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Independent ferry report lays bare issues for Arran

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



An independent report, commissioned by CalMac, on the socio-economic impact the ferry service has on island communities, has highlighted some of the issues that Arran residents, as well as CalMac, are facing.

The assessment undertaken by Centre for Economics and Business Research (Cebr) is the first phase of the study, a qualitative exploration, with the second phase, a quantitative analysis, expected to be delivered later in summer this year.

Angus Campbell, chairperson of the Ferries Community Board, said: 'The Ferries Community Board welcomes the publication of phase one of the socio-economic report. The board feels it is crucially important to have an independent piece of work that clearly demonstrates the importance of our ferry services to island

life. That includes factors that affect people's life choices, population and demographics, but also availability of services such as health, education and employment. We look forward to the final stage of work and the further gathering of information across our com-

'The board feels it's crucially important to have an independent piece of work that clearly demonstrates the importance of our ferry service...'

munities to help make the case for further investment in ferry infrastructure to the benefit of our island communities and the country as a whole.'

The 65-page document makes use of input from 59 consultants, including Ruth Betley of the North Ayrshire Health

and Social Care Partnership, David Henderson of Kilpatrick Farm, and Bill Calderwood, Ferries Community Board member, as well as a number of North Ayrshire Council representatives whose remit covers Arran.

The report lists the ultimate purposes of the research as: identify island needs as part of an ongoing strategic conversation; help better reflect the value of service improvements to island communities; inform the ongoing debate about value for money from ferry expenditure; and provide information to help prioritise investment or plan services to deliver improved island outcomes.

When describing common themes discovered during the research, the report stated: 'Overwhelmingly, the current challenges that we have heard about on the network relate to reliability and capacity, although there are important differences across islands and

Continued on page two.



ArCaS receives generous donation

New ArCaS chairman, David Penn, and new secretary, Mike Dobson, receive a generous donation from Clair Hendry on behalf of Clyde Crematorium.

Attendees at the crematorium in Dalry provided the donations which Clyde Crema-

torium shared between four beneficiaries. The donation will be used by ArCaS to provide care, support and services for those affected by cancer.

For more on the new directors at ArCaS, turn to page 3.

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Weather, delays and Covid mean more ferry woes

Arran's businesses, residents and visitors faced an extended period of disruption this week due to ferry cancellations and other issues.

The ferry woes on the Ardrossan to Brodick route began last Friday when only one out of the five scheduled sailings left Ardrossan. Only three of five sailings made it out of Brodick.

The weekend sailings were all cancelled and continued bad weather caused lengthy delays on Monday, with the 4.40pm from Brodick and the 6pm from Ardrossan cancelled. This had a knock-on effect, meaning Tuesday's 7am sailing from Ardrossan was cancelled as it was berthed in Brodick.

To accommodate some of the traffic affected by the cancellations CalMac operated a shuttle service on the Claonaig to Lochranza route starting on Friday, but this had to be curtailed early, resulting in a number of passengers being stranded.

On both Saturday and Sunday, the Claonaig/Tarbert to Lochranza route managed

to provide six return sailings each day.

MV Caledonian Isles, which was scheduled to return last week, was delayed owing to additional steel works that were discovered during her annual overhaul. Her return was further delayed until Wednesday following sea trials. Unfortunately, the vessel could not return to service as a case of Covid was discovered on board. This prevented MV Hebridean Isles from carrying out early morning scheduled sailings as MV Caledonian Isles, which was berthed in Brodick, could not be moved without crew.

At the time of going to press on Wednesday, MV Hebridean Isles resumed service with a 11.05am sailing from Brodick, but the MV Caledonian Isles' ability to sail – with regards to the outcome of the sea trials and crewing availability – remains unknown.

Further bad weather is forecast for this weekend and CalMac advise passengers to download their app or sign up for service updates.

Chrissy's Laundry closes after 18 years

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Arran's only dry cleaning laundry will shut its doors at the end of this month after providing laundry and dry cleaning services to hotels, restaurants, holidaymakers, and island residents for more than 18 years.

Owner Chrissy Duncan will close her shop at the Old Haybarn in Lamlash on Monday February 28.

The difficult decision to close the long-established, and well supported, business is due to spiralling electricity costs, rising business rates, staffing difficulties and ill health.

Chrissy's Laundry started operating out of Chrissy's shed in her back garden in Lamlash, and over the years, thanks to widespread support, it blossomed into a large concern that expanded into larger



Chrissy Duncan and her son, Mark Johnson, will be missed by all of their customers, many of whom have supported the company for 18 years.

01_B06Chrissys01

without the help of my son, Mark Johnson, who has been an integral part of the business. I am extremely thankful for his hard work and loyalty over the years.

'Thank you to all customers, old and new, for your loyalty and support for my small island business over many years, and in some instances over a decade.

'Operating Chrissy's Laundry has had its ups and downs but it has always been a pleasure assisting people. I will miss seeing everybody.'

The news of the closure came rather unexpectedly for some, and in response to a short goodbye message on Chrissy's Laundry social media pages, customers and business owners wished Chrissy a happy retirement and a well-earned rest after providing a vital service on Arran for nearly two decades.

premises on Auchrannie Road.

The business continued to flourish for many more years, but after a devastating fire in 2004, Chrissy's Laundry temporarily moved back to her sheds again, before moving to the Old Haybarn in Lamlash where it continued to serve a loyal clientele from all round the island.

Having faced floods, fire

and everything in-between, Chrissy is no stranger to tackling obstacles, however, this latest series of circumstances has prompted her to call it a day.

Chrissy told the Banner: 'I am sad to be closing after all of these years but at the end of February we will be closing our doors for the last time.

'I could not have done it all

Independent ferry report lays bare problems facing islanders

Continued from page 1.

routes. Causes of service disruption include adverse weather, crew unavailability and vessel breakdowns. The size and age of the fleet and harbour infrastructure limits operational opportunities to tackle reliability challenges.

'The fleet now looks old compared to historic CalMac benchmarks and to international comparisons. Despite ramping up maintenance and overhaul activities, there is a widespread perception that reliability has worsened over recent years. This introduces risks for travellers and frustrates economic activities.'

The effects of the Rail Equivalent Tariff (RET) were considered in the report, this was attributed to bringing prices down but increasing traffic by around 20 per cent across the network. As for capacity issues, the report found 'the pain is felt by those who need to travel at short notice rather than those who need to travel at least'. This it describes as, 'not an economically efficient way of allocating capacity'.

On a more positive note, Cebr found that other aspects of the service are generally

considered to be good and that: 'Operational staff are overwhelmingly seen as helpful and professional, going the extra mile to make journeys easier and help where they can'.

When summarising the ferry service characteristics, the report found that, 'In general, we find the most important issues to passengers have arisen from a lack of long-term investment in vessels and infrastructure'.

In collating the community response, from discussions with residents, businesses and ferry bodies, Cebr, unsurprisingly, found that: 'Ferries are intertwined with all aspects of island life. Islanders and organisations have built their lives and operations around the ferry service', which it further elaborated can create difficulties when ferries are the only way to travel to fulfil critical life pursuits.

The Cebr report said: 'With few or no other alternatives, islanders and island businesses bear the full cost when ferry services deteriorate, but equally stand to gain the full benefit when they get better. For some trips and in some places, it may be possible to travel more or less frequently, or to change

the time of travel. But for other trips, the ferry service is a 'take it or leave it' option – and leaving it may well mean moving away to places with better access to jobs or lower transport costs, compromising policy objectives of sustaining and increasing island populations.'

On the subject of increasing island populations, the report found that in the longer term, 'the level of ferry provision affects larger choices such as whether to move to the islands or to stay on them, or whether to locate new business operations there.'

As for long-term implications, the report found that, 'In the short term people adjust how and where they travel, but in the long term, the very pattern of activities and the economic connections change. These longer-term dynamic effects on people and businesses will define the islands for decades to come.'

Phase two of the report will also provide a quantified assessment of the role that ferry services could have in supporting or hindering re-population goals, as well as an insight on the islands' future sustainability.

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New ArCaS secretary Mike Dobson and new chairman David Penn look forward to continuing and building on the valuable work undertaken by the charity. 01_B06Arcas01

New faces at helm of ArCas look to future

Arran Cancer Support Trust (ArCaS) has welcomed a new chairman and two new trustees after the previous chairman Douglas Johnston retired.

The three changes to the board of trustees has seen David Penn elected as the new chairman, Mike Dobson as the new secretary and Eilidh Kerr as a charity trustee.

Mr Penn, who previously held the position of ArCaS secretary, said: 'I am honoured to have been elected as chairperson by my fellow trustees and wish to pay tribute to my predecessor, Douglas Johnston, who decided to retire after giving many years of leadership, direction and support to this unique island cancer charity.

'Our 10-strong board of trustees are all volunteers who give their time and experience freely to make sure ArCaS uses its funds and resources

wisely to support island people impacted by cancer in a variety of ways.

'I am excited to lead this much-loved island charity as we move forward with confidence, drawing upon the wisdom of long-standing trustees and tapping into fresh ideas, energy and enthusiasm from new trustees.'

The two new appointees have already started their charitable work and on Tuesday Mr Penn and Mr Dobson received a welcome donation from Clyde Crematorium.

Clair Hendry of Hendry Funeral Services, acting on behalf of Clyde Crematorium, presented the charity representatives with a £1,000 cheque at the ArCaS shop in Brodick.

Mr Dobson said: 'We thank Clyde Crematorium for thinking of us when deciding to allocate donations that had been left by attendees between four charities.

'I am excited to lead this much-loved island charity as we move forward with confidence, drawing upon the wisdom of long-standing trustees and tapping into fresh ideas, energy and enthusiasm from new trustees.'

'This donation will help us continue to support residents who have been affected by cancer, whether they are young or old, and they can be sure the services we provide are always undertaken in the strictest confidence and at no cost to the patient.'

ArCaS has, for more than 30 years, provided support for people affected by cancer. This includes transport to and from island and mainland hospitals, equipment donations to hospitals, surgeries and community nurses and counselling and complementary therapy for people affected by cancer.

The charity raises funds from donations and its charity shop in Brodick which is staffed by 40 volunteers. Trustees also give their time voluntarily and undertake duties including working in the shop, administration, accounting, fundraising, raising awareness, co-ordinating transport needs of patients and arranging complementary therapy.

ArCaS is always grateful to receive donations of any size from individuals and organisations so that it can continue its valuable work. Further information can be found at www.arrancancersupport.org

Brodick Co-op staff find the time to care about mental wellbeing

Brodick Co-op has once again shown its support for mental wellbeing with a number of initiatives during Time to Talk day.

Store manager Liz Mclean and team manager Carol Harwood provided shoppers with goody bags and invited members of the public to give them a call if they need to chat.

The bags, which people were encouraged to take, contained chocolates, a hot drink and a few tasty nibbles, as well as a small heart-shaped card with a positive message.

Time to Talk day is a national initiative by mental health organisations Mind, Rethink Mental Illness and the Co-op which have joined together in an effort to help friends, families, communities and workplaces to talk, listen and help change lives.

Time to Talk day takes place on the first Thursday of February each year when mental health organisations and anti-stigma groups spread the message that talking is benefi-



Carol Harwood and Joyce Miller of Brodick Co-op provided goody bags and offered shoppers a contact number and a sympathetic ear if they need someone to speak with.

01_B06talk01

cial for mental health and that there is always someone to talk to.

The Co-op are long-term supporters of mental wellbeing endeavours and spearhead a number of initiatives, such as Together Through Tough Times and Time to Talk, as well as providing charitable donations supporting the work of mental health organisations.

If you are struggling with your mental health, or if you

just wish to speak to someone, Liz and Carol will lend a sympathetic ear and, if required, direct you to an organisation offering assistance.

The Scottish Association for Mental Health can be contacted on 03448 000 550 from 9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, excluding bank holidays.

Or email info@samh.org.uk. Further useful information, guidance and advice can be found at www.samh.org.uk

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Scottish TOURIST BOARD VISITOR ATTRACTION
ARRAN The Island

Invitation to apply for platinum jubilee cash

Community groups and organisations on Arran are invited to apply for funding to celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee celebrations this summer.

The funding is in recognition of the Queen becoming the first British monarch to celebrate a platinum jubilee, having reigned for 70 years.

North Ayrshire Council's information and culture team is inviting applications for grants which can be used to deliver creative, heritage and cultural activities as part of the jubilee celebrations.

Grants of £250, £500, or £1,000 are available and groups have until 5pm on Monday February 28 to apply. Applications will be reviewed

by an independent panel and allocated by the end of March 2022. Councillor Louise McPhater, cabinet member for participatory democracy, said: 'We are delighted to launch the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Fund as this is an excellent chance for community groups and not-for-profit organisations to celebrate a historic milestone.

'North Ayrshire has been successful in its involvement in past celebrations for events including the 2014 Commonwealth Games, Queen's baton relay, World War centenary commemorations, Olympic torch relay, the Queen's 90th birthday, Scotland's Year of Homecoming and Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters.

'Our communities will be able to choose how to participate in marking the Queen's platinum jubilee and to celebrate community service, enhance civic pride and build capacity through participation and community leadership.

'After the challenges of the last 18 months, the fund is also key to our recovery from the pandemic as it allows community groups, volunteers and residents to get involved, socialise and share in meaningful experiences together, while having a positive impact on the wider community.

'So, if you're planning a community event such as an open day or community gathering or perhaps you have an idea to improve a public space or cre-

ate a commemorative space for people to come together, share your ideas now and submit an application. I would encourage any community group interested to apply for funding well before the deadline. Don't miss out on your chance to take your project or idea to the next level.'

Community groups and not-for-profit organisations from North Ayrshire with a bank account can apply. Information can be found at <https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/your-community/community-funding.aspx>. Electronic forms must be emailed to harbourarts@north-ayrshire.gov.uk or printed forms can be collected and handed into your local library.



Councillor Louise McPhater is encouraging people to participate in marking the Queen's platinum jubilee.

Corrie Film Club presents... Promising Young Woman

Corrie Film Club's February film is Emerald Fennell's Promising Young Woman.

This award-winning debut director's film of 2021 stars Carey Mulligan at her ice-cold best as a scheming sociopath in this fearless unpicking of entitlement and victimhood.

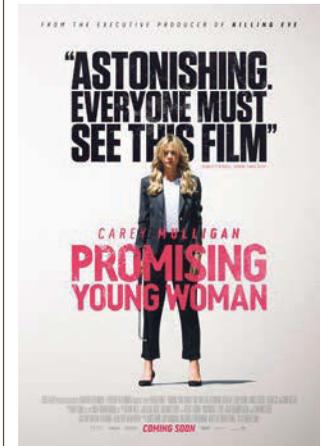
Nothing in Cassie's life is what it appears to be.

She's wickedly smart, tantalisingly cunning and living a secret double life by night, exacting revenge on predatory males and righting the wrongs of the past.

A thrilling and light-hearted take on a serious subject.

See the film free in Corrie and Sannox Hall on Sunday February 13, at 7.30pm.

Everyone welcome but all those attending must take a lateral flow test before attending.



Promising Young Woman is being shown by Corrie Film Club this weekend in Corrie and Sannox Hall. Everyone welcome.

Community enhancing projects eligible for funding



Council leader Joe Cullinane is encouraging people to take advantage of the Communities Project Fund.

Arran groups are invited to apply for North Ayrshire Council funding to help deliver projects that will enhance their community.

The £75,000 Communities Project Fund is open to constituted groups and organisations who can bid for anything between £5,000 and £25,000.

All projects should be 'place-based' which means they should have a focus on a particular area. Projects should deliver on the council's place-based regeneration ambitions of town centre revitalisation, com-

munity-led regeneration and the principle of 20 minute neighbourhoods where residents have easy, convenient access to many of the places and services they use daily including grocery stores, restaurants, schools and parks, without relying on a car.

Councillor Joe Cullinane, leader of North Ayrshire Council, said: 'This is a fantastic new fund and enhances what we are doing across our communities. We are empowering and supporting groups who care for their communities.

'We are building from the bottom up and by working with groups finding ways to deliver projects that benefit not only them but the whole community.'

Information on funding opportunities can be found at <https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/your-community/community-funding.aspx>. Successful projects will either need to be delivered or financially committed by March 30, 2022. Completed applications should be emailed to regeneration@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 5pm on Monday February 28.

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We will Miss You

CHRISSY'S LAUNDRY
After 18 years it is with deep sadness that we will be closing our doors on **Monday 28th February**.
Thank you to all our loyal customers and best wishes for the future.

MSP's concern over drop in number of police officers

West Scotland MSP Jamie Greene has expressed his concern about the falling number of police officers covering Ayrshire.

In the Ayrshire policing division, police numbers are down 46 since 2013 when Police Scotland was formed, falling from 862 in 2013 to 816 in December 2021.

Police officer numbers across Scotland are at their lowest point since early 2009 with official numbers showing there are currently 17,117 full-time police officers serving across Scotland.

Since the police merger, there are also nearly 650 fewer local police officers available to patrol streets and respond to calls, with 12 out of 13 local police divisions having seen their officer numbers cut.

Last year, Police Scotland's capital budget fell at least £30 million short. After Police Scotland requested a capital budget of £85.7m for 2021-22, there was just a £500,000 increase in funding from the Scottish Government.

Jamie Greene, who serves as the shadow justice secretary, said: 'Our local police work tirelessly day and night to keep the public safe, yet they are not being properly resourced by the government. I'm calling on the Scottish Government to urgently reverse the cuts to police budgets so that the number of officers patrolling our streets can be restored.'

'I would like to thank the police themselves for



West Scotland MSP Jamie Greene has expressed his gratitude for the work Police Scotland undertake but is calling for better funding to increase the number of officers patrolling the streets.

all they do day-in, day-out, fighting crime and keeping people safe.'

Police officers are supplemented by specialist regional and national resources which each commander has access to. Regionally, there are 1,425 officers providing specialist support, including major investigation teams and armed policing units, to policing divisions within the West Command area.

Nationally, there are a further 1,854 resources working across Scotland, including the specialist national rape investigation unit and human trafficking unit and operational support resources such as the air support and mounted unit.

As well as these specialist resources, the division can also request additional support to police large scale events or major incidents.

Island pet owners warned to keep dogs under control

Police on Arran are reminding dog owners and visitors to be mindful of their responsibilities when exercising their pets in the countryside.

The plea comes after a number of incidents of livestock worrying – a criminal offence punishable by fines of up to £40,000 and prison sentences.

Arran Sergeant Kevin Blackley owns a terrier dog called Storm and believes the majority of dog owners are responsible, however, he is also aware of the distressing nature and impact dog attacks on livestock can have.

Sergeant Blackley said: 'Arran has a large farming community and, especially at this time of the year with lambing season upon us, I would remind residents and visitors of the importance of keeping dogs on a lead when livestock are present or likely to be present.'

'Even the most friendly of dogs can still cause pregnant ewes sufficient distress to miscarry.'

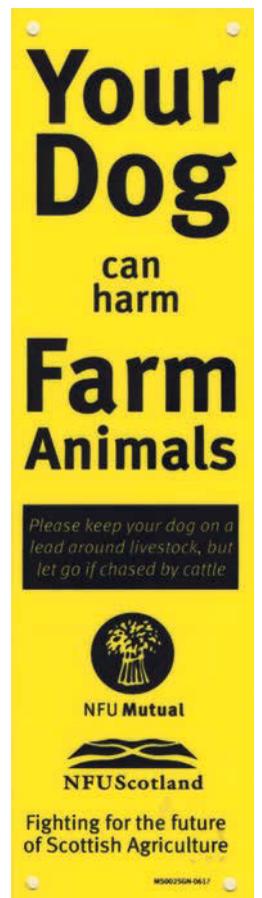
'Livestock worrying is an offence which Police Scotland takes very seriously. It investigates all reports of that nature. In some circumstances, the landowner has the right to shoot dogs who are worrying animals, so if you are near land which is likely to have livestock in it then keep your dog on a short lead – less than 2m – and if you are unable to avoid land with animals present, keep your dog close at heel and keep as much distance from the animals as possible.'

'I have a stock of yellow information notices which are a useful reminder to dog walkers. Landowners can collect these from Lamlash police station.'

A keen advocate on responsible dog ownership, Sergeant



Above: Sergeant Kevin Blackley with his Siberian husky Storm. Above right: Information notices aimed at dog walkers can be obtained from Lamlash police station.



'Even the most friendly of dogs can still cause pregnant ewes sufficient distress to miscarry.'

Blackley added: 'Please also clean up after your dog. Arran has a good supply of waste bins; you will come across one before too long.'

Information regarding dog ownership and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code can be found at www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot/practical-guide-all/dog-walking.

Second winter sheepdog trial on Arran

Dog handlers on Arran took part in their second winter trial held at Springfield Farm, Shannochie, by kind permission of the McMaster family.

The competition was judged by Neil Henderson of Kilpatrick and 10 dogs competed.

Results: Nursery 1: 1 W Stevenson with Dusk, 67 points and winner of the Druid Cup; 2 I Logan with Chris, 55 points, in his first trial run; 3 S McMaster with Dan, 52 points. Nursery 2: 1 W Stevenson with Dusk, 83 points; 2 S McMaster with Dan, 71 points; 3 I Logan with Chris, 66

points. Older dogs: 1 I McConnell with Joe, 87 points; 2 W Stevenson with Arran McLoed, 85 points; 3 M McNeish with Pip, 80 points.

The next trial will take place at Birchburn, Shiskine, on Sunday February 20, at 11am. Everyone welcome.

Screen Machine Scotland's Mobile Cinema

Brodick, Ormidale Park
Fri 18 to Mon 21 Feb

Encanto (PG) 99 mins

Animated musical from Disney about the Madrigals, an extraordinary family who live in a magical house in the mountains of Colombia.

18/02 at 5.30pm, 19/02 at 2pm

West Side Story (12A) 156 mins

Steven Spielberg reunites the rivalry between the Sharks and the Jets in this masterful musical of love and revenge. 18/02 at 8pm, 20/02 at 2pm

Spider-Man: No Way Home (12A) 148 mins

Peter Parker's attempts to undo the past unleash the enemies of alternative Spider-Men for other universes. 19/02 at 5pm, 20/02 at 8pm

House of Gucci (15) 157 mins

From Ridley Scott comes this crime drama based on the true story of murder and intrigue in the Gucci family in the 1990s. 19/02 at 8.30pm

Belfast (12A) 98 mins

Moving semi-autobiographical drama by Kenneth Branagh about his childhood growing up in 1960s Belfast at the start of the Troubles. 20/02 at 5.30pm, 21/02 at 8.30pm

The King's Man (15) 131 mins

Action comedy starring Ralph Fiennes about the beginnings of the Kingsman spy organisation during World War One. 21/02 at 5.30pm

Read about our Covid measures at www.screenmachine.com/covid-measures

Book at www.screenmachine.co.uk or buy tickets at the cinema 30 mins before screenings. £7.50 adults/£5.50 concs. Fully accessible for wheelchair users.



LETTERS

Write to us: editor@arranbanner.co.uk
or The Editor, Arran Banner, Brodick, Arran KA27 8AJ**Blueprint for improvement**

The independent study by the Centre for Economics and Business Research might at first seem like an exercise in futility for some.

Why commission a study into something most people could easily tell CalMac without spending months or even a penny on researching?

The fact is this report holds weight. Much like the Fraser of Allander Institute's study on the impact of Covid on the Arran economy, this document will now frequently be used as a reference and an accurate assessment on the issues and current state of affairs for the ferry operator.

It is reasonable to assume CalMac would be delighted to have access to new vessels, additional resources and powers to run the service more efficiently. But it would be pure supposition to say this document will help CalMac to prove its case and provide trusted evidence to help motivate other players, such as Transport Scotland and CMAL, to make changes that will improve their ability to provide a reliable and efficient service.

Of course, one cannot read too much into the situation but, undoubtedly, the motivation for commissioning this study is not just for information purposes. With conclusions and recommendations to be published later this year, it may just be that this study becomes the blueprint necessary for improvements.

Thought for the week

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.' **Matthew 5:10**

1960s service

Sir,
As a Caledonian Steam Packet Company fan whose earliest memories are travelling to Whiting Bay on the PS Caledonia, it saddens me the ferries follow the same timetable as those I caught as a teenager in the 1960s.

Arran has a two-vessel service for most of the year but Lochranza to Claonaig/Tarbert is not a patch on the service to Islay or Mull which has two full sized vessels all year. It used to be the ferry could be diverted to Gourrock, but that no longer happens. Is that because the ramp at Gourrock is no longer maintained? Or has it more to do with concerns about the docking at Brodick in poor weather? Or are the ships no longer up to the job, unlike the catamarans operated by Pentland Ferries. In my opinion, Arran gets a poor deal from CMAL and they are costing us, the taxpayer, an absolute fortune.

**Yours,
Eric Gilmour,
Lochwinnoch.**

Bustle and vitality

Sir,
I know I am late in responding to the Ibiza themed letter from Pat Jones, but I have only just stopped chuckling long enough to write.

As a resident of Kildonan, I'd like to disappoint them further by confessing I feel no obligation to maintain a zen like calm all year, in case someone who has chosen to live somewhere busier and noisier happens to be visiting.

Likewise, when I visit the mainland, I do not expect Glaswegians to put on an extra show of bustle and vitality for my benefit. I'm just happy to be there.

**Yours,
Jill Jeffries,
Kildonan.**

Fundraising thanks

Sir,
May I take this opportunity to thank everyone who sponsored me for my Maggie's Centres 50 Miles January Challenge by donating £722 through www.justgiving.com/Douglas-Auld.

As many of you know, Maggie's Centres offer wonderful support to anyone with cancer and their families.

Thank you again.

**Yours,
Douglas Auld,
Whiting Bay.**

Arran Bridge Club

Sir,
Since lockdown, we have tried various ways of keeping Arran Bridge Club going and have now found a winning play.

The club meets twice per week on Realbridge. This is an online site which enables people to see their partner and their opponents and chat with them, thus keeping the social side as well as the game going.

It is Covid proof and means you can play in the comfort of your home or wherever you happen to be.

The club meets on a Monday afternoon at 2.45pm and a Thursday evening at 7pm.

To join us, go to Arran Bridge Club's web page and click on the link on the right hand side. Sign in with your name only, check your camera and microphone and log in.

It will be open half an hour before the start of play. You will be taken into a virtual room where you can select a seat.

If you are interested in joining us for the first time contact either Gege Kroner 700396 or Tricia Martin 600835.

We would love to hear from you and will do our utmost to fix you up with a partner if you

need one. Tricia also does a class on Realbridge on Thursday afternoons at 3pm if you are interested in learning or updating your system.

We may go back to face to face bridge at a later date and hope, meantime, to have a couple of dinners or actual get togethers.

Almost all of us are playing bridge online via Realbridge and Bridge Base Online and over the last two years this has enabled us to chat, play, and keep in touch.

We have played with Doune, Perth and with Prestwick, among others, all of whom welcomed us from the beginning.

The Scottish Bridge Union runs competitions on Bridge Base Online and most clubs are happy, as we are, to welcome visitors.

**Yours,
Gege Kroner,
Arran Bridge Club.**

Barcoded stamps

Sir,
Your readers will have seen that our 'every day' stamps are changing.

We are adding unique barcodes to stamps to pave the way for innovative services for our customers and to enhance the security of the postal service.

We are encouraging customers to find and use-up any non-barcoded stamps before January 31 2023.

However, if customers are unable to use them up by then, we will exchange them for barcoded stamps completely free of charge.

Our Swap Out scheme will open on March 31 2022.

Customers will be able to print out a form from our website, call our customer experience team to ask for one or pick one up from their local delivery office's customer service point.

More details about our Swap Out scheme will be announced soon, but in the meantime please be assured that all existing stamps remain valid for postage in the usual way.

**Yours,
Nick Landon,
Royal Mail.**

CONTACTUS

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PRESSPOLICY

At The Arran Banner, we endeavour to ensure all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO).

However, we realise that mistakes happen from time to time. If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@arranbanner.co.uk; telephoning the chief reporter on 01770 302142 or write to the Group Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin Estate, Oban, PA34 4HB. We will try to resolve your issue in a timeous, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter, by emailing: inquiries@ipso.co.uk.

The Editor welcomes letters for publication on this page. The Editor reserves the right to shorten, amend or to refuse to print them.

Names and addresses MUST be supplied to indicate good faith, although these details can be withheld from publication. Telephone numbers, if available, should also be included. Anonymous letters will not be considered. Please write to: Letters, The Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ. Fax: (01770) 302021.

Email editor@arranbanner.co.uk Emailed letters can only be considered if they have a name, full address and telephone number.

HAVE YOUR SAYemaileditor@arranbanner.co.uk**ARRAN DELIVERIES***We deliver the goods, not excuses***Daily collection throughout Ayrshire, Glasgow and surrounding districts**www.arrandeliveries.co.uk **Glasgow Depot**

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hold it until all your goods have arrived and deliver it all together to your home. If you're needing special arrangements for your delivery we can help. Just let us know your requirements when you book in. Forklift on site for pallets and as well as our speedy parcel services, we offer a 2 man and tailift service throughout the Island.

What you need to know about changes to the Highway Code

Following a public consultation aimed at improving road safety for people walking, cycling and riding horses, changes have been made to the Highway Code. The amendments came into effect on January 29. More than 10 sections of the Highway Code have been updated with 50 rules added or changed. Here are some of the main changes:

Hierarchy of road users

Vehicles that can cause the greatest harm in the event of a collision bear the greatest responsibility to take care and reduce the danger they pose to others.

This principle applies mostly to drivers of large goods and passenger vehicles, vans/minibuses, cars/taxis and motorcycles.

Cyclists, horse riders and drivers of horse drawn vehicles have a responsibility to reduce danger to pedestrians.

Overtaking when driving or cycling

There is updated guidance on safe passing distances and speeds for people driving or riding a motorcycle when overtaking vulnerable road users, including: leaving at least 1.5 metres - five feet - when overtaking people cycling at speeds of up to 30mph and giving them more space when overtaking at higher speeds; passing people riding horses or driving horse-drawn vehicles at speeds under 10 mph and allowing at least two metres - 6.5

feet - of space; allowing at least two metres - 6.5 feet) - of space and keeping to a low speed when passing people walking in the road, for example, where there is no pavement.

People crossing at road junctions

The updated code clarifies that when people are crossing or waiting to cross at a junction, other traffic should give way; if people have started crossing and traffic wants to turn into the road, the people crossing have priority and the traffic should give way; people driving, riding a motorcycle or cycling must give way to people on a zebra crossing and people walking and cycling on a parallel crossing.

Walk, cycle or ride in shared spaces

People cycling, riding a horse or driving a horse-drawn vehicle should respect the safety of people walking in these spaces, but people walking should also take care not to obstruct or endanger them.

People cycling are asked to not pass people walking, riding a horse or driving a



horse-drawn vehicle closely or at high speed, particularly from behind; slow down when necessary and let people walking know they are there - for example, by ringing their bell; not pass a horse on the horse's left.

Positioning in the road when cycling

Updated guidance for people cycling about positioning themselves includes: riding in the centre of their lane on quiet roads, in slower-moving traffic and at the approach to junctions or road narrowings; keeping at least 0.5 metres - just over 1.5 feet - away from the kerb edge and further where it is safer when riding on busy roads with vehicles moving faster than them.

People cycling past parked vehicles should take care, leaving enough room - a door's width or one metre - to avoid being hit if a car door is opened

Road users may cross a double-white line to overtake someone cycling or riding a horse if they are travelling at a low speed.

Some junctions now include small cycle traffic lights which may allow cyclists to move separately from or before other traffic so separate rules apply there, however, where there are no cycle traffic lights the code recommends people cycling should proceed as if they were driving a vehicle where there are no separate cyclist facilities.

This includes positioning themselves in the centre of their chosen lane, where they feel able to do this safely.

Roundabouts

The code has been updated to clarify that people driving or riding a motorcycle should give priority to people cycling on roundabouts.

The new guidance says people driving and or riding a motorcycle should not attempt to overtake people cycling

within that person's lane and to allow people cycling to move across their path as they travel around the roundabout.

Parking, charging or leaving vehicles

The code recommends using the 'Dutch Reach' technique when leaving vehicles.

Drivers and passengers should open the door using their hand on the opposite side to the door they are opening. This will make them turn their head to look over their shoulder behind them.

Guidance for electric car users includes parking close to the charge point and avoiding creating a trip hazard for people walking from trailing cables and to display a warning sign if you can.

Photographs: www.gov.uk

What's happening at Saltwater Gallery?

Saltwater Gallery is a contemporary fine art gallery showcasing established and emerging artists from near and far.

A celebration of the island and the ocean, it is also the working studio of local contemporary seascape artist Senja Brendon, right, who can normally be found painting in the gallery's studio space.

The gallery is open all year round, Tuesday to Saturday, from 10am to 5pm, and features a unique collection of original artworks, prints, ceramics, glasswork and jewellery.

You can find Saltwater Gallery at Cladach visitor centre in Brodick, opposite the main Goatfell path and behind the award-winning

Wineport Bar/Bistro. There is ample parking nearby and on foot it can be accessed from the centre of Brodick via the Fisherman's Walk. So what is happening at Saltwater Gallery? Saltwater Gallery's early spring show begins on today (Friday February 11) and runs until Wednesday March 23. Head along to see exciting new work from their featured artists and creators.

The gallery will move to its main spring show on Friday March 25, where there will be plenty more to see, new artists joining and exciting developments as they continue to forge links with community projects.

Follow them on Facebook or Instagram to keep up-to-date, or find them online at www.saltwatergallery.co.uk.



[saltwatergallery.co.uk](http://www.saltwatergallery.co.uk). Also be sure to keep an eye on the Arran Banner for details of new shows and gallery events.

Advertorial

An advertisement for Saltwater Gallery in Arran. The background is a scenic view of a coastline with waves and a sky with birds. At the top, there is a circular logo with a stylized landscape. The text reads: "Saltwater Gallery - ARRAN - EARLY SPRING SHOW Feb 11th- March 23rd Tues- Sat, 10am- 5pm Cladach, Brodick, Isle of Arran 01770 307 331 www.saltwatergallery.co.uk info@saltwatergallery.co.uk".

Nuclear fusion power plant plan sparks fierce debate

A proposed nuclear fusion power plant in North Ayrshire has sparked a fierce debate between groups who oppose nuclear power proliferation and those that believe it can play a large part in meeting Scotland's energy needs and create jobs.

Ardeer in Stevenston is being considered among a shortlist of five locations for a Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production prototype fusion power plant by the UK Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA).

The Ayrshire Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament (CND) has criticised North Ayrshire Council for what it calls an 'unrepresentative approach' to the nuclear fusion reactor proposal.

The group said local residents had no idea there was a proposal for a nuclear fusion reactor on their doorstep until

they saw mention of opposition to it.

They are dismayed at what they call a 'lack of transparency, surprised at the absence of an accessible way to ask questions and express their concerns and are baffled by the council's failure to provide any alternative information other than the positive spin from the external stakeholders'.

Arthur West of Ayrshire CND said: 'After years of worry about cracks in the nuclear reactors at Hunterston, it is very disappointing North Ayrshire Council is supporting the development of another nuclear facility at Ardeer.'

'The respected Nuclear Free Local Authorities organisation, which includes Scottish councils such as Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee and East Ayrshire, is opposed to nuclear fusion, labelling it a distract-



An artist's impression of what the fusion power plant may look like. Photograph: UK Atomic Energy Authority.

tion from the need to continue developing renewable energy sources.'

West Scotland MSP Jamie Greene has publicly backed

the area's bid to host a new prototype fusion power plant. Describing the emerging technology as having the potential to provide virtually limitless

zero-carbon energy without generating dangerous radioactive waste, he also supports the bid as it could create more than 3,500 jobs in North Ayrshire.

Mr Greene said: 'This type of new prototype fusion power facility could be revolutionary in the fight for net zero, providing a near-limitless supply of low-to-no carbon energy without the harmful waste created by traditional nuclear facilities.'

'It would also create more than 3,500 jobs for people during the construction phase and 1,000 technical posts once up and running.'

'This would be a huge boost for our local economy, particularly with Hunterston having closed its doors for the last time.'

UKAEA is currently visiting each of the shortlisted sites and will make a recommendation on its preferred site in the next few months.

An announcement on which site has been chosen is expected to be made later this year.

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Price hike widely criticised

Last week's announcement by Ofgem of a record increase in the energy price cap, which will see a huge increase in the price of electricity, has been widely criticised by industry experts, interest groups and politicians.

The announcement, after months of wholesale energy cost hikes, will see the average customer on a default tariff having to pay nearly £700 more per year on their electricity bill. The increase is due to come into effect in April and, according to Resolution Foundation figures, will push one in four UK households into fuel poverty.

Age Scotland expressed its concern about the impact this will have on the one in three older households in Scotland already living in fuel poverty.

Age Scotland's chief executive Brian Sloan said: 'This increase will make life considerably harder for hundreds of thousands of older people in Scotland. Those with a prepayment meter and who may already be financially squeezed or in debt to their energy company are set to pay the most. That doesn't feel fair or right.'

'Making ends meet in the face of the price cap rise will be tougher than ever before, particularly for those on low

and fixed incomes. Access to affordable heating options is more important than ever. Household energy isn't a luxury. It is an essential resource which supports our health and wellbeing.'

The UK government announced it will provide some support through council tax rebates and other measures aimed at lower income households, however, this has also been criticised by some as being of little assistance.

Responding to the chancellor's announcement of a £350 energy bill rebate, John O'Connell, chief executive of the TaxPayers' Alliance, said: 'This announcement amounts to nothing more than giving with one hand to take with the other.'

'The chancellor's bailouts for energy firms do little to reverse the root of the energy crisis, while the council tax rebate is only papering over the cracks of the government's policies.'

'If ministers really want to help households with the cost of living, they should power ahead with suspending green levies and the planned National Insurance hike.'

Meanwhile, Katy Clark, MSP for West Scotland, called on companies to pay for the energy crises and not ordinary people, particularly in light of

oil giant Shell's announcement of a record-breaking £14.2 billion profit.

Katy Clark said: 'This cap rise is a political decision, not a force of nature. Ordinary families did not cause this crisis, but it seems they are expected to pay for it.'

'Thousands of people in West Scotland will be pushed into poverty because of this hike. This is not just an energy crisis - it is a social justice emergency.'

'The Chancellor Rishi Sunak can't just tinker around the edges with short-term loans or limited tax rebates. It is the failed free market model that is to blame. The government must use a windfall tax on energy giants' super-profits to pay for lower domestic gas bills and bring failed suppliers into public ownership.'

Andrew Bartlett, chief executive of Advice Direct Scotland, said: 'Charities and organisations in Scotland which provide debt, money or energy advice can sign up at homeheatingadvice.scot as a referral partner to access a £3m Scottish Government fund for those in fuel poverty or rationing their energy use.'

Energy regulator Ofgem advise anyone who is struggling with energy bills to contact their supplier to access help.

Memories of Arran from yesteryear



Jean Sinclair, far right, with her sisters, left to right, Catherine Kirkton and Marion Macdonald and cousin Lena Ross, at Bridgend, Arran, in the 1930s.

Banner reader Alistair Macdonald contacted us recently with details of his aunt, Jean Sinclair, who spent many years visiting the island and who penned a number of poems about Arran that were published in the 1930s.

Alistair said: 'My mother's sister Jean died in the 1990s but during her early years she wrote, and had published, a number of poems, some of which were in Gaelic.'

'I have obtained some of these poems from my cousin Archie Sinclair and thought your readers might like to read them.'

'Archie has a number of other poems among his late mother's possessions at his home in Glasgow.'

'A considerable number of Jean's poems were published in the 1930s, we think in the Ardrassan and Saltcoats Herald, possibly because at that time Arran did not have its own newspaper.'

'Jean was the second of four daughters to Dugald and Henrietta Macdonald - my grandparents. At the time of his death in 1935, Dugald was one of the masters of the Clyde steamers (McBrayne), operating out of Helensburgh.

As such he would have made many trips to Arran.'

'Henrietta is the second youngest of 13 children of Robert Ross and Jane Mackay. She was born in the 1880s in Galson on the Isle of Lewis. In her early 20s, she went to live in Eigg as companion to an older sister, Naomi, who was the schoolteacher there.'

'Whilst in Eigg, she met and married Dugald and they moved to Glasgow as his career on the Clyde steamers developed. Her younger sister Jessie met and married Angus MacCrae who was a shepherd. For most of the 1930s, Angus was based in Shedog on Arran. Consequently Jean and her family spent all of their holidays in Arran close to their aunt and uncle.'

'Gaelic was the chosen language of the older relatives, so Jean had a good knowledge of the written and spoken word. The family home where Jean, her sisters and myself was born was not the only local origin of 'artistic' talent. We all lived in a top floor flat



Jean Sinclair, left, with her sisters Catherine Kirkton, Johanna Wilson and Marion Macdonald.

in Dover Street, Glasgow. Born in the flat next door, which was where he lived until his family later moved to

Paisley, was the Big Yin - Sir Billy Connolly.' Below, left, are some of the submitted poems.

Arran

Arran, home of beauty,
home of glory, home of love,
Arran with a radiance
pouring on you from above,
Arran in the night time
when the sun has sunk to rest,
Arran in the twilight, is
when I love you best,
When all is still and silent
When work and troubles
cease,
When the shades of dusk
have fallen
And your hills are wrapped
in peace,
When the moon is high in
heaven
Casting down a glorious
light,
How I wish that I was
standing
In Shiskine Glen tonight.

A thought

It was twilight evening
The moon my thoughts
beguiled,
I knew she shone on Arran
On the twilight glens in
Arran
My heart went back to
Arran
And the moon looked down
and smiled.

The lamps were lit at

Bridgend And peat reek filled
the air,

I walked once more to
Shedog
The well-known road to
Shedog
A white washed home in
Shedog
I was always welcome there.

I saw a windswept moor-
land, I saw a little tarn,
I saw a house in Birchburn
Remembered nights in
Birchburn
The happy nights in
Birchburn
When we danced at Bessie's
barn.

The happy nights in Arran
And one that stands apart,
One short sweet night in
Machrie
The magic spell of Machrie
The moonlit bay of Machrie
Is imprinted on my heart.

Untitled

I was bound to the islands
away in the West
By ties of kith and kin,
But Arran opened wide her
arms
And gently drew me in,
And though these ties still
bound me
To the islands in the West,

Yet Arran in my heart of
hearts, I'll always love you
best.

Remembrance

I am back once more in the
place we loved
Where we made one solemn
vow,
I gaze upon the stones where
we used to sit
It's as empty as my life
seems now,
I find myself thinking of
days gone by
We knew neither sorrow
nor pain,
My soul cries out for the
love that is lost
But I know that it calls in
vain.

I walked up the path we
used to tread
When we were happy and
gay,
I gaze upon the tree where
we carved our names
One long sweet night in
May,
I know in my heart that you
will never return
The heart is breaking in
two,
I am back once more in the
place we loved
Alone - with my memories
of you.

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New campaign to keep children safe online

A new campaign has been launched by the Scottish Government's Parent Club to help keep children safe online.

The move comes as research reveals more than one in 10 - 12 per cent - of parents don't set any parental controls on their child's online devices.

Studies show that by the age of 12, 40 per cent of children have engaged in risky behaviours online. This includes playing with people they had never met face-to-face and doing something they know their parents would not want them to do.

Lisa Gray, aged 49, said: 'My nine-year-old daughter hadn't really been online at all until the pandemic, but started using devices during that time, first for school and then Facetime for playdates with her friends. She now uses the internet every day, either to play games, chat to her friends or to use educational apps for homework. She downloaded Snapchat without my knowledge and ended up speaking to someone in Canada, with the same name as one of her best

friends. Luckily, I heard the Canadian accent and realised she was speaking to a stranger. It was an eye opener and a good opportunity to talk to my daughter about online safety.'

The Scottish Government's Parent Club child online safety campaign highlights ways for parents and carers of eight to 11-year-olds to help protect them online.

Minister for children and young people Clare Haughey MSP said: 'There are many amazing things we can do online. The internet is a wonderful resource and we want children and young people to make the most of it to learn, communicate and collaborate. However, it is really important that when you are online, you stay safe.'

'This year, Safer Internet Day will explore respect and relationships online. This is especially important in present times when so many of us are spending more time using technology for learning and socialising. The importance of understanding how to stay safe online is at the heart of the



Scottish Government's new public awareness campaign.

'The campaign aims to inform parents about the risks of online harm and how to protect their children online. This goes live alongside Safer Internet Day across a range of radio, TV and digital channels - directly reaching hundreds of thousands of Scots.'

'I encourage everyone in Scotland to get involved and

play their part in making the internet a safer place.'

Parents and carers can help children to stay safe when online by applying the same skills and instincts they have in the physical world.

Online safety consultant Jess McBeath explained: 'It is important we help children to stay safe online from things like exposure to inappropriate or untrustworthy content,

oversharing personal information, grooming, unauthorised spending and online bullying.'

'Talking with children regularly about what they're doing and sharing online, using parental support tools, keeping data and devices secure and finding ways to use technology as a family that are fun, are some simple ways to help keep them safe.'

The research also revealed

that just over half of the parents surveyed - 53 per cent - ask if their child is playing online with someone they don't know, whereas in the offline world, 62 per cent ask their children who they will be with when they go out to play/leave the house to see friends or for an activity.

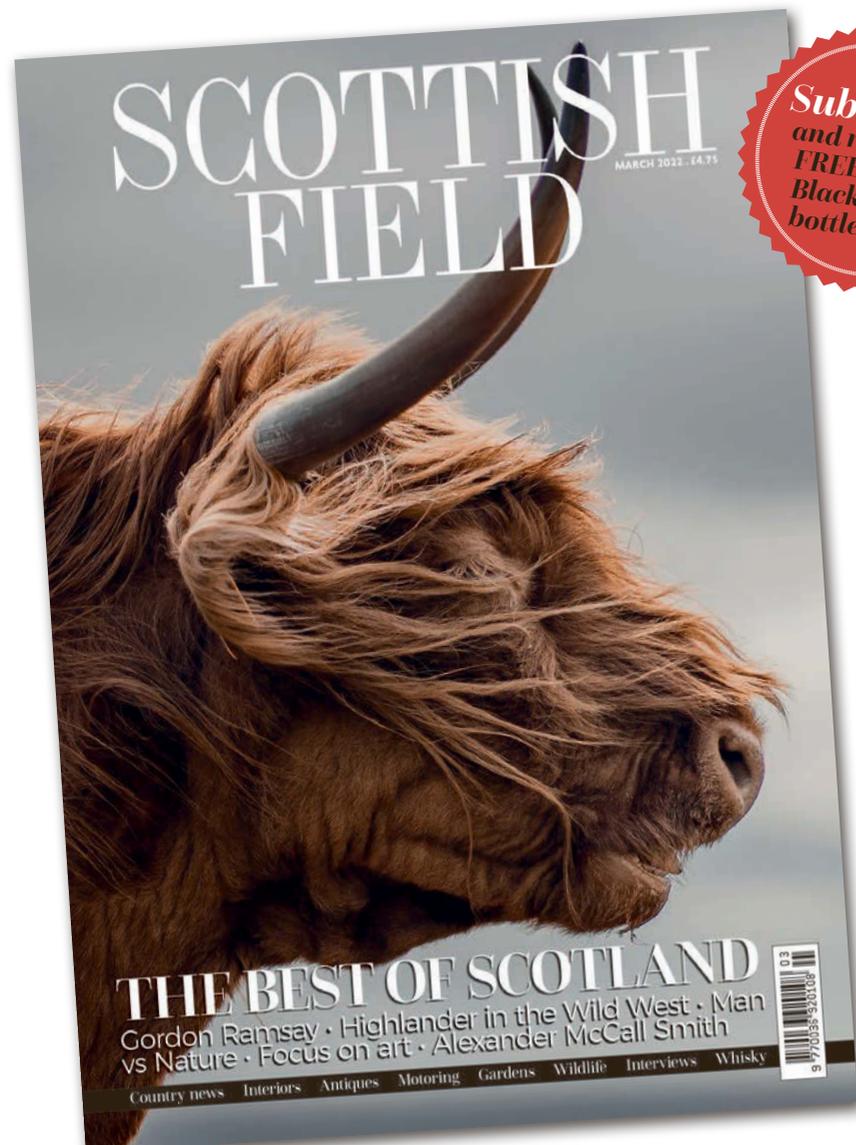
Parents are also more likely to ask their child if anyone was mean to them when their child returns home in the physical world - 40 per cent - than when their child finishes an online activity at home - 34 per cent.

'Where are you going?' is the top question asked by parents when their child leaves the house to see friends or for an activity in the real world - asked by 66 per cent of respondents - whereas 'which websites or social platforms are you going on' is asked by 58 per cent of parents.

For easy ways to help protect your child online and practical advice to help you feel more confident in knowing how to keep your children safe online visit parentclub.scot

View the advert at youtu.be/5KB5wnHEH-8

The new campaign includes a television advert which encourages parents to talk to their children regularly about what they are doing online.



Subscribe and receive a FREE Oak & Black Magic bottle stand

SCOTTISH FIELD March



Photo Essay...

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Scents of the forest... Deer management...

Valentine's Day

Main photo courtesy of
Megan Ingham

Valentine's Day is that special one day of the year when we all make a concerted effort to show those that we love, or admire, that we value and appreciate them. Huge unexpected gestures or small and sincere displays of affection - there are many ways of showing your love and affection to partners and friends.

The traditions of Valentine's Day or St Valentine's Day dates back to the 5th century and has con-

tinued throughout the centuries to be a popular annual festival to celebrate romantic love, friendship and admiration. Also known as the Feast of Saint Valentine, the day has traditionally been associated with good food - a sentiment that continues to this day with the presenting of chocolates and sweet treats and going out for a romantic meal.

On Arran, Valentine's Day can be celebrated in fine style with just

about every restaurant and eatery making a special effort to ensure that your Valentine's Day is both memorable and enjoyable. There are also many shops offering that special gift to show just how much you appreciate your loved one. Whatever you choose to do on Valentines Day, be it indoors or outdoors, at home or at any of these special venues, we trust that it will be special, memorable and an enjoyable occasion for you and your loved ones.





Photo courtesy of Eco Savvy



Photo courtesy of Megan Ingham

EcoHub Drop-in

Eco Savvy will be holding a free event on Tuesday February 15 at the EcoHub drop-in at the Ormidale Pavilion which everyone is welcome to attend.

Please drop in any time between 11am and 3pm where they will have:

- Pop-up shop - unveiling their new shop in its exciting shed location
- Different models of ebike available for a whoosh about, and the infamous etrike
- Dr Bike - got a bike needing help? Bring it along for a free bike maintenance check-up
- Arran Repair Cafe - hear about what they do and how to get involved
- Makerspace Arran will have their 3D printer for visitors to marvel at
- Chat to Arran Vegan Group about the wonders of plant based living
- Free refreshments and Valentine baking will also be available

Chameleon Ladies Boutique

This Valentine's Day, why not give a gift voucher from Chameleon Ladies' Boutique? It's the ideal gift for someone you care about.

Some early spring deliveries have arrived and in just a few weeks they will have a shop packed full of affordable, stylish fashion brands for ladies of all shapes and sizes.

Whether you like to browse uninterrupted or prefer some help, they will be delighted to see you. Find them in Lamlash at Hamilton Terrace. Currently they are on winter hours, open five days a week, from Tuesday to Saturday 10:30 - 5pm. You can also shop 24 hours a day at www.chameleonarran.com with free 'click and collect'. Tel: 01770 600201.

MOST at Eden Lodge

Treat a loved one to a wonderful evening of delectable food, wine and the cosy atmosphere at MOST, this Valentine's weekend, 11th, 12th and 13th February.

Offering a menu to suit most palates, plus a bottle of Prosecco they can guarantee you and your loved one will experience a very enjoyable evening.

Please state the choice of menu at booking, as they are still catering from their normal menu over the weekend. If Prosecco isn't your tippie they can offer alternative drinks to a similar value which will be included with the meal price. Call their team on 01770 700357 to make your booking.

The Arran Butcher

If you fancy a romantic night at home why not treat yourself and your partner to a delicious steak from The Arran Butcher shop in Blackwaterfoot. Open this Saturday and Monday from 9am to 1pm. Run by David

EcoHub DROP IN

Come along to a Valentines themed day at the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick

FREE - ALL WELCOME

TUES 15th FEB: 11am-3pm

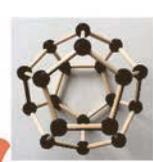



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Free ebike loans & tryouts




Dr Bike service

Meet Makerspace Arran & see their 3D printer

Chat with Arran Vegan Group



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yes £10 ONLY!

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Open 9am - 1pm. While stocks last

Tel: 01770860354
www.thearranbutcher.com





Chameleon LADIES' BOUTIQUE

VALENTINE'S DAY GIFT VOUCHERS

EARLY SPRING STYLES NOW IN THE STOCK
FURTHER DELIVERIES WEEKLY!

HALF PRICE WINTER SALE RAIL

Open Tuesday - Saturday 10:30 am - 5 pm

28 HAMILTON TERRACE, LAMLASH
01770 600201 WWW.CHAMELEONARRAN.COM

Find us on 

McKinnon, the family butchers has been supplying homes and businesses on the Arran for over 55 years.

As well as their extensive selection of quality meats, including traditional cuts of naturally reared beef, pork and lamb and wild Arran venison, they have some delicious homemade speciality sausages, burgers, chicken kiev, pies, black pudding and haggis. What is not so well known is that they also stock a fantastic selection of fresh fish and can source just about anything you may require.

The shop also stocks a range of cold meats, cheese and ice cream and many other products. If you can't get to the shop on the west coast they have a mobile shop which can come to you and they deliver free of charge across the island. You can find their products in the Co-op stores and at local shops around the island. And when you're out for a romantic bite to eat, why not look out for their products on the menu.

Drift Inn

Treat that special someone to an evening at the Drift Inn which will be celebrating Valentine's Day on the 12th, 13th and 14th of February, serving a delicious three course menu from only £65 per couple, and available from 5pm. Their food is cooked with the freshest ingredients and as much locally sourced produce as possible. When not offering a special menu, they cater for a

range of tastes 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 the menu is gluten free, or can be easily adapted, and they are vegan friendly. They are open Thursday to Monday, closed Tuesday and Wednesday, and they recommend booking in advance to avoid disappointment. Call them on 01770 600608 or email at thedriftinn@outlook.com to make a booking.



Photo courtesy of MOST



Photo courtesy of The Drift Inn



Photo courtesy of Chameleon

Valentine's
SPECIAL
AT MOST
A romantic Dinner for two

APPETIZER
Pan fried Scallops with Black Pudding & Cauliflower Puree,
Garden Peas & Purple Shiso
Trio of Melon & Cured Meats
Goats Cheese Parfait, Baked Figs & Home Pickled Beets

ENTREE
Braised Beef Fillet with Roasted Vine Cherry Tomatoes,
Spring Onion Mash, Asparagus & a Red Wine Jus
Smoked haddock & Butternut Squash Risotto
with Poached Egg & Tenderstem Broccoli
Basil Pesto Linguine with Roasted Cherry Tomatoes
& Roasted Butternut Squash

DESSERT
Chocolate Fondant & White Chocolate Sauce, with Chocolate Dipped Strawberries
Arran Gold Crème Brûlée
Passion Fruit Pannacotta

3 courses and a bottle of Prosecco
£35pp

to book call our team on 01770 700357

VALENTINES' AT THE DRIFT INN

STARTERS
MUSSELS 'FOR TWO' IN A CHORIZO AND TOMATO BROTH SERVED WITH HOME MADE BREAD
A PLATTER OF BREAD, OLIVES, BALSAMIC VINEGAR, OLIVE OIL AND HIMMUS 'FOR TWO' (VG)

MAINS
SPECIAL TRIM SIRLOIN STEAK SERVED WITH CELERIAC PUREE, PARSLEY AND TRUFFLE FRIES AND A MUSHROOM AND SHALLOT JUS
PAN SEARED SEABASS FILLET SERVED WITH LANGOUSTINE RAVIOLI, LOBSTER BISQUE, POMME PUREE, ASPARAGUS AND WILD MUSHROOMS
VEGAN SCALLOPS SERVED WITH A HAGGIS BON-BON, TEXTURES OF CAULIFLOWER, ROASTED FIG AND CHARRED BABY LEEK (VG)
SHIN OF BEEF SERVED WITH BLUE CHEESE DAUPHINOISE, A MUSHROOM PASTY, PARSNIP AND ROSEMARY PUREE, BABY BROCCOLI AND A PEARL ONION AND SMOKED BACON JUS

DESSERTS
ELEMENTS OF CHOCOLATE AND STRAWBERRY - 'A DESSERT YOU'LL NOT WANT TO SHARE BUT UNFORTUNATELY IT'S FOR TWO' (VG)

£65 FOR TWO PEOPLE
(£6.00 STEAK SUPPLEMENT CHARGE EACH)

THE DRIFT INN

THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday February 9, 2002



Two bird watchers move stealthily towards Arran's snowy egret. Attracting interest from all over the UK, the very rare bird was probably blown over from America on the tail end of a hurricane. 01_B06tweyago01



Brodick Ladies golf trophy winners at their prizegiving dinner. Left to right: Kirsteen Norton; Elma Bayne; Wilma Aitken; Elizabeth McKellar; Jan Beattie; Jean Barclay; Pat Reid and Liz Lawrie. Front: Ellie Jones; Pat Adamson and Jennifer McArthur.

01_B06tweyago04



Arran had a narrow escape last week when floodwater filled Currie's car park. The high tides that were forecast materialised, but thankfully potentially damaging high winds and low pressure did not. 01_B06tweyago02



Pat Adamson is the Brodick Ladies golf champion for the ninth time. 01_B06tweyago05



A genuine rocket carriage, made in 1860, which had been gifted to Clyde Coastguard, now takes pride of place at Arran Heritage Museum. 01_B06tweyago06



Right: Claire Johnston of Shiskine has delved into film-making, aged only 13. Her animated film about Glasgow's football teams focuses on the positive aspects of being a fan.

01_B06tweyago03

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.co.uk

TOURS AND TASTINGS BY APPOINTMENT



Every Day

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

Brodick Castle & Gardens Brodick,
Open daily, 10am – 5pm (last entry 4.30pm)

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

Lamlash Putting Green, Open daily, 10am - 4pm

Lamlash Tennis Courts, Open All hours

Trout Fly Fishing, Loch Garbad, bank fishing

Whiting Bay Bowling Club, Open to book call 01770 700636

Friday 11th February

Valentine's Day Special from The Arran Butcher,
Blackwaterfoot, Open 9am -1pm

Early Spring Show, Saltwater Gallery, Cladach, 10am – 5pm

Valentine's Day Gift Vouchers, Chameleon Ladies Boutique,
Lamlash, 10.30am - 5pm

Valentine's Weekend at MOST, Whiting Bay

Saturday 12th February

Valentine's Day Special from The Arran Butcher,
Blackwaterfoot, Open 9am -1pm

Early Spring Show, Saltwater Gallery, Cladach, 10am – 5pm

Valentine's Day Gift Vouchers, Chameleon Ladies Boutique,
Lamlash, 10.30am - 5pm

Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm

Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 1.30pm

Open Session, Crofters' Bar and Bistro, 3pm – 5pm

Valentine's Weekend at MOST, Whiting Bay

Valentine's Evening, Drift Inn, Lamlash from 5pm

Valentine's Ceilidh, Whiting Bay Hall, 8pm

Live Music, Crofters' Bar and Bistro, from 9pm

Live Music, The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm – Midnight

Sunday 13th February

Arran Chess Club – new members welcome, Crofters', Brodick,
10.30am

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

Alcoholics Anonymous Zoom Meeting, go to
alcoholicsanonymous.org.uk, 7pm

Valentine's Weekend at MOST, Whiting Bay

Valentine's Evening, Drift Inn, Lamlash from 5pm

Monday 14th February

Valentine's Day Special from The Arran Butcher,
Blackwaterfoot, Open 9am -1pm

Arran Bridge online, Access through Arranbridgeclubweb and click
on the real bridge link Phone Gege 01770 700396
for assistance, 2.45pm

Valentine's Evening, Drift Inn, Lamlash from 5pm

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

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Arran Rugby Training, Juniors and Seniors,
Ormidale Park, 7pm - 8pm

Tuesday 15th February

Early Spring Show, Saltwater Gallery, Cladach, 10am – 5pm

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

Eco Savvy Valentines Drop-in, with ebikes, repair cafe, 3D printer
demos, vegan info stall and free tea, coffee and baking,
Ormidale Pavilion, 11am - 3pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, Brodick Church Hall, 2pm

Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 1.30pm

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

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Bible Meetings, Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm - 8 pm

Wednesday 16th February

Early Spring Show, Saltwater Gallery, Cladach, 10am - 5pm

Hydrofit Class, House Hotel Pool, Auchrannie Resort. 10.30am –
11.15am

Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 1.30pm

Archives and Genealogy services, Arran Heritage Museum,
10.30am -12.30pm & 1.30pm to 3.30pm.

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

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Rock and Pop Bingo, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Thursday 17th February

Early Spring Show, Saltwater Gallery, Cladach, 10am - 5pm

Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

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

Arran Bridge online, Access through Arranbridgeclubweb and click
on the real bridge link Phone Gege 01770 700396
for assistance, 7pm.

Friday 18th February

Early Spring Show, Saltwater Gallery, Cladach, 10am – 5pm

Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Zoom Meeting, go to
alcoholicsanonymous.org.uk, 7pm

Live Music Crofters' Bar and Bistro, from 9pm

Saturday 19th February

Early Spring Show, Saltwater Gallery, Cladach, 10am - 5pm

Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm

Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 1.30pm

Open Session, Crofters' Bar and Bistro, 3pm – 5pm

Live Music, Crofters' Bar and Bistro, from 9pm

Live Music, The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm – Midnight



Jim Park shows off his Ayrshire Cancer Support shirt during his fundraising challenge.

Jim weathers the storms to raise £900 for charity

Jim Park of Whiting Bay has completed his challenge of camping out in his tent for seven nights to help raise money for Ayrshire Cancer Support.

As reported in the Banner two weeks ago, Jim took on the Extreme Camp Out for Cancer challenge and has raised £900 for Ayrshire Cancer Support.

Jim endured gales, storms, hail, snow and torrential rain during his outdoor adventure. He also celebrated his 70th birthday under the stars.

Initially planning to spend

four days in his tent, Jim extended his challenge by three days to make it a week. He kept family, friends and supporters updated on his progress, and lavish meals, by posting videos and photographs on his social media page throughout the event.

Jim said: 'I spent an interesting seven nights in the tarp tent, gales, storms, hail, snow and torrential rain at times.

'I ate well and kept warm with only one slight leak. With grateful thanks to all my supporters, Ayrshire Cancer Support is £900 better off.'

Next week, on Saturday February 19, another Ayrshire Cancer Support Camp Out for Cancer event will take place in the middle of Ayr Racecourse when a number of brave souls will camp out to raise money for the charity that provides support for those in Ayrshire who have been affected by cancer.

CONTACT US

EMAIL US AT

emailusateditor@arranbanner.co.uk

TELEPHONE

01770 302142

Arran Dark

The Isle of Arran Brewery's Dark Premium Beer is the brewery's second most awarded beer.

A malty brown beer in the style of a 'Scottish Heavy' with ripe fruit flavours and a deep finish.

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



TRADE CLASSIFIEDS

SLIDDERY SUPPLIES CLOSED
MONDAY 14th Feb
TUESDAY 15th Feb
WEDNESDAY 16th
THIS WEEK ONLY

STOVE SALES AND INSTALLATION



STOVECRAFT
 Lorne Street, Lochgilhead, Argyll PA31 8LU
 Tel: 01546 603111



Now covering the whole of Argyll, the Islands and Arran

working with local builders to offer a full installation service.

01546 603111
 Opening hours:
 Open Tuesday to Saturday 10am to 5pm

Contact us on **07470 699572** at any other time.

INSURANCE SERVICES

Sponsored by NFU Mutual Campbeltown. Call Chris Husthwaite on 01586 552 428 for your insurance needs



NFU Mutual
 INSURANCE | PENSIONS | INVESTMENTS

Agent of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited.

PRIVATE SALES

WANTED
 VINYL RECORDS - Good and accurate prices paid for well looked after records
 No classical or easy listening. All other genres considered. Free valuations and brokerage. Contact Jamie on 07983624634 or 01770600969

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PUBLIC NOTICES

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk
 Comments should be made online at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 04.03.22. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)
21/01236/PP; Taigh An Learag, Whiting Bay, Brodick, Ayrshire; Modification of planning permission 16/00922/PP to amend the design of the house on Plot 3.

Craig Hatton
 Chief Executive
 Cunninghame House
 IRVINE KA12 8EE



North Ayrshire Council
 Comhairle Siorrachd Air a Tuath

Brodick Golf Club
AGM
Wednesday 23rd of February
 via electronic mail or post
 please submit any queries to secretary@brodickgolf.com

EVENT TO PUBLICISE?



THE ARRAN **BANNER**
 Tel: 01770 302142
www.arranbanner.co.uk

RECRUITMENT

Caterer Required at Brodick Golf Club



- self-employed basis
- references required
- register your interest at:
secretary@brodickgolf.com
 01770302349



Looking for Reliable Person/s From April until end October

Required for Changeovers
 Very Good rate offered
 Large Traditional House in Lochranza

Tel : 07738011366
haggartykaren@hotmail.com

HALF PRICE SALE

SCOTTISH CALENDARS 2022



FROM ~~£13.50~~ including P&P*

FROM ~~£9.50~~ including P&P*

50% OFF MARKED PRICES

ORDER ONLINE at www.scottishcalendars.co.uk
 or call us on **01778 392014**





WE'RE HIRING!

We are on the hunt for Seasonal FOH Staff & a Kitchen Apprentice!

- ★ Competitive pay
- ★ No experience required, just a good work ethic & someone who loves working amongst people
- ★ Part and full-time opportunities available
- ★ Would suit a student home from university perfectly

Please get in touch via email info@thepht.co.uk, or just us a call on 01770 600418.

P.H.T. ARRAN



Join our Team!
Permanent Cafe Supervisor

Experience preferred, full training available!
Weekend availability required please.

Team Members
Required for our small, friendly team

Front of house seasonal work and kitchen work available.
Great atmosphere, fun staff team-building, sociable hours, cash competitions & always closed Mondays & Tuesdays.

If you'd like to be a part of our happy team please call or drop us an email:

Tel: 01770 700161
theshorearran@gmail.com




MACHRIE BAY TEAROOM

Catering Lease

WE ARE LOOKING FOR AN EXPERIENCED AND PASSIONATE CATERER

This popular and busy location serves both members and the general public. Experienced applicants, who are enthusiastic about great food and great service, are encouraged to apply.

New and innovative ideas would be welcome

Applications to:
machriebayclubsec@googlemail.com

BANNER RECRUITMENT
BANNER RECRUITMENT
BANNER RECRUITMENT
BANNER RECRUITMENT

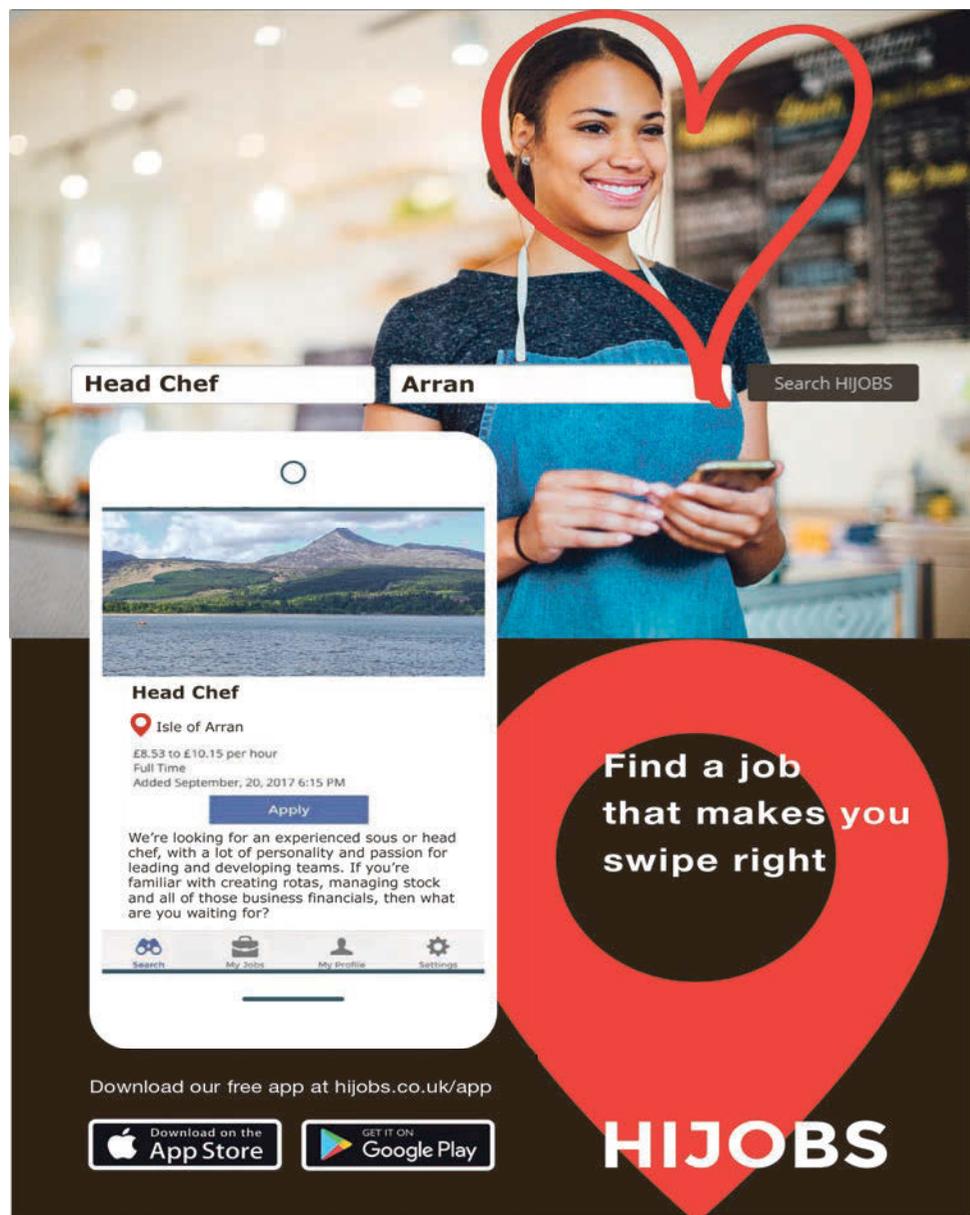
LOOKING FOR NEW STAFF?

THE ARRAN **BANNER**

Tel: 01770 302142
www.arranbanner.co.uk



BANNER RECRUITMENT
BANNER RECRUITMENT



Head Chef Arran Search HIJOBS

Head Chef
Isle of Arran
£8.53 to £10.15 per hour
Full Time
Added September, 20, 2017 6:15 PM

Apply

We're looking for an experienced sous or head chef, with a lot of personality and passion for leading and developing teams. If you're familiar with creating rotas, managing stock and all of those business financials, then what are you waiting for?

Download our free app at hijobs.co.uk/app

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

Find a job that makes you swipe right

HIJOBS

Love driving? Why not consider a career as a bus driver on Arran?

Stagecoach West Scotland are looking to recruit further applicants to join their team, and their newest member, as bus drivers operating from the Brodick bus depot.

Ross Kerr, 23, is the newest face of Stagecoach on Arran where he plays an important role safely transporting passengers to work, to education, to shops, to healthcare and to community services.

As well as becoming a familiar face to locals, Ross, born and raised on Arran, will be a welcoming smile to the island's visitors and tourists as they step off the ferry at Brodick eager to reach the summit of Goatfell or sample a bit of what Lochranza has to offer.

After a month of training, Ross took to the roads of Arran in December for his first trip proudly serving the local community.

He said: 'I really enjoy driving but being a bus driver is so much more than that. It's being the lifeblood of our local community where people rely on you to get their day started and to get them home again.'

'It really is a privilege to be able to get out and about on the island passing through the beautiful scenery the island has to offer.'



'Since starting with Stagecoach in November I've learnt new skills and gained my bus driver licence. What really appeals to me is the two-hour breaks at lunch time. Today, for example, I was able to go home have lunch and fix my bagpipes. I really enjoy that flexibility.'

Stagecoach West Scotland employs 17 people on Arran and is currently recruiting on the island for bus drivers where full training is provided.

Gerry Tulloch, 61, also from Arran, has enjoyed being a Stagecoach bus driver on the island for the last 23 years.

He said: 'I've loved my career as a bus driver on the island. Every day is different, out on the open road with 56 miles of beautiful coastline. It never gets boring. I love it as much now as did when I started in 1999.'

'Being a bus driver is a brilliant opportunity for people who live on Arran. You see people you know every day and in the summer months you are able to help visitors from all over the world get to where they want to go.'

'Here on Arran, I'm supported by a great team of fellow bus drivers, engineers, mechanics and administrators who all do a brilliant job working together and are proud to serve the local community.'

Stagecoach bus drivers love driving, are passionate about excellent customer support and deliver service with a smile. Full training is provided for many of these roles. To find out more visit: <https://www.stagecoachbus.com/promos-and-offers/national/careers>

Rewarding careers with North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership

Health and social care teams on Arran are recruiting for a number of highly motivated and enthusiastic individuals who could make a real difference to people's lives. NAHSCP has a number of exciting and rewarding opportunities available for those with experience, as well as those looking to start a career in health and social care.

Wherever you are based, whether that be at Arran War Memorial Hospital, Montrose House, Arran Medical Group or in the community, you will become part of a fantastic team providing high quality care and support to people on the island.

Care at Home: Day and overnight shifts available. Full training provided and flexible hours available. Contact Julie Thompson on **07826 892 059** or Fiona McMaster on **01770 600 742** for more information, or apply online at myjobscotland.gov.uk

Advanced Nurse Practitioner: Band 7. Dual role, with 15 hours per week focused on the management of the Practice Nurse Team. For more information, contact Fiona Horbury, Practice Manager, Arran Medical Group, on **01770 600 516**, or apply online at jobs.scot.nhs.uk

Nurse Practitioner: Band 6. Arran War Memorial Hospital. For more information, contact Ailsa Weir, Senior Charge Nurse, on **01770 600777**, or apply online at jobs.scot.nhs.uk

Community Equipment Store Technician: Supporting people in the community with their equipment needs. Training provided. For more information contact Craig McCartney, Operations Manager, on **01770 600 777**, or apply online at jobs.scot.nhs.uk

Clerical Officer: Successful candidates will join the team supporting Arran War Memorial Hospital and Social Services. For more information contact Craig McCartney, Operations Manager, on **01770 600 777**, or apply online at jobs.scot.nhs.uk

Care Home/Community Nurse: Band 5. Role based in Montrose House, with an additional community nursing element. This post has an additional allowance of 15%. For more information contact Morven Ross Bain, Unit Manager, on **01770 302 121**, or apply online at jobs.scot.nhs.uk

Social Care Worker: Grade 6. Full time, based in Montrose House. For more information contact Morven Ross Bain, Unit Manager, on **01770 302121**, or apply online at myjob.scotland.gov.uk

Care Home Support Workers: Grade 4, based in Montrose House. These entry level posts will give you the opportunity to learn and train on the job. To find out more, contact Morven Ross Bain, Unit Manager, on **01770 302 121**, or apply online at myjob.scotland.gov.uk

Deputy Unit Manager: Based in Montrose House. Role for an experienced practitioner with a passion for caring for older people. Must have experience of managing a team. For more information, contact Morven Ross-Bain, Unit Manager, on **01770 302 121**, or apply online at myjob.scotland.gov.uk

Facilities Assistant Cleaner: Part time and full time roles available to assist with the provision of high-quality cleaning at Montrose House. To apply online, visit myjobscotland.gov.uk

GP: Role comprises of day to day GP duties, combined with provision of medical cover for Arran War Memorial Hospital and A&E, as well as GP out of hours provision and extra services such as police surgeon. For more information, contact Fiona Horbury, Practice Manager, Arran Medical Group, on **01770 600516**.

To watch a video explaining why Arran is a great place to live and work, visit <https://vimeo.com/561275027>



CHURCH NOTICES

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

Independent but working together
There will be a streamed service
fortnightly, this can be found on
the three Church websites. Keeping
with new guideline, please take a
lateral flow test before coming to a
Church Service.

Sunday 13th February
Lochranza & Pirnmill Churches-
Service at LochranzaChurch at
10.15am. Morning worship
Shiskine Church at 12noon.
Morning worship.
Broddick Church at 10.30am.
Morning worship.
Corrie Church at 12noon.
Morning worship
The Food Bank continues from
Broddick Church

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland

Charity Number: SC014005
Sunday 13th February
Worship will be conducted
at 10.30am.

Under new Church of Scotland
guidelines, you are encouraged,
please, to take a lateral flow test
before coming to worship.
Track and Trace also required.
ALL WELCOME.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"

Scottish Charity SC015072
Sunday 13th February
Kilmory at 10 am
Lamlash Church, Sacrament of
Communion at 11.30 am
Name and contact details will be
asked for, on entering.
We are also reminded to take a
Lateral Flow Test on the day we
intend to come to church.
We will be observing all socially
distancing procedures
All welcome

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide
Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 13th February
6th Sunday of Epiphany
Sung Eucharist at 11 am.
Revd Canon Simon Mackenzie

ALL WELCOME
Coffee after the service
We observe strict SEC guidelines

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH Minister - Rev. Vince Jennings Tel: 01770 600222

www.arranbaptistchurch.org.uk
Sunday 13th February
Services will be held in the
Ormidale Sports Pavilion,
Broddick at 11 am.
All welcome but current Covid
restrictions are in place.
Sermons will be on our webpage
following the Sunday.

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (CONTINUING)

Sunday 13th February
Morning Service at 11am
Free Church Building,
Alma Road, Broddick
All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 13th February
Morning service at 11 am
Shiskine Free Church
All welcome

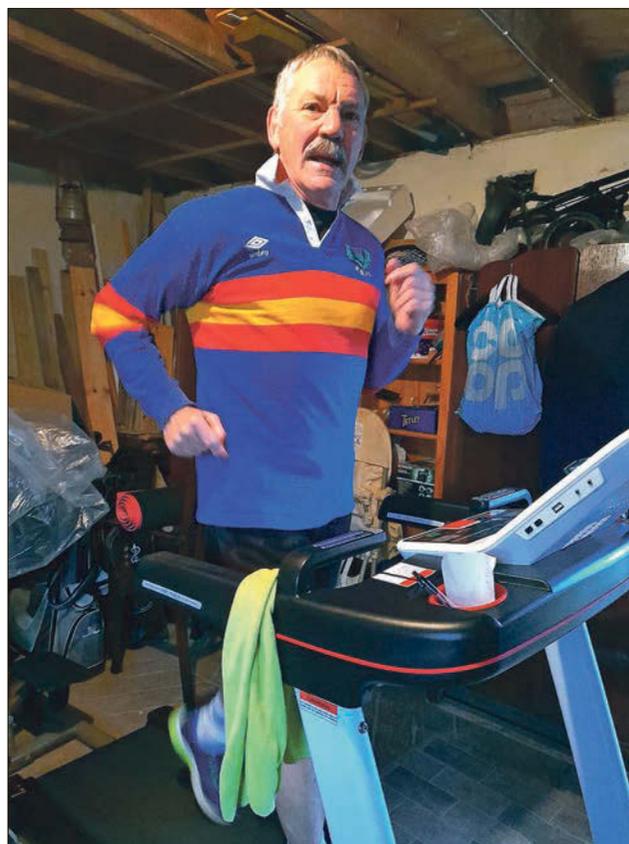
HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday 12th February
Vigil Mass at 5pm - Booking required
Sunday 13th February
Mass 11am - Booking required.
Booking for mass is essential.
Please note new booking contacts:
email: cjenks@btinternet.com to
check availability and confirm
your place. Please be aware we are
still maintaining social distancing
and capacity remains restricted.
In accordance with Scottish
Government requirements face
coverings must be worn in church
(unless exempt).

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.

BIBLE MEETINGS
Tuesday 15th February
Ormidale Pavilion, Broddick,
7pm - 8 pm
Current guidelines in place
Meetings conducted by W Craigs
and R Hughes
Contact number is 07756836670.

Douglas puts in the miles for Maggie's



Douglas Auld of Whiting Bay has raised more than £722 for cancer charity Maggie's after completing a 53-mile sponsored run during January.

The Maggie's 50-mile challenge encouraged supporters to clock up 50 miles of accumulated running in January to raise funds for the charity that supports people affected by cancer.

Douglas, who lost two of his younger sisters to cancer, exceeded the 50 mile target. Douglas said: 'I decided in the second week of January to run three sessions per week on the treadmill and aim for between four and five miles per session,

although the final run was just over seven miles to make a total of 53 miles to recognise 1953 as my birth year.

'Having a target to aim for and knowing what wonderful work Maggie's does was a great incentive to ensure I completed the challenge. Thank you to everyone who sponsored me and helped to raise £722 for Maggie's.'

Maggie's is formally named Maggie Keswick Jencks Cancer Caring Trust, but refers to itself simply as Maggie's. It was founded by and named after the late Maggie Keswick Jencks, who died of cancer in 1995.

Through its network of centres across the United Kingdom, the charity helps anyone who has been affected by cancer by providing a caring environment that provides support, information and practical advice.

All support is free and no appointment or referral is required.

See letters on page 6.

Douglas Auld racks up the miles in his garage in support of Maggie's.

DEATH

STEPHENS VIOLET ROSETTA NEE JOHNCOCK 19/05/1921 - 18/01/2022

It is with deep sorrow that the family announce that Violet died aged 100 on January 18th at AWMH, peacefully after a short illness, in the expert and tender care of the doctors and nurses, with Christine at her side.

She was the cherished wife of the late Charlie for 70 years, the beloved Mother of Christine and David and Grandma of Edward, Fred and the late Alexandra. Her great-granddaughter Nellie was a source of such joy to her. Violet was also a loving Aunt and a dear friend.

Her funeral took place at Charnock Richard Crematorium, Lancashire on 9th February at 12.30.

She will be sadly missed.

DEATH

McLAUGHLIN - William Joseph (Bill) of Arran and Glasgow. Bill passed away peacefully at Crosshouse Hospital, Kilmarnock on Saturday 5th February 2022. For his final two days, he was surrounded by family and friends whom he regaled with his customary storytelling, recitations and good humour. Much loved husband of Aileen, father of Fiona, Angus and Donald, father-in-law to Ricky, Gillian and Lyz, very proud grandfather of ten and adoring great grandfather of three. Funeral Mass to be held at Holy Cross Church, Broddick at 11am on Tuesday 15th February by invitation only followed by Memorial Service at Whiting Bay Church at 12 noon and thereafter to Kilbride Cemetery, Lamlash. A bus will be laid on which will meet the 9.45 ferry and return to the 4.40 Please let us know if you plan to attend: auntifee@aol.com

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ARRAN BANNER GOLF

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday February 8, Winter Cup: 1 Alex Morrison-Cowan, 65; 2 John Milesi, 66; 3 John Pennycott, 68.

Fixtures: Saturday February 12, Lochranza Hotel Cup will not take place owing to the Winter League at Corrie. Tuesday February 15, Lochranza Hotel Cup. Tee off noon.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday February 3, Yellow Medal: 1 Alan Smith, 81-19=62; 2 Serge El Adm, 76-13=63. Magic twos, Alan Smith @4th, Ian Bremner @16th.

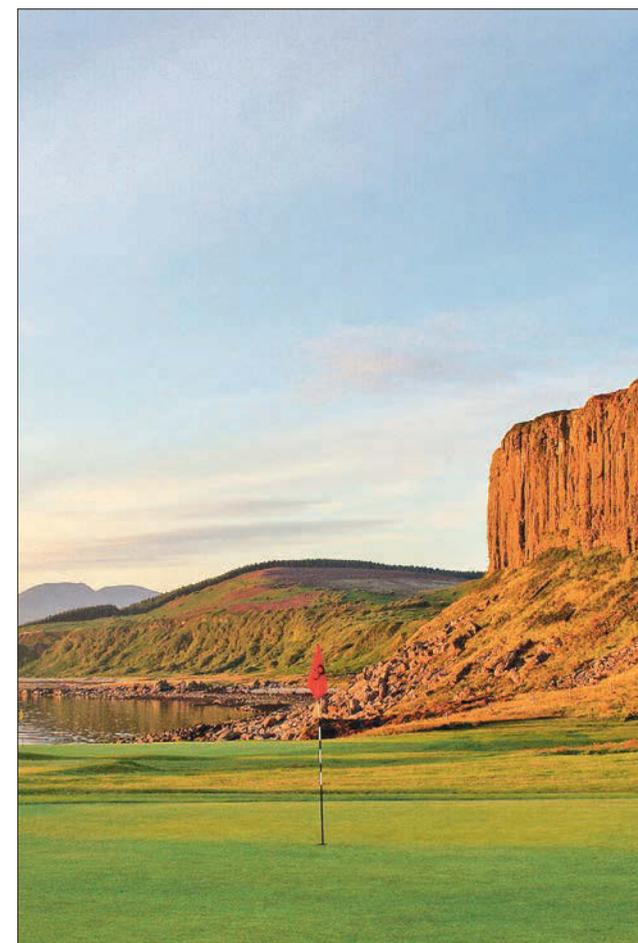
Fixtures: Sunday February 13, Glenburn Cup, noon draw. Thursday February 17, Yellow Medal, 11am draw.

Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday February 3, Ladies 18 Hole Medal: 1 and scratch, Liz Kerr, 83-16=67; 2 Jenni Turnbull, 92-17=75.

Corrie Golf Club

Fixtures: Saturday February 12, 18 Hole Medal. Monday February 14, Monday Cup. Ballot at noon.



An atmospheric photograph of the eighth hole at Shiskine Golf Course. Photograph: Hamish Bannatyne. Available at <http://shiskinegolf.co.uk>

SCOTTISH FIELD

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Arran side drops to fourth spot after Glencairn defeat

Glencairn Thistle	2
Isle of Arran	1
Ayrshire Sunday Amateur Football Association League	

A patched-up team made up of players who were able to make it to the mainland for a match against Glencairn Thistle

suffered a 2-1 defeat which has knocked Arran AFC down to fourth place in the league table.

Players who were available to attend the match needed to spend a few days away from home owing to ferry disruption which necessitated both an early departure and a late return to Arran.

With challenging weather

conditions, and travel arrangements adding to team woes, a spokesperson from Arran AFC said: 'Very tough conditions and a patched-up team left the boys with a defeat. Still, the boys did brilliantly and we can't fault them at all. On another day it could of been different.'

'We wish Glencairn Thistle all the best for the rest of the season.'

The defeat at Ardeer Junior Stadium in Stevenston has forced Arran AFC to drop a rung in the division one table in the Ayrshire Sunday Amateur Football Association league. Arran AFC are now in fourth place with 24 points and Craigie United are occupying the third spot. Leading the pack is Grange with 32 points, Irvine No 1 CSC is in second place with 31 points, and Craigie United has 27 points.

Arran AFC and Craigie United have both only played 11 matches, in comparison to other league teams who have already played 15 matches, so there is still scope for the team to advance as more fixtures are fulfilled.

The team will continue to face challenging opposition this week when they play against second-placed Irvine No 1 CSC on Sunday at The Circuit in Irvine.

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A tense moment in goal as the ball sails overhead.



Left: Kieran Rae is congratulated by his team mates after scoring Arran's only goal of the match.

Photographs: Tam Borland.

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Ronan McCowan was selected as man of the match.

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