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Arran waves goodbye to the MV Pentalina

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



There is widespread disappointment and dismay on Arran at the 11th hour decision of Pentland Ferries to pull out of a deal to lease the MV Pentalina to CalMac.

There had been high hopes that the catamaran, seen undertaking sea trials in Brodick last month, would provide some much-needed extra capacity by taking on the Campbelltown route via Arran. Instead the island is left to struggle on with reduced capacity on the two summer ferries serving the island, which are heavily booked, causing problems for visitors trying to get to the island at the start of the school summer holidays and islanders trying to get to the mainland.

Everything was in place until a few days ago when Pentland Ferries dropped the bombshell that it would not charter the vessel to CalMac.

Arran's MSP Kenneth



Gibson explained: 'Until last Friday at 4pm everything was in place; heads of terms had been agreed, sea and berthing trials successfully completed and a timetable for operation established.'

'The about-face by Pentland Ferries came as a shock and I thank transport minister Graeme Dey and his staff for

spending last weekend pulling out all the stops to try and dissuade Pentland Ferries from this regrettable decision.'

Mr Gibson added: 'I know this news will come as a great disappointment to the people and communities of Arran after so much work had been undertaken by CalMac, CMAL and the Scottish Government

to bring the MV Pentalina into service on the Ardrossan to Brodick route.

'Other vessels are being looked at in order to provide the service Arran residents and visitors both need and deserve.'

It is thought likely a row last week, which saw the MV Pentalina fail a safety

The MV Pentalina leaves Arran after her sea trials and now seems unlikely to return. 01_B27pentalina.

inspection, carried out by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency at the request of the Scottish ferries union RMT, had a bearing on the decision.

Robbie Drummond, managing director at CalMac, said: 'We are surprised and disappointed by this unexpected news. However, this was entirely a decision for Pentland Ferries in relation to the use of its vessel. We will continue to work closely with Transport Scotland and Pentland Ferries and should it revisit that decision and make the vessel available to us at a future date, we would consider this option again.'

'Whilst disappointing, we were able to develop an understanding of where the vessel

Continued on page 2.

Rise in visitors sparks stick-to-rules plea

There have been at least three confirmed cases of Covid-19 on Arran in the last seven days.

As Scotland sees a big rise in cases, in what is being seen as the third wave of the pandemic, residents and visitors to the island are being asked to be extra careful as Arran has escaped the worst ravages of the pandemic.

However, with the number of holidaymakers set to increase with the start of the school holidays, everyone is being asked to fully adhere to the level two restrictions which are still in place on Arran.

The recent rise in cases saw the Arran Active store in Brodick voluntarily close for two days after a member of staff tested positive for Covid-19, resulting in two other staff members who were designated as close contacts being required to self-isolate.

A spokesman for the store said: 'A deep clean of the store has been carried out and our Covid secure measures remain in place for all our safety. We are incredibly proud of our staff for their desire to protect each other

Continued on page 3.

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Action group's dismay as ferry charter discussions collapse

Arran Ferry Action Group is greatly disappointed to learn that the proposed charter of the MV Pentalina has collapsed.

Arran had looked to benefit significantly from the proposed charter of the catamaran ferry after successful berthing trials at Brodick and Ardrossan earlier this month. The provisional plan was for Caledonian MacBrayne to deploy the vessel to add additional capacity to the Arran route in the busy summer season, and then to act as the relief vessel for Mull in the win-

ter. As residents and visitors well know, the main Arran ferry service is particularly congested in summer. The proposed two-year charter of the MV Pentalina would have added much-needed additional capacity, resilience and flexibility to the network until the first of the much-delayed new vessels enters service in late 2022.

While the MV Pentalina does have some significant operational compromises – primarily her lack of bow ramps, meaning that large vehicles have to reverse on

with a consequent increase in turnaround times – in the circumstances of an ageing and overstretched fleet that is becoming increasingly unreliable, the Arran Ferry Action Group enthusiastically welcomed the Scottish Government's decision to pursue a charter for her.

The group urges relevant parties from Transport Scotland, Caledonian MacBrayne and Pentland Ferries, to redouble efforts to find a practical solution to allow the vessel to be put into service as soon as possible.

Covid means m long-awaited M

by Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The new Arran ferry MV Glen Sannox has been hit by another three-month delay as a result of Covid-19 and shortages of skilled labour.

As a result she is unlikely to be in service before September 2022 and could go straight to Troon, where the main Arran service is being transferred while major harbour works are carried out at Ardrossan.

The news came in an update Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow) has published on the construction of two public sector ferries and progress made in the turnaround of the shipyard.

A programme report submitted to the Scottish parliament's transport committee details the impact that Covid-19 and shortages of skilled labour has had on delivery schedules and pandemic-related costs.

These factors have created a 15-week delay in the construction of both vessels.

As a result, MV Glen Sannox is scheduled to be delivered between July 2022 and September 2022 while Hull 802 is scheduled to be delivered between April 2023 and July 2023.

However, both vessels will then be required to undergo sea trials before being brought into service.

The Covid-19 pandemic caused six months of disruption in 2020 and productivity has continued to be impacted due to a further shutdown in



What a difference a year makes – photographs of the MV Glen Sannox in

January 2021 and the introduction of additional safety measures.

The timeline impact of ongoing disruption has been calculated as seven weeks, with additional costs of £1 million, which reflects the update given to parliament in March this year.

It brings the total Covid-19 costs to £4.3 million, which is treated as an exceptional item and does not affect the overall project budget. The overall project budget remains stable and unchanged at £110.3 million.

Recruitment challenges since late 2020 have caused a delay of eight weeks as the shortage of skilled labour meant that Ferguson's had to meet resource requirements by subcontracting smaller fabri-

cations to Scottish businesses – which has supported 25 jobs – and introducing overseas workers.

The report also outlines achievements and progress to date, including a major milestone in the build of MV Glen Sannox with the completion of structural work.

Progress is visible, with the installation of a reworked funnel and newly-constructed mast, as well as completion of the structure around the stern and inside the hull. Remedial work has been completed on hull paintwork and the first layers of protective paint have been applied to the aluminum superstructure. Completion of the structure makes way for outfitting of the vessel, which includes the installation of 10km of pipework and

Arran waves goodbye to MV P

Continued from page 1.

could be used and where there would be limitations as a result of the berthing trials and operational issues with the vessel's single-ended design.

'I thank islanders for their patience and support as we continue to search for suitable alternatives available for charter or purchase to enhance capacity and resilience within our network.'

The MV Pentalina had already carried out sea trials across the west coast and, while there were limitations, it was found the vessel could operate on the Ardrossan to Brodick, Oban-Craignure and

Ullapool-Stornoway routes. Pentland Ferries would have provided the vessel and the crew to deliver the timetable, with CalMac providing crew to support onboard retailing.

Managing director of Pentland Ferries Andrew Banks said the vessel was safe and suitable for service, but issues outwith its control were likely to arise over the lifespan of the contract to threaten commercial viability.

Mr Banks said: 'While we were very much looking forward to working with CalMac Ferries to help provide a solution to the challenges being faced by the island

communities on the west coast of Scotland, it has become clear that issues outwith our control are likely to arise over the lifespan of the contract

'Our priority has to be the continued viability of the Pentland Ferries...'

to threaten the commercial viability. Unfortunately these issues, which fundamentally stem from the very different status of a public-funded service compared to a small

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More delays for MV Glen Sannox



January 2020 and then again last month.

extensive equipment, plus the creation of public spaces and cabins and full furnishing.

Despite the challenges and delays, shipyard management remains positive based on improved capability built over the past 18 months, including a highly qualified and capable leadership team in place. The senior management team now has 130 years of combined shipbuilding experience, with other new expert appointments and existing high-calibre employees promoted into key positions.

Tim Hair, turnaround director at Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow), said: 'I know the further delay to the project will be a disappointment to island communities and others who await the arrival of the new ferries.

'There remains a lot of work to do on the vessels, but it is important to recognise the level of progress too, as well as the significant operational

'We have reached an important turning point from reworking the past to building the future.'

improvements we have implemented to introduce robust and effective business processes. We have, in effect, created a functioning shipyard business from a standing start.

'The past year has been extremely challenging; we've been working under the restrictions and pressure of a

global pandemic, and recruitment has proved difficult, with the pool of skilled workers insufficient to meet our resource requirements.

'However, we now enter a new phase of production. The milestone on MV Glen Sannox is highly significant because, for the first time in this project, we have a complete vessel structure to work with. Construction is also progressing on Hull 802, with the first new units recently lifted into place.

'We have reached an important turning point from reworking the past to building the future. We are doing everything possible to deliver the dual fuel ferry programme, improve productivity, secure contracts for future vessels, and protect local jobs.'

entalina as Pentland pulls out

private operator such as ourselves, have given us no alternative but to withdraw from the discussions.

'I would like to stress that the talks with CalMac Ferries were positive and constructive, and the vessel herself is safe and very suitable for service on the west coast. However, our priority has to be the continued viability of Pentland Ferries, and to our employees and passengers. We cannot commit to a scenario whereby external factors have the potential to cause severe risk and reputational damage to the business that we have worked so hard to build.'

RMT general secretary, Mick Lynch said: 'We, of course, recognise the difficulties caused to people and businesses by the ongoing failure of the Scottish Government's vessel procurement programme. But bringing an unsafe vessel onto Clyde and Hebrides ferry services is in no-one's interest.'

West Scotland Labour MSP Katy Clark has called for an explanation as to what happened to concerns raised about safety and on ministers to urgently intervene following the collapse of a contract.

Ms Clark said the Scottish Government must set out an immediate ferry plan to invest

in CalMac services, after the deal fell through. She has previously raised concerns at Holyrood with ministers about a race to the bottom on safety and terms and conditions on ferries.

'I am asking for an explanation from the Scottish Government on the safety concerns about the Pentland Ferries vessel which I raised with them following concerns from the unions and for the Scottish Government to come forward with a ferry plan to invest in lifeline services. The current situation is unacceptable for those who rely on ferry services.'

Stick to the rules plea as Arran visitor numbers rise

Continued from page 1.
and our customers through their swift actions.'

And the Mara fish bar and deli in Corrie was also forced to close last weekend as a result of the owners self-isolating, but is now reopen.

The latest number of newly-reported positive coronavirus cases recorded by NHS Ayrshire and Arran has increased by 169 to 20,710.

As well as following the Scottish Government guidance on social gatherings, members of the public are being urged to take regular Covid-19 tests – especially before meeting with friends and family or attending public events – and get vaccinated.

Lynne McNiven, director of public health at NHS Ayrshire and Arran, added: 'If any one of us breaches this guidance, there is a significant risk that we could make our family, friends and other close contacts unwell. We also risk helping to set back the date for the further easing of restrictions.



Visitors are being made welcome on the island, but are being asked to stick to the rules for everyone's safety.

We also don't want to see local restrictions tightening again and we all have a role to play in that.

'Testing helps us to identify more cases of the virus and give us all a better chance of stopping it from spreading. So, get tested regularly, even if you have been vaccinated.

'Lateral flow test kits, which should be taken twice a week, are freely available across Ayrshire. Visit www.nhs.uk/net/coronavirus-covid-19/

testing to find out more. The vaccine provides our best way out of the coronavirus pandemic and a return, in time, to the things we've all missed. So, make sure you get the vaccine when it is offered to you. It is the most important thing you will do this year.'

The government aims to move the whole of Scotland to the lowest level of the five-tier system of restrictions on July 19, before lifting most measures entirely in August.

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Arran rowers host first regatta since lockdown with six Clyde-bas



Arran Coastal Rowing Club was one of the first clubs in the Scottish Coastal Rowing Association to hold a post lockdown regatta.

The event, held on Saturday, took on a new format to previous regattas and was devised so that if Covid restrictions hadn't been lifted, or indeed increased, the day could be cancelled at short notice without too much hassle for everyone involved.

In previous years, up to 12 clubs would bring their skiffs over to Arran for the two-day event.

But due to the uncertainty of restrictions and the potential

difficulties in getting 12 24ft-long boat trailers on the 9.40am ferry from Ardrossan on a Saturday morning, it was decided to reduce the number of entrants to six: Royal West, Troon, Cumbrae, Firth of Clyde, Prestwick and Arran.

The maximum number of rowers from each club would be restricted to 10 and no skiffs would be brought over. Instead everyone would use the two Arran skiffs.

Prestwick Coastal Rowing Club had a booking for its skiff from last year's postponed regatta so it was able to bring its boat.

All the clubs shared the same

skiffs – sanitised between each race as per national guidance – and racing was over a 750-metre sprint course with the finish line outside the yacht club. Racing started at 11.30am with a race every 30 minutes. Each club had four races with each race consisting of three skiffs.

Arran had three second places and a first which wasn't enough to beat Troon, which had three firsts and one second to make its team overall winner.

The weather was perfect with an air of friendly rivalry. The sea was flat calm and the racing was close and competitive.



Clockwise from top left: Arran heading for the finish in the Prestwick skiff; Prestwick heading for the finish line in an Arran skiff; the true spirit of coastal rowing: Firth of Clyde, Troon, Cumbrae and Arran make up a winning team.

Words and photographs by Dave Ingham.

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Arran just pull away from Troon on the start line ahead of Firth of Clyde in an Arran skiff.



A photo finish, Troon in Prestwick's skiff in line with Arran.



Troon dig deep to secure second place.



Royal West against the backdrop of the three Beinns.



Determination on the faces of Firth of Clyde rowers in the Arran skiff.

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LETTERS

Write to us: editor@arranbanner.co.uk
or The Editor, Arran Banner, Brodick, Arran KA27 8AJ**Collapse of catamaran talks a bitter blow**

The loss of the MV Pentalina catamaran is a bitter blow.

Just when we thought there was some light at the end of the tunnel to help with ferry capacity, that hope was snatched away.

Clearly there is more to the Pentland Ferries decision not to go ahead with the charter to CalMac than meets the eye.

'Commercial reasons' is what Pentland Ferries is saying publicly but privately it seems like the wheels started to come off the proposal when the RMT union asked for a safety inspection of the MV Pentalina, which she failed.

What the collapse of the deal means, however, is that Arran is in exactly the same predicament it was before the MV Pentalina discussions began.

Arran's two ferries – the MV Caledonian Isles and MV Isle of Arran – are struggling to cope with demand both on and off the island as a result of current Covid-19 restrictions on passenger numbers.

Add the Campbeltown equation and it is easy to see why the system is at breaking point and why a solution must be found soon.

Thought for the week

'The Lord watches over the stranger in the land; he upholds the orphan and widow; but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.' **Psalm 146:9**

Kings Cross Point signs

Sir,

I have to thank James Paterson for the photograph and letter about The Point in the Arran Banner, June 18, and yes he is right to be disappointed the sign by the community did not include the details of the 'Viking fort'.

I should correct the description first of all as according to David, our local archaeologist and artist of some skill, the 'fort' is not a Viking construction but of much earlier construction.

When I was originally a county councillor on Bute County Council, we undertook the large main road reconstruction from the top of the hill down into Sandbraes and on completion I asked for the sign at the Kings Cross road end to include the then assumption that the Vikings had built the fort.

I think it is generally assumed the Vikings would have used it to assemble in the bay to sail to the Battle of Largs, but I am not a historian and leave that to others.

In the meantime, the sign was discussed in my presence at an 'improvements' meeting and the view from the committee was to request one at each end of the path, but the ownership of the land is in the Abram family, who turned down my request and as adjacent landowner I offered my side of the dividing wall, which is perhaps not so good.

The community should be aware the three sisters and sister-in-law have for the benefit of the community kept the grass mown and strimmed entirely at their own cost, as did their parents before them.

We are all grateful for their care and attention. Perhaps James's letter will be the catalyst to have a nice sign elsewhere and I am sure this reply will be noted by them.

Whilst writing, perhaps I should thank the paths group for improving the muddy parts of the bottom path.

Following the horrible death of my wife, and my appreciation of how much a wheelchair is valued by those who are disabled, I will be seeking their help to improve the car parking and my public path to the shore to, I hope, allow those in wheelchairs to come down and picnic or enjoy the views.

Finally, concerning Point House and The Point in the '60s and '70s there was an urge by Bute County Council to demolish 'old buildings' which saw Corrie Terrace, the Lamash Corn Mill and Whiting Bay School all wiped out.

Now we are entering a new era in which the World Wars are being more consciously remembered and Kings Cross Point was a vital part of the safety of Lamash Bay in WWII so my house was requisitioned and at the Point are a series of one and two-storey blockhouses similar to these but more extensive at Claunchlands.

There was a generating station from which the sailor occupants ran a line strung between the trees to give themselves power and light. Kings Cross got mains power in the early '50s. Is there an appetite to look into this as well?

Yours,
Bob Haddow,
Kings Cross.

Deaf to new ferry ideas

Sir,

MSP Kenneth Gibson's statement, Arran Banner, June 25, on ferry renewal is more hopeful than realistic.

The specification for the new, large Islay ferry is expected to be released next spring after a three-year internal debate prior to any agreed build contract with a shipbuilder – as yet unknown – who will demand a high price to ensure there is no replay of the current Ferguson dispute regarding mounting costs of design alterations.

The assertion by Mr Gibson that there will be six new, completed, large vessels by 2026 is

at best aspirational but makes a good political soundbite.

Given Ferguson's admission regarding labour and skill shortages and consequent delivery delays and mounting costs in the completion of their current order, one must challenge the assertion that 13 smaller vessels with relatively complex hybrid power systems can be built and delivered by Ferguson's by 2028.

Since 2007, only five vessels have entered service for CalMac from various yards.

The Ardrossan Taskforce has spent more than four years determining the requirements of an upgraded facility.

Seven completed harbour upgrades by 2030, even if possible, would require agreed vessel specifications prior to any build programme.

The anticipated budget suggests that the vessels will be expected to have a long life – current fleet average age is 26 years.

The business model for most ferry companies is to lease or change vessels every 10 years in line with changing demand patterns.

Will CMAL, forever, remain deaf to new ideas?
Yours,
John M Lamont,
Dippen.

No greengrocers on Arran?

Sir,

I write in reference to the article about Woodside Farm's plans for their shipping container greengrocer in Brodick, featured in last week's Arran Banner.

This is an interesting initiative and I wish them all the best with it.

However, in case any locals or visitors have wondered what has happened to the, honestly excellent – full disclosure of self-interest here! – offer available in the independent shops on the island, I counter that Bay Stores – yes me – Pirnmill Stores and AC Camerons have between us a pretty decent greengrocer offering.

And speaking for Bay Stores, I would add we have been selling produce from Robin Gray, Woodside and Clachaig Farm for as long as it has been available.

Bay Stores has long been a champion of as local as possible and if not local, then you are welcome to reduce your carbon footprint with loose produce.

We are happy to sell a single carrot or mushroom and always avoid pre-packaged if possible.

Yours,
Clair Reeves,
The Bay Stores,
Whiting Bay.

CONTACTUS

Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ.
Phone: 01770 302142

News editor: Hugh Boag;
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Reporter: Colin Smeeton;
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Advertising: Cecilia Paul;
adverts@arranbanner.co.uk

Head office: Wyvex Media, Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

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Waverley sets sail for summer

Paddle steamer Waverley cast off from Largs pier on Tuesday as her 2021 summer sailing programme got under way.

This is, remarkably, her 46th season in preservation since she was sold for £1.

The delayed start to this year's programme was mainly due to continued Covid restrictions and crew availability along with repairs to her damaged hull caused when she crashed into Brodick pier in September 2019.

Waverley is now scheduled to be in daily service on the Firth of Clyde until at least August 22 with a wide variety of sailings from her home base in Glasgow and from more than a dozen piers on the Clyde coast.

Given ongoing restrictions,

capacity aboard the world's last seagoing paddle steamer will be restricted to 35 per cent to ensure physical distancing.

Waverley's general manager Paul Semple said: 'We are delighted to welcome passengers aboard Waverley once again.'

'Throughout the winter months the small core team worked hard to ensure that come summer the wheels can turn.'

'As passengers board at the start of a new season, the ship comes alive and the hard work to get her back in service is well rewarded.'

'I hope the sound of paddles on the Clyde once again is a welcome sign that summer is here.'

'We are exceptionally grate-



The Waverley started her Clyde summer sailings this week.

ful to the thousands of people who supported our winter appeal to meet maintenance costs.'

Paul added: 'Given the variety of Waverley cruises on offer over the coming weeks we look forward to welcoming

back our supporters as well as members of the public who wish to step aboard a paddle steamer for the first time.'

Ticket sales

Ticket sales have been buoyant since bookings opened. One of the highlights of the

2021 sailing programme will be a rare sailing from Glasgow to Ardrishaig, Waverley's first visit to the Argyll village for 20 years.

The Waverley was scheduled to make her first visit to Brodick yesterday, Thursday

July 1, and will call every Thursday over the summer. Given restricted capacity, advance booking is recommended at waverleyexcursions.co.uk

Subject to availability, tickets can be bought on board the steam ship.

Mobile youth centre brings summer fun to the island

A mobile youth centre is coming to Arran this summer thanks to North Ayrshire Council in partnership with Arran Youth Foundations (AYF).

The vehicle, kitted out with wifi and games consoles, will be arriving at the Lochranza Field Centre on Monday July 5 and Tuesday July 6.

The pop-up roadshows will see loads of activities for young people aged between 11 and 18 years, including youth

work games, employability workshops, rock-pooling with COAST and archery and orienteering with the field centre instructors.

AYF's Graeme Johnston said: 'The council has recently spent a lot of money revamping the mobile centre so we are delighted one of its first visits will be to Arran.'

'I thought it would be great to take it to Lochranza. We already have our own youth centre in Lamlash so we

wanted to put some activities on in an area of the island that doesn't get as much provision.'

'The more young folk we have turn up and support this the better. It should be a great couple of days.'

Activities

The two days will run from 11am to 4pm and are part of AYF's summer of activities which will see the group go camping, go-karting, paintballing and enjoy a mental health and well-being retreat

at Arran Outdoor Education Centre. All of this is provided free of charge.

Graeme added: 'The last year or so has been terrible for our young people in a lot of ways.'

'We're hoping to put on a really fun summer for them that feels 'normal', albeit with relevant Covid measures in place to keep them safe.'

'We're particularly excited about the inaugural mental health and well-being retreat at the outdoor centre.'

'This will be three days of fun activities, sessions with the outdoor instructors and input on positive mental health that should help equip our young people to better cope with the challenges that life can throw at them,' he added.

As part of AYF's summer programme, the mobile youth centre will visit the Lochranza Field Centre again on Monday August 9 for North Ayrshire Council's Youth Fest.

This will see cooking activities led by Duncan Heenan, art psychotherapy, sports games with Active Schools' Lauren Gilbert, a climbing wall, inflatables and loads more.

To register to attend the July roadshows or Youth Fest, young people should visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/arranyouthfoundations> and parents should go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AYFparents>

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BANNER



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S2 pupils battle it out in debating charity challenge



Lead teacher Mara Gosman presents the £3,000 cheque to the winning team.

Arran High School's annual debating challenge this year saw five teams battle it out for a £3,000 prize for their chosen charity, writes Hugh Boag.

The youth and philanthropy initiative (YPI) has been held for S2 pupils for the last eight years.

The difference this year was that the 2021 final was held virtually at the school on Tuesday June 8, led by Mara Gosman, YPI lead teacher at Arran high.

Pupils have spent the last few months researching charities, meeting representatives from their chosen charities and creating persuasive presentations in an attempt to win their choice £3,000.

Pupils have been supported through this process by class teachers Mr Barr and Mrs Early.

Isabel Johnstone, YPI co-ordinator for Ayrshire, joined the final along with four guest judges: Suzie Dick, deputy head teacher; Julie Cannon, education business assistant; Cecilia Paul, advertising executive at the Arran Banner; and Naomi Provan, S6 pupil representative.

Charities represented at the final were: Brodick Nursery, ArCaS, AHS Mountain Biking Club, RNLI and SARDA.

The judges had a tough decision on their hands but decided to award the £3,000

to Ross Currie, Jemma Totty, Catherine Smith, Jack Popplewell and Zak Stone who were supporting Arran RNLI.

Since it was introduced to Scotland in 2008 by The Wood Foundation, which funds the process, YPI has engaged more than 200,000 young people who have taken responsibility for £4.5m of charitable giving.

YPI is the biggest independent initiative being delivered in Scottish education.

Each school is responsible for directing a grant of £3,000 to a charity championed by its students through a unique programme of teamwork, research and competition.



Harriett Lucas, Caitlin Fraser, Kaitlyn Haddow, William McKenzie and Kieran Geraghty represented ArCaS.



Harry Gilmore, Ruby Johnson, Jan Matusiak and Neha Bino represented AHS Mountain Biking Club.



Michael Nicholl, Annie McKelvie, Reuben Bowers and Fraser Watson represented SARDA.

Paddle Steamer Cruises Aboard **WAVERLEY**

The last seagoing paddle steamer in the World



Sailings from **BRODICK Pier**

Step aboard the magnificent Waverley when she returns to Arran this summer. Enjoy the unique experience of cruising the Arran coast aboard a real steam ship.

THURSDAYS - July 1 until August 19

Leave 2:30pm, back at 4:50pm - cruise south to view Pladda & round Holy Isle £29.

MONDAYS - July 26 & August 16 - Coasts and Waters Highlight

Leave 1:10pm, back at 4:50pm - cruise Round Ailsa Craig & view Holy Isle £36.

Waverley sails from **Lochranza Pier** on Mondays July 19 & August 9, leave 2:10pm, back at 4:35pm - cruise North Arran Coast to Brodick Bay £29.

Children (5-16) half fare | Under 5s FREE

Book at waverleyexcursions.co.uk or call 0141 243 2224 or buy tickets on board



Imogen Allison, Annie West, Charlie Ross and Stanley Hale represented Brodick Early Years.



Lee Girbow received the £3,000 cheque on behalf of Arran RNLI.

FOLLOW US
www.facebook.com/arranbanner

THE WAY WE ACCESS URGENT CARE HAS CHANGED

If you think you need **A&E**, but it's not
life-threatening, you can now call
NHS 24 on **111**, day or night.



**CALL NHS 24
ON 111
DAY OR NIGHT**



**CONTACT
GP PRACTICE
DURING THE DAY**



**CALL 999
OR GO TO A&E
FOR
EMERGENCIES
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Right Place**

Arran primaries show th



Left: Whiting Bay Primary School pupils show off their banner.
Above: Whiting Bay pupils with their individual medals.

The Shiskine hexa



Above: Corrie Primary School pupils display the Arran Primaries Together banner. Right: Pirnmill Primary School, Poppy Murdoch, pupil shows off her medal.

All the Kilmory Primary School pupils with their banner.



Senior Kilmory Primary School pupils with their medals.

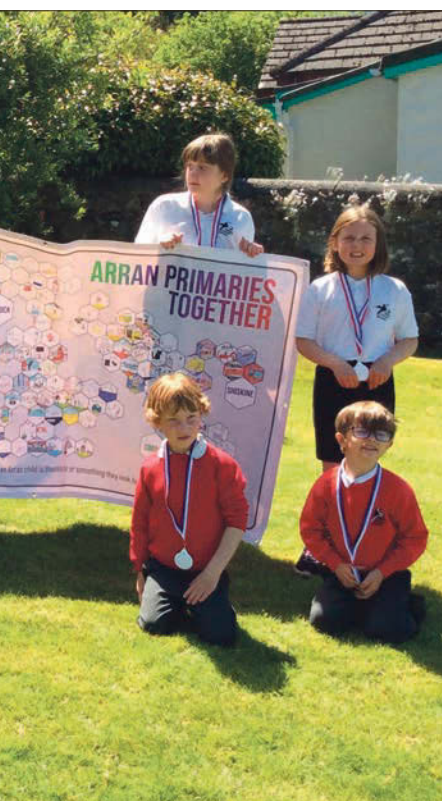


All the pupils of Pirnmill Primary School with their banner.

They are all better together



Hexagon designs.



Arran's seven primary schools have been working together to show what has helped pupils during the lockdown and recovery time.

The Arran Primaries Together project saw every pupil draw a picture inside a hexagon shape showing some of the things they were thankful for; what they were looking forward to; what has helped them or people they wanted to thank.

This gave a little peek into what island children are thinking and what is important to them.

The hexagons were joined together to form an

island-wide banner, printed and proudly on display outside each primary school.

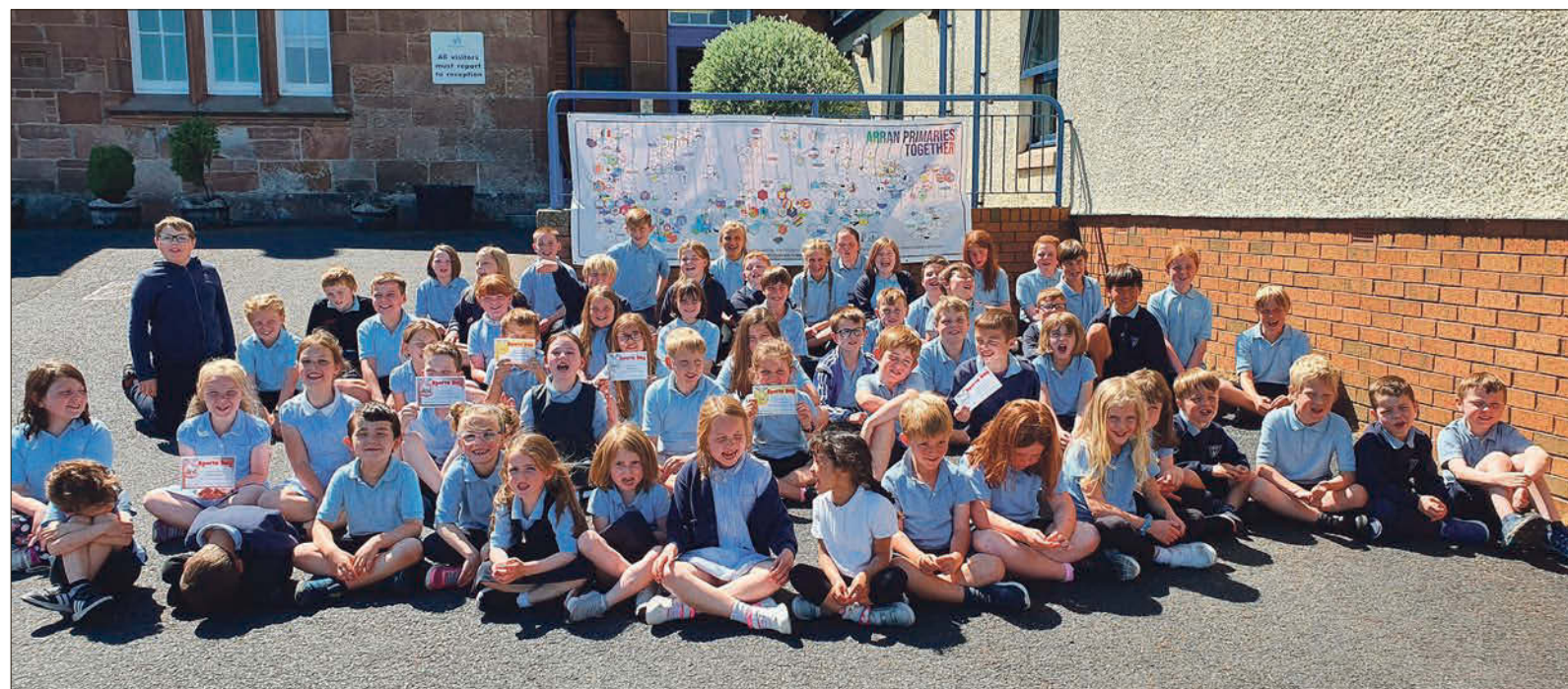
It was funded by the schools and was brought together with the help of Arran graphic designer Martin McNally.

The children then had their original artwork made into a medal which was presented to them before the schools closed for summer last week.

Head teacher Shirley MacLachlan said: 'Collaboration within the schools continues to be very important.'

'The children know that we are all in this together and like to know other children across Arran are doing the same activities.'

Below: Brodick Primary School pupils celebrate their sports day successes in front of their banner.



Shiskine Primary School pupils celebrate their finished banner.

Arran Open Studios set to welcome visitors



With many of Arran's other large events cancelled this year, the organisers of the annual Arran Open Studios (AOS) were more determined than ever to ensure that their event could go ahead with all of the necessary precautions in place.

Following intense discussions with committee members and the artists themselves, it has been decided that the event will take place this year from Friday August 13 to Monday August 16.

The AOS event provides visitors and aspiring artists an opportunity to visit Arran



Artists, such as Tim Pomeroy, will be part of the week-long event. Precautions will be in place to ensure the event is Covid-compliant.

planning as the ferry service has been much-curtailed by Covid-19 and technical/mechanical issues. This means that planning ahead is essential. Anyone wishing to visit Arran for the Open Studios is strongly advised to book up their ferry now there is no longer the luxury of just turning up and knowing they will get on one ferry or another. Even foot passengers should make sure they can get across on the appointed days.

AOS organisers are looking forward to welcoming as many visitors as possible this year and further details can be found, along with a digital copy of the brochure, on the AOS website at www.arran-openstudios.com or Facebook pages.

artists of all disciplines ranging from furniture-making to print-making, painting and sculpture to stained glass and much more in between.

The AOS brochures have now been printed and are in public spaces, hotels, tearooms and

B&Bs across the island. The brochure is a 'must' as it shows potential visitors the broad range of artistic disciplines included in this year's event along with directions to find the various venues. It also features a village-by-village

map which will allow visitors to plan their studio visits in advance and it will also help to find other studios of interest in the vicinity.

Visitors from mainland locations are encouraged to include ferry bookings in their



The stunning Arran coastline is also home to a rich variety of marine life.

COAST looks to expand its team of volunteers

The Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) is seeking to expand its team of friendly on-island volunteers.

On the banks of Lamlash Bay sits Scotland's first Marine Protected Area visitor centre – the COAST Discovery Centre which welcomes thousands of visitors through its doors each year, as each seeks to discover more about the waters around our islands and the creatures that live within them.

COAST is looking for anyone with an interest in public engagement and sales to join its team of volunteers – no prior experience is necessary.

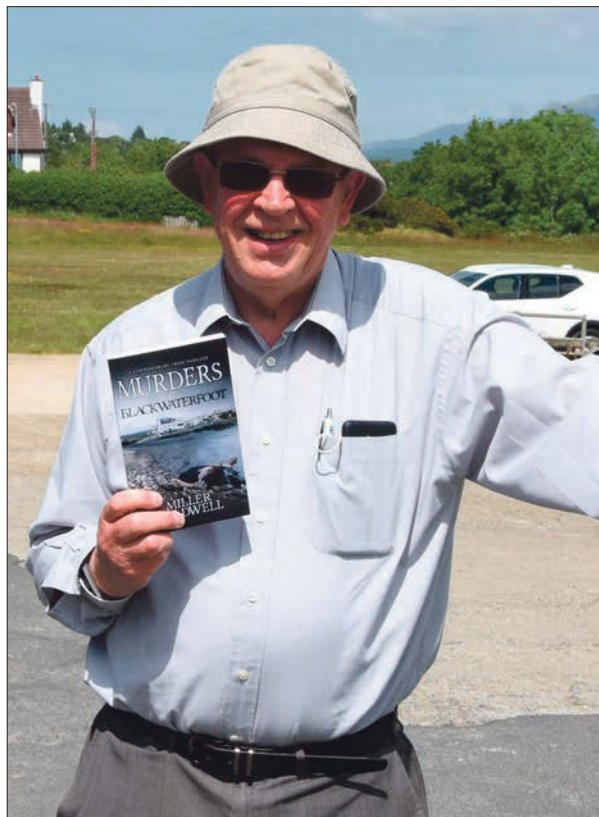
As one volunteer said: 'Volunteering at COAST gave me the opportunity to learn new things, further some skills I already had and develop my non-existent knowledge about the marine environment. COAST is an incredible charity and it is great to be part of its team to help spread the word of vital marine conservation on Arran.'

If you have an interest in aquariums and caring for creatures that live within them COAST would be delighted to hear from you as the team is always keen to have support for caring for the creatures it keeps in its star attractions – the catch and release marine tanks.

If you feel you can offer some time to help the charity between 10am and 4pm any day of the week then please get in touch. Drop COAST a line at email@arrancoast.com or call 01770 600656.



Author sells out at Blackwaterfoot book signing



Author Miller Caldwell was on Arran last week signing copies of his new book, writes Hugh Boag. He was due to spend three hours signing copies of *Murders at Blackwaterfoot* at the Harbour Shop in the village but sold them all in an hour. He is arranging fresh supplies for the outlets on the island where it will be available. The book is the first of an Arran trilogy by the author, who lives in Dumfries but is a regular visitor to the island. *Dementia Adventure* and *Seaweed In My Hair* will follow later this year as an omnibus edition.

Summer dining on Arran



Visit us at CASKS Cafe in Lochranza Distillery



CASKS Café, Open daily 10am – 4pm

Serving a delicious selection of home baking, hot & cold beverages, whisky tasting flights, and light lunches (lunch served 12noon-3pm).

Featuring the best of local produce and often an Arran Malt twist on some classics.

Booking is required
01770 830264
bookings@arranwhisky.com



Lochranza Distillery

Summer season is underway at our Lochranza Distillery and it has been with so much enjoyment that our entire team has welcomed all our visitors over the past number of weeks.

We are open in Lochranza 7 days a week and although distillery tours are not currently available, we have a full programme of sit-down tastings that take place daily.

Our core range tasting takes place daily at 11am and costs £20 per person. It's an excellent introduction to Arran Single Malt. Take a 'virtual tour' of our distillery and learn about the processes involved in producing our award-winning malt. Then retire to our dramming room to enjoy a comprehensive introduction to the Arran Single Malt Core Range, with one of our knowledgeable whisky guides. Perfect for newcomers to Arran whisky or enthusiastic Arran Single Malt fans alike!

Our limited editions tasting takes you a wee step further into our whisky world and is on every day at 2pm. It costs £25 per person. In this tasting, you will join your whisky guide in our dramming room and delve deeper into our full range of Arran Single Malts, past and present, sampling some of our limited editions, distillery exclusives and maybe even something from the archives!

If you like the sound of something sweeter, you can join in our Whisky & Arran



Chocolate pairing every day at either 11am or 3pm. This tasting costs £15 per person and you get to enjoy three classic Arran drams alongside a selection of exquisite hand-made chocolates produced by our local chocolatier, James of Arran. Taste the whisky, try the chocolates and let the flavours develop.

During your visit, don't forget to come and see our team upstairs in CASKS Café. The café is open 7 days a week, 10am-4.30pm, with our lunch menu served 12noon-3pm.

CASKS Café is situated on the first floor of our Visitor Centre, making the most of the stunning scenery that surrounds Lochranza Distillery. Come and enjoy our selection of hot and cold beverages, whisky tasting flights and delicious homemade cakes and scones, or join us for a light lunch during your distillery visit. If you are local, why not choose to pop in and join us for your morning or afternoon coffee. The Arran Gold latte is not to be missed!



Café Thyme

at the Old Byre Visitor Centre, Machrie.

**Open every day 10am-5pm,
Lunches 12-3pm,
Wood burning oven
No booking necessary**

Clothing and shoe shops on site too!

www.oldbyre.co.uk



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Open Monday – Saturday
5pm to 8.30pm (last sitting)

bookings essential
call 01770 700 255

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VISIT KILMORY CAFÉ & THE SHIELING BISTRO AT LAGG DISTILLERY

We have made a commitment to quality and value and all dishes in both restaurants are under £10.

Enjoy family friendly Kilmory Cafe and the relaxed atmosphere upstairs in The Shieling Bistro and Whisky Bar.

Open Tues – Sat

Serving coffee & cake
10am – 12pm

Lunch menu from 12pm – 5pm
(last orders for hot food 4.30pm)

Booking is required.

01770 870 565
bookings@laggwhisky.com

If you've got a wee bit more time to spare, in July you can try the limited run 'Flavours of the Festival' whisky flight offering the chance to sample some of the Malt & Music Festival Single Cask and Harmony Edition Single Malts past and present – but once they're gone, they're gone!

Come and see us, make yourself at home and enjoy the relaxing atmosphere and friendly welcome from all of our team.

Recent Facebook Review from FB user Daniel Tillbrook – "We went to the bistro upstairs to sample some of the whisky. Special mention to the lady who was working at the bistro serving,

her knowledge of the whisky and the island are a credit to the distillery! We stayed for some food which was great. Great experience overall especially with covid measures in place."

Due to capacity and social distancing restrictions, table bookings are recommended to avoid disappointment. Group sizes are restricted in line with Scottish Government guidance and we'd like to reassure you of a safe and welcoming environment in which to relax.

For more information or to make a booking, please e-mail bookings@arranwhisky.com or call 01770 830 264.

Unusual rosy spell on Arran

Between Monday June 14 and Friday June 18, I received nine records of rosy starling, also known as rose-coloured starling.

Included were sightings from Corriegills, Lamlash, Sliderry and Strathwillan on Wednesday June 16.

In the latter area, two birds were reported. Often the birds were coming into gardens with common starling.

Rosy starling are well-named, beautiful birds. It is a rare vagrant on Arran.

In recent years there have been reports of a single bird in 2002, 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

This year, with three, possibly four birds on the island at the same time, is unprecedented.

Where had they come from? The breeding range of rosy starling is from easternmost Europe across temperate southern Asia.

It is a strong migrant and winters in India and tropical Asia. It is a bird of steppe and open agricultural land.

In years when grasshoppers

Bird notes

by Jim Cassels



Above: This rosy starling was photographed by Roger Batt in Corriegills. Right: Another rosy starling which was photographed by Richard Godfrey in Lamlash.



and other insects are abundant, it will erupt well beyond its core range, with occasionally significant numbers reaching western Europe and the UK.

In their natural habitat they are highly gregarious birds and often form large, noisy flocks which can, on occasion, be a pest for growers of cereal crops or orchards.

On the other hand, they are also greatly beneficial to farmers as they prey on pests including locusts and grasshoppers, thereby limiting their numbers.

For example, in Xinjiang province in China, farmers build artificial nests to attract the birds and the birds help control locusts reducing

the use of costly polluting insecticide. The birds breed in tight colonies in a very short breeding season timed to take advantage of peak abundance of grasshoppers during May to June.

It is during dispersal after breeding that some birds stray into north-west Europe. This has been such a year

with numerous records across north-west Europe.

Males in the breeding season have elongated head feathers which form a wispy crest that is fluffed and more prominent when the bird gets excited.

In winter, the crest is shorter and the edges of black feathers within the plumage become paler as the edges of these

feathers erode. Winter plumage in males is comparatively dull. Females, in contrast, have a short crest and lack the sharp separation between pink and black.

The juvenile birds can be distinguished from common starling by its obviously paler plumage and short yellow bill.

Young birds moult into a subdued version of the adult plumage in autumn. These

lack the crest. Young females do not acquire their adult plumage until they are nearly one year old with males nearly two years before they get the crest.

From the photographs received, both male and female birds have been on Arran this week.

Please share all sightings with me at jim@arranbirding.co.uk

Getting growing on Arran:

The **newest Pioneer Project site is in Corrie and the first volunteer day will be held this Saturday 3rd July from 12pm**, all are welcome to help with the infrastructure for the site.

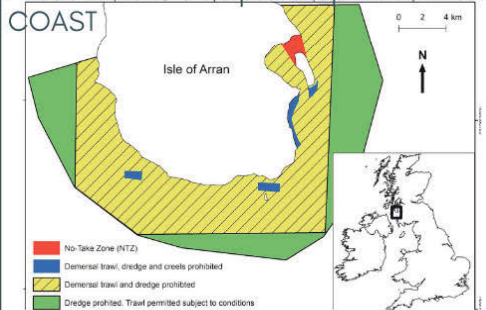
Volunteers are welcome at all sites: please get in touch if you are interested in getting involved in any of our projects.

<https://pioneerproject.scot/get-involved.html>

Produce will be available from honesty boxes on-sites soon.



Are you familiar with the different parts of the South Arran Marine Protected Area? Here is a helpful map from Arran COAST



#Wearearranfood

Your monthly round up from Arran Eco Savvy of what's happening in local food- July edition



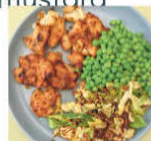
This week is the last chance to complete our Community Food survey online this week. Please do so here: <https://forms.gle/BynsnicIQfnMrQ18>

Seasonal recipe of the month

Crushed new potatoes

Ingredients for 2-4 servings:

- 500g new potatoes (Arran Pilot or any of your choice!)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
- 1 tablespoon whole grain mustard
- 3 cloves garlic, crushed
- 2 teaspoons maple syrup
- 1/2 teaspoon thyme
- 1/2 teaspoon rosemary
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste



Preheat oven to 200c. Lightly oil a baking tray. In a large pot of boiling water, cook potatoes until tender, about 15-20 minutes, drain Whisk together olive oil, Dijon mustard, whole grain mustard, garlic, syrup, thyme and rosemary, season with salt and pepper. Place potatoes onto baking tray. Using a potato masher or fork, carefully smash the potatoes until flattened but still in one piece. Brush each potato with mustard dressing. Bake for 18-20 minutes, or until the edges are crispy.

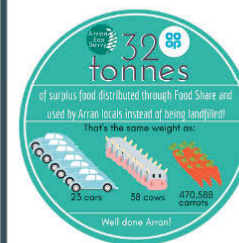
The Arran Home Recipe book crowdfunder is LIVE!

You can pre-order the book now at www.crowdfunder.co.uk/arran-home-recipe-book

The recipes showcase the best of local Scottish produce with an emphasis on seasonality and sustainability. All are designed for the home cook with tips and variations to suit a range of tastes.



The Arran Home Recipe Book
Is crowdfunding!



This month the Arran community diverted another tonne of food from landfill by using the foodshare at the Big Co in Brodick and the Lamlash Coop!

For our complete monthly food newsletter email jess.ecosavvy@gmail.com to join our mailing list.

THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday June 30 2001



Aileen Aitcheson, far left, of the Tourist Information Centre in Brodick, welcomed Ayrshire and Arran Tourist Board staff on a familiarisation trip to Arran where the visitors enjoyed a



Arran High School broke up today for the holidays but preparations are already under way for the new session in August. This is the new team of prefects ready to take up their responsibilities. 01_B27ABTYA01



Several groups performed at a live music event at the Breadalbane Hotel. A good crowd enjoyed the entertainment on offer. 01_B27ABTYA03



Arran Domestic Service Centre is celebrating its tenth birthday this month. Marking the occasion are Karen Curzons, Alice Broome, Quinn Taylor and Graeme Andrew. 01_B27ABTYA05



Left: Ross McKay with chef Murray Thomson and restaurant manager Diane Armstrong in his new Whiting Bay restaurant which opens this week at the Cameronia Hotel. 01_B27ABTYA04

Right: The governess carriage which John McGuinness restored in his barn at Monyquil. This week it was photographed in Lamlash, being driven by Willie McKinlay and carrying its owner Barbara Tinto. 01_B27ABTYA02



What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.co.uk

TOURS AND TASTINGS BY APPOINTMENT



Every Day

Trout Fly Fishing,
Loch Garbad, bank fishing

Arran Heritage Museum Rosaburn, Brodick,
Open daily, 10.30am – 4.30pm

Arran Brewery,
Shop Open – Monday to Saturday 10am – 4.30pm,
Sunday, 12noon - 4pm

Brodick Castle Gardens Brodick,
Open daily, 10am – 5pm

Brodick Mini Golf,
Open seven days, 10am - 5pm-ish, ALL weather

COAST Discovery Centre, Lamlash,
Open 7 days a week, 10am – 4pm

Lamlash Putting Green
Open daily, 10am -4pm

Lamlash Tennis Courts
Open All hours

Saturday 3rd July

Brodick Castle, Brodick, 11am – 4pm
RNLI Shop Open, Lamlash, 2pm - 4pm

Rink Games,
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm

Rink Games,
Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm

Kilmory Hall AGM and Welcome Back,
Kilmory Hall, from 3pm (AGM, 5pm)

Sunday 4th July

Brodick Castle, Brodick, 11am – 4pm
RNLI Shop, Open, Lamlash, 2pm – 4pm

What's Happening On Arran,
<http://www.arranmedia.co.uk>, 4pm

Monday 5th July

Brodick Castle, Brodick, 11am - 4pm
Lamlash Bowling Club, Lamlash, 2pm

Shiskine Tennis Club,
Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 4pm

JogScotlandArran@gmail.com,
Whiting Bay, Venue varies, 5.30pm

Brodick Bowling Club, Brodick, 7pm

Tuesday 6th July

Healthy Outdoor Team, Brodick Castle, 10am – 1pm

Brodick Castle, Brodick, 11am - 4pm

Rink Games (Social distancing observed),
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm

Shiskine Tennis Club,
Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 11am

Junior Hockey, P1 - S3 (age 5 to 14 yrs),
Ormidale Pavillion, Brodick, 6pm – 7pm

Wednesday 7th July

Kilmory Toddlers, Kilmory Hall, 10am -12noon

Bushcraft for 8-12yrs: Booking essential 01770 302462,
Brodick Castle, 11am -1pm

Arran Well-Being Cafe,
Lamlash Church Hall, Lamlash, 2pm – 4pm

Bushcraft for 8-12yrs: Booking essential 01770 302462,
Brodick Castle, 2.30pm -4.30pm

Arran Skinnymalinks Walk & Weigh-in, COAST,
Lamlash, Walk, 4pm, Weigh-in, 4.30pm

Arran Pace Makers
please check Facebook @arranpacemakers,
Venue varies, 5.30pm

Brodick Bowling Club, Brodick, 7pm

Lamlash Bowling Club, Lamlash, 7pm

Thursday 8th July

Spinning and Weaving demonstrations,
Arran Heritage Museum, 11am -3pm

Shiskine Tennis Club,
Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 11am

Arran Skinnymalinks Weigh-in,
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 6pm

Senior Hockey (12+), Ormidale Astro Pitch, 7pm – 8.30pm

Friday 9th July

Shiskine Tennis Club,
Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 11am

Saturday 10th July

Brodick Castle, Brodick, 11am – 4pm

RNLI Shop Open, Lamlash, 2pm - 4pm

Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm

Rink Games, Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm

CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Parishes of North Arran,
Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza,
Pirnmill and Shiskine
Independent but working together

There is a booking system at Brodick & Shiskine churches as the numbers are still limited. Liz Lawrie 302782 & John Kerr 860 498

There will be a streamed service fortnightly, this can be found on the three Church websites.

Sunday 4th July 2021
Lochranza & Pirnmill Churches-

Service at Lochranza Church 10:15am Morning worship. Shiskine Church 12noon.

Morning worship.

Brodick Church 10.30am Morning worship.

Corrie Church at 12noon. Morning worship.

The Food Bank continues from Brodick Church

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland

Charity Number: SC014005

Sunday 4th July

Worship will be conducted at 10.30am

As our capacity is greatly reduced due to the two metre social distancing, we have a booking system.

You are asked, please, to phone Mrs Janet Redfearn on 700244 by the Friday lunchtime if you wish to attend Sunday worship.

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Sunday 4th July

Kilmory 10am

Lamlash Church 11.30am
Due to our reduced capacity, if you wish to attend Sunday Worship in Lamlash, please phone Margaret McArthur at 600363 by midday on Friday.

All welcome

We will be observing all socially distancing procedures

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 4th July

5th Sunday after Trinity
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We would love you to join us.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Attendance at Saturday Vigil Mass and Sunday Morning Mass

is by booking only and subject to social distancing, wearing of face coverings and NHS Test and Protect requirements.

IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A REGULAR BOOKING PLEASE BE AWARE THAT SPACES MAY ONLY BE AVAILABLE FOR THE SATURDAY VIGIL MASS
Please email peterdwilko@gmail.com or telephone 600595 to check availability and confirm your place
BLESS O LORD THIS ISLE OF ARRAN

ST ROCH PATRON OF THE SICK PRAY FOR US
OUR LADY OF THE ISLES PRAY FOR US
ST COLUMBA PRAY FOR US

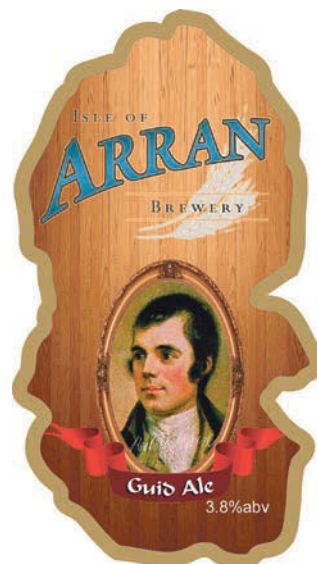
BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
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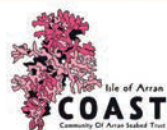


Community of Arran Seabed Trust Manager

Do you have the experience to manage Arran's multi award-winning marine conservation group?

Leading our dedicated island team, you will have excellent strategic and people skills, a demonstrated commitment to the environment, and the ability to help us realise the full potential of COAST's unique Discovery Centre.

For full application details or to discuss this position in confidence please contact us at:
recruitment@arrancoast.com



Community of Arran Seabed Trust Volunteers

Looking to be part of a community of friendly volunteers, staff and trustees? Join COAST as we work towards the conservation and restoration of Arran's coastal waters.

Volunteer in our shop, help with our marine tanks or offer up some DIY services - if you have an hour or two, or even a day to offer we'd love to hear from you!

If you're interested in volunteering with COAST, please get in touch to have a chat:
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Birthday wishes to
Ron Young
who will celebrate
his 100th birthday
on July 6th(formally
of the Lake District)
and now enjoying
life in Cooriedoon
Nursing Home.

Wishing you a
very happy day from
all his family and
friends on Arran.



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DEATH

CLARKE - Effie (nee Robertson). Peacefully, at home, on Sunday 27th June, knowing she was surrounded by her loving family - Vanessa, Vicky, Fraser, Fiona and Andrew. Grandmother to Tom, Charlie and Eliza. Mother-in-law to Andy and Rachel. The cortege will leave from Doctors surgery, Shiskine at 11:30 am on Wednesday 7th July and drive round the square before a graveside ceremony in Clachan cemetery 12 noon. Can anyone wishing to attend at the cemetery please contact Fiona - clarkefm@hotmail.com or 07983 535836, leaving a contact number.

LENNOX - Elizabeth May. Peacefully after a very short illness Betty passed away at Cooriedoon Care Home on 21 June 2021, aged 85 years. Dear sister of the late Jack and respected Aunt to Jimmy, Ian, Catherine, Jacqueline and Glenda.

MACKENZIE - Peter. The Knowe Farm, King's Cross, Isle of Arran. Passed away peacefully at Cooriedoon Nursing Home on Friday 25th June 2021 aged 97 years. Devoted and much loved husband, Dad and Papa. Funeral on Monday 5th July 2021. Hearse will stop outside Lamlash Church at 11.30am where the bells that Peter rang for over 45 years will ring out in celebration of his life. Family will be delighted for anyone who wishes to pay their respects to gather on the Green (adhering to current distancing guidelines). Private burial thereafter. No flowers please.

SAINT-YVES - Marguerite (Margot) nee Stewart. Suddenly at home on the 24th June 2021. Loving wife of the late Ian, Loved mother to Euan and Michele, sister to Susanne and Jackie. She led a full, varied life before returning to Whiting Bay and will be missed by all her family and friends.

MEMORIAMS

WATT - Greta, 13/01/1930 - 03/07/2020.

I heard your voice in the wind today
and I turned to see your face;
The warmth of the wind caressed me
as I stood silently in place.
I felt your touch in the sun today
as it's warmth filled the sky;
I closed my eyes for your embrace
and my spirit soared high.
I saw your eyes in the window pane
as I watched the falling rain;
It seemed as each raindrop fell
it quietly said your name.
I held you close in my heart today
it made me feel complete;
You may have died...but you are not gone
you will always be a part of me.
As long as the sun shines...
the wind blows...
the rain falls...
You will live on inside of me forever
for that is all my heart knows.
Love Glenda, Shauna, Thomas and families.

• For church notices see page 16

BANNER
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brodick retain Hope Cup

Outstanding contribution award for Jim Henderson

Continued from back page.

A Saturday, in the first game Brodick were four down through 17 and won the final hole to be three down through 18. In the second game, Brodick were two up through 15, halved the next two and at the 18th Whiting Bay had a putt to halve the hole and win the game, that just shaved past, making the game overall a tie and sudden death beckoned.

The first pairings halved the first hole; the second pairing put an interesting end to the match.

Whiting Bay was first to play and following good drives, their second ended up on the eighth green, while the Brodick pair played a majestic shot to within 12 feet of the pin.

Being on the wrong putting surface, Whiting Bay elected to putt off the green and through the tree roots to end up a similar distance from the pin. The Bay missed the final putt and Brodick two putted to secure their win.

Hope Cup final

Lamlash hosts vs Brodick

Depending on which team you supported, this much-anticipated battle between Lamlash and their neighbours Brodick became a damp squid or a walk in the park leading to a big score over the hosts.

Normally this final is a report of pars and birdies, but the big story was the number of bogeys and in one case a par-three hole being halved in triple bogeys.

In the first game, the damage for Lamlash was done in the front nine. The inward nine was much improved with Brodick and Lamlash scoring three birdies each, but the overall score was six up to Brodick through 15.

In the second game it was a similar story with Lamlash only winning one hole and Brodick were five up through 13. But the record only tells part of the game. Although Lamlash were below par, the Brodick lads played some excellent golf achieving a birdie from an awkward lie at the sixth hole and driving the 11th green - a 265-yard uphill par four.

Since 1989, when Lamlash last hosted the Hope Cup in the modern era, they have never lost a home event until now.

For the record, Brodick has won on 43 occasions, Lamlash 29, Whiting Bay 16, Shiskine five, Corrie three, Machrie two and Lochranza Castle once.

Every club participating in the Hope Cup complimented the green staff on the condi-



Jim Henderson, left, receives his award from Douglas MacFarlane.

tion of Lamlash Golf Course. Before the presentation was made by Arran Golfers Association new president Graeme Andrew, Dougie MacFarlane presented his award - an annual presentation at each Hope Cup venue, which he started when secretary of the AGA in 2009 at Brodick when it was given to the late Willie Innes.

The McFarlane Award for outstanding contribution to Arran golf was presented to Jim Henderson. On presenting his award, Dougie spoke of the history of the recipient

and what he has achieved for Arran golf and his home club Lamlash.

Next year's Hope Cup in June will be at Shiskine and is the 100th competition.

Lamlash team: Stuart Campbell and Neil Young, Dougie MacFarlane and Iain Murchie. Captain Norrie McIntyre.

Brodick team: Euan McKinnon and Mathew Dobson, Greg Macrae and Gordon Hendry. Captain Sid Sillars.

Referees: Ian Bremner and Jim Henderson.

Trail race first running event in two years

The first official 10k race to be held on Arran for more than two years is to be staged next month.

Brodick Glenclay Forest Trail Race, which is Arran Runners' first race since 2019 due to the subsequent Covid-19 disruption, has been organised for Sunday August 15.

The race will be based at Ormidale sports park in Brodick and starts at 2.30pm.

By starting and finishing on Ribbeck's Garage forecourt on Auchrannie Road, by kind permission of Mr Ribbeck, the event can avoid prolonged stewarding at the junction of the Knowe Road with the A841.

The course of the race is through the sports park, exiting at the top of the south-east corner on to West Mayish estate.

Runners will then contour through that estate and the 'Crocodile Field' to join the Old Lamlash Road footpath



Entry for the race is online, with numbers capped at 100.

and so to the top of the Brodick-Lamlash hill.

Here the runners will turn right onto the forestry road which takes them over and into Glenclay.

Crossing the forestry bridge over the Cloy Burn, the path will take runners back down the burnside, past Auchrannie, to finish on Ribbeck's Garage forecourt.

The course is approximately

10k (six miles) long, rises to about 600 feet and only has about 400 yards on Tarmac. The recommended footwear would be trail shoes with a grip.

Because of Covid, Scottish Athletics, which licences the race, requires that entry is online. Therefore, unfortunately, entry on the day will not be possible.

Runners and organisers

will, of course, have to abide by Covid regulations as per Scottish Government and Scottish Athletics rules.

Therefore, there will be no changing or toilet facilities available.

Because entry is online and there are currently restrictions on ferry numbers, Arran Runners are not sure how many entrants they will get.

To be practical, the entry has been capped at 100 runners and if there are more than 50 runners, they will need to run in two bubbles.

A similar race behind Lamlash is planned for Sunday August 29, also with a 2.30pm start, more details of which will be published soon.

Anyone wishing to enter the Brodick race should use the SiEntries website. Entry costs £9 per person.

Anyone interested in helping with the race in any way should contact Tommy Gilmore on 01770 302246.

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Cheers, Dougie is Whiting Bay's Super Senior winner

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Saturday/Sunday June 19 and 20 was the Whiting Bay Senior Gents' Open.

After the disappointment of being unable to stage the Seniors last year, the 2021 version was welcomed back with ideal golfing weather attracting a good field on each day.

Day 1, 29 played. Scoring was good with 22 players returning scores of 30 points or more.

Home players occupied the top 10 places with Dougie Auld returning an impressive 42 points to win by four shots from David Blair.

Result: 1 Douglas Auld (20) 42 points; 2 David Blair (12) 38; 3 Graeme Crichton (14) 36 acb; 4 Stan Rainey (11) 36.

Magic twos Brian Murray @4th, Ronnie Mann and Ian McKerrow @5th, George Bee, David Blair, Stuart McGregor @11th and Douglas Auld @17th.

Day two, 29 played: again scoring was good with 20 players on 30 points or more and this time it was nice to see a few visiting players appearing in the top 10 returns.

Not to be outdone by Dougie Auld, David Millar also returned 42 points to win, this time by two shots from John Pennycott. Result: 1 David Millar (22) 42 points; 2 John Pennycott (12) 40; 3 Gordon MacLachlan (22) 39; 4 Graeme Crichton (13) 13.

Magic twos Douglas Auld @11th and James McCulloch and John Pennycott @17th.

By now, more astute readers will have noticed Graeme Crichton lurking dangerously on the podium on both days.

On his first appearance in a seniors' major, and after some intense scrutiny of the complexities of the new simplified handicapping system, his consistency was rewarded with first place over the two days, beating John Pennycott by one shot.

In the super seniors (over 65s) category, Dougie Auld prevailed, again by the nar-



Whiting Bay's Super Senior winner Dougie Auld in the Super Seniors rocking chair.

rowest of margins. Well done and congratulations to both.

Yet again thanks go to Colin and Jackie Nisbet for their generous sponsorship of this popular event and to all those who donated prizes or otherwise supported it.

Thanks also went to John, Nancy and Louise in the clubhouse. The constant supply of fine food and drink was, as ever, exemplary and very much appreciated.

A huge thanks went to Stewart for the fine condition of the course; the greens are in great shape.

With help from George McKechnie's 'golfer's eye', Stewart is doing an amazing job with no apprentice or assistant to share the load. The club is most grateful.

Finally, thanks went to all who turned out to support the event. Visiting golfers are always welcome at Whiting Bay and it was nice to see so many familiar faces on such a fine weekend. The club hopes to see everyone again next year.

Wednesday June 23, The Ballantyne Cup.

A field of 24 played in The Ballantyne, one of the oldest trophies dating back to 1909.

The midge infested conditions did nothing to inhibit scoring and the top 14 players all returned scores in the net 60s.

At the top of the board, however, scoring was even more impressive with four players beating par and Gordon MacLachlan returning a spectacular net 57 to win by three

shots from David Brookens.

Result: 1 Gordon MacLachlan (21) 57; 2 David Brookens (13) 60; 3 David Blair (12) 62 acb; 4 Alan Kay (20) 62.

Jamie Macpherson carded the best gross score on 68 shots while David Morrison and David Blair recorded the only magic twos of the day @16th and 17th respectively.

Sunday June 27, Sunday Medal. A field of 17 played on yet another fine Sunday morning with sunny skies and a gentle breeze.

To match these fine conditions, scoring was good with 11 players carding scores in the net 60s.

John Pennycott topped the table though with a fine net 61 that also gave him the best gross score of the day.

Result: 1 John Pennycott (11) 61 and lowest gross; 2 Duncan Heenan (12) 62; 3 Andrew Martin (16) 63 acb; 4 David Brookens (12) 63 acb. Magic twos Douglas Auld and Stuart McGregor both @17th.

Fixtures: Sunday July 4, The Morton Quaich. Wednesday July 7, Summer Trophy. Until further notice there will be no draws for partners and players should arrange their own groupings.

Lamlash Golf Club

Wednesday June 23, ladies' medal four: 1 Kate McAdam 78-16=62; 2 June Richardson 88-25=63. Scratch Kate McAdam 78.

Thursday June 24, Summer Stableford: 1 Norrie MacIntyre 41 points; 2 Scott Campbell 37 points; 3 Willie Currie 34 points. Best scratch Norrie MacIntyre 31 points to stableford. Magic twos Norrie MacIntyre @13th, Willie Currie @14th, hole 16 drawn - rollover.

Sunday June 27, Medal Shield: 1 Martin Wallbank 73-12=61; 2 Ian Bremner 69-8=61. Best scratch Ian Bremner 69. Magic twos Martin Wallbank @12th and 13th, Ian Bremner @14th and 17th, hole 2 drawn - rollover.

Fixtures Saturday July 3, Club Championship qualifying round one, draw at 12.30pm. Sunday July 4, Club Championship qualifying round two - draw at 12.30pm also Jamieson Cup. Thursday July 8, Summer Cup and Scratch Cup. Make up own groups and see starter for times. Saturday August 7 and Sunday August 8, Lamlash Open.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday June 23, Crawford Cup: 1 A Napier 71-10=61 and scratch; 2 D Logan 76-12=64; 3 J McGovern 76-12=64.

Saturday 26, 18-hole medal: 1 M McDonald 76-18=58; 2 equal A McDonald 75-16=59 and A Smith 73-14=59. Scratch A Napier and W Paton 72.

Fixtures: Saturday July 3, 18-hole medal. Wednesday July 7, 18-hole medal. Arrange own games and adhere to latest Covid regulations.

Congratulations to Brodick Golf Club C on winning the Hope Cup.

Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday June 24, ladies 18-hole medal winners and flag. Winner of medal, scratch, medal winners and flag: Silver: 1 Ann May 73-7=66, 2 Alice Anderson 86-18=68, 3 Jenni Turnbull 88-19=69; Bronze: 1 Elizabeth Kelso 85-23=72, 2 Carole Stewart 104-25=79

Sunday June 27, gents' Sunday Stableford: 1 A Stewart 28pts, 2 B Sherwood 27pts, 3 R Robertson 26pts. Magic twos R Traill, B Sherwood and J Brown.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday June 22, Peter Sutton: 1 Hamish Bannatyne 60; 2 Phil Betley 63; 3 John Pennycott 67 BIH.

Fixtures: Tuesday July 6, Lady Mary/Peter Sutton, tee off 12.30pm. Anyone planning to play in the evening please contact Brian by Monday.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday June 23, Summer Cup, 38 played: 1 Don Rudge 89-28=61; 2 Tam McNab 73-11=62, ACB; 3 Douglas Robertson 82-20=62. Scratch, Robin Bell 66. Sunday June 27, 1 Bob McCrae 68-10=58; 2 Chris Pattenden 79-19=60; 3 Kenny McMillan 73-12=61. Scratch, Bob McCrae 68.

Fixture: Sunday July 4, Brandon qualifier.



Campbell Laing, winner of the Duncan Sillars at Machrie Bay.



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The winning team that saw Brodick Golf Club retain the AGA Hope Cup, left to right: Greg McCrae, Gordon Hendry, team captain Sid Sillars, Matt Dobson and Ewan McKinnon.

Lamlash Golf Club lose on home ground for the first time since 1989 in tight play

Brodick won the 99th outing of the AGA Hope Cup at Lamlash last weekend. It puts the club at the top of the leaderboard as they retained the title they have won for a 43rd time as the competition goes into its centenary year. Saturday June 26, Hope Cup semi-finals Shiskine vs Lamlash
In a very tight game the first Lamlash pairing

were two up through 18 and the second one up through 16.

It was a good quality match with Lamlash having to perform to a high standard to win over a strong Shiskine team.

Whiting Bay vs Brodick

Arguably the best game of the Hope Cup on
Turn to page 19.



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