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Arran is ready to bounce back after Covid surge

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Arran is emerging from the worst outbreak of coronavirus on the island since the pandemic began in March last year.

Some hotels, B&Bs, pubs, cafes and shops on the island have been forced to close temporarily, or adopt new measures of working, after staff tested positive for the virus, meaning co-workers had to self-isolate. Several businesses, not related to hospitality, have also been affected.

Officially, 15 positive cases have been recorded but local reports suggest the number could be higher. It is thought most cases involve the younger generation and while several have been very ill, the health services have not been overwhelmed.

NHS Ayrshire and Arran's Test and Protect team has confirmed that a contact tracing exercise has been carried out on Arran, following a number of confirmed cases of

Covid-19 infection which have links to hospitality venues and accommodation providers on the island.

But there are signs the worst of the outbreak could be over. Auchrannie was due to fully re-open today (Friday) after it was forced to shut both their hotels after two positive

All visitors are being urged to test before they arrive on the island...

tests among back of house staff. The contact tracing impact meant 32 members of staff had to self-isolate. The Douglas Hotel, which also closed, re-opens on Monday, with most other businesses affected re-opening in the following days.

As a result of the outbreak, all visitors are being urged to test before they arrive on the island and everyone in the 18-50 age group, who are due to get their second vaccine on

July 31 at Arran High School, are being urged to do so.

Lisa Davidson, assistant director of public health at NHS Ayrshire and Arran, said: 'We have undertaken a careful risk assessment to identify any individuals who may have had contact with the confirmed cases. These individuals have been contacted and told to self-isolate for 10 days and book a test.'

'To reduce the spread of coronavirus, we encourage anyone planning to travel to the island to test before they do so. You can order rapid lateral flow tests by visiting the Scottish Government website here www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested/pages/no-covid-symptoms. Delivery is to your home anywhere in the UK and they should arrive within 24 to 48 hours.'

'If your test result is negative it is not a guarantee that you do not have coronavirus. You must continue to follow national and local

Continued on page 2.

Three-legged race is a breeze



Two young girls take the three-legged race in their stride at the summer games organised by Arran Library last week. For more photographs, turn to page three.

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Arran ready to bounce back after businesses close due to Covid surge

Continued from page 1.

restrictions, including coronavirus guidance. If you develop coronavirus symptoms you must self-isolate and book a PCR test,' Ms Davidson added.

As reported in last week's Banner, since the beginning of the vaccination programme 4,102 island residents have had at least one dose of vaccine and 3,218 are now fully vaccinated having had both doses. The remainder of the adult population will be fully vaccinated by the end of the month.

However, health officials say that regardless of your vaccination status, people living in Ayrshire and Arran are reminded to follow the current guidelines and FACTS to help stop the spread of coronavirus.

Meanwhile, the tourist trade on Arran is looking forward to a boost with the confirmation that the whole of Scotland will move to level zero on July 19.

As a result there will be no requirement for customers to pre-book a two-hour slot

to go to a pub or restaurant. However, customers will still be required to provide contact details to assist Test and Protect and they will still be required to wear face coverings except when seated.

More people will also be allowed to meet indoors and attend weddings and funerals.

It is still hoped Scotland will move beyond level zero from August 9 - the point at which the government aimed to scrap most legal restrictions. A decision on this will be taken next month.

Among other announcements in Ms Sturgeon's statement to Holyrood on Tuesday were plans to remove the blanket requirement for close contacts of those who test positive to self-isolate, as long as they have had two doses of vaccine.

In addition, fully-vaccinated people returning from amber list countries will not need to quarantine as long as they take a test after arrival.



Under construction: MV Glen Sannox at the Ferguson Marine shipyard in Port Glasgow last month.

Covid outbreak will not impact shipyard work

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

An outbreak of Covid-19 will not affect progress at the Ferguson Marine shipyard at Port Glasgow where the new Arran ferry the MV Glen

Sannox is being built, the company has said.

The assurance comes after 45 employees, a mixture of office and yard-based staff, were sent home. A total of 18 were found to have contracted the virus, while 27 are self-isolating, having been in close contact with those with positive results.

Despite the absenteeism over the past two weeks, the nationalised shipyard is reported to be continuing to operate normally across all areas with no closures in any particular area of operations.

A spokeswoman at Ferguson

Marine said: 'In recent weeks, we have seen an increase in employees testing positive for Covid, reflecting the picture across Scotland.'

'We have had robust Covid measures in place for many months to protect our employees, sub-contractors and the community.'

'These protocols were developed in collaboration with trade unions and are being followed stringently. Currently, we don't anticipate any impact on operations.'

The Ferguson Marine shipyard is building the MV Glen

Sannox which, following years of delay, is due to start on the Ardrossan to Brodick route when it comes in to service in September 2022.

Her sister ship is still known as hull 802.

In a report issued last month by turnaround director Tim Hair, it was reported the Covid lockdowns will cost Ferguson Marine approximately £4.3m. This is made up of £2.3m of payroll cost for direct labour who were unable to work during periods of lockdown, plus £2m of facility cost and overheads.

Travellers urged to check their insurance cover before trips

Arran residents planning on travelling in the near future are being advised to check their level of travel insurance after an influential survey revealed less than one per cent of travel insurance policies are currently providing full comprehensive cover.

The survey, by the consumer group Which?, highlights a potential pitfall which could leave travellers significantly out of pocket if official travel advice to their chosen destination changes between booking and travelling.

North Ayrshire and Arran MP Patricia Gibson, who is also the SNP's consumer affairs spokesperson, raised this concern at Westminster last week.

Mrs Gibson said: 'Which? has found that many travellers are being left with a false impression' about their level of travel insurance protection in the event of Covid-related disruption to their plans.

Covered
'Less than one per cent of travel insurance policies currently provide full comprehensive cover, despite a Which? finding that half of all respondents thought they would be fully covered for cancellation if the Foreign Office changed its travel advice.'

'It's therefore essential to obtain insurance with a provider that commits to refunds in such circumstances and travel insurance companies must

be clear about their Covid cover, clearly outlining to their customers exactly what is and isn't included.'

Mrs Gibson, following her Westminster questioning of transport secretary Grant Shapps MP about the level of protection offered by travel insurance companies, was invited to meet with the UK minister for aviation Robert Courts MP.

'I called on the UK government to undertake discussions with the travel insurance industry to ensure people are confident they are appropriately covered should there be disruption to their travel plans and will press for this when I meet the aviation minister,' the MP added.

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Letting off steam at the library's summer games

Words and photos
by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Children enjoying their school summer holidays had the chance to let off some steam at a mini sports day held last Friday by Arran Library, writes Hugh Boag.

The event is one of a series being held by the library in Brodick and, despite overcast skies, it stayed dry for the sports day, held outside the library.

Children from five to 12 years enjoyed a series of races and games under the watchful eye of library assistant Nickey Summer and her helpers.

Concentration is key in the balancing race, right.



And he's off!
This youngster
is having a
great time.



The children hop to it in the hopping race.



Two boys take a tumble in the three-legged race.



Two young girls prepare for the balancing race.



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Peel Ports 'completely unacceptable' offer delays harbour works again

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The re-development of Ardrossan harbour has been hit by more delays.

New Scottish transport minister Graeme Dey has confirmed Transport Scotland has rejected the latest funding offer from owners Peel Ports as 'completely unacceptable', so the wrangling goes on.

This means the £35m Ardrossan harbour project, due to start next year, is likely to be delayed again.

It has already been decided the Arran ferry will relocate to Troon during the harbour works from September 2022 for 18 months - but that could now be later or for longer.

Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson was given confirmation of the latest setback after he wrote

Transport minister
Graeme Dey MSP.



to the transport minister. Mr Dey replied: 'In recognition of the significance of these infrastructure works to the community on Arran, Scottish ministers remain committed to the provision of

grant funding for Ardrossan Harbour.

'I understand and acknowledge the concerns raised by your constituents regarding the lack of progress on the project, however, I can assure

you we have been working to address the commercial arrangements which have been prolonged and somewhat challenging due to the technical risks involved.

'However, on that matter, I have to advise you that Transport Scotland have now written to Peel Ports to confirm the current commercial and grant terms they are maintaining are completely unacceptable and that the project cannot proceed in its current form unless the company is prepared to revisit these and take a more balanced stance on the share of cost and risks between parties.

'Whilst these are matters between ministers and Peel, I can confirm these issues are extremely challenging due to the commercial and technical

risks involved. Exposure to such risks needs to be borne fairly and appropriately among project partners, including reflecting the strong commercial benefits to Peel.

'We have confirmed we remain committed to remaining at Ardrossan and taking forward the project and have invited Peel to put forward terms that more appropriately reflect the risk and benefits to the parties.

Challenge

'I have also written to North Ayrshire Council, a key partner in this project, to advise them of this challenge and invite them to work with us to ensure Peel puts forwards proposals that allow us to drive this project forward.'

Mr Gibson said: 'Negotiations between the Scottish Government and

Peel Ports have now dragged on for years. Indeed, I have expressed my concern about this on numerous occasions at Ardrossan Harbour Task Force meetings and directly to Scottish ministers.

'The situation is such that the arrival of the MV Glen Sannox next year, before Ardrossan Harbour is ready, now necessitates a temporary transfer of the Ardrossan to Brodick service from Troon to Brodick, with all the inconvenience that entails.

'I am delighted therefore that our new transport minister is determined to take the bull by the horns, in partnership with North Ayrshire Council, to ensure delivery of this vital investment in Ardrossan's infrastructure and ultimately the Ardrossan to Brodick ferry route.'

Gifts handed over for Arran War Memorial Hospital patients

Arran Hospital Supporters League has handed over its latest gifts to benefit patients at Arran War Memorial Hospital, writes Hugh Boag.

Here we see Tracey Mutch, centre, donating on its behalf. Garden furniture for the

patients to sit outside was part of the donation, along with many other goodies including digital radios being received by staff nurse Lynsey MacIntosh and hospital nursing assistant Lorna McKinnon.

A hospital spokeswoman said: 'Staff are very grateful for all the hospital supporters league does for the patients at the hospital in Lamlash.'



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THE ARRAN BANNER

Community responders' Covid efforts recognised

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Community first responders (CFRs) on Arran have been recognised for their work during the pandemic.

Six long-serving members also received their 10-year service pins during a visit to the island by Anne Harrison, west region community resilience paramedic team leader and Susan Gardner, community resilience facilitator (west), Scottish Ambulance Service who also held a training session for the first responders.

The volunteers are trained by the Scottish Ambulance Service to attend certain types of emergency calls in the area where they live or work.

Their aim is to reach a potential life-threatening emergency in the first vital minutes before the ambulance crew arrives.

As with all aspects of life, the last 16 months have been challenging for the island's first responders.

All CFRs in Scotland were stood down from active service in March 2020 as Covid took a grip on the country.

Until this point, the north Arran group had the incredible record of being available 24 hours a day, seven days a week dating back to June 9 2003; an achievement to be proud

of and interrupted only by a pandemic. By late autumn the Scottish Ambulance Service was able to provide the relevant personal protective equipment to ensure the safety of the CFRs and patients and the necessary training.

The North Arran Group re-started again in November but is unfortunately unable to return to serving Lochranza, Catacol and Pirnmill 24 hours a day at present.

Having entered the pandemic with 11 members, it was understandable that after time away some members decided not to return.

But thanks go to Richard Wright, Douglas Coulter, Katy Penn and Gordon Furzer for their invaluable service to the community.

Susan Gardner said: 'Myself and Anne were delighted to present all the community first responders on Arran with Covid coins as a thank-you from the Scottish Ambulance Service for all their dedicated work throughout this pandemic.'

All eligible volunteers in attendance were presented with their coins. Others, who couldn't make it along on the day, will be presented with their coins at another time.

Ten-year service pins were presented to Fiona Laing, Stuart Blake, Chris Traill, Liz

The first responders who received their 10-year pins, left to right, Mark Harwood, Stuart Blake, Chris Traill, Fiona Laing, Julie Graham and Liz Evans accompanied by Susan Gardner, Scottish Ambulance Service community facilitator (west). Inset: The 10-year pins.

Evans and retired responders Julie Graham and Mark Harwood.

Richard Wright was unable to attend and will receive his at a later date.

It is hoped the Scottish Ambulance Service will be in a position to begin recruiting and training for new CFRs after the summer.

If you live in any of the following Arran communities: North Arran – Lochranza to Pirnmill including Whitefarland; West Arran – Shiskine and Blackwaterfoot; or South Arran – Kilmory and Sliderry – and wish to become a CFR please fill in the application once this has been reopened for applications: www.scottishambulance.com and follow the links.

Screen Machine back on Arran

The Screen Machine is finally heading back to Arran later this month.

Scotland's mobile cinema will be in Brodick from July 21 to 24.

With Scotland set to potentially see some more lifting of restrictions, organisers are keeping a close eye on how this will affect the service. Ahead of the visit, Screen Machine has launched an online survey to gauge how customers feel about capacity and seating.

Among the questions being asked are: should numbers be restricted or should booking seats be introduced?

A spokesman said: 'It's likely that at some

point in the coming weeks the Scottish Government will remove the requirement for social distancing in cinemas and other public spaces.

'When that happens, we want to be sure our audiences will continue to feel confident to visit the Screen Machine, so we'd love to have your thoughts on how you'll feel about this.'

A new discount category, Welcome21, has been introduced for frontline and essential workers and anyone whose circumstances have been affected by the pandemic.

This will remain in place until the end of 2021. All other ticket prices remain the same.



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Bouncing back

Arran has faced its toughest time during the entire pandemic in the last week or so.

Of course, the re-opening of the island's tourism sector and a third wave of the virus was always going to be a risky time. But the fact the island has seen its highest number of recorded positive Covid cases recently shows - if anyone was in any doubt - the virus is not going anywhere soon.

And the fact some businesses on the island, particularly in hospitality, who have already had a tough 18 months have been hit by another closure, or partial closure, is a bitter pill indeed.

However, it appears we are over the worst for now and as we say on our front page Arran is ready to 'bounce back'. And that bounce is just what the island economy needs.

On Monday we, along with the rest of Scotland, move to level zero as the re-opening of the country continues and by August 9 most legal restrictions will be lifted.

And the entire island adult population will have been double jabbed by the end of the month.

However, as the recent outbreak on the island has shown, there is no room for complacency and the continued wearing of masks in shops and on public transport seems a sensible way forward and looks like being mandatory in Scotland for the foreseeable future.

Thought for the Week

'Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul.' 3 John 1:2

High-speed boats a peril

Sir,
I was sad recently to see a high speed boat going at what looked like 100mph in the no-take zone in Lamlash Bay and past Holy Isle. This is an area where beautiful, curious seals swim happily around me in my inflatable kayak when I float there in the sea looking down at the beautiful plants, fish and marine animals living beneath the clear waters.

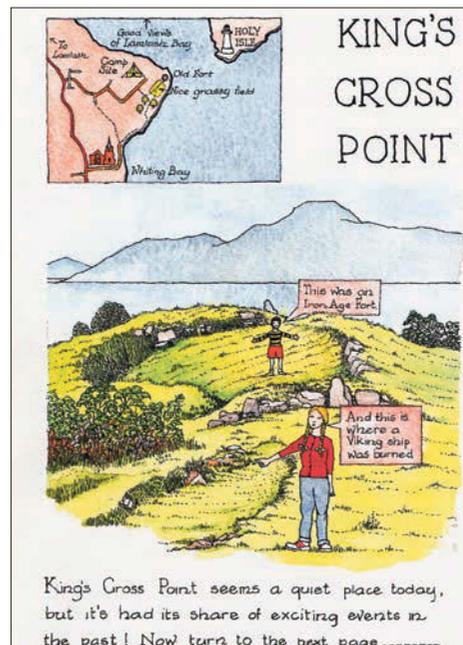
Just a week ago a seal was killed violently in the no-take zone near Clachlands Point. The seal must have suffered terribly and crawled in enormous pain to the beach. It must have been crashed into by a high speed boat. A while ago a gigantic fin lay rotting on the beach, also in the no-take zone. Some poor basking shark, which are harmless to humans, or a whale perhaps, had had its huge fin torn off through some horrific accident, possibly also in collision with a boat moving through the water at high speed.

This no-take conservation area belongs to the sea animals and plants - there is precious little ocean left that humans have not taken and exploited for their own pleasure and greed. The no-take conservation area in Lamlash is small but at least, surely, we can allow marine animals there to live in safety and peace. They do not harm the Earth as mankind does. This is their world, too, and the sea - in these tiny conservation areas at least - should belong to them.

If only we could create more of these conservation areas and protect the wildlife there, it would be so helpful to the planet.

Please don't drive your high speed boats in this conservation area. It is not much that our sea creatures have got. This is their planet as well as ours. Our seals and basking sharks on Arran are so beautiful and innocent - they don't deserve this cruelty and unkindness.

Yours,
Devika Rosamund, Lamlash.



Fish farm debate

Sir,
I see Mr Tommy Gilmore is trying to persuade Arran residents to support the proposed fish farm off the north coast of the island.

Once again, he is ignoring the potential environmental damage that is likely to occur if planning permission is granted.

If the proponents of the scheme were genuinely interested in preserving the marine ecology of Arran's coastal waters they would employ the closed tank, land located farming method rather than the open cage, sea located type.

The Scottish Salmon Company is applying for a licence to 'discharge to the water environment fish excreta, uneaten food and other substances resulting from the operation of a new marine

pen fish farm'. As I pointed out in my previous reply to Mr Gilmore's letter, these other substances include chemical medication used to control fish lice that affect farmed fish - the current medication of choice being a neonicotinoid which has been banned for use on land but not in the sea.

Once again, I invite Mr Gilmore to take a swim in this soup of pollution. Finally, his contention that tourism and fish farming can co-exist is such an over simplification as to be laughable.

Yours,
Brian Grindall, Shiskine.

Appalling behaviour

Sir
I feel your readers should know that the hard-working staff of our Co-ops are being abused by people who they challenge for not wearing masks. What uncaring, selfish and appalling behaviour, aimed at people who are looking after our interests.

Yours,
Viv Parks, Blackwaterfoot.

Point memories

Sir,
It has been interesting to read the letters in the Banner from James Paterson, on June 18, and Bob Haddow, on July 2, about Kings Cross Point. We featured the history of Kings Cross Point in our book Arran for Families - excerpt above left - sadly out of print, and it has been lovely reading about it. I can remember the day we walked round it and David had his pad and pencil to draw it all. It brings back lovely memories, just as if it was yesterday.

Yours,
Joyce and David Hilton, Portobello.

Thank you

Sir,
I'd like to say a big thank you to all the lovely people - local and visitors - who came to my aid when I tripped and fell outside the Book and Card Centre on Tuesday. Particularly Rachel who stayed with me throughout and those who helped track down my husband.

Thanks also to the staff at the War Memorial Hospital who cleaned me up and checked me over.

I'm glad to say there was no serious damage, although one of the mugs I had just bought at ArCaS got broken in the fall.

You were all wonderful and I'm very grateful.

Yours,
Christine Purcell, Brodick.

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New glamping park plan for Machrie meets opposition

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



A new proposal for a glamping pod site in Machrie has been submitted to planners.

Angus Smith has drawn up the plans to create 10 hand-made timber glamping pods at the site at Ashlar Farm.

The new plans have dropped the 22 motorhome pitches which were originally proposed at the Kings Cave Glamping Park but have increased the glamping pods from six to 10. The original application attracted more than 30 objections and was later withdrawn.

The new proposal is for 10 glamping pods for guests along with a permeable parking/turning area and a log cabin reception building. At



Machrie Moor Standing Stones are a kilometre north of the site proposed for the new glamping pods.

least one parking bay per pod is proposed, with an entrance gate and track. Each guest pod will have a small area of decking to the front. Also intended are associated footpaths, landscaping and planting. A croft

diversification approach is proposed for the development.

The plot is situated just off the main road near Machrie, one kilometre south of the Machrie Moor Standing Stones and adjacent to the

popular Kings Cave forest walk and would provide 'subtle and discreet countryside accommodation' for tourists visiting this area's attractions on short breaks and weekend stays, according to the applicant.

A statement in support of the application states: 'The site is well located to allow occupiers to enjoy the surrounding tourism assets. The proposed site will be on a tranquil green area. Guests will enjoy peaceful, inexpensive luxury accommodation, further enhancing the Arran tourism portfolio.'

'Glamping installations require minimal ground works and harmful construction practices, ideal for this area where minimal ground disturbance is encouraged to

avoid any potential impact on any archaeological undisturbed relics.

'We therefore believe pods sited here provide an archaeological and ecologic viable accommodation solution, well suited to the area.'

'The concept of luxury glamping is now gaining popularity throughout the UK, with standards and guests' expectations on the rise. It is intended by the site operator that this site will be amongst the best available in the area. At the moment, there is a presence on Arran offering glamping, however, this site will offer enhanced experience for guests through good design and a range of well thought out integrated facilities for guests.'

'Therefore, we feel the site

would be providing a positive alternative for visitors to the area.'

But the application has already met opposition from Arran Community Council and three neighbours who have lodged objection letters.

The community council previously opposed the plans and say they have not changed their minds. They have told planners: 'Our collective view remains the same, and our initial response we feel is still wholly relevant. We do accept that the application has been toned down a little, but again the question of how the development impacts on the existing landscape will be where we trust the planning department of North Ayrshire Council will consider the matter comprehensively.'



PC Nicola Goodall demonstrates a minimum safe distance to pass a horse rider.

Police urge road users to use caution as traffic increases

With an increase in the number of tourists this summer, and the resulting increase in traffic on the roads, police on Arran are asking all road users to drive carefully and considerately at all times to keep themselves and others safe.

Drivers are particularly being requested to pay special attention when passing horses and riders following issues raised by the horse riding community.

PC Nicola Goodall said: 'Police are actively engaging with drivers to ensure they are

aware of their legal responsibilities and are keen to ensure more vulnerable road users, such as horse riders and cyclists, remain safe on Arran's roads.

Prosecuted

'Failure to comply with the relevant legislation can see offenders being prosecuted. The roads are for all to use in a safe and considerate manner and motorists must ensure they drive in a manner appropriate to the road conditions at all times.'

Police have been carrying

out increased patrols on and around roads often used by horse riders and cyclists.

Due to the potentially unpredictable nature of horses being ridden on roads, often by young riders, road users should be vigilant and exercise caution when passing.

Road users are advised to; slow down to a maximum of 15mph; be patient, don't sound bell, horn or rev engine; pass the horse wide and slow with at least a car width if possible and drive slowly away once safely passed.

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Deal signals end to Arran 4G not-spots

Large areas of Arran are expected to see a huge improvement in 4G coverage as part of an agreement between mobile operators and a £1 billion funding deal from the UK government.

The Shared Rural Network (SRN) will see EE, O2, Three and Vodafone build and upgrade phone masts to end partial not-spots: areas where only some, but not all, mobile network operators provide 4G coverage.

The agreement will see 91 per cent of Scotland being in range of a 4G signal and 74 per cent of Scotland being covered by all four mobile operators.

The west of Scotland will see an improvement, from 59 per cent coverage to 82 per cent coverage – from all mobile network operators – while the Highlands and Islands will see the largest 4G boost out of all UK regions with coverage from all four operators increasing from 26 per cent to 68 per cent.

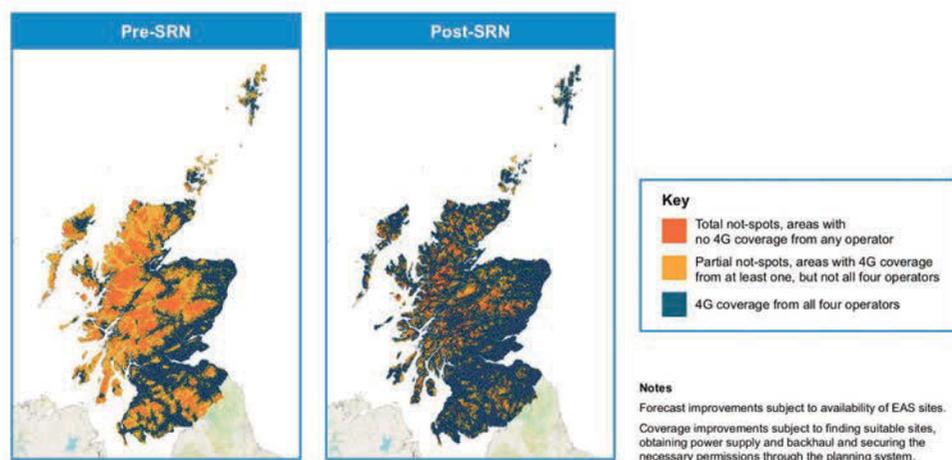
The SRN is a major part of the government's plan to improve digital connectivity across the UK and will bring economic and social benefits for people regardless of where they live.

It will help those who live and work in rural commu-

Department for
Digital, Culture,
Media & Sport

Shared Rural Network
Coverage Forecast Improvements
in Scotland

SHARED
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NETWORK



A comparison of the coverage improvements expected by the Shared Rural Network.

nities to enjoy the benefits of improved connectivity and seize the benefits of technology, including using a 4G phone signal for work video calls as well as shopping and streaming TV shows on the go. UK Government Minister for Scotland Iain Stewart said: 'From Dumfries and Galloway to the Highlands, and from Skye to Shetland, this UK

Government investment will improve access to fast, reliable 4G coverage for people in every corner of Scotland.

'The UK government is working hard to level up digital connectivity, ensuring people and businesses across the country can enjoy the social and economic benefits of next-generation broadband and mobile coverage.'

The SRN, brokered by ministers in March last year, is expected to increase the total geographic 4G coverage to 95 per cent of the UK by 2025, however, increased coverage in Scotland is expected long before the programme's completion date as rural areas in Scotland and Wales will be receiving the greatest infrastructure developments.

New debt advice service launched for worried Scots

A free national debt advice service has been launched for people across Scotland.

The moneyadvice.scot service from Advice Direct Scotland is for anyone struggling to meet their current financial commitments.

It comes after a new opinion poll by Survation revealed more than a third of Scots are worried about paying their monthly bills over the next year. The poll also found 32 per cent of Scots are concerned about being able to afford living costs including food and clothing.

The new service provides free information and support on a range of debt-related issues and is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Specialist debt advisers can work with people to assess their current situation, look at their income and outgoings, and consider what to do next.

Around half-a-million people across Scotland are thought not to be claiming the financial support they are entitled to and moneyadvice.scot is designed to help those missing out. The service includes an online knowledge centre with helpful information.

Andrew Bartlett, chief executive of Advice Direct Scotland, said: 'For those concerned about their financial commitments, we're proud to have launched moneyadvice.scot, adding free debt advice to our extensive advice service.'

'Our specialist debt advisers are on hand if you have personal financial worries, are struggling with debt or need a way of getting back on track. More than a third of Scots are concerned about paying their monthly commitments over the next year and just under a third are worried about their living costs.'

'It's clear the pandemic has had a devastating financial impact on many families in Scotland, with many reducing their outgoings and dipping into their savings.'

'A significant proportion of Scots with a credit card are also struggling to pay off the minimum balance.'

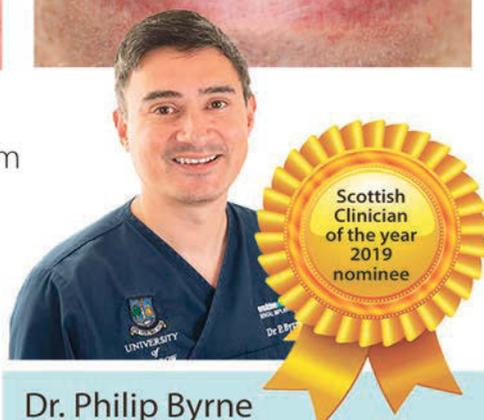
'But people don't have to suffer alone and sometimes talking things through with an adviser can help.'

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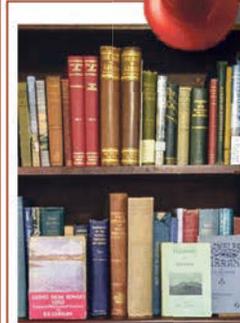
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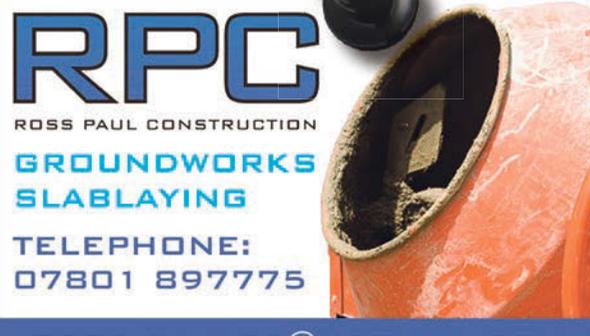
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Gardens full of young birds

June was noticeably warmer than May.

The mean temperature was four degrees higher and the rainfall was more than 40 per cent less.

The light winds of May continued into June giving a prolonged settled spell.

One effect of this was the much-reported phytoplankton (microscopic algae) bloom that gave the sea an unusual green/blue colour.

Concern has been raised over the impact of this on species that hunt by sight in the sea, for example, gannet.

In June I received far fewer gannet sightings than usual. In June 2020, I received 39 gannet records.

While the vast majority last year were of one or two birds, I did receive a report of 13 birds together and 15 birds together.

This year in June, I have received six records, all of one or two birds.

Not a scientific sample and there could be a number of factors affecting these birds that are capable of flying long

distances to feed their young. Latest reports from Ailsa Craig, the nearest gannet colony, suggest normal breeding is going on.

No doubt a lot more data will be collected above and below the waves on the impact of the algal bloom.

The settled weather was generally conducive to birds raising young during the long daylight hours in June. Some observers reported gardens full of young birds.

There were many reports of fledged birds in gardens including unfamiliar looking young birds, like goldfinch without the red face of the adult birds, and robin with spots and no red breast.

Among the familiar garden birds blackbird, song thrush, chaffinch and dunnock seemed to be doing well while others felt that blue tit, great tit and coal tit had a poorer season.

Most prolific of all seemed to be house sparrow, with 50 in Alma Park on 25th being one of the larger numbers.

Bird notes

by Jim Cassels

JUNE

Below: Red-throated diver, spotted in Brodick Bay this month. Photograph: Colin Cowley.



Also, there were many reports of numbers of siskin and goldfinch with young around, including 22 siskin in Strathwillan on 20th and 20 goldfinch in Shannochie on 29th.



Above: House sparrows have enjoyed a successful breeding season. Photograph: Brian Couper.
Above right: Some of the short-eared owls that were tagged on Arran last year are breeding in Europe this year. Photograph: Nick Giles.



at the grey heron heronries in Stronach Wood, Brodick, Lagg and Whitehouse Wood, Lamdash, by the end of the month.

The sand martin colony in Glen Catacol had 74 nest holes and was a hive of activity on 29th with adults feeding many waiting youngsters.

To date, the largest group of house martin is 20 at Glean Easan Biorach on 7th while the largest group reported of swallow with young is 14 at Kilpatrick on 19th.

A particular breeding highlight was a report of quail

Like last year it was encouraging to get reports of young greenfinch and young great spotted woodpecker from widespread locations.

Away from gardens, there were many signs of breeding

including: nesting little grebe on Mossend Pond on 5th, roding woodcock in Glen Rosa on 10th, a flock of 200 starling with many young in Sliderry on 19th, skylark singing in Kilmory on 29th and activity

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 seven days a week, from 10am to 4.30pm, with our lunch menu served from 2noon to 3pm.

CASKS Café is situated on the first floor of our Visitor Centre, offering visitors an elevated view of the stunning scenery that surrounds the distillery. Come and enjoy our selection of hot and cold beverages, whisky tasting flights and delicious home-made cakes and scones, or join us for a light lunch during your distillery visit.

If you have a wee bit more time to spare, this July you can try the limited run Flavours of the Festival whisky flight, offering the chance to sample some of the Malt and Music Festival's single cask and harmony edition single malts past and present.

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

Due to capacity and social distancing restrictions, table bookings are recommended to avoid disappointment. Group sizes are restricted in line with Scottish Government guidance on socialising in indoor public spaces 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.

Summer season is underway at our Lochranza Distillery and our entire team has once again enjoyed welcoming visitors over recent weeks.

We are open in Lochranza seven 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 at 11am daily 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 available 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 your taste buds prefer something sweeter, you can join our Whisky and 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

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Birds during breeding season



Far left: Common sandpiper, one of the shore ground nesting birds sometimes disturbed by dog walkers.

Photograph: Helen Logan.

Left: Great spotted woodpecker are now well established on Arran.

Photograph: Dave Russell.

calling near Sliderry between June 8 and June 16.

The last Arran record of this occasional summer visitor was nine years ago.

The breeding success of some raptors is linked to the vole cycle.

Bumper years of voles tend to be followed by a crash, then a gradual build up followed by a bumper year in a four-year cycle.

Last year was a bumper year for voles to the benefit of barn owls and short-eared owls who both had excellent breeding seasons.

This year the vole population has crashed.

Monitored barn owl nest boxes have had no young.

The collapse of the vole population also had an effect on short-eared owls.

Females who were satellite

tagged at nests on Arran last year are breeding in Norway and Russia this year.

But it is all natural and the vole population will recover over the next couple of years.

Around the coast, there were further signs of breeding including: a crèche of six eider at Blackwaterfoot on 3rd, eight black guillemot carrying food near Thunderguy on 5th, four fulmar nesting on Drumadoon Cliffs on 14th, a pair of mute swan with seven

young in Lamlash Bay on 18th and a pair of shelduck, also with seven young, at Kilpatrick Point on 26th.

Breeding shore birds like oystercatcher, ringed plover and common sandpiper seemed to suffer increased disturbance as a result of increasing numbers of dog walkers ignoring the advice to keep dogs on a lead where ground nesting birds are nesting.

The highlight of the month was the 'rosy spell' that

featured in a recent Banner article. Between June 14 and June 18 2021, there were nine records of rose-coloured starling, a rare vagrant from eastern Europe.

Other highlights in a month with almost 100 species reported included the following: a wood warbler singing in Brodick Country Park on 6th, two grasshopper warbler reeling on Corriecravie Moor on 8th, a male common redstart in Corriegills, also on 8th, six dunlin at Drumadoon Point on 12th, two red-throated diver close in-shore in Brodick Bay on 14th, three twite on Machrie golf course on 25th, 19 swift over High Kildonan on 29th and a great northern diver in full breeding plumage in Whiting Bay, also on 29th.

Cuckoos, whose decreasing numbers are a cause for concern nationally, seem to be thriving on Arran. Cuckoo will feature in a future Banner article.

In July, look out for early signs of breeding being over for some birds this year.

These could include the return of some arctic breeding species to our shores, as they travel south.

Remember July is the time when many birds, having raised their young, go about the process of renewing their feathers by moulting them.

As birds are vulnerable when they are shedding flight feathers, they literally make themselves scarce.

On any birding walk you may see fewer birds, but they are still around.

Enjoy your birding and keep safe.

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or email me at jim@arranbirding.co.uk I look forward to hearing from you.

For more information on birding on Arran buy the Arran Bird Report 2020 and the Arran Bird Report, the first 40 years. Plus visit the website <http://www.arran-birding.co.uk/index.html>

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One of Arran's true gentlemen

A tribute to Peter Mackenzie, May 23 1924 - June 25 2021

Peter was born on May 23 1924 in the cottage at The Knowe Farm where he remained all his life.

He attended Whiting Bay Primary School and went on to further education in Glasgow.

He had always wanted to go to sea but due to the outbreak of the Second World War he had to return home to help on the family farm.

During this time, his father became seriously unwell so Peter never got to fulfil his dream of making a career at sea.

However, that didn't stop him having a life-long love of the steamers of the Clyde and CalMac boats.

Peter, like many others of the time, never sat a driving test, having received special dispensation due to the war.

After his father died, he continued to farm at The Knowe Farm with his brother Stewart and they were one of the last farms on Arran to use Clydesdale horses.

In 1962, Peter met and married Mary Tod from Glenree Farm.

That same year, Peter and his brother Stewart bought Stonefield Farm. Stewart and his family moved there, leaving Peter and Mary at The Knowe Farm.

Peter and Mary were blessed with three children: Neil, Robert and Alastair. Both Neil and Robert left the island to pursue careers on the mainland.

Alastair joined the family farm in 1982 when he left school then, a few years ago, they were joined by his son Colin, which meant six generations had worked on the same farm.

Three generations milking cows together was something Peter was extremely proud of.

Peter was a keen participant in the Arran Farmers' Society shows.

He loved showing his Ayrshire and Friesian cows and along with brother Stewart won many rosettes over the years.

Peter was extremely proud of his grandsons, Colin and Fraser, when they followed in his footsteps showing cows.

In 2011, when Princess Anne was at the Arran Show for the second time, she asked Peter: 'Do you come to the show often?', to which he replied 'every year' followed by her reply of: 'I only come once every 25 years!'

Milking

Peter milked cows right up until his early 90s and was determined to milk the last cow when the farm stopped milking cows in 2015.

Peter always continued to take a keen interest in the farm.

A question he'd ask almost daily was 'any more calves yet?' and it is fitting one was born on the day he passed away.

One of Peter's hobbies was bowling and he was a keen member of Whiting Bay Bowling Club.

He was the last surviving founding member from 1958 and was president for eight years.

He won many trophies over the years, both at Whiting Bay and Arran Federation Bowling Club.

He was always enthusiastic to pass on his skills and welcomed anyone who wanted to try a game of bowls, including teaching Whiting



Bay Primary School children.

Peter had a dry, quiet wit and when asked at the bowling green one night if he was a local he replied politely: 'No, I'm a native.'

Peter had a wealth of knowledge of King's Cross

and Whiting Bay and loved sharing stories of days and ways of life now long gone.

He was involved in Arran High School's heritage project for many years and regularly conducted guided walking tours of Whiting Bay.

Peter loved music, both listening and playing it. He played the Lamlash Church bells for more than 45 years and was the longest continuous bell ringer.

Despite having never learned how to read music, he used

to sit and practise the tunes for the bells on the piano, learning them by ear alone.

The only reason he gave up was because he could no longer climb the ladder to the bells.

He also played the accordion, the chanter and the 'moothie'.

Even latterly, he had his 'moothie' in Cooriedoon and would enjoy playing a wee tune.

Scottish songs were sung every day when he was cleaning the milk tank, apart from a Sunday when hymns were belted out at the top of his voice.

Peter played football in his youth until a knee injury put paid to that.

He was a diehard Partick Thistle fan but enjoyed all sports following them either on the radio, in the paper or on the TV.

Peter, having never flown before, visited New Zealand in 1992 with his wife Mary.

The flight lasted more than a 24 hours - he didn't believe in doing things by half measures.

Peter has six grandchildren: Alexander and Donna, Hollie and Iona and Colin and Fraser who all adored him and he them.

Most of all he just loved being at home on the farm; being out amongst the cows and it was only when his health declined two years ago and the family could no longer care for him that he had to leave his beloved home and be cared for by the wonderful staff in Cooriedoon.

Peter was a quiet, unassuming, gentle, kind and contented gentleman who will be sadly missed by everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him.



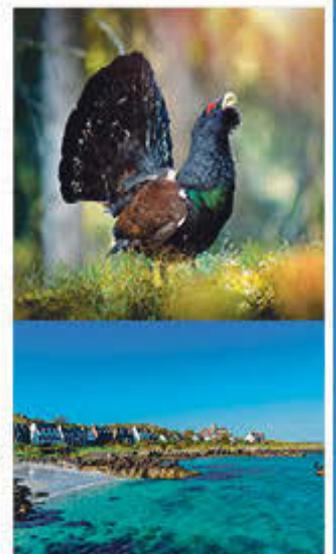
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SCOTTISH FIELD

August

OUT NOW!

In this issue
Wordsmith Peter May on his
love of the islands
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The Glasgow Girls' art
Capercaillie capers
Youngsters in field sports
Cars of the year
Chef Gary Maclean's recipes
Caerdro Castle's gardens







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SCOTTISH FIELD

August

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The Drift Inn

Tucked away just off the main road, The Drift Inn boasts fantastic views of Lamlash Bay and Holy Isle to take in whilst enjoying a refreshing drink or a freshly prepared meal. We may have spent much of the last sixteen months with our doors closed but we certainly kept busy. With al fresco dining looking set to become an enduring feature of the eating out experience in Scotland; we set about adapting our famous sea facing beer garden with a new covered terrace area ready to welcome customers back rain or shine! Also in the works (for those occasions when the sun is shining!) is an extension of the current boundary of our beer garden, bringing our customers almost within touching distance of the sea. You might even be lucky enough to spot a passing pod of dolphins or porpoises!

The views are worth a visit alone but that is not all we've got on offer. Whether you prefer to be sipping on a cocktail, recharging with a coffee roasted by the Arran Coffee Company, or relaxing with a perfect pint - we've got you covered. Working closely with our neighbours at the Seagate Brewery, we have always got a range of CAMRA approved local beers for you to sample; both by the bottle and by hand pulled pint. We've even got our own bottled blonde – "2 Doors Down" (the proximity of the brewery to us!).



We pride ourselves on our exciting and diverse menu, cooked with the freshest ingredients and as much locally sourced produce as possible. We cater for a range of tastebuds with a little bit of something for everyone: whether you're a seafood lover, partial to a steak, or just fancy a good pub classic mac and cheese or a burger. Much of our menu is gluten free or can be easily adapted and we are also very vegan friendly. You can catch our kitchen Friday – Monday at the moment and we do recommend booking in advance to avoid disappointment. While our chefs are recharging on a Wednesday Thursday, our friends at The Shack are here to satisfy your hunger – this isn't bookable but do pop along and show your support for our fabulous local businesses.

Don't forget to bring your pooches with you, we're dog friendly outside and on a few inside tables if you let us know!

THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday July 14 2001



Crowds gather to cheer on their ducks as they approach the finish line of the Duck Derby during Shiskine Valley Sports Day. 01_B29ABTYA05



Runners set off on the Kildonan fun, just one of the many events held during the village's fun week. 01_B29ABTYA03



Gator Kerr and his impostor Sheila Gilmore at the Shiskine Texas Scramble. 01_B29ABTYA04



Geoffrey Botterill and Anthony Butterworth in the dining room at their Kilmichael Country House Hotel which is featured in a glossy restaurant book, Scotland on a plate. 01_B29ABTYA02



Jamie Duncan takes on the mantle of Brodick Golf Club champion from brother Ross. 01_B29ABTYA06

Right: Arran Out of School Care, based in Brodick, looks after children during school holidays while parents are at work. Last week the children created sand sculptures on the beach with artists Josephine Pomeroy and Edward O'Donnelly.

01_B29ABTYA01



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
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, Open to book call 01770 700636

Saturday 17th July

Brodick Castle, Brodick, 11am – 4pm
RNLI Shop Open, Lamlash, 2pm - 4pm
Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Rink Games, Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm

Sunday 18th July

Brodick Castle, Brodick, 11am – 4pm
RNLI Shop, Open, Lamlash, 2pm – 4pm
What's Happening On Arran, <http://www.arranmedia.co.uk>, 4pm

Monday 19th July

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
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 20th July

Healthy Outdoor Team, Brodick Castle, 10am – 1pm
K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm 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 21st July

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 10am – 4pm
Seashore Scramble, Arran Ranger Service, booking essential, 2pm – 3.30pm
Arran Skinnymalinks Walk & Weigh-in, COAST, Lamlash, Walk, 4pm, Weigh-in, 4.30pm
Arran Pace Makers please check Facebook @arranpacemakers, Venue varies, 5.30pm
Arran Well-Being Cafe, Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick 2pm- 4pm.
Brodick Bowling Club, Brodick, 7pm
Lamlash Bowling Club, Lamlash, 7pm

Thursday 22nd July

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
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 23rd July

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 10am – 4pm
Shiskine Tennis Club, Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 4pm

Saturday 24th July

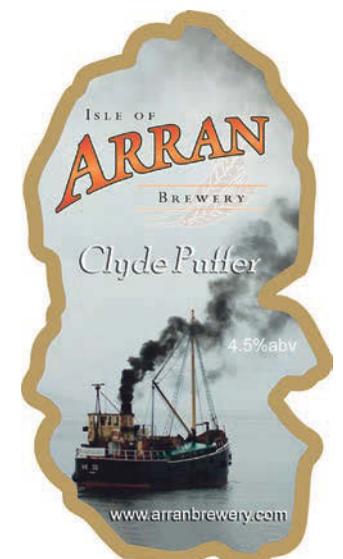
Brodick Castle, Brodick, 11am – 4pm
RNLI Shop Open, Lamlash, 2pm - 4pm
Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Rink Games, Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm

Clyde Puffer

The Isle of Arran Brewery's stout, Clyde Puffer, the label features one of the last remaining Puffers, VIC32.

An oatmeal stout of deep colour, sweet and mellow taste and a low hop taste that's light in the mouth

The beer is available throughout the island in bottles, including at the brewery shop at Cladach, Brodick



PROPERTY

Arran's own "Cottage Guide"

For owners who want to manage their own bookings and those who don't.

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- Own calendar & prices chart
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The successful applicant will be able to demonstrate an aptitude for the work and a willingness to contribute to the team effort

We will offer full training to someone willing to learn the art of chocolate making

This is a full time permanent position with good working conditions,

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James McChlery, The Arran Chocolate Factory Ltd,
Brodict, KA27 8AJ
01770 302 873 James@jamesofarran.com



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- On the job training provided
- Great team of people to work with

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Whiting Bay Bowling Club

'A sport for all ages to enjoy'

We are now open but as we can't have our usual open day, members with their own bowls can arrange games to suit themselves.

New members will be very welcome.
Come and learn something new or refresh a skill and share it.

As Covid restrictions apply, for more information or to book a game, call 01770700636.
Membership £10 for this year.

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for continuing to support your local newspaper

Arran Banner

Research shows that for every £1 spent with a local, independent business, between 50p-70p circulates back into that local economy

So every time you pick up a copy of The Arran Banner you are not just helping one local business but a whole range of local businesses



we ♥ local

CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Parishes of North Arran, Brodict, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill and Shiskine

*Independent but
working together*

There is a booking system at Brodict & 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 18th July 2021

Lochranza & Pirnmill Churches-

Service at Lochranza Church 10:15am Morning worship.

Shiskine Church 12noon.

Morning worship.

Brodict Church 10.30am

Morning worship.

Corrie Church at 12noon.

Morning worship.

The Food Bank continues from Brodict Church

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland

Charity Number: SC014005

Sunday 18th 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.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Kilmory linked with Lamlash

*"A faith to proclaim ~ a
fellowship to share"*

Scottish Charity SC015072

Sunday 18th 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

(Part of the Worldwide
Anglican Church)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday 18th July

7th Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion at 11 am.

Revd Adrian Fallows

ALL WELCOME

Coffee after service

We follow strict SEC guidelines

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister - Rev. Vince Jennings

Phone: 01770 600222

While we are still unable to

meet due to social distancing,

you are invited to pick up

our mini service on our new

website at

www.Arranbaptistchurch.org.uk

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

DEATH

GREEN - Robert. Peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital on Saturday, 10th July 2021 aged 86 years. Beloved husband of Gina and much loved father to Susan and Vicky, Papa to Mark, Louise, Lucy and Jamie. Loved by all the family. A huge thank you to all the Doctors and Nurses at Arran War Memorial Hospital for the care and attention received by Bert and his family. Cremation service to be held at Daldowie Crematorium on Wednesday, 21st July at 13:45. Anyone wishing the webcast link please contact Gwen Brooks on 07917 354016.

MACKENZIE - Mary. The Knowe Farm, King's Cross, Isle of Arran. Peacefully at Montrose House on Tuesday 6th July 2021. Has already been laid to rest. No cards please.

TAYLOR - Tommy passed away peacefully at home after a short illness on 30th June surrounded by family. Many thanks to the community nursing team, Kate Jenks, Dr Janet Iqbal, staff at Arran Medical Group and all who have offered their condolences.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MACMILLAN - Alison. Alison's family would like to thank everyone for the many cards & flowers received. Also, thanks to Cooriedoon Care Home for the loving care & support for mum over the past eight years. Thanks to the Coffee Pot staff for always taking time to talk to mum and make her feel welcome. Thanks to David & Clair Hendry for funeral arrangements and Liz Clarke for her kindness and compassion and uplifting service.

Paras-medics take top spot at Texas Scramble

Continued from back page. Lamlash Golf Club

The players in this year's ladies championship were Sheena Murchie and Susan Butchard. After a very hard fought, close and exciting game Susan won with the last putt on the 18th green.

Wednesday July 7, Medal 5.

1 Sheena Murchie 77-14=63;

2 Anne MacVicar. 86-20=66.

Scratch Sheena Murchie 77.

Thursday July 8, Summer

Cup and Scratch Club. 1

Paul Jameson 72-10=62;

2 Neil Stewart 68-5=63; 3

Iain Murchie 70-7=63. Best

scratch, Neil Stewart 68.

Magic twos, Ian Bremner,

Dougie Macfarlane and Paul

Jameson, all at 16th, Neil

Young at 13th, Iain Murchie

at 5th. Hole 12 drawn,

rollover. Sunday July 11,

Medal Shield. 1 Ian Bremner

71-8=63; 2 Craig Watson

75-9=66. Best scratch, Ian

Bremner 71. Magic twos,

Martin Wallbank at 16th.

Hole 12 drawn, rollover.

Fixtures: Saturday July 17,

Club Championship final, 36

holes. 1pm and 5pm. Sunday

July 18, Hamilton Bowl,

noon draw. Thursday July

22, Summer Cup. Make up

own groups. Monday July 26,

Island Mixed 4s. Phone the

starter on 600196 for times.

tee-off from noon.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday July 7, Wednesday

Medal. 1 R I McMillan

82-23-59; 2 G Andrew 71-

11-60; 3 G McKelvie 70-8-62

and scratch. Saturday July

10, Commemoration Shield. 1

J W Kelso 76-20-56; 2 G

Andrew 72-10-62; 3 W Paton

70-8-62. Congratulations



Above: winners of the best fancy dress at the Shiskine Texas Scramble: Dad's Army - Charles and Irene Currie and Irene and Billy Anderson.

to Willie Kelso of Shiskine Golf Club on winning the Commemoration Shield. The scratch prize Silver Salver goes to Billy Paton.

Fixtures: Saturday July 17, 18-hole medal. Wednesday July 21, Fairs Cup. Please make up your own pairings and adhere to the latest Covid-19 guidance.

Brodict Golf Club

Wednesday July 7, Summer

Cup, 36 played. Matt Dobson

66-6=60; Fred Galbraith

76-14=62; Bill Donaldson

77-14=63, ACB. Scratch, Matt

Dobson 66. Fixture: Sunday

July 18, Navy Shield.



Above: Susan Butchard with the Lamlash ladies championship trophy, right, and runner-up Sheena Murchie.



Left: Winners at the Machrie Ladies Open.

Be a part of this year's
SCOTTISH FIELD WHISKY AWARDS
29 October 2021 • 6pm arrival - 11pm close • Dress code: Smart casual

TO PURCHASE TICKETS VISIT:
beautifultickets.com/events/scottish-field-whisky-awards-21st-anniversary
*You must be 18 or over to attend the event.

Paras-medics take top spot at Texas Scramble



Shiskine Golf Club

Sunday July 11, Sam Guthrie Trophy, Texas Scramble. Heroes theme. 1 Paras-medics - Alan Bannatyne, Kirstie Barton, Smithy and Neil Henderson and Emma Henderson 36.2; 2 St Liz's Heroes - Louise Macalister, Shirley Anderson, Steve Garraway and Alice Anderson 36.8. Best fancy dress, Dad's Army - Charles and Irene Currie, Irene and Billy Anderson. Hole prizes: 1 Jack Dunn; 2 Susan Wilson; 3 Sandy Kerr; 5 Fiona Henderson; 7 Zara Weir; 8 Shirley Anderson; 9 Alan Stewart; 10 Fraser Pilkington. Approximately £1,000 was raised on the day for Shiskine Valley Trust.

Monday July 12, Centenary Putter. Winners, Q Oliver and S Weir 28+27=55pts. Gents 1st class: 1 F Pilkington, 25pts BIH; 2 A Gallagher, 25pts; 3 A Miller, 24pts. 2nd class: 1 Q Oliver, 28pts; 2 A Hutton, 25pts BIH; 3 D Hesse, 25pts. Magic twos, D Hesse, A Howie x2, J Cleat, D McDonald.



Paras-medics, Alan Bannatyne, Kirstie Barton, Smithy and Neil Henderson and Emma Henderson with the Sam Guthrie Trophy.

Ladies: 1 S Weir, 27pts BIH; 2 E Kerr, 27pts; 3 J McDonald, 26pts.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

A field of 44 ladies took part in a two player Texas Scramble at the Machrie Ladies Open.

The weather was lovely and the course was in good condition. Thanks to David Jeffries for getting everything ship shape for the day.

The prizegiving took place

outside on the putting green. Lady captain Clare Buchanan presented the main winners with their prizes as well as all the hole prizewinners. Clare was ably helped by her lovely assistant club captain Brian Sherwood.

Result: 1 E Hunter and D McKellar 25.25; 2 P Johnston and E Kelso 26.25; 3 S Weir and Z Weir 27.25; 4 C Buchanan and J Arthur 27.5.

Hole prizes: 1 Mystery Prize, S Murchie and A Heron; 2 Longest Putt, A Thomson and

F McMillan; 3 Nearest the line, I Currie and J Devine; 4 Longest Drive, K Barton and M J Tod; 5 Nearest the Pin in 2, E Kelso and P Johnston; 6 Nearest the line, J Hutton and M Tod; 7 Longest Putt, F Miller and L Howie; 8 Mystery Prize, A Thomson and F McMillan; 9 Nearest the Pin in 2, D McKellar and E Hunter.

Tuesday July 6, Peter Sutton. 1 John Milesi 63; 2 Sandy Murray 64 BIH; 3 Brian Sherwood 64. Magic two Alex Morrison-Cowan.

Fixtures: Tuesday July 20, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary. 12.30pm tee-off.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday July 7, Summer Trophy, 23 played. 1 David Blair 12, 62; 2 Neil McKechnie 10, 64 acb; 3 Douglas Auld 19, 64; 4 Andrew Martin 14, 65 acb. Lowest gross Nicol Auld 3, 66. Magic twos, Gus MacLeod @2, Ryan Armstrong @7, David Blair, Robert McNaught, John

Pennycott, Stan Rainey @17. Sunday July 11, the Whiting Bay Improvements Stableford. A good field of 38 took part in the 2021 edition of The Improvements, the latest in the summer open competitions in support of local causes. The recent trend of good scoring continued with 26 players carding 30 points or more and the top six all beating par figures. 1 Gavin Bell 24, 43pts; 2 Sandy Pringle 16, 41; 3 Patricia Tait 24, 38 acb; 4 Sean Higgins 24, 38. Magic twos, Jamie Stewart @1st, David Brookens @2nd, Jamie Macpherson @15th Sandy Kelso @ 16th and Stan Rainey @17th.

Fixtures: Sunday July 18, The Raymond Curtis Salver. Wednesday July 21, The McLintock Cup.

Continued on page 19.



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