. Oban also supplies spectacular sunsets over the bay, at no extra charge.



Discover our Islands

Our family island discovery tickets are the perfect way to make the most of your staycation this year! Available only from the West Coast Motors app, our summer tickets offer 24hr unlimited travel and to top it all off,

KIDS GO FREE!*

*up to 3 children up to the age of 15 can travel free with 2 adults

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Be a part of this year's SCOTTISH FIELD WHISKY AWARDS

Book your spot at our 21st Whisky Awards ceremony to find out the top drams of the year.

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- A Scottish Field Whisky Awards Magazine and whisky miniatures.
- The chance to sample 2021's winning whiskies at tasting stations (with the winning whiskies ranging in price from £40 to £700).

29 October 2021
6pm arrival - 11pm close
Dress code: Smart casual

Ticket prices

INDIVIDUAL TICKET £80 + VAT TABLE OF 10 £750 + VAT

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*You must be 18 or over to attend the event.
For more information contact jboyle@scottishfield.co.uk

Now more than ever, shop local is important, see how your vouchers help!

People thinking of buying a present for a family member, friend or loved one are being asked to buy a Love Oban Gift Voucher.

With Father's Day coming up and year-round celebrations from retirements to birthdays and now weddings, more than 80 businesses in Oban now accept the vouchers.

As well as being a help to those unsure what to buy someone, the highly successful initiative helps keep money in Oban and spent with local independents, said BID4Oban chief executive Andy Spence.

Buying a Love Oban voucher ensures the money spent stays within the local economy to support businesses, jobs and local people, he said.

The initiative has proved popular with local people who want to see the town succeed and also people from outside the area.

They have purchased the vouchers online on behalf of those planning breaks in Oban or who are moving to the town to take up employment, said Andy.

He said: 'When you spend local that £1 then regenerates and goes into supporting someone at another local business and is spent in the town.'

'Not just local but every single business is important in Oban as it provides employ-

ment for local people and they also spend in the town.'

Andy said supporting Oban at this time is vital as retailers recover from the pandemic.

The process of buying the vouchers took just a couple of minutes and each comes with a handy guide to where they can be spent.

Andy added: 'We have a lot of new local businesses opening in the town and given what we have just been through, it's clear the town is extremely vibrant and people have got the confidence in Oban to invest.'

'We are a destination town and a key hub.'

As well as buying them directly from the BID4Oban office in Stevenson Street, you can purchase vouchers from the following businesses.

The Sports Shop Oban, Argyll Square; Websters of Oban Photographic Centre, George Street; Oban Phoenix Cinema, George Street; Alba Artshop, Albany Street; Button Nose Boutique, Airds Crescent, and Etive Restaurant, Stevenson Street.

Alternatively, you can go online to the BID4Oban website and purchase them in denominations of £10, £20 and £50, but in as high a value as necessary. Visit www.bid4oban.co.uk/overview-love-oban



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Oban & Lorn

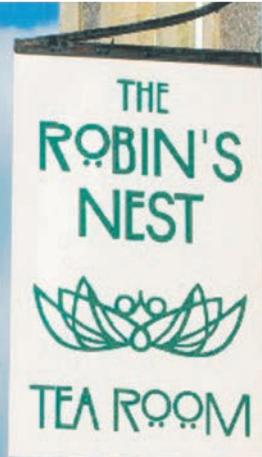
Lorn is not just the name of an area of north Argyll; it is the name of an ancient province of Scotland.

With the Firth of Lorne and the Lynn of Lorn National Scenic Area this is one of the most beautiful, remote and scarcely populated areas of the UK – just what you need to get back to nature and recharge your batteries.

Historically Lorn covered an area from Glencoe and Rannoch Moor, going inland to Loch Awe and sweeping down to the coast to cover lots of small islands.

Right at the heart is Loch Etive the long, narrow seawater loch which stretches 18 miles inland and meets the sea at the spectacular Falls of Lora.

But do not mistake all this open space for emptiness – there are bustling villages and great hotels, restaurants, shops and places to go and things to do.

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Along with Lochs Awe and Etive some of Scotland's most iconic images are here; Ben Cruachan, Kilchurn Castle, St Conan's Kirk and the Bridge over the Atlantic.

The area is enjoying a tourism renaissance – many of its old hotels and inns have been renovated and seen massive investment in the last few years and they are ready and waiting to be discovered.

Every village has a tearoom and café or two, with some serious home baking on offer, and there are all kinds of ventures promoting local produce from smokehouses to crofters' signs at the side of the road, selling eggs. Trust us, if all you ever eat is supermarket eggs, you have to go home with a dozen eggs.

Today's drive for clean, green electricity started here – make sure you visit the Cruachan power station, the massive hydro electric scheme built into the hollowed out mountain in the aftermath of the Second World War.

Then there is the angling – sea, fresh water lochs and rivers; this is serious fly-fishing territory with boat trips, fishing beats and fly fishing tutors. Land a salmon in the River Awe or Orchy or a massive skate at sea.

It was the spectacular scenery, angling and a fledgling sport called mountaineering that brought the first Victorian tourists here. They would approve of everything else on offer here today, from kayaking and sailing to mountain biking and off roading – you can bet they'd love all the modern kit instead of their hob-nailed boots and oilskins.



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'The Deck' restaurant has reopened with its new summer menu from 6pm until 9pm, all non-residents welcome!

We are also welcoming membership for our leisure facilities, these memberships come with discounts on Spa Treatments, Food and Beverage, and 10 guest passes per year;

Single Membership	Joint Membership	Family Membership	Joining fee
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Non leisure members are also welcome.

For more information and booking, please call 01631 720371, or visit www.eriska-hotel.co.uk

Lochaber

The Outdoor Capital of the UK is perfectly positioned on the doorstep of Argyll where you can begin your Highland adventure. Would you like to find out some more about our stunning, magical and vast beauty that is home to blockbuster landscapes, silver sand beaches and the tallest peak in the United Kingdom? I'm glad we've captured your attention...



Lochaber is nestled in the Scottish Highlands and will welcome you with our vast skies, eye-filling landscapes, wild beauty, scrumptious food and a Highland welcome that will warm you.

The Outdoor Capital of the UK offers you a vast range of activities, locations and wild landscapes that allow you to tailor your adventure and trip to your needs, your interests, allowing you to connect to

your very own Highland adventure bringing you mountains, waterfalls and those top 'Instagram-ready' viewpoints at almost every turn.

You have access to some of Scotland's most beautiful out-

doors with a reputation for offering unique experiences and memories of a lifetime. With a host of highly experienced mountain guides, activity providers and instructors you will be in safe and capable

hands during your activity. Looking for something a little calmer?

We have a great spread of walks, cycle routes (oh, and plenty of bike hire) and land-marked paths providing you

with the opportunity to relax, soak in the atmosphere and enjoy The Outdoor Capital of the UK at your own pace.

You'll be sure to find a friendly face at the end of your journey. See you soon!



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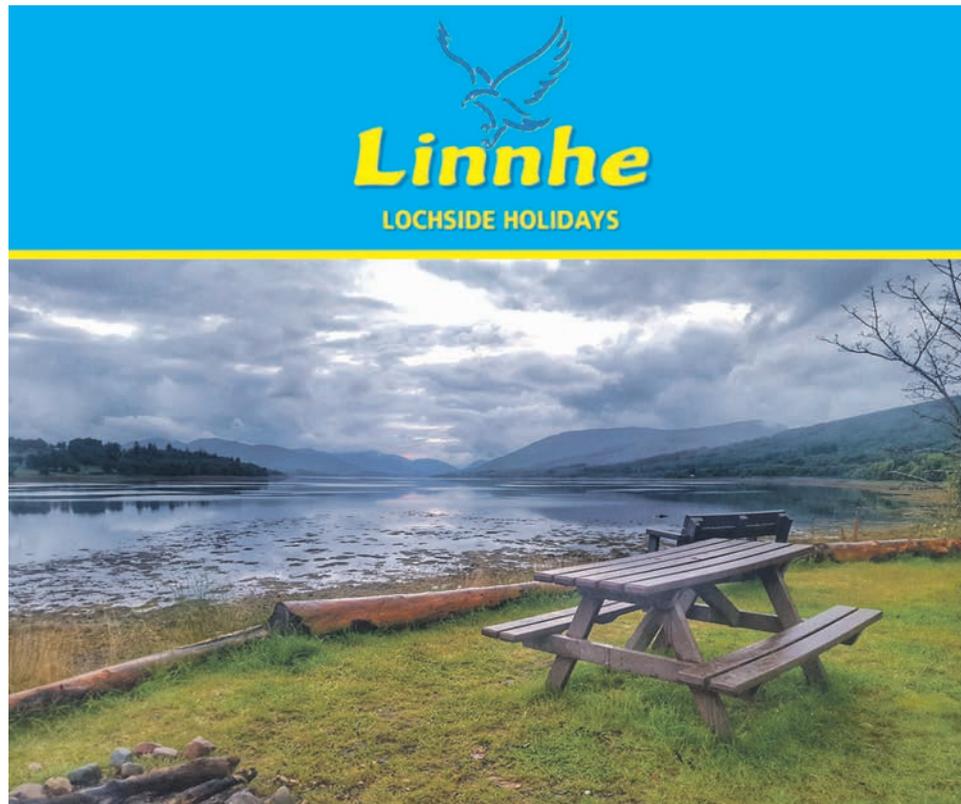
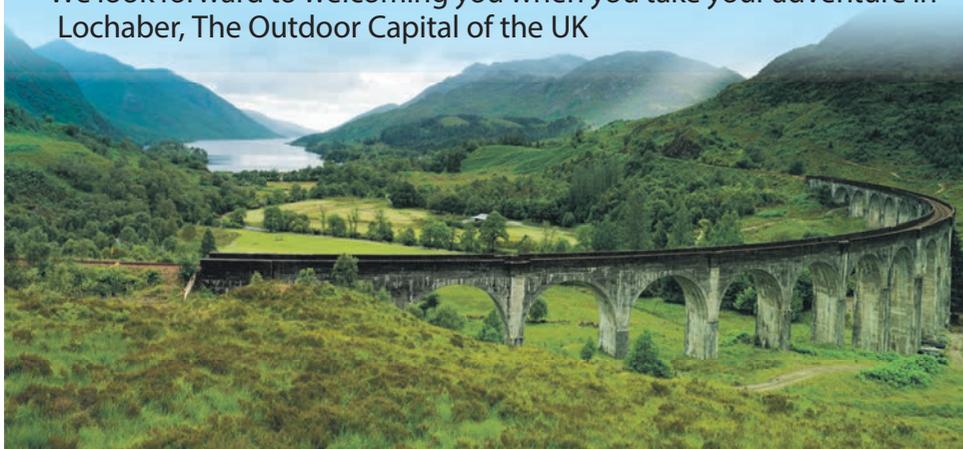
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- Walk historic paths and soak in the scenery that was once the backdrop of major battles, movies and moments in time through Ardnamurchan Peninsula, Fort William and Glen Nevis
- Want to embrace your wild side? How about swimming an open-water loch or bathing in a river with your friends at Craig Falls, Spean Bridge
- Walk through silver sand and swim in stunning blue and the crystal-clear waters of the Arisaig coastline
- We look forward to welcoming you when you take your adventure in Lochaber, The Outdoor Capital of the UK



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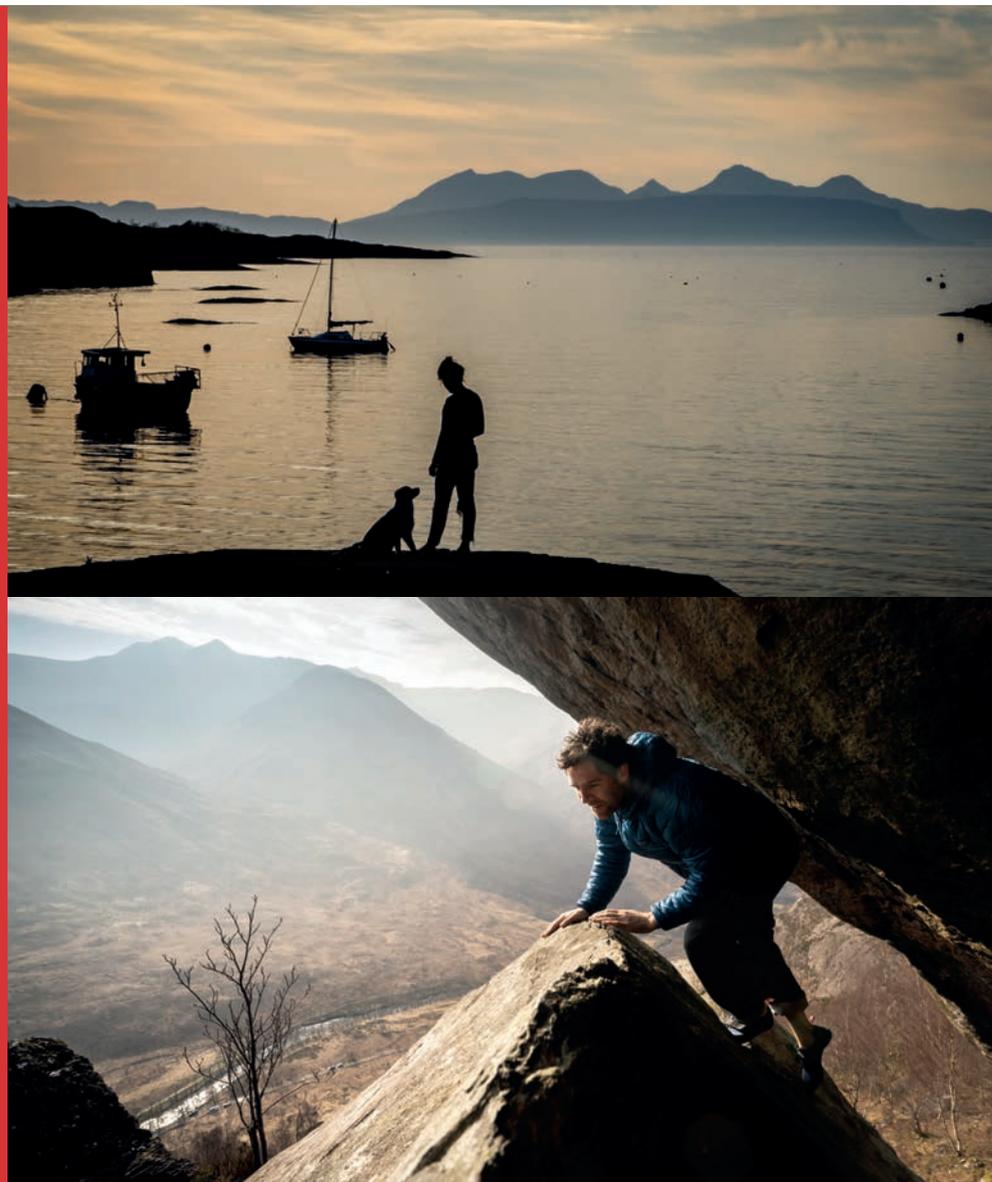
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Explore Argyll with Heathery Heights

Heathery Heights offers bespoke guided walks and outdoor skills courses for individuals, small groups, and families seeking adventure and solace in the beauty of our natural landscapes.

We love sharing experiences that allow you the freedom to explore and unwind. Discover rocky coasts carved by time, wild sandy beaches, ancient woodlands and the ruins of our ancestors. Explore rugged mountains, tranquil lochs and glens or be guided to a

wonderful spot for a fabulous west coast sunset. You can hire your own personal guide whether you want to find peace in nature by the sea, challenge yourself to a Scottish Peak, or enjoy a walking holiday in beautiful Argyll. Let us lead you to hidden gems and secret spots while keeping you safe and improving your outdoor confidence along the way!

We want to enable you to get out there, fall in love with nature AND feel fabulous!" – Heather

Meet your experienced guide!

Heather is an experienced Mountain Leader with a passion for the outdoors. Her formative years in Scotland revolved around exploration: scrambling up hills, sailing round the Hebrides, survival expeditions at age 12 (eating boiled guillemot and limpets – this was the 70s).

That passion has taken her across the globe; experiences range from self-supported backpacks across Scotland, to long distance treks in Asia, the Andes, and Himalayas. Having led UK-wide challenges from the North of England,

Heather recently returned to Scotland, where she delights in sharing the landscape and heathery hills of Argyll that she has enjoyed since childhood.

Heather's wide knowledge base, including Mountain Rescue, DofE and Outdoor First Aid, equips her well to lead bespoke trips for small groups, families and individuals of all experience levels. Heather loves to share adventures that allow you the freedom to discover, explore and unwind in our wonderful outdoors.

LOCHGILPHEAD AND DALRIADA

You can sit at home and watch documentaries about ancient history and nature or you can come here to see and live them for yourself.

Lochgilphead is the modern capital of Argyll and Bute, displacing the older seat of power at Inveraray but the town and its surrounds can boast a much, much older claim.

Dunadd, an imposing crag just outside the town was used as an Iron Age hill fort and then as the stronghold of Dál Riata an ancient kingdom which straddled the North Channel with lands in Northern Ireland and Argyll.

Lochgilphead and its surrounding area is incredible, with the ancient standing

stones at Kilmartin spreading out across the landscape.

Then you have the Mòine Mhòr, the Great Moss in Gaelic, alongside. This is a national reserve, protecting one of Scotland's oldest landscapes and a haven of wildlife.

Instead of the dawn of time, how about the dawn of the industrial revolution with the Crinan Canal – a feat of civil engineering saving time and the difficult journey around the Mull of Kintyre and now known as Britain's most beautiful shortcut.

Scottish Canals is investing and reinventing the canal at Ardrishaig, with a new community hub, the Egg Shed, and where you can see a scaled

down copy of the famous Kelpies of Falkirk.

The western entrance at Crinan is a gem with breath-taking views over to Jura, or you could take a wee detour down into Knapdale.

This whole area is a landscape you can lose yourself in. Yes you can have history, both human and natural, and geology lessons here but you cut loose and just enjoy being in such an incredible outdoor space and cycle, ride, walk, run, hike, sail, kayak and swim to your heart's content.

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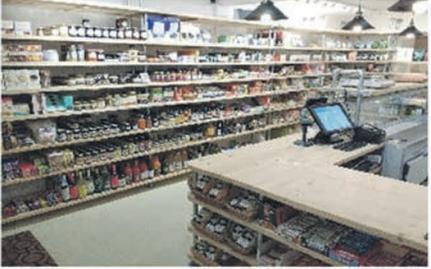


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CAMPBELTOWN & KINTYRE

What's not to love about a town that is a Scottish whisky region in itself? The Wee Toon is the only individual town to have such an honour.

Campbeltown made whisky – with more than 30 distilleries at the height of its fame – and whisky made Campbeltown.

This, along with the now vanished coalmines and the heyday of the fishing industry, made for a very wealthy town.

The entrepreneurs ploughed their cash back into the burgh, building impressive homes, tenements, hotels and civil buildings. It became a little bit of one-upmanship; each trying to out-do the other by hiring a more famous architect.



BEHIND EVERY CHAMPION THERE'S AN INCREDIBLE TEAM.



for the facts drinkaware.co.uk



Today we can thank them for leaving us a fascinating built heritage. Did you know that pro-rata Campbeltown has a higher number of listed buildings than Bath or London?

Campbeltown still makes whisky, but today it goes for quality not quantity. Whisky lovers the world over make sure that a visit to Scotland includes a trip to Campbeltown.

The original A listed library is still home to the town's museum, which houses an eclectic collection, and the building also used for civil wedding ceremonies with use of the Linda McCartney memorial garden in its grounds.

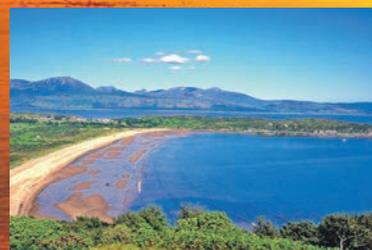
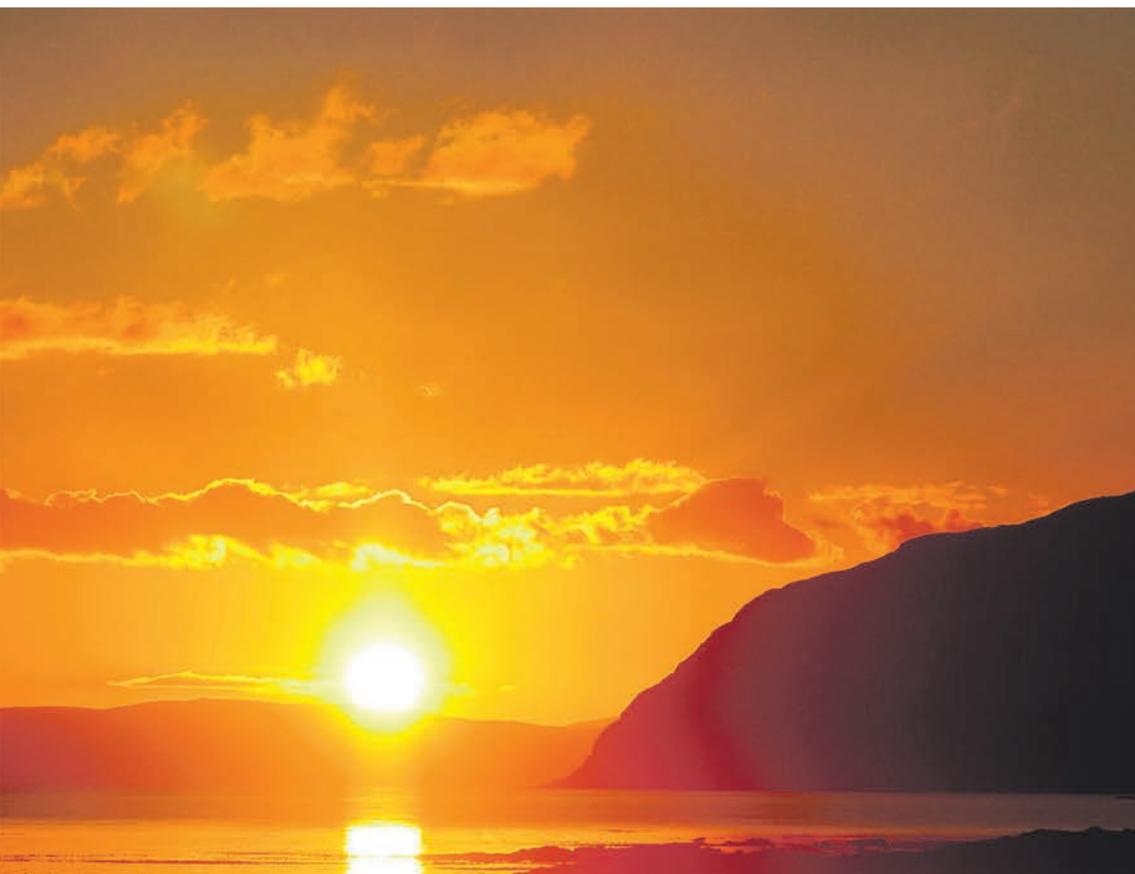
One of the oldest cinemas in the world has been renovated into a two-screen complex and will soon be opening and thriving again in the post-pandemic era.

The centre of town is packed full of independent shops to browse and cafes and eateries to enjoy; with recent investment in renovations has a fresh look and a great buzz about the place.

Campbeltown Bay is an incredible natural harbour and in the season has ferry links to Arran and the Ayrshire coast with a vehicle ferry and the increasingly popular passenger fast rib service to Northern Ireland.

The harbour and its new pontoons are a great place to visit; watch the yachts and ferries come and go, visit the lifeboat station, see the fishing boats bring in their catches and the massive cargo ships load up with timber or check to see which Royal Navy ships or Fishery Protection Vessels are paying a visit.

Or check the tides and walk across the Dhorlin, the natural causeway to Davaar Island to visit the historic cave painting of the Crucifixion – remember: check the tide table.



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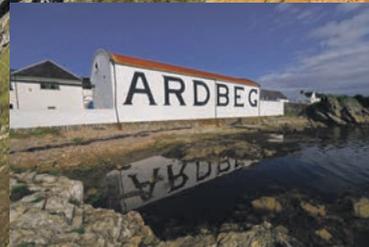
THE ISLANDS

Fancy an island holiday? Well, we have got plenty to offer and so have the islands.

There are 23 inhabited islands in the council region of Argyll and Bute, the 2011 census said. Can you name them all? *

(Big hint: everyone forgets that little one on Loch Lomond).

Each one of them offers its own blend of bustling villages, great beaches, stunning scenery, wildlife on land and sea, and clear night skies. You just have to find the island mix that suits you best.



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Golf, whisky and migrating seabirds? Head for Islay. Mull for sea eagles, marine wildlife, the bustle of Tobermory and an excellent selection of shops and eateries; Coll and Colonsay for dark skies, Tiree for the wind-surfing and water sports, Jura for deer and whisky; Iona for the abbey and its spiritual landscape, Gigha and Lismore for their incredible micro-climates and gardens, and all the wee islands in between for great days out or longer stays.

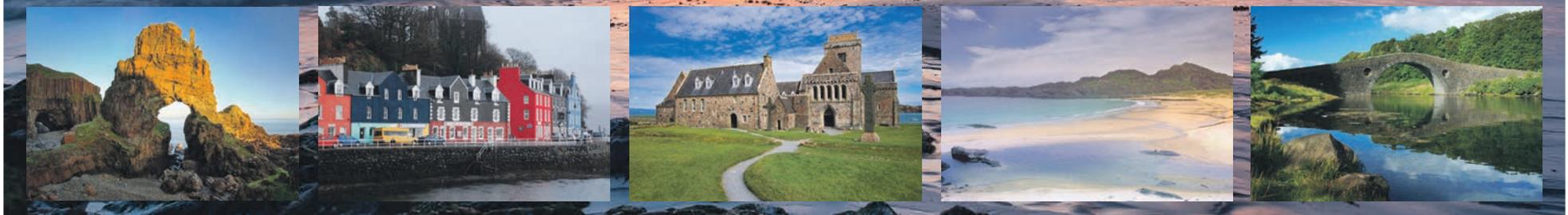
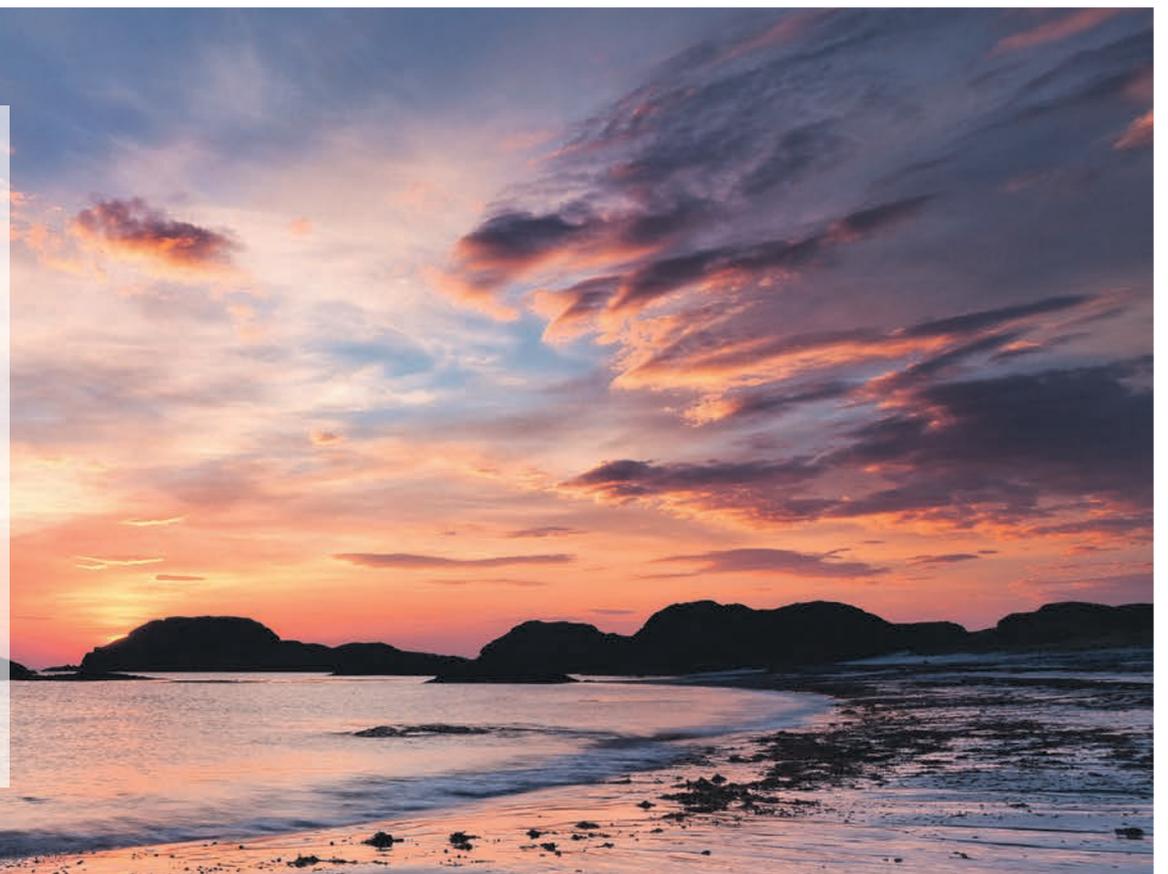
Don't think that it is all tranquil all the time; some of these islands are parties waiting to happen. The craic is phenomenal at festivals and with live music in bars and hotels as and when conditions allow. For one weekend on Mull you could be forgiven for thinking you have walked into an episode of Top Gear when the island's motorsport rally takes place.

Unless you fly – and we have a great number of airports – you will be using a ferry. This could be Caledonian MacBrayne on boats large and small or one of the passenger-only or car ferries run by Argyll and Bute Council or private operators.

The crossing is part of the fun and makes your holiday feel all the more special – you leave all the worries behind on the mainland.

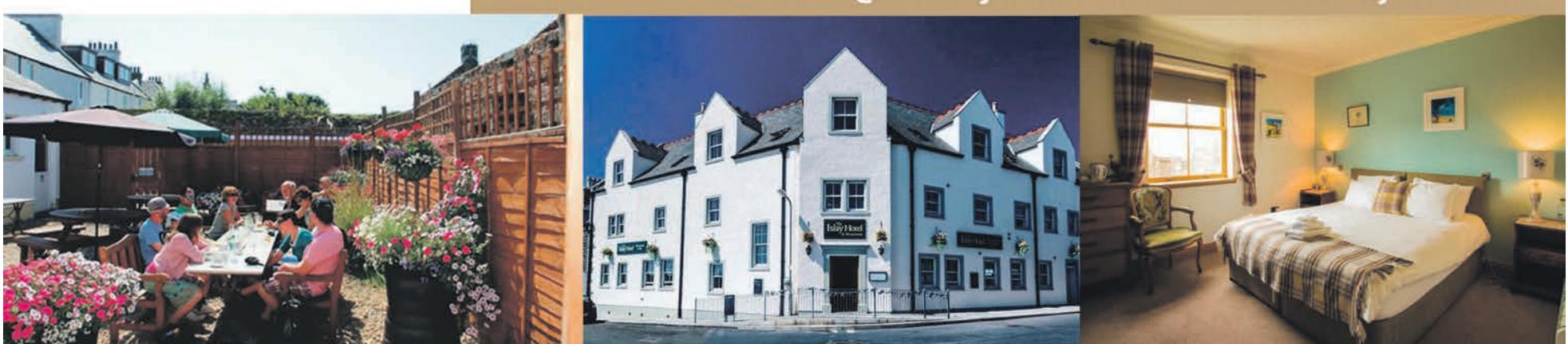
And never forget that a ferry is not just for islands – it can be the quickest route between peninsulas.

*Bute, Coll, Colonsay, Danna, Easdale, Eilean da Mheinn, Erraid, Gigha, Gometra, Inchtavannach, Innischanon, Iona, Islay, Jura, Kerrera, Lismore, Luìng, Mull, Oronsay, Seil, Shuna, Tiree and Ulva. (Remember some of the smaller islands are private).



The Islay Hotel offers luxury accommodation with 13 bespoke bedrooms, many with lovely sea views. Come and enjoy freshly prepared local produce in our Restaurant, Bar or outside seating area. Open to non-residents for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner with Tea/Coffee and home baking served throughout the day. Live Music in our award winning whisky bar.

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THE ISLE OF ARRAN

Arran, known as 'Scotland in Miniature' is one big breathtaking experience. It is a superb holiday destination for the whole family with its many beaches, castles and castle ruins, Goatfell Mountain, golf courses (seven of them!), play parks, a whisky distillery, brewery, miles of walking and cycling trails, watersports, horseriding...the list is endless. When it comes to beaches there are very many, but among the top three (in our opinion) is Blackwaterfoot Beach on the west coast of the island. A short walk from the small car park next to the Kinloch Hotel will take you past the golf course onto a beautiful expanse of golden sand to wander along and play in.

Tel: 01770 302113

Arran Active  facebook.com/arranactive
 Email: info@arranactive.co.uk
www.arranactive.co.uk

More than just an Outdoor Shop

Arran Active is the west coast's largest independent outdoor shop. Situated in Brodick, we specialise in outdoor gear, with a wide range of footwear & clothing for all ages and budgets, as well as camping gear, accessories and swimwear. New for 2021 - O'Neill Wetsuits.

But there is much more besides outdoor gear, including fashion clothing and footwear, organic cottonwear, Arran whisky & gin and Arran-branded merchandise. Arran Active staff always offer a friendly and expert service!



Open throughout the year, 7 days a week
 Shore Road, Brodick, Isle of Arran. KA27 8AJ



Arran Active

Arran Active, the West Coast's largest independent retailer, is looking forward to a busy season, where the emphasis will be on being outdoors. As ever, they have clothing, footwear and accessories to suit whatever conditions the Arran weather throws at us, and new for this year is a "Summer Shop" with wetsuits, aqua shoes, rash vests, bodyboards, sunhats, flip flops, etc. As last summer, camping looks like being very popular again and Arran Active have an extensive range of tents, camping furniture and accessories and new for this year is O'Neill wetsuits. Andrew and his team look forward to welcoming you back and, as ever, they will do all they can to ensure a happy and safe shopping experience.



Another hidden gem is Kilmory Beach accessed by a small parth at Kilmory. Head down the farm track at Torrlinn, or via 'Lovers Lane' to find this lovely spot. Everyone is doing what they can to ensure a safe and warm welcome. Covid-19 has thrown up a myriad challenges for businesses on Arran this year – but they continue to work hard to ensure that they stick to the government guidelines for the safety of their staff, locals and visitors. Whatever you choose to do on your doorstep this summer, breathe in the air and smile, because you are on Arran.



Isle of Arran Distillers Ltd

Isle of Arran Distillers Ltd is delighted that its Lochranza and Lagg Visitor Centres have reopened, with both of the Visitor Centre shops and takeaway cafes open. Both Lochranza and Lagg Distilleries have indoor sit down café facilities and daily tastings available. These must be booked in advance as both will be following all Scottish Government guidance on Covid safety measures and restricted numbers.

You can book for Lochranza by contacting bookings@arranwhisky.com or calling 01770 830264 and for Lagg on bookings@laggwhisky.com or 01770 870565.



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ARRAN TOP 10!



Brodict Castle

Home to formal gardens, woodlands and waterfalls as well as an adventure playground, this baronial castle is packed with treasures and offers spectacular views over Brodict Bay and beyond.



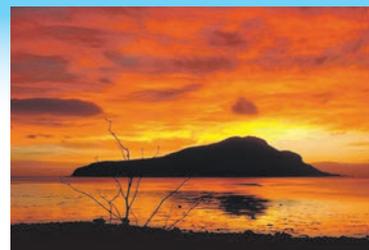
Goat Fell

Arran's highest mountain is a highlight of the dramatic landscape that has led to Arran's title of Scotland in Miniature. The island's highest point, at 2866ft, it provides panoramic views of the island and out to sea.



Lamlash

The island's attractive main settlement hugs its eastern shore and is well equipped with a supermarket and leisure facilities which include a golf club, yacht club, bowling club, and a seaside playground.



Holy Island

Travel from Arran to this place of pilgrimage which has a spiritual heritage stretching back to the 6th century. Enjoy the tranquillity and spot wild goats and Eriskay ponies at the nature reserve. holysisle.org



Arran Coastal Way

This long-distance walking trail is an ideal way to experience the highlights of Arran's landscape on foot. The 65-mile circular path is mostly off road and covers landscape from beach, to moors and mountains. Coastalway.co.uk



Red squirrels

Arran has become one of 19 national strongholds for this iconic species, which was introduced to the island (which has no competing greys) a few years ago. Look out for them in conifer woodland and around Brodict Castle.



Follow in the king's footsteps

King's Cave, nestled in sandstone cliffs on Arran's west coast, is said to be where King Robert the Bruce was famously inspired by the determination of a spider. At Kingscross Point on Whiting Bay, the king reportedly began the final push of his campaign.



Glen Sannox Memorial

A memorial in front of Hamilton Terrace in Glen Sannox marks the date in 1829 when 86 local crofters were forced to leave for Canada, because of the Highland Clearances.



Machrie Moor Stone Circles

This collection of six standing stones date back to neolithic times. The moor also features historic standing stones, burial cairns and cists.



Taste

Arran Brewery is a micro-brewery on the island's east coast which offers tours and tastings. The island also boasts a reputation for artisan produce, especially cheese, oatcakes and ice cream. Taste of Arran in Brodict is a showcase for local producers.

NATIONAL TRUST for SCOTLAND

Brodict Castle, Gardens and Country Park are excited to welcome you back to visit

The Gardens, Country Park and Playpark are open from 10-5pm daily, the Castle itself is open Saturday to Tuesday 11-4pm (last entry 3.30pm)

Brodict Castle

Brodict Castle, Gardens and Country Park are excited to welcome you to visit. There is plenty to see and enjoy at the property. Explore the gardens and grounds, the colours from the extensive collection of Rhododendrons are very impressive at the moment. Take in a tour of the Castle to see the wide selection of art on display and discover how the Hamilton family lived. Or simply enjoy a visit to our Isle be Wild adventure play park. The woodland café is also open, offering a selection of takeaway food.

The Gardens, Country Park and Playpark are open from 10-5pm daily, the Castle itself is open Saturday to Tuesday 11-4pm (last entry 3.30pm).



THE STAYCATION BUCKET LIST ✓

Take time to enjoy:

- a flight into or out of one of our airports
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- buy half-a-dozen fresh eggs from a farm or croft
- get butter dripping off your fingers and chin eating seafood at one of our famous 'shacks'
- buy from a village shop
- learn to appreciate good malt whisky by touring a distillery
- watch fishing boats land their catches
- buy fresh meat, fish, veg, cheese produced here

- see eagles and sea eagles!
- watch dolphins and whales
- sit still quietly and long enough to spot an otter
- go out into the night away from lights and watch the stars
- take home some tweed or tartan
- buy a woolly-pully

And if restrictions allow ...

- go to a ceilidh
- hear a pipe band
- visit a Highland games
- stroll around an agricultural show



SCOTTISH FIELD June



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SEE > BETTER PLACE

Kilchoman distillery's new warehouse plans approved

An Islay whisky distillery has been given permission by council chiefs to add to its storage space.

Kilchoman Distillery, at Bruichladdich, applied to Argyll and Bute Council to build a single bonded warehouse on land south-east of its premises.

Objections to the application claimed there was evidence of golden eagle activity nearby, with concern also for possible impacts on natural habitats.

But council planning officers gave it the thumbs up with a finding that there was 'little evidence' of the site being used by protected species.

A planning officer said: 'There were representations made regarding the welfare of the protected wildlife and the proposer has outlined mitigation in place or planned.'

'The area, being predominantly rush and grass, is generally not used by chough and corncrake.'

'However, there is a chough hut around 700 metres away from the proposed warehouse that is used by a pair of chough.'

'During recent work at the distillery the chough have continued to nest and breed.'

'The applicant has used information from the Royal Society for the Protection of

Birds (RSPB) studies to look at the neighbouring farm to target resources at improving the area's corncrake actual use.'

'They have engaged with the RSPB and are looking at planting that will support corncrake and are looking at erecting a minimum of 450 metres of fencing to keep stock out of their most important habitat.'

As a result of this, and with added conditions, it was felt this was sufficient to protect the endangered species.

The officer added: 'The proposal will augment the existing production and maturation facilities at Kilchoman



Distillery and the shed will be located close to the southerly and easterly hills which rise to over 100m. The warehouse

will be on the same elevation as the existing distillery but as far from the distillery as those buildings are from the

Kilchoman Distillery has been given permission by council chiefs to increase its storage space.

road. This connection to the distillery buildings cluster will assume an association, both operationally and visually, with other large buildings. It is therefore clear there is an operational need for the building to be at this location.

'Furthermore, this will retain the whisky production on the site and reduce any use of the public road providing an environmental and social benefit within the wider area.'

Virtual event puts Argyll on global travel trade map

A second virtual travel trade event has helped spread the word about Argyll as a destination on the global stage.

More than a dozen tourism businesses, operators and destination organisations from Argyll and the Isles, Helensburgh, Loch Lomond and Dunbartonshire attended the Scotland Reconnect 2021 event at the end of April.

Organised and run by VisitScotland, the three-day event was aimed at reconnecting with global tour operators and travel agents in international markets.

More than 7,000 pre-arranged business meetings took place between 390 buyers from 26 countries and almost 300 Scottish suppliers.

There were 12 regional

destination showcases about Scotland's landscape, history, food and drink, culture and warm welcome. Nearly 100 delegates participated in the Argyll and the Isles destination showcase, making it one of the best attended.

Scotland Reconnect 2021 followed the success of a similar pilot event in November, the first of its kind by the national

tourism organisation. It allows Scottish businesses to connect with buyers from around the globe digitally, helping the recovery of the country's tourism industry for the end of 2021 and into 2022.

Buyers from the USA, Canada, Germany, France, Italy, Spain, the Netherlands, Scandinavia, Australia and Brazil attended, as well as

London-based inbound operators representing the Japanese and Chinese markets.

David Adams McGilp, regional director at VisitScotland, said: 'This last 12 months has been devastating for tourism across the world but, hopefully, as travel restrictions ease, we can begin to plan some brilliant new programmes, products and

itineraries for our international operators.'

'I understand some fantastic and valuable new connections have been made during the many one-to-one Scotland Reconnect appointments and I hope our buyers were inspired and informed about our unique country through the regional destination showcases and panelist sessions.'

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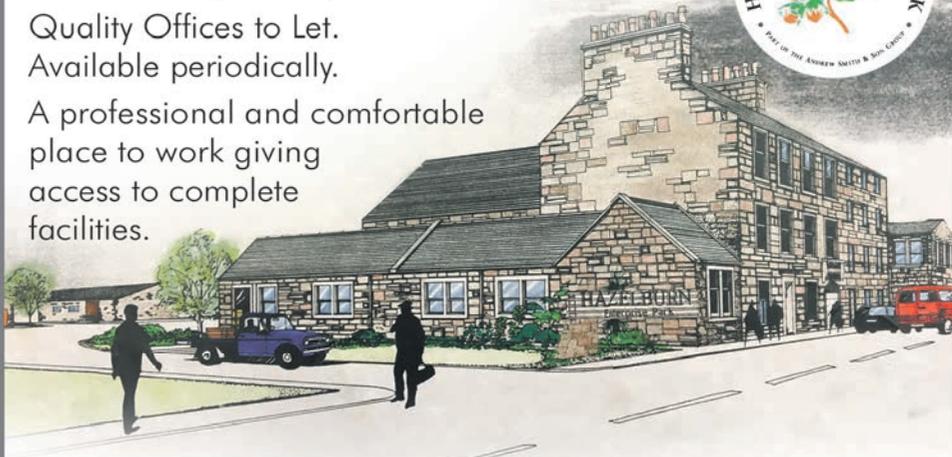
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WOMEN IN BUSINESS

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Lorraine MacFarlane

Owner



Lorraine MacFarlane has expanded her own business Fresh Connection and the business she shares with her sister, The Treehouse, into new and larger premises.

Fresh Connection, florists, was well established before Lorraine took over 16 years ago. Now in new premises on Main Street, Campbeltown, the range has been expanded to include not only flowers, plants and gifts but cards and a café.

The workforce includes two trainee florists alongside experienced staff.

Lorraine swapped office work for retail and never looked back. Becoming her own boss has enabled her to work around family life and avoid the stress of office life.

'My advice is to do a lot of market research and listen to your customers.'

'You have to look at core products, sold every day as well as seasonal. You also have to believe in what you are going to do and trying to achieve.' This sees her and team travelling to tradeshows, ordering well in advance.

Lorraine says remember to pay attention to the fine details and appearance.

'Image is important, it helps sell your business. Take pride in it and create a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. But be prepared to work hard and put in the hours.'

Treehouse, where sister Julie Eastaugh oversees finance, administration and the website while Lorraine handles the day-to-day work, has moved into larger premises also on Main Street and expanded its range of gifts and accessories.

“Image is important, it helps sell your business. Take pride in it and create a relaxed and friendly atmosphere.”

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Stefanie Griffiths

Consultant



Islay-based Stefanie Griffiths has extended her Slimming World consultancy to cover not only the island and neighbouring Jura but also Lochgilphead and Campbeltown.

Stefanie knows and trusts the franchise through and through; she successfully lost weight as a client herself and could see how effective it was.

'You provide advice and support to people to help them develop a healthy lifestyle. This is not one of those fad diets like some of the things out there. It is a proven method of helping people.

'I was a Slimming World member and lost weight and I decided to train as a consultant and from there formed by own group with my own members.'

Her consultancy has worked through the Covid lockdown via social media and she has now taken over the groups in Campbeltown and Lochgilphead. These meet on Monday morning and afternoon respectively. The Islay and Jura meetings are on Tuesdays at 5pm and 7pm.

Stefanie is no stranger to being self-employed; her parents were licensees of The Black Cat, one of Greenock's oldest pubs, and she took over the licence from them. Her father still helps to co-manage the establishment and her parents have always been great supporters of her work.

'Go for it, that's my advice,' said Stefanie. 'Remember that a lot of things you will only learn by experience. You can study the theory but won't truly learn until you have experienced it in real life.

'Just have the confidence in yourself. You can do it.'

"I was a Slimming World member and lost weight and I decided to train as a consultant and from there formed by own group with my own members."

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Take time to stop and smell the roses coming up in June

June is a lovely month to be in the garden.

With the evenings getting longer and brighter, you can use your garden or patio as an extension to your home and just sit back and relax.

It is at this time of year that lawns need to be mowed more frequently so here are some key pointers on getting that perfect cared-for look.

Mow at least once a week and raise the mower blades when it is very hot weather.

Don't mow when grass is wet or during a drought and don't collect your clippings during dry spells as this helps to conserve moisture.

Keep watering throughout the summer unless there is a water shortage and repair bare patches with turf or re-seeding.

This is also the month to ensure all your plants are adequately fed, particularly those



June is the perfect month for creating an instant rose garden that you can enjoy throughout the summer.

them together in a group. There is a rose for every garden situation.

From hybrid teas to miniatures, climbers to floribundas, the choice is endless.

Roses are easy to grow and will thrive in most soil types, providing there is good drainage.

They prefer a position that is sunny and not too exposed and need regular feeding which will improve their resistance to pests and disease, although some roses will require spraying to combat aphids and mildew.

Pruning is also important to remove dead heads and improve flowering over a longer period of time.

If you are replacing old roses with new ones, ensure the old soil is removed and replaced with fresh soil.

As the temperature rises and

Midsummer's Day arrives, here are few 'must do' jobs for the garden this month from the Royal Horticultural Society:

- Lawn mowing and management
- Plant out summer bedding plants
- Trim hedges
- Look after your tomato plants
- Pick first of the salad leaves and herbs
- Keep on top of weeding
- Ensure all plants are fed and watered
- Pest control
- Sow French and runner beans
- Feed local wildlife, particularly in dry weather

in baskets and tubs. Plants benefit from regular feeding as they are growing vigorously and need their nutrition levels to be kept up.

Slow-release granules are a good idea for pots and baskets

because they last for about six months and release food as it is required into the compost.

Not often thought of as a container plant, but an excellent option for small gardens, is a rose.

A simple solution for June is to create an instant rose garden that you can enjoy throughout the summer.

Buy a selection of different sized pots, plant them with a varieties of roses, then place

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Thought for the Week

'Which biblical character do you most relate to?'

This was one of the questions explored last Sunday at our Springbank Evangelical Church meeting in Campbeltown.

It was enlightening and interesting to listen to the variety of responses.

One member of the congregation admitted she had sympathy for the disciple Thomas and identified with his reaction to the news that, after three days, Jesus had risen from the tomb.

The Bible tells us Thomas said: 'Unless I see the scars of the nails in his hands and put my finger on those scars and my hand in his side, I will not believe.' (John chapter 20 verse 25)

A week later, when Jesus appeared to Thomas and showed him his wounds, He imparted a deep and significant lesson to us all as he uttered a short, challenging sentence: 'How happy are those who believe without seeing me.'

Poor Thomas. Did he feel embarrassed in front of his friends who did not share his doubts? Did he feel ashamed that his faith had not remained resolute or was he able to put those feelings aside and share the joy of the risen Lord?

We know Thomas responded with the words: 'My Lord and my God.'

More than 2,000 years later, we may feel embarrassed if our faith falters and doubts set in.

However, we should focus on the happiness of which Jesus speaks.

Have the strength and hope to echo the words of Thomas: 'My Lord and my God.'

Do not beat yourself up for doubting – have the strength to believe.

**Springbank Evangelical Church,
Campbeltown.**

ISLAY

Liquid gold lift for charity air ambulance funds

Two of the country's most respected names in the world of whisky hope to raise more than a dram in a joint fundraising venture for Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance (SCAA).

As the life-saving charity marks its eighth anniversary, master distiller Jim McEwan and whisky bottler Dramfool are planning a special birthday present with contributions from a series of special events.

Living on Islay, Jim knows first-hand the value of air ambulance support for island and outlying communities and had no hesitation in naming SCAA to receive funds raised as part of his swan-song at the end of a long and distinguished career.

Jim's story is being told as part of a film, *The Water of Life*, through drams with Dramfool's Jim McEwan Signature Collection single cask bottling and in print with Jim's biography, *A Journeyman's Journey*.

His expertise will also be shared through special tasting events and masterclasses.

A percentage of the proceeds from every aspect of the whisky legend's farewell programme will be donated to support SCAA's vital emergency response service.

'I've worked in Scotland's greatest industry all



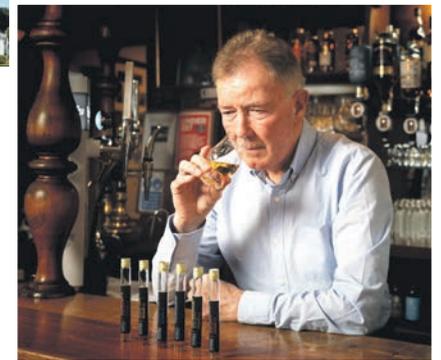
A percentage of the proceeds from whisky legend, below, Jim McEwan's farewell programme will be donated to SCAA.

my days and now, as I prepare to hand over to the next generation, it seemed appropriate to give something back to a charity that has proved a lifesaver to the people of Islay and other remote communities across Scotland,' said Jim.

'SCAA is funded solely from public donations and it's crucial we all try to help fund its life-saving flights.'

'Everyone enjoying reading my story, tasting my whisky or sharing my passion will be helping to keep these guys in the air. That's worth raising a glass to.'

Nick Harvey, director of fundraising and communications at SCAA, said: 'SCAA is a regular visitor to islands such as Islay and Jura to tend and airlift those seriously ill or injured.'



'We're extremely grateful to Jim and Dramfool for recognising the value of SCAA's service and for choosing us to benefit from what we're sure will be a hugely successful series of events. 'Our thanks to everyone concerned.'

Islay pupils narrowly miss out on Gaelic film award but praise for young learners' production

Talented Islay High School pupils narrowly missed out on winning a Gaelic film award.

The students were in the running for this year's FilmG Gaelic Learners Award after beating off stiff competition and being shortlisted for the final.

FilmG is an annual competition organised by Gaelic media service MG ALBA, which celebrates Gaelic screen talent and attracts hundreds of applications each year.

Islay pupils entered two short films, one for learners and one for fluent Gaelic speakers. This provided learners with the opportunity to see new words and phrases and gave fluent speakers the chance to use Gaelic outside the classroom.

It was the young learners who really caught the judges' attention though, with their production *Èirich*.

Èirich tells the story of a social media trend that transports people into a dangerous new world, with some students caught in an infinite loop and others caught by the 'person in the shadows'.

Councillor Robin Currie, leader of Argyll and Bute Council, said: 'Every year this competition attracts a huge number of high quality entries from learners across Scotland and it is an honour our young people made it to the final.'

'These talented filmmakers from Islay High School have created two exceptional produc-

tions and I'm very, very proud of them. Gaelic has played an important role in the history of Argyll and Bute for many, many years and we're committed to continuing to promote the language and its culture to our communities.'

'Gaelic education is offered in more than 24 of our primary schools and five secondary schools.'

'There has been an increase in interest in Gaelic Medium Education, which will have a positive impact on future generations of Gaelic speakers.'

'Competitions such as FilmG definitely play a part in this.'

To watch *Èirich*, visit <http://filmg.co.uk/en/films/2232/>

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Action needed to stop lamb deaths

Urgent action is needed to stop lambs being killed by a growing population of white-tailed eagles.

Farmer Fiona Boa on Mull recently lost five lambs in a week to the raptors that she and others say have become 'far too densely populated' and are damaging their livelihoods.

'It's not just the dent to income, it's all the hours of extra work it causes to keep our stock safe. It's getting out of control now.'

White-tailed eagles were reintroduced 40 years ago on Rum but have made their way to Mull and further afield. They are also one of the island's big tourist attractions.

But Fiona, who farms at Dervaig, added: 'Even many of those for whom tourism

is their main income would agreed that Mull now has too many of them. When they were first introduced, there must've been a plan of what to do if it got too successful. I'd like to know what that plan was.'

David Colthart, chairman of the Argyll and Lochaber Sea Eagle stakeholder group, says 'it is not fully appreciated by the public the negative impact of the reintroduction of white-tailed eagles has had, adding 'in some hill flocks the level of killing by some of these birds is unsustainable'. 'As a farmer, like others, I have experienced first hand the devastating impact these birds can have on your flock and personally feel it is not acceptable that we as farmers and crofters are paying the price of a species reintro-



Farmers say the numbers of white-tailed eagles is getting out of control.

Photograph: David Colthart.

duction where the impacts weren't fully thought through,' he said.

NFU Scotland says more needs to be done to deliver a revised white-tailed eagle action plan being led by NatureScot.

The union has written to NatureScot voicing frustration that despite efforts to try out ways to deter predators, lambs are continuing to be lost with some farmers and crofters experiencing substantial impacts on their flocks.

An escalating range of licensable actions on birds which habitually target livestock now need to be 'a more accessible option', says NFU Scotland, with humanely killing problem birds as the last resort.

But Duncan Orr-Ewing, head of species and land management for the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Scotland, said the comments from NFUS were 'disappointing' as a new White-tailed Eagle Action Plan 2021-4, which NFUS was involved in,

is about to be published by NatureScot.

He said: 'This plan committed all partners to continuing to explore white-tailed eagle management options within the context of the evidence around livestock predation, licensing requirements and the need to protect the population of these wonderful birds - important in their own right but also for local economies through green tourism. The scheme also commits NatureScot to the continuation of public payment to agricultural producers - currently running at £300k per annum - through the Sea Eagle Management Scheme.

'While there is some localised evidence of livestock predation involving a relatively small number of white-tailed eagle

breeding pairs, serious agricultural damage is very hard to establish in practice and this subject is therefore not as clear cut as NFUS assert.'

NFUS president Martin Kennedy said members are frustrated by the lack of progress to date, particularly in relation to the management of the birds. 'We need urgent delivery and implementation of key actions,' he said.

A NatureScot spokesperson said: 'We understand the concerns of farmers and crofters, and continue to work closely with them and a range of stakeholders to offer management support through the Sea Eagle Management Scheme and to trial management techniques which can help reduce these negative impacts.'



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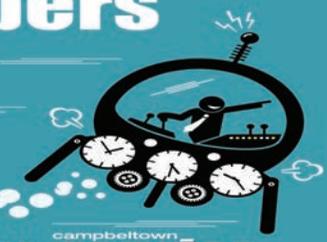


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NFU Mutual staff ready to greet clients at new office

Staff at Campbeltown's NFU Mutual agency have moved to a new office on the ground floor of Hazelburn Business Park.

Their new base occupies the former Hazelburn Distillery manager's offices and has been refurbished to make sure many of the interesting and unique original features have been retained.

The agency is open, following Covid-19 safety guidelines, and the team is looking forward to welcoming customers and NFU Scotland members to its new office.

Chris Hustwaite, agent at NFU Mutual Campbeltown, said: 'We are delighted to officially open our new office. We're already feeling at home having only moved down to the ground floor.'

'Our new office provides a dedicated meeting room,



NFU Mutual Campbeltown staff are settling into their new office.

private meeting space and a great open plan reception area making it easier for people to do business with us. We look forward to welcoming

our policyholders and NFU Scotland members to our new office, so please do drop in.'

For more information on NFU Mutual insurance servic-

es, contact the Campbeltown agency on 01586 552428, visit www.nfumutual.co.uk/campbeltown or pop into the new office.

Federation welcomes new appointment

The Scottish Crofting Federation (SCF) has welcomed the appointment of Mairi Gougeon, right, to her new role as Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands.

SCF chairman Donald MacKinnon said: 'We welcome Mairi Gougeon as Cabinet Secretary for Rural Affairs and Islands. We are sad to see Fergus Ewing go as a strong rapport builds up with time and he had a good feel for crofting, but we are confident Ms Gougeon has the experience and capacity to get to know crofting and our islands and to take them into consideration in forming policy. We need to see all policy 'croft-proofed' and 'island-proofed' before it is enacted.'

'There is much to be done. We have an immediate threat in the form of unbridled access to our markets for meat from Australia and possibly New Zealand. This would be catastrophic for crofting and hill production.'

'And what will our post-CAP agricultural support system



look like? There has been advisory group after advisory group commissioned to offer recommendations on direction of travel but we have yet to see a plan for where we are going with this. Time is running out.

'The SCF put many proposals to the parties before the Scottish Government election for what we would like to see the in-coming government commit to and they still stand.'

'High up with agricultural support comes the reform of crofting legislation and the National Development Plan for Crofting - both of which this government has pledged it will do in this term of office. It is essential we get on with these three things.'

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

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PUBLIC NOTICES

69%
of the business
community read
the regional press

ACCESS TO ARGYLL AND BUTE (A83) STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT - ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT

As per Section 16(2) of the Environmental Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Scottish Government is now consulting on the documents relating to the Access to Argyll and Bute (A83) Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). All documentation, including the Environmental Report, can be viewed at: <https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/strategic-environmental-assessment-a83-access-to-argyll-and-bute/>

Feedback on these documents can now be submitted by email to A83@jacobs.com, by phone on 07999 948736, or by mail to Transport Scotland, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow, G4 0HF. We ask that views be submitted by the close of the consultation period on 8 July 2021. If further information is required on the Environmental Report, please contact SEA_Gateway@gov.scot

Source: Business Choice 1, The Newspaper Society

Regional Press
closer to home

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
21/00759/PP	Erection of storage building and re-painting cladding, windows and doors	Site 11A, Kilmory Industrial Estate, Lochgilphead, Argyll And Bute, PA31 8RR
21/00868/PP	Public realm improvements to spaces associated with the two community halls and along the waterfront with associated tree planting, seating and cycle racks. Reorganising of the car park to free up space and create better links between waterfront and town. Relocation of the bus stop to create space for an improved and safer crossing point over the A83.	Public Realm Areas, Chalmers Street, Ardrishaig, 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



FUNDING ALERT for Residents of West Kintyre

BURSARIES - are you leaving school but going on to University, College or taking up an apprenticeship?

if so we may be able to help with a bursary of £1000 per annum.

and

NEW SMALL BUSINESS START-UP GRANTS
Are you setting up a new small business in West Kintyre? If so we may be able to help with a start-up grant.

For an application form see:

www.westkintyrecommunitycouncil.org
or contact: margaretpratt@btinternet.com

Closing date: 30th June 2021

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Peter McKerral & Co Ltd of Darloch Yard, Kilkenzie, Campbeltown PA28 6NT is applying to change an existing licence as follows: To add an operating centre to keep 2 goods vehicles and 15 trailers at: Craigs Farm, Glencaigs, Campbeltown PA28 6QB. Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

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RECRUITMENT



Project Worker – Housing
FTE Salary £27,300

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

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

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

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

BONNAR SAND & GRAVEL
Job Opportunities

Tipper Driver
Current Class 2 LGV Licence
Experience essential

Time Served HGV Mechanic
For routine repairs and maintenance of diesel HGVs and quarry plant & equipment

Weighbridge Supervisor
To manage traffic and materials in and out the quarry, To answer customer calls and support the Quarry Manager

Quarry & Plant Operator
A practical and hands on role, running the quarry plant and equipment

Applications in writing, email or by telephone to Bonnar Sand & Gravel Co Ltd, Clachan Quarry, Cairndow, PA26 8BH
E: info@bonnar.com - 01499 600268
or out of hours D Bonnar Snr on 07860 522906



We are looking to recruit for:-
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Email info@northargyllhouse.org




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DEATHS

BELL - Unexpectedly at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Paisley on May 5, 2021, Reverend Douglas William Bell, in his 94th year, of Cairnbaan Lea, Cairnbaan, By Lochgilphead. Retired Church of Scotland Minister previously of Alexandria North Parish Church, Balloch and locum at North Knapdale Church and former partner at Ramsay, Menzies and Wilson, Glasgow. Beloved and loving husband of Helen Strachan, dearly loved father of Rachel and Mark and much respected father-in-law of Iain. Adored Grandpa of Duncan, Findlay and Christopher. A dear

neighbour, great friend and mentor to many in the community. A private family funeral will take place from Tayvallich Church on May 31, 2021, thereafter to Carsaig Cemetery, Tayvallich. For those wishing to pay their respects, the funeral cortège will leave from Tayvallich Parish Church approximately 12.30/12.45pm on route to Carsaig Cemetery.

CRAWFORD - Ile Crawford (née Weir), peacefully at home, at Blarghour Farm, Lochaweside on May 24, 2021, aged 82 years. Beloved wife of the late Ernie, loving Mum to Catriona, Isobel and Elspeth, Granny to Finlay

and Innes and sister to the late Lexa MacCallum, Willie Weir and Mary Forgive. A graveside service will be held at Glenorchy Parish Church, Dalmally on Monday, May 31 (in line with Covid restrictions).

IN MEMORIAM

LIDLAW COFFIELD - May 30, 2000

Missed every day

- Martin and family

MCDUGALL - In loving memory of our beloved mother and granny,

Mary McDougall, who passed away May 27, 2010.

Always in our thoughts.

- Donald, Sandra, Joe, Jem, Katie and Alisdair.

CHURCH NOTICES

SPRINGBANK EVANGELICAL CHURCH



You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. —Jeremiah 29:13

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

on **Sunday, 30th May 2021 at 11am**

when Kelvin Moller from Clachan will be preaching.

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
01586 830504

www.kintyreprishes.org.uk

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SALVATION ARMY



Our meetings are **Sunday 30th May** Worship service 3pm

Covid 19 measures in place

If we can be of any assistance to anyone during this time please call us on 01586 552046

Major Ruth Russell
Scottish Charity Number SC009359

GLASSARY, KILMARTIN AND FORD PARISH CHURCH

Barr Mhor Kilmartin
Sunday 30th May 2021 11am

Rev Robert McLeod
All very welcome
Please remember to wear a mask.

CAMPBELTOWN FREE CHURCH

George Street, Campbeltown



Sunday 30th May 11.15am Worship Service
Ciaran Kelleher

11.15am Sunday School
7.30pm Youth Group (by Zoom)

Wednesday 2nd June 12.00 noon Prayer & Bible Study

Covid-19 guidelines apply
All welcome
www.campbeltownfreechurch.co.uk
Scottish Charity Number: SC046745

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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

CAMPBELTOWN COMMUNITY CHURCH



A warm welcome awaits you

in the Kirk Street Hall at 11:00 am
Pastor Mark Jasper 01586 554 092 pastor@campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
www.campbeltowncommunitychurch.co.uk
www.facebook.com/campbeltowncommunitychurch SC043322



NORTH KNAPDALE PARISH CHURCH

charity number SC001002

Although our buildings are closed

we are still active. Our website is full of information & links to keep you informed & provide opportunities for worship on-line
Please look it up & keep in touch
www.northknapdale.org

LORNE & LOWLAND PARISH CHURCH

Scottish Charity Number SC 11686

Sunday 30th May Morning Worship 11. 15am

Rev W Crossan
Covid 19 Guidelines apply

There will be a message on our Facebook page each Wednesday and Sunday

SKIPNESS LINKED WITH TARBERT LOCHFYNE AND KILBERRY CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 30th May

Tarbert - James MacLellan
Skipness - John L Morrison

There will be a weekly service at Skipness 10am and Tarbert 11.30am

Please wear a face covering and stay 2 metres apart for the services

Contact 01880 820158 for pastoral care

Charity number Tarbert SC002622 Skipness SC004280

WESTLOCHFYNESIDE CHURCHES

(Cumlodden, Inveraray and Lochgair)

Sunday 30th May 2021

There will be a service in Cumlodden Church at 10.00am

Sunday service will be led by Rev. Dorothy Wallace

There will be a service in Inveraray Church at 11.30am

Sunday service will be led by Rev. Dorothy Wallace

Masks must be worn when attending church.
Charity No: SC016665

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campbeltown@rcdai.org.uk

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Wednesdays, 10am (please book),

Live streamed only: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays, 10am

All liturgies are Live streamed: <https://www.facebook.com/campbeltownrcchurch>

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Winners toasted after close AmAm

Just two shots separated the top three places in Dunaverty Golf Club's annual AmAm.

Third place in the Glen Scotia Distillery-sponsored competition had to be decided on the last six holes.

Last Saturday's strong swirling winds did little to detract from the participants' enjoyment as 44 teams of four, comprising 55 ladies and 121 men, played a course superbly prepared by green-keepers Haydn Chambers and Campbell MacBrayne.

The scores were so close that six teams finished on 55, seven on 56 and six on 57.

Ross Sinclair's team led the field going out in 26 and back in 28 for a nett 54.

Immediately behind Ross, Jim Hunter's team covered the front nine in 29 strokes and the back nine in 26 for a 55 total.

These positions held until the afternoon when John Shaw and a trio of McCallums – Archie, Robert and John – upstaged them by carding 26 on the outward half and 27 on the inward to snatch the win by one stroke.

Many of the competitors praised the condition of the course and Ailie Goddard's team in the Tea Box, who

were kept busy catering for everyone.

In addition to the main prizes, each member of the winning team was presented with a bottle of Glen Scotia Victoriana whisky, while the second placed team members received a bottle of Glen Scotia single malt and the third placed team each received a pack of three Glen Scotia miniatures.

Result: 1 Archie McCallum, Robert McCallum, John MacCallum, John Shaw 53; 2 Ross Sinclair, Tom Campbell, Kenny Cameron, Roddy MacDonald 54; 3 Jim Hunter, Keith Cowan, Ryan McGlynn, Colin Penman 55 (better last six); 4 Darren Renton, Campbell Anderson, Steven Dott, Patrick Galbraith 55 (bih); 5 Steve Bleasby, J Brownie, Eddie White, Malcolm MacLean 55 (bih); 6 Kevan Gilchrist, Alan B Glendinning, Graham Gilchrist, Andrew Robertson 55 (bih).

The nearest the pin winners at the following holes won a Glen Scotia miniature and a tie clip: Nearest the first hole in two: Tommy Martin, 20 feet and five inches; Hole seven: Jamie Graham, 26 inches; Hole



The Dunaverty course was in superb condition for the competition.

Two shots separate top three places



Golfers faced strong swirling winds during the annual competition.

16: Donald Brown (St) 2.05 metres.

Two teams had the same lowest combined nett and gross scores at the 13th hole so the winning team was decided on a draw: Jim Hunter, Ryan McGlynn, Keith Cowan and Colin Penman with a nett 15.



Each member of the winning team was presented with a bottle of Glen Scotia Victoriana whisky.

Birdies land Macalister in Tarbert's top spot

Tarbert Golf Club's course was in immaculate condition for the second round of the President's Cup and first round of the John Reid Quich last weekend.

Iain Macalister was on top form on Saturday with four birdies in his round on his way to a 70 to take first place.

The in-form Bruce McLean was second on 73 and Bruce MacNab was third on 74 (bih).

In the John Reid Quich, Bruce McLean holds the first round lead on 60 nett, followed by Iain Macalister on 63 and Iain Johnstone senior on 64, while there were magic twos from Duncan Johnstone and Iain Macalister.

Braving the elements on Sunday, the ladies took part in the May Stableford with Rona Young scoring an impressive 41 points to take first place. Sheena Ferguson was next on 35 with Helen Samborek and Georgie Dickson on 31.

This weekend has medals for the ladies and gents, with the Harbour Gallery Gents' Open taking place the following Saturday, June 5. Bookings can be made via the SGU app.

The club's junior lessons continue to thrive with club captain Kenny MacFarlane delighted with the response. Anyone wishing to enrol should get in touch with Kenny.



The Campbeltown Courier: 95p



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