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Stranded passengers' fury at fiasco

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Claims ferry's Covid crisis could have been avoided

There is growing anger at the management of CalMac this week after hundreds of ferry passengers were left stranded in Ardrossan on Sunday after a Covid outbreak at the ferry terminal halted all ferries to Arran.

Passengers caught up in the 'shambles' say the ferry company should have had contingency plans in place for such an eventuality which, many believe, was foreseeable given what has been seen during the pandemic.

Passengers turning up at Ardrossan from mid-morning in cars and on foot were met with a notice informing them that all sailings to Arran were

cancelled for the rest of the day.

Dozens of disgruntled passengers, many with young children in the car at the start of the school holidays, were left to hastily make other arrangements on their own as the PR nightmare developed for the ferry operator.

Those with cars and campervans were eventually offered the option of a three-hour, 130-mile drive, for additional sailings from Claonaig, but foot passengers were left high and dry.

More than 100 cars had to queue in the car parks and

along the single track road on Kintyre for several hours.

An estimated 30 cars, which made the long trip, did not even make it to Arran before the service ended at 9pm. To add to the misery, there are presently no toilets at Claonaig.

The last ferry to leave Ardrossan was the 9.45am on Sunday but to add to the frustration, the MV Caledonian Isles made three sailings from Brodick to the mainland, but refused to take even foot passengers over to Arran despite

Continued on page 2.



Lettering trees at Gaelic crafts day

Two youngsters show off their designs for the Gaelic Tree Alphabet they helped to create at the Geopark information centre last Saturday. Full story page 3.

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Stranded passengers' fury at ferry fiasco

Continued from page 1.

both residents and holiday-makers being stranded on the mainland.

The misery was compounded by a train strike.

There was further anger this week when it emerged that two passengers had been taken over on one of the ferry sailings, while everyone else was left behind – but one of these involved a medical condition.

There has been criticism that CalMac had no-one at the port advising passengers of the situation. Instead people had to rely on the information via the CalMac website.

Ardrossan student Aileen Berry, who had been fishing at the pier, took it upon herself to try to help people who were unaware of the situation when arriving at the closed terminal offering information and advice using her own phone.

Other passengers gave directions to drivers who had no idea where Claonaig was.

The day of frustration happened after two members of the Ardrossan port staff tested



Student Aileen Berry used her own time helping stranded passengers. 01_B42stranded01

positive for Covid-19. All 23 staff on duty on Sunday were required to go for testing due to being close contacts.

As they all had to leave to be tested and self-isolate while awaiting the test result, there was no member of Ardrossan

staff who could be at the office. CalMac says all other Clyde ports were contacted and asked if there was anyone available to provide cover at short notice, but unfortunately there was no-one available.

Foot passengers had to either go home, if they could, or find alternative accommodation with family, friends or in nearby hotels and B&Bs. CalMac can now expect a wave of compensation claims as a result of the ferry cancellations.

Staff came from Oban, via Claonaig, to Arran which allowed staff from Brodick to cover Ardrossan and the service resumed with the 8.20am sailing from Brodick on

Monday. The matter was raised at the Arran Ferry Committee meeting on Monday night which CalMac was unable to attend.

The committee has written to CalMac's managing director Robbie Drummond to voice its disappointment with the unsatisfactory arrangements.

A spokesman said: "The AFC will be meeting with appropriate representatives to review risk management plans and drive the changes needed."

"These changes must recognise responsibility for the carriage of foot passengers, connectivity between Ardrossan and Claonaig to ensure capacity is available

and services provided and improve communications to customers."

A CalMac spokesman said on Monday: "In line with current Covid protocol, members of staff from the Ardrossan port office were required to self-isolate while they waited for PCR test results after two colleagues tested positive."

"Extra sailings operated between Lochranza and Claonaig and additional staff were brought in to cover the port, which is now operating normally again."

"We apologise for any inconvenience caused to customers as a result of this enforced closure of the office due to Covid."

Yet more delay with new ferry

The date for the delivery of MV Glen Sannox has slipped yet again and is now projected for the fourth quarter of 2022, it was confirmed to the Arran Ferry Committee (AFC) this week.

The new Arran ferry which is now twice over budget and more than three years late had been expected three months earlier, a date given only last month.

After the handover to CalMac, the company will need to complete trials and crew familiarisation before the ferry enters service, which may now not be until 2023.

As previously announced, the MV Glen Sannox will not reliably operate from Ardrossan until the proposed upgrades are complete and the AFC has asked that all parties work together to provide some outline of what services and timetables can be provided to allow for business planning through the disruption when the ferry will move to Troon.

Further work is planned to upgrade Gourcock.

This will also provide alternative berthing for MV Glen Sannox, though dates are not confirmed.

AFC met face-to-face for the first time this year for its October meeting on Monday night and was given the updates by Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) chief executive officer Kevin Hobbs and Brian Fulton, CMAL head of business

support. Also in attendance was Kenneth Gibson MSP and his researcher.

Mr Hobbs also presented the CMAL 10-year investment plan, which is published on its website, and updated the committee on the various activities it is undertaking.

The plan includes six major vessels, 10 small vessels in a two-phase programme, three vessels for the Gourock-Dunoon-Kilcreggan routes and two freight vessels for the northern routes.

The first five years of the plan are funded as part of £580m announced earlier this year.

This funding is in addition to the costs of the MV Glen Sannox and hull 802 vessels currently being constructed at Ferguson's Marine Port Glasgow.

The funding also covers port improvements for ports under CMAL's ownership and discussions continue to confirm the investment to rejuvenate the CalMac fleet and introduce greater resilience.

Future technology being considered includes the next generation of electric or hybrid vessels.

Future hydrogen technology is anticipated, though it is still to be fully proven.

In an open and respectful meeting, CMAL also answered a range of questions on matters under its control including the recent tidal

restrictions which have been introduced at Claonaig.

These have been investigated with no clear reason identified.

CMAL proposes to carry out work to extend the length of the slipway, similar to the work completed at Lochranza. CMAL is also progressing the planned engineering evaluation to mitigate interruptions in service due to adverse winds.

This was commissioned earlier this year following a request from the AFC.

Concerns about the ongoing reliability of the Brodick Passenger Access System (PAS) have been investigated.

The service is improving and the annual running costs of the PAS are in line with similar installations.

It was also confirmed that the old pier at Brodick is unsafe and plans are in place for its removal before the year end.

The question was asked about the future of the lessees of the old terminal building and the need to maintain the property.

This is being monitored by CMAL property managers to ensure the long-term care and maintenance of the property.

The committee left CMAL management with a clear requirement that the fleet and ports needed to deliver a much higher level of service than was currently provided.

See also page 10.

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Gaelic Tree Alphabet completed at craft day

Volunteers of all ages enjoyed a day of arts and crafts in the Geopark information centre at the Lochranza Centre last Saturday.

They were crafting a Gaelic Tree Alphabet mural which will be installed shortly outside in the Geopark garden, where they are planting specimens of Arran's native trees and shrubs.

The Gaelic Tree Alphabet, or Celtic Tree Alphabet, has each letter assigned a tree or plant name. The Gaelic alphabet has 18 letters represented by 18 tree species.

Arran Geopark project co-ordinator Malcolm Wilkinson said: 'We would like to thank all the amazing group of volunteers for their paintbrush skills and to Forestry and Land Scotland for kindly donating the wooden boards - old green Forestry Commission signs that have now been upcycled.'

The information centre and garden are open to the public every day.



A volunteer hard at work on an etching.



More of the volunteers with their finished work.



The finished 18 letter alphabet.



Youngsters show off their finished work.



Some of the finished alphabet letters.



A close-up shot of the alphabet work.

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MAINLAND TAXIS

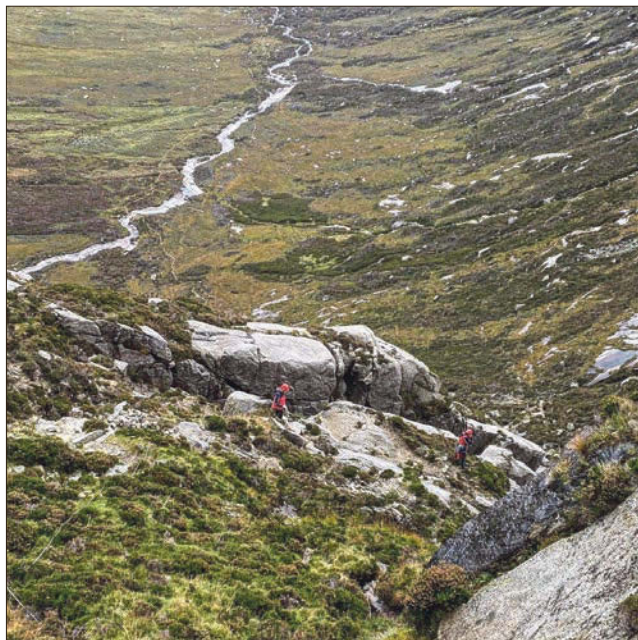
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Helicopter helps in rescue



AMRT members set up a rope system to recover the walker.

All photographs: courtesy AMRT.



From above, left: The AMRT Argocat makes its way back towards base; AMRT members make their way to Rescue 199 to be transported to the saddle.

Rescue 199 at the saddle dissecting the Goatfell mountain range.



A walker had to be rescued after she became cragfast at the Whin Dyke area of the Saddle in Glen Rosa.

Arran Mountain Rescue Team (AMRT) was called out at 10am last Sunday morning after the incident at the Whin Dyke. A steep chimney between Glen Rosa and Glen Sannox, it can be particularly challenging in wet weather and is fairly remote.



The rescue helicopter from Prestwick, Rescue 199, helped by airlifting the team members to the scene where a rope work system was set up to raise the walker to safety.

Thankfully the cragfast walker was unharmed and was able to walk off the hill from the saddle to the team's Argocat.

An AMRT spokesperson thanked everyone who was involved in the rescue.

Buses industrial action 'inevitable'

Unite Scotland has warned that unless there is a significant shift in Stagecoach Group's pay offers in Scotland, industrial action on the buses by the end of the month will be inevitable.

The announcement comes after staff in Brodick, and across Scotland, voted for industrial action over a pay dispute.

On Arran, but not elsewhere, this would be short of strike action.

Unite says that 1,000 Stagecoach workers, including drivers, engineering staff, administrative workers and

cleaners, from across Scotland are backing the action.

Unite has demanded that Stagecoach meets its fair pay claim of the Retail Price Index inflation figure which is at 3.8 per cent as of July, plus one per cent.

It also pointed out that Stagecoach's latest accounts show that the group made a profit of £58.4m and that it has more than £875m of available liquidity.

Dougie Maguire, Unite regional co-ordinator, said: 'We want to emphasise that Unite's ambition has been to solve this

dispute amicably and without our members having to take strike action.

'Yet our members have had no option but to consider walking because the company hasn't done enough talking.

'The company needs to make a significant shift in its pay offers to end this dispute or industrial action in the coming weeks will be inevitable.'

Speaking before the strike ballot last month, a Stagecoach spokeswoman said: 'Separate pay discussions are taking place in different parts of the country and are at different

stages. We have put fair offers to Unite in these locations and we very much remain open to continuing discussions with the union to reach agreement.'

The industrial action covers major bus depots including Brodick, Ardrossan, Ayr, Cumbernauld, Dumfries, Dundee, Fife, Angus, Inverness, Highlands and Islands, Kilmarnock, and Perth and if it does go ahead it is also likely to involve disruption to the COP26 climate change conference being held in Glasgow at the end of the month.

Booster jab vaccination clinics for the over-50s

Arran Medical Group will be holding two Covid booster vaccination sessions in the coming weeks for people aged over 50.

The two sessions will take place at Arran High School on Sunday October 31 and Sunday November 14 and those who attend will also be offered a seasonal flu vaccine at the same time.

Those in the previous age group, over-70s, who were unable to attend the previous

sessions are invited to book for these sessions. Unpaid carers and people aged between 18 and 49, who are classed as 'at risk' or 'clinically vulnerable' are also eligible to attend these sessions.

If you are in any of these categories, and it has been at least 24 weeks since your second vaccination, you can make an appointment by calling the surgery on 01770 600516 after 2pm on weekdays.



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1515-1600 - BRODICK, THE FOOTBALL TENNIS
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Celebrating the centenary of poppy symbol

To celebrate 100 years of the poppy being the national symbol of remembrance, Poppyscotland is encouraging buildings on Arran and across Scotland to Light Up Red.

The charity is calling for mass involvement from schools, universities, council buildings, monuments, statues and other attractions during the period leading up to Remembrance Sunday from Friday October 22 to Sunday November 14.

To take part in the celebrations and to mark the milestone, any building with external lighting can add red gel filters to the flood or up-lights to help Poppyscotland commemorate the centenary.

Three million poppies, which are all handmade by veterans at the Lady Haig Poppy Factory in Edinburgh, began their journey to cities, towns and villages across the country last month. To celebrate the 100-year milestone, around half a million special-edition centenary poppies have also been produced. For more information visit www.poppyscotland.org.uk/light-up-red

Brodick dentist signs off with a smile after 16 years

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Well-known Bruce and Tricia Jenkins, who have been operating the dental surgery practice in Brodick for more than 16 years, are finally retiring for a well-deserved rest.

The dental practice will be taken over by Kenny and Emma Kendall in mid-November and they will continue to provide dental care to all of the existing patients.

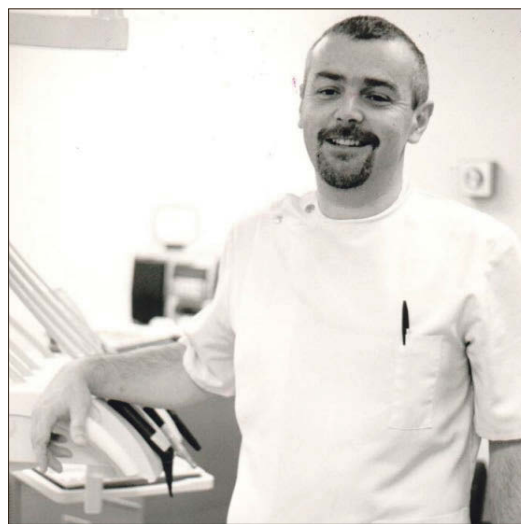
Tricia, who has run the practice with her dentist husband, and Bruce have enjoyed a long and successful and well-appreciated career over the years, however, they feel the time is now right to retire.

Tricia said: 'The last 18 months have been difficult for dentists to give good quality preventative care, although they have been working to provide emergency and urgent



Bruce and Tricia Jenkins are retiring after 16 years of fulfilling the dental needs of the Arran community.

01_B42dentist01



Dental surgeon Bruce Jenkins pictured in the Arran Banner in November 2002 when he arrived on Arran with his wife Tricia and four children.

01_B42dentist02

care all that time. The hope is that when the numbers of people with the virus in the general population reduces

sufficiently that more patients will be able to be seen on a more regular basis.

'Patients should still contact

the surgery in the weeks before November if they are having problems but be aware that time is limited and that Kenny

and Emma might need a little bit of time to settle into their new surroundings before seeing patients.

'We would like to thank all our patients for their patience and understanding over the last 16 years and especially over the last 18 months.'

Kenny, the dentist, and Emma, the practice manager, each have more than 15 years of experience of working in dentistry and are looking forward to the challenges of continuing the dental services on the island.

YOURSTORY

email us at editor@arranbanner.co.uk
telephone 01770 302142



To date the Arran community has diverted over 35 tonnes, £220,000 worth of food through the food share scheme. This reduces greenhouse gas emissions as the food is kept out of landfill. The food share is open to all and runs daily at 8.15pm at the Big Co and Lamlash Co-op.

The Pioneer Project would like to extend their thanks to everyone who helped out at the Apple Day in Lochranza at the start of the month, a total of 40 litres were pressed. Things are winding down for the 2021 season, but there will be plenty to do at volunteer days over autumn and winter to prepare ahead of next season. Please check the website for information on volunteer days: <https://pioneerproject.scot/get-involved.html> or get in contact by email on arran@pioneerproject.scot.

#Wearearranfood

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



Eating seasonally is a great way to reduce the climate impact of your diet. Here's some food that's in season in October:

Baby Leeks, Beetroot, Broad Beans, Broccoli, Brussels Sprouts, Cabbages, Cauliflower, Celery, Celery, Chicory, Chillies, Courgettes, Cucumber, Jerusalem Artichoke, Kale, Lettuce, Onions, Parsnips, Pumpkin, Radish, Runner Beans, Squash, Swede, Turnips

Apples, Blueberries, Damsons, Gooseberries, Pears, Plums, Raspberries, Strawberries, Tomatoes

Seasonal Recipe of the month- Apple and oat muffins

Ingredients (makes 12):

For the apples

- 1 medium apple, peeled and chopped
- 1 tablespoon light brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon



For the batter

- 1 cup all-purpose flour, replace both flours with oat flour to keep gluten-free
- ¼ cup whole wheat flour
- ½ cup rolled oats
- ⅓ cup light brown sugar or coconut sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 teaspoons baking powder
- ½ teaspoon baking soda
- ⅓ cup refined coconut oil, melted
- ½ cup unsweetened applesauce
- ⅓ cup apple cider or non-dairy milk

Method:

- Preheat oven to 375°F. Grease muffin cups or line with muffin liners.

- In a small saucepan, saute the apples, brown sugar and cinnamon for about 5 minutes over medium heat. The apples should begin to soften and caramelize. Remove from heat, set aside.

- Stir together flours, oats, brown sugar, salt, baking powder, and baking soda in a mixing bowl. Add in the applesauce, vegetable oil, and cider or milk. Stir until just moistened. Fold in chopped apple. Fill muffin cups ¾ full.

- Bake for about 18 minutes in the preheated oven, or until a toothpick comes out clean.



Save the date! After the success of the first Arran Farmers Market in September we are delighted to be working with Arrans Food Journey and Bellevue Farm to hold a **Winter Farmers Market on Sunday 5th December at Bellevue Farm!** For more information check out <https://www.arransfoodjourney.com/arran-farmers-market/>

The Scottish Government is currently consulting on their future plan for local food, Local Food for Everyone, but what does 'local food' mean to you and how can 'everyone' access it? The new local food plan holds an important opportunity to have a positive impact on the well-being of communities, economies and the environment right across Scotland. We are hosting a workshop on Wednesday 17th November that will give you the opportunity to explore what a local food plan could mean and will also provide a guide for you to complete your own consultation questionnaire. Register to attend the workshop by emailing jess.ecosavvy@gmail.com

LETTERS

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

Woeful response

CalMac management have to hang their heads in shame at the woeful response to Sunday's ferry fiasco at Ardrossan.

As always, there was only one loser - the paying passenger. Yes, the initial problem was Covid-related but did two positive cases in the ferry terminal really need to shut-down the entire system from Ardrossan?

To add insult to injury, CalMac operated three sailings from Brodick to Ardrossan as hundreds of car and foot passengers were stranded there - forced into a 130-mile journey to Claonaig or to make alternative arrangements on their own.

Why could foot passengers with tickets not have been allowed to make the trip? That could also have included car parties leaving their cars at Ardrossan.

As one letter writer states this week, if this had happened at a major railway station or bus station would it really have brought everything to a standstill?

We have been living with the Covid pandemic for more than 18 months.

Surely in that time a company the size of CalMac should have contingency plans and, in these days, protocols in place to deal with just such an eventuality.

The fiasco was a misery for everyone involved and, in some cases, an expensive one, but even more worrying is the damage it will have caused to future tourism on Arran, at the very time it can ill afford it.

Thought for the week

'The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep you safe.' **Psalm 121: 7**

Well done, Bill

Sir,
I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the Arran Ferry Committee secretary Bill Calderwood who put in a great, full shift on Sunday on behalf of the AFC and the disadvantaged Arran travellers and it should be publicly recognised.

Whilst far from ideal, the extension to sailings from Claonaig until 9.20pm hopefully saw most cars home. However, provision for all travellers from Ardrossan is perceived to have been poor, but particularly for pedestrian passengers.

CalMac's contingency plans for such an easily foreseeable, Covid-related event were atrocious and have to be addressed to avoid repetition - the simple, usual Gourock HQ-issued blanket apologies will not do. Enough is enough!

Are we really expected to believe that a similar Covid occurrence in a local bus or local rail station office would have shut the system down for the day? I think we know the answer to that is 'no'.

The fact that CalMac is a state-owned, heavily subsidised and heavily unionised service has to be a contributory factor. Is 'lifeline service' just a convenient phrase when it suits or only at contract renewal?

There are a lot of angry people out there who are 130 miles out of fuel and time and considerably inconvenienced. Why is the Arran 'port of refuge, Gourock' dependent on Ardrossan staff and therefore not Covid-proofed? Contingency planning and risk assessment - totally missing in a company that has those phrases as their mantras - CalMac needs to explain the absence of attention to detail?

Hopefully there will be some answers from them urgently to the AFC.

Yours,
**Neil Arthur,
Kilpatrick.**

Knee-jerk reaction stops boat

Sir,
The CalMac actions at the weekend, stopping all traffic from Ardrossan to Arran because of a Covid case in the office, caused a shambles.

Ironic that people arriving for the English October break, travelling by car, had already pre-paid tickets. They had no need to go into the building. It would also have been more economical and praiseworthy to allow any walk-on passengers free travel till the mess was sorted out.

Why could no-one in authority just THINK before the usual knee-jerk reaction to stop the boats.

Yours,
**Elaine Duncan,
Brodick.**

Need to Talk here to help

Sir,
Yesterday (Thursday) was World Sight Day and a reminder that we should all take care of one of the most precious things we have - our vision.

But for the 10 people every day in Britain who begin to lose their sight, many find it helpful to talk through these feelings with someone outside their usual circle of family and friends. That's where Need to Talk, our free counselling and confidence-building service, can help.

Launched with support from the European Union's INTERREG VA programme, Need to Talk is available in Ayrshire as well as Dumfries and Galloway, Lochaber, Skye and Lochalsh, Arran and Cumbrae, Argyll and Bute and the Western Isles.

Need to Talk's counsellors and confidence-building professionals have extensive experience in supporting people impacted by sight loss and can help people come to terms

with their sight condition and maximize their independence.

You can contact our Need to Talk team on 0303 123 9999 or email needtotalk@rnib.org.uk. For further information, visit rnib.org.uk/needtotalk

Yours,
**James Adams,
Director,
RNIB Scotland.**

Not invited to any meetings

Sir,
I noted with some concern the report from the outgoing chairman of Arran Community Council in which he berates unnamed councillors for not supporting the organisation - Arran Banner, October 1.

Most people are aware that I live in Ardrossan and that casual attendance to island meetings is not an option, so I make the same offer to every community organisation of which I am aware, specifically that they require space to speak and discuss in private and that I will not attend as a matter of course, but that I am happy to attend if requested and available. An offer that I reiterate here to the community council and all other organisations.

For the avoidance of doubt, I have never been asked to attend a community council meeting, nor was I furnished with the Zoom invitation during the period of online meetings during lockdown.

Yours,
**Councillor Tony Gurney,
Ardrossan and Arran Ward.**

National Day of Reflection

Sir,
End of life charity Marie Curie is encouraging people on Arran to start preparing for the National Day of Reflection 2022 by planting spring bulbs and seeds this autumn. The flowers will bloom in time for the day on March 23 2022 in a sign of hope for a brighter future.

The National Day of Reflection is a day to support the millions of people who've been bereaved during the pandemic and to reflect on the lives of family, friends, neighbours and colleagues who have died from Covid or other causes. The day is a time to pause, reflect and support each other whether of any belief or none.

Yours,
Angela McCormack, community fundraiser.

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We've been in our Glasgow depot for 25 years, our long time friends Hebrides Haulage operate it and provide a great service. We can accept all size of deliveries into Glasgow. Our trucks call in daily to collect all goods destined for Arran.

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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.

Baby squirrel Rufous on the mend



by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



A baby squirrel has been nursed back to health after being snatched by a bird of prey.

The three-week-old, still-blind red squirrel kit was found in the grass of a garden being strimmed in Shiskine by Jimmy Stewart on August 30.

It is thought he had been snatched from the drey by a bird of prey then dropped as there were claw marks over his back. Eleanor McAllister brought him into the Arran Vets surgery in Brodick wondering if he could be saved.

Six weeks later and Rufous, the name given to him by vet Charlotte Clough, is well on the mend.

Charlotte told the Banner: 'He was reared on kitten replacement milk initially though that first week it was painstakingly slow to get him to take just a tiny drop at a time.'

'He lived in the airing cupboard under plenty of bedding



The tiny squirrel when he was brought in to Arran Vets; and left, Rufous in his aviary is now recovering well.

laps it from a bottle lid. His wild instincts are strong and he takes the food and literally squirrels it away at the bottom of his cage then retrieves it later to eat.

'When he's ready to release, I'll take his nest box and put it up in a tree then put some feeding stations nearby to see him through the winter. I'll release him in my garden in Shiskine which is well away from roads. He's about three weeks away now from being released once he hits target weight of about three-quarters adult weight.'

'Eleanor came back to see him on Sunday and couldn't believe how much he'd changed,' Charlotte added.

for the first three weeks to keep him in the warm and dark, only waking up for a feed.

'Now he's in a large aviary and comes out for exercise

around the house. He now loves hazelnuts to eat best of all, plus walnuts, hawthorn berries and rose hips and he still takes some milk but now

DO YOU ENJOY MAKING NEW FRIENDS?



Many people living on Arran don't get the opportunity to socialise with as often as they would like. The pandemic has further highlighted the problem of isolation across the island. Befriending is an opportunity to address this, a friendly chat really does make a difference to someone's day.



"I can honestly say, I get more from volunteering than I give."

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FOR BEFRIENDING PROJECT
(VOLUNTARY/ EXPENSES PAID)

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EMAIL: INFO@ARRANCVS.ORG.UK

Shiskine Hall cuts energy bills with free support

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Shiskine Hall will enjoy a huge reduction in its energy costs and consumption thanks to

new energy efficient heaters purchased with a grant and an interest-free Scottish government Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SME) loan.

The building, which has been a village hall since 1958, was

previously a church with a high ceiling and north-facing windows.

These factors, along with old, inefficient wall-mounted ceramic heaters, presented a number of heating challenges.

With heating costs being a significant outlay for the committee, Diana Turbett, secretary at the hall, contacted Zero Waste Scotland's energy efficiency business support service for advice on what changes could be implemented to save money and cut the hall's carbon emissions.

A consultant provided a report which recommended replacing the old heating system with an air source heat pump, as well as switching to energy efficient LED lighting.

The committee applied for an SME loan with a cashback grant to cover the cost of the heat pumps and the



The new energy efficient heaters have replaced the old ceramic wall heaters.



Air source heat pumps are expected to reduce heating costs as well as being more efficient.

wall-mounted fans that supply the heat into the hall. Diana said: 'We were eligible for the full £10,000 grant and the rest of the costs were covered by the interest-free loan to be repaid over eight years.'

'The hall is used by a wide range of groups, including yoga and activities for older members of the community when it's important to be warm and comfortable.'

'Our new heating will en-

courage more use round the year and help keep the building well aired and in good repair.'

'Without the support from Zero Waste Scotland and funding from the SME loan scheme we would not have been able to afford to install the new heat pumps.'

'The hall committee is pleased to be promoting energy efficiency and doing what we can to help our community be sustainable in the light of

the ongoing concerns about climate change.'

Owing to all of the changes at Shiskine Hall it is estimated there will be a reduction in emissions of approximately 1.7 tonnes of CO2 and reduced fuel costs of up to £1,060 per year.

Free support and further information about energy efficiency can be found by visiting www.energy.zerowastescotland.org.uk

Community groups asked to make use of three wishes

North Ayrshire Council is inviting community groups on Arran to make use of its new online portal offering 'three wishes' in an attempt to bridge the needs of local groups with council contractors and suppliers.

Community Benefits Wish List has been launched on the North Ayrshire Community Planning Partnership website as part of the council's Community Wealth Building strategy.

Community groups can register their community benefit wishes, including: donations of materials to a community garden, food donations to a community larder, free printing for a community event or an expert giving a small charity some free help for an afternoon.

Council leader Councillor Joe Cullinane said: 'The launch of the new Community Benefits Wish List is yet another step in the council's Community Wealth Building strategy. The wish list will put important community projects on the

radar of contractors which can provide them with support to achieve their ambitions, grow their capacity and realise their potential.'

Community Wealth Building is all about working in partnership with communities and businesses to build a strong local economy which supports fair work, encourages local spend and uses the land

and property we own for the common good so that wealth stays local.'

Community groups can register online at northayrshire.community/wishlist and contractors interested in delivering a wish can view the list of requests on the website and contact the council via email at communitybenefits@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Shiskine SWI resumes meetings

Shiskine Women's Institute members enjoyed a welcome return to regular meetings last week when 21 ladies attended their first meeting since March last year.

The guest speaker, Dr Jim Cassels, gave an informative and entertaining talk entitled: Who would be the bird recorder?'

Mr Cassels described the history of bird recording on Arran and the importance of recording the data on bird sightings.

This month's competition, a lockdown limerick, was won

by Joan Stewart. Second was Elizabeth Ross.

The exhibition, an Old Shiskine Photograph, was won by Kate Mackintosh and Carol Stewart won the raffle prize.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday November 3, when the guest speaker will be Dr Alasdair Grassie with some funny stories from his years as a GP on Arran.

November's competition will be a homemade quiche and the exhibition will be an old or homemade remedy.

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Corrie Film Club is back in action

There has been no Corrie Film Club since March 2020 but the doors will be open again and the cameras rolling on Sunday October 17.

The club starts back with a showing of a feel good and warming film – The Englishman who Climbed a Hill and came down a Mountain, starring Hugh Grant and Tara Fitzgerald.

Set in 1917 against the background of the First World War, a cartographer arrives in a Welsh village to measure the height of their 'mountain'. Finding it short of mountain status, it is deemed a 'hill'.

There is love, humour, discord and moving sadness as the villagers, despite divisions, find a common purpose in rectifying the state of affairs.

This film was a 1995 entry to the Moscow and Cannes film festivals.

See it in Corrie and Sannox village hall on Sunday at 8pm. Entry free, but a small donation is requested for the hall.

Charity Arran bike ride raises cash for CHAS

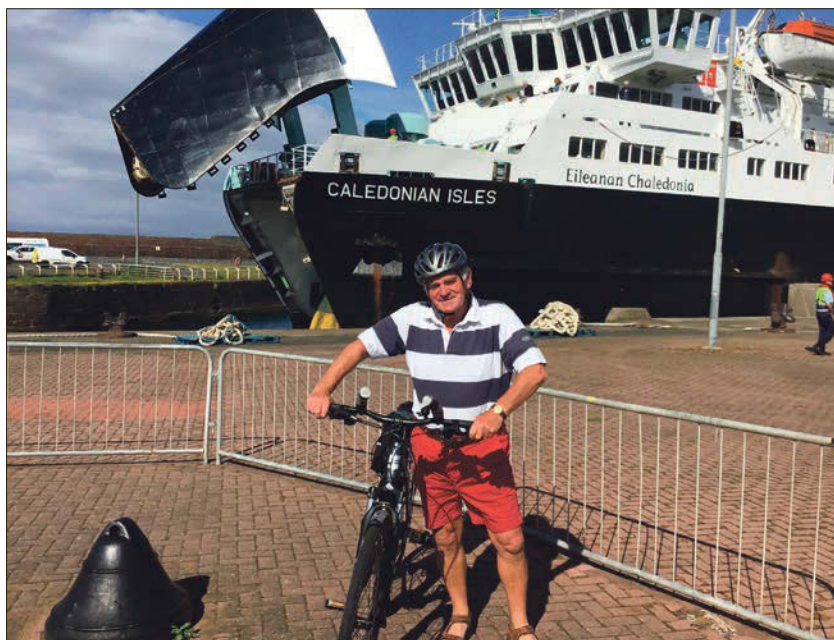
A retired plumber has raised more than £4,000 for Children's Hospices Across Scotland (CHAS) by cycling 56 miles round Arran.

George Young, 72, is also a former board member of the Scottish and Northern Ireland's Plumbing Employer's Federation (SNIPEF), which usually raises funds for CHAS at its annual dinner.

This year though, with the pandemic scuppering fundraising plans, George decided to take on the challenge himself with the support of his SNIPEF colleagues.

George said: 'In the days before Covid, the Glasgow and rest of Scotland branch of SNIPEF enjoyed an annual dinner, usually at The Radisson Blu in Glasgow.

'And every year at the dinner, members and their guests would raise around £2,000 for CHAS.



George Young with his bicycle en route to Arran.

friends, colleagues and associates to make the 56-mile cycle round the beautiful Isle of Arran.

'I started and finished at Brodick and it was up and down hill most of the way.

'Not so easy when you have an artificial knee and a dodgy shoulder, but I managed it in just over five hours.

'My wife was my support team and was on standby in case I broke my bike or fell off. I am now counting our sponsorship money as it comes in. I've raised £4,170 including gift aid so far.'

The fundraising efforts have received praise from Rachel Gedge, community fundraiser at CHAS, who said: 'We are so grateful to George. It's a tough challenge.

'Everything George raises will make a difference to children and families across Scotland.'

'Obviously, with the pandemic, there has been no annual get-together since 2019 and it occurred me that the

charity must be under pressure from an absence of the funding it was used to.

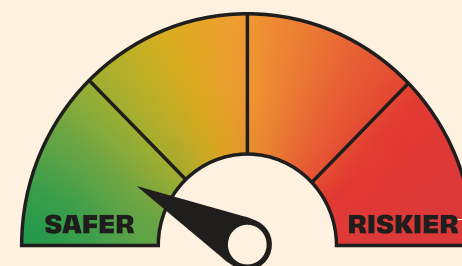
'The idea of vulnerable chil-

dren also suffering from the impact of Covid set me off on the idea of getting sponsored by lots of my old SNIPEF

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- Socialise outdoors where possible
 - Clean hands often
- Open windows if meeting indoors
- Use face coverings where required*



**Safer choices
make a difference**

gov.scot/coronavirus



*Exemptions apply



Harbour upgrade or the new ferry, which is biggest soap opera?

North Ayrshire councillor Alex Gallagher, who has the islands portfolio on the cabinet, has written an article following revelations in the Arran Banner last month, and more recently in the national press, that the Ardrossan to Brodick route has suffered almost 20 per cent cancelled sailings this year.



This will come as no surprise to those living on Arran. Shocking perhaps, but not surprising. In the last few years, Arran has had an ever worsening ferry service. Businesses and jobs are in jeopardy and, despite continual promises from Scottish ministers, there seems no end and no solution to the problem. But let's be clear: the current situation was predictable. The woeful level of ferry service currently being suffered by islanders was never inevitable. There are two major policy decisions, both taken on political grounds by the Scottish Government, that make these failures a true scandal.

The first such decision was the Scottish Government's introduction of a subsidy to ferry fares under the pretence they were delivering a system called Road Equivalent Tariff (RET). But, as many residents of Arran will know, the fares subsidy is only a part of a full RET system. It is basic economics that a fares subsidy will result in greater use of the service, meaning the ferries will wear out more quickly. In practical terms, a ferry with a predicted life of 25 years, having to make more trips carrying more cars and foot passengers may only have a useful life of 20 years. This in turn means, under a full RET system, you have to plan to build replacement vessels to an accelerated schedule. Unfortunately, and disgracefully, the Scottish Government

made no such plans. The truly astonishing and unforgivable fact is that the tonnage of vessels launched in 2007-2021, under the SNP, is half the tonnage that joined the fleet in the previous 14 years. The result is an ageing fleet which fails more often and needs constant maintenance and is too often out of service with no back-up vessels available. The symptom of the problem may be operational failure, but there can be no doubt that the real failure lies at the door of the Scottish Government's lack of strategic planning.

It is little short of criminal negligence to introduce a ferry subsidy but not to implement the other improvements necessary to deal with the inevitable consequences of the extra traffic generated by the subsidy.

The second fatal decision, directly pertinent to Arran, was to award the ferry contracts for two radically new ferry designs to Ferguson of Port Glasgow under a senior management with SNP sympathies but no experience in shipbuilding. Whether the yard could deliver the ferries on time and on specification was apparently of secondary importance to the impression of politicians riding to the rescue. But the price has been paid by the islanders in disgraceful ferry services and broken promises. It is no exaggeration to say that the present situation amounts to a betrayal of the islands and island residents.

Which brings us to Ardrossan harbour and the repeated delays to the upgrades necessary to accommodate the new vessel - should it ever arrive.

It is proving frustratingly difficult to achieve agreement between and among the Scottish Government, Peel Ports and the various arms of government involved. I fear that if a decision is not taken soon, the harbour upgrade will become a bigger soap opera than the MV Glen Sannox.

Which raises the question, as suggested by Katy Clark MSP: Is it now time to bring the harbour back into public ownership? It would certainly reduce the number of organisations with influence on the project, reduce the complexity of decision-making and give the people of North Ayrshire a measure of control over one of their most important public assets.

It is five years since the Labour administration in NAC led the successful campaign to save the Ardrossan-Brodick route in anticipation of hosting a new ferry.

Those years have been a rollercoaster of emotions and expectations. It is frustrating that some of these expectations have not come to fruition but we will continue to fight for the service that we believe the people of Arran and North Ayrshire need and deserve.

Persistence pay



Sailing into the sunset.



Pupils enjoy an evening's sailing in Lamlash bay.



Young sailors practise tacking around the



...s off for Arran junior sailors



... yellow marker buoys.

After attending lessons every week for six weeks, 14 S1 and S2 pupils from Arran High School have gained their Start Sailing award with Arran Junior Sailing.

The weather could not have been kinder for the students wanting to learn how to sail.

Mild weather conditions eased them into learning how to handle and become familiar with their vessels, before windier conditions provided them with the requirements for faster, more agile sailing as their abilities progressed.

For the first few weeks, the very light winds allowed the students to learn how to con-

trol the Laser Pico boats and practise their capsize drills.

And as the wind strength increased for the last few sessions, it provided the perfect opportunity for students to test their skills in a faster paced, more challenging environment.

The students all rose to the challenge and were quick to successfully sail their boats across the wind and tack around marker buoys.

Sailing lessons will start up again after Easter with a letter going to the schools before hand to invite the next budding sailors on Arran to learn how to sail.



The sun casts a long shadow over the young sailors.



Young sailors take to the water in their highly-maneuvrable Laser Pico boats.



With the wind in their sails, the young sailors put their skills to the test.



Arran Junior Sailing members raft up for a group photograph.

Free will writing service set to f

Monday 18th to Friday 29th October

Make a Will, Make a Difference

Ayrshire Hospice is inviting people on Arran to make or update their will during Make a Will Fortnight which is now in its 10th year of fundraising for the hospice.

Make a Will Fortnight runs from Monday October 18 to Friday October 29 and gives people from across Ayrshire and Arran the opportunity to make or update their will in exchange for a donation to the hospice.

To support the charity, while also taking care of your will arrangements, all participants need to do is to make an appointment at their preferred participating solicitor during the two week period and they will take care of the rest.

There are more than 30 participating solicitors, including Jas Campbell and Co Ltd in Brodick, Nellany & Co LLP in Saltcoats, Stewart & Osborne Legal LLP in Beith and Taylor & Henderson LLP with offices in Saltcoats and across Ayrshire.

Kathryn Howell, senior fund-

raising officer at Ayrshire Hospice said: 'Thank you to all the participating solicitors who are giving their time and expertise free of charge to support our Make a Will Fortnight.'

The first Make a Will fortnight was held in 2011 and, so far, it has raised an amazing £215,000 for Ayrshire Hospice. Over 30 solicitors across

Ayrshire and Arran take part, preparing and updating wills during the two-week campaign.

Kathryn added: 'If the time is ever right for you to remember a charity in your Will, please remember Ayrshire Hospice. Every gift in every Will, regardless of size, makes a difference to the exceptional and compassionate care that

we provide to patients and their families today and in the future. You can leave us a gift of even 1 per cent in your will so those closest to you inherit 99 per cent.'

The care provided by Ayrshire Hospice is at no cost to patients or their families, however, it does require extensive, ongoing fundraising support. It costs £7.9 million per year to run all hospice services, including patient, fundraising and support services – equating to approximately £22,000 per day; and 80p in every £1 raised goes directly towards patient care.

If you would like to take part in this year's Make a Will Fortnight you can find full details and a list of participating solicitors at www.ayrshirehospice.org/make-a-will-campaign or you can phone 01292 288488 and speak to the fundraising team.

Make a Will Fortnight
18th - 29th October 2021

Your Legacy
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Making a Will is one of the most important things you can do -

after all it determines how our most personal possessions and hard-earned savings will be shared among close family and friends. Failure to make a will could mean that your estate - money, other assets and possessions - could be distributed according to the law rather than your wishes.

We are delighted to be once again supporting Ayrshire Hospice with a free will writing service in return for a donation to the hospice, during Make a Will Fortnight.



We are also available for telephone and video meetings:

Tel: 01294 464 175 or
email michael@nellanysols.co.uk

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Between 18th - 29th October, Jas Campbell & Co Ltd Solicitors and Estate Agents in Brodick will be supporting Ayrshire Hospice's "Make a Will Fortnight". We shall waive our fees for writing or updating simple Wills in exchange for a donation to Ayrshire Hospice.

Do you have a valid Will?

If you would like to make use of this opportunity, please contact our Brodick office to arrange an appointment where one of our Solicitors will guide you through the process. Socially distanced and remote appointments are available. Jas Campbell & Co Ltd Solicitors offer a complete and professional service designed to provide you with the expert advice you require to make an informed decision on the contents of your Will.



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Please contact us: 37 Eglinton Street, Beith, Ayrshire, KA15 1AE
Telephone Number **01505 503345**

Make a Will Fortnight 18th - 29th October 2021

In support of the Ayrshire Hospice Make a Will Fortnight, a number of solicitors across Ayrshire and Arran have very kindly agreed to waive their fee and write or update your Will in return for a donation to the Ayrshire Hospice.*

All you need to do is contact a participating solicitor from the list opposite and make an appointment with them between Monday 18th and Friday 29th October 2021.

Did you know?

Over two thirds of the hospice's funding comes from voluntary donations including Gifts in Wills and every penny counts.

Every gift, large or small, makes a difference to the patients we care for today, their families and loved ones, and those we will care for in the future.

Please consider the Ayrshire Hospice in your Will. We will always spend your gift wisely and your donation will be very much appreciated.

For further information please contact:
Kathryn Howell Tel: 01292 288488
Email: donate@ayrshirehospice.org
Website: www.ayrshirehospice.org

*suggested voluntary donation is £60 for a basic Will or £100 for a pair of basic mirror Wills.

Scottish Charity No. SC011390



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Tel: 01294 464131

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30 September 2021



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Many birds are on the move during winter migration

The weather in September was almost identical to August in terms of mean temperature and rainfall. In comparison to last September, it was warmer and drier. September was generally dry and settled.

September is the start of the peak migration season when many birds are on the move.

The weather was conducive for watching this migration.

Birds on migration included: 21 white wagtail on Sliddery Shore on 2nd; four common scoter off Pirnmill on 6th; 12 dunlin at Drumadoon Point on 8th; two sandwich tern in Brodick Bay on 10th; one knot on Cleats Shore on 12th; one whimbrel and seven wheatear on Cleats Shore on 18th; one sanderling at Drumadoon Point on 23rd and two reports of Arctic skua in Brodick Bay, one on 7th and one on 23rd.

At this time of year birds begin to flock together, often in preparation for migration. Reports included: 199 goldfinch by Torrylinn shore on 8th; 120 kittiwake at Blackwaterfoot on 10th; 70 starling on Silver Sands on 11th; 100 shag by Pladda on 12th; 144 golden plover and 90 ringed plover at Machriewaterfoot on 12th; 300 linnet and 200 greylag geese on Cleats Shore also on 12th; 150 common gull at Blackwaterfoot on 20th; 31 oystercatcher at Whitefarland on 24th and 12 turnstone on Sliddery Shore also on 24th.

This gives an indication of the numbers of birds that are on the move at this time of year.

In September there were reports of returning winter visitors including: one wigeon on Sliddery Shore on 2nd; 41 pink-footed geese flying over Kildonan on 5th; eight rook on Cleats Shore on 12th; 30 whooper swan over Drumadoon on 25th and six brent geese at Thundergay on 29th. This goose will feature in the next Banner bird note.

A number of summer visitors were still around in September including: two lesser black-backed gull at Kilpatrick Point on 1st; one willow warbler at Auchencar on 7th; one white-throat on Cleats Shore on 12th and two chiffchaff in Glen Rosa on 20th.

For house martin, the largest September record was 50 at the Auchrannie on 7th and the latest one was 10 in Corrie on 22nd. For swallow the largest group was 200 in Blackwaterfoot on 9th and the latest one was four

Bird notes

by Jim Cassels

SEPTEMBER

in Sliddery on 30th. October should see the last of the house martins, swallows and other summer visitors departing south.

Around 100 species were recorded on Arran in September.

Other interesting sightings this month included: three common crossbill in Brodick on 6th; one twite on Cleats Shore on 12th; two Goosander at Machriewaterfoot also on 12th; a Little Grebe on Cleats Shore on 18th; two tree creeper in Glen Rosa on 20th; 12 long-tailed tit at Silver Sands on 29th and 10 gannet off Porta Buidhe also

on 29th. Gannet will soon be heading south for the winter.

To conclude this section, on 17th people travelling on the school bus had a close encounter with an adult white-tailed eagle being mobbed by gulls close to Thundergay.

Finally, my thanks to all the volunteers who took part in the eider survey in September. There will be a brief report on this in the October notes.

Enjoy your birding and keep safe. Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at jim@arranbirding.co.uk I look forward to hearing from you.

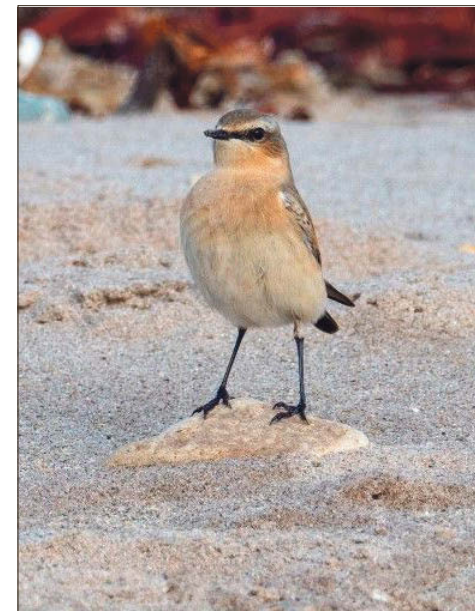
For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Report 2020 and the Arran Bird Report, the first 40 years. Plus visit the website <http://www.arranbirding.co.uk>



Pink-footed geese are a regular winter visitor. Photograph: Brian Couper



Just a few lingering swallow now. Photograph: Helen Logan



Wheatear is one of a number of species migrating along our coast at this time of year. Photograph: Nick Giles

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#WeAreArran

#Arran Welcome



Want to find out more?
Email: info@cottagesonarran.co.uk
Web: www.cottagesonarran.co.uk

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCE MARCH 2022 CLOSING DATE FOR AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP INCENTIVE

Arrange your home survey today to make sure you do not miss out

"My house is now always warm and cozy and my bills have halved"
"I no longer worry about the cost of heating my home in the winter"
"I have been delighted with the Service provided by T K Murray: from initial contact they were friendly, helpful and professional. The staff were all really great: no mess, tidy installation and they did the job in less than two days"

- Funding available from both the UK and Scottish Government
- Over 175 heat pumps installed on Arran alone.
- Full systems installed in less than two days

Air source heat pumps are set to become the most popular way to heat your home. Right now there are very generous Government incentives which cover most of the cost.

To find out how they work and how much you would get, contact us today.

T K Murray Electrical Ltd



Contact Norman Paterson on:
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2 U.P. Road, Kilsyth, Glasgow, G65 0BH.
Telephone: (01236) 730 579
FAX: (01236) 730 579
E-mail: info@tkmurray.co.uk



Left, Debbie North, a campaigner for Access For All, enjoyed a skiff ride thanks to the ACRC's adaptive skiff and crew; and above, Debbie prepares to board the ACRC skiff.

Visiting wheelchair user takes to the water to experience adaptive rowing

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Arran Coastal Rowing Club (ACRC) provided wheelchair user Debbie North with an unexpected opportunity to participate in the sport of coastal rowing thanks to its adaptive rowing team.

As one of only two rowing clubs in Scotland which offers rowing for people with disabilities, ACRC's specially-adapted skiff can be modified slightly to allow wheelchair users the ability to enjoy rowing as part of the crew.

It was only because of a chance meeting with an ACRC member that led to freelance journalist and motivational speaker Debbie experiencing

an adaptive rowing session with the group in Lamlash Bay on Monday morning.

Debbie had been enjoying her first trip to Arran and was pleasantly surprised at finding out how accessible Arran's tracks and pathways are.

After her chance meeting with an ACRC member on Sunday, Debbie enjoyed an unassisted visit to the standing stones at Machrie where she took in the evening sunset among the atmospheric stones.

And, thanks to her chance meeting, she also got to explore some of Lamlash Bay as a crew member on the purpose-built and adaptable ACRC skiff.

When asked if she had enjoyed her solo trip to Arran,

Debbie said: 'It's beautiful and the people are so helpful and friendly, I would love to come back again.'

Since becoming a wheelchair user Debbie has campaigned tirelessly to break down barriers and promote accessibility for all.

Living on a sheep farm in Cumbria, on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales National Park (YDNP), she is a member of the Local Access Forum for the YDNP and chairperson of the Access For All group.

**All photographs:
Dave Ingham**



Setting off in the morning, Debbie with the ACRC crew.



Above: Gone rowing. A wheelchair and trailer are left on the Lamlash slipway; and, right, Debbie and her ACRC crew pose for a group photograph.



Cup tie for Arran FC

Football fans who missed out last week when a league fixture between Arran AFC and Glencairn Thistle was cancelled will be able to catch up this weekend when the Arran team play a home cup tie against Caldercruix Utd at Ormidale Park.

Arran will face the North Lanarkshire side on Sunday

October 17, with a noon kick-off time.

The match is the second round of the Only Sport Sunday West of Scotland Amateur Cup, so the competition is expected to be fierce. Spectators are encouraged to go along and support the team from the sidelines.

ARRAN BANNER GOLF



Players teeing off at the sixth hole at Corrie Golf Club against a stunning backdrop. Photograph: Allan Napier

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday October 10, Winter Cup round one. A total of 14 played and endured some heavy rain showers that had somehow managed to elude the forecasters. Added to slippery conditions underfoot it did not make for an easy game but despite that scoring was decent.

John Pennycott, belying the adage that a birdie on the first is the kiss of death, returned a fine level fours gross to win by two shots on a net 59.

1 John Pennycott 13, 59, 2 Neil Lucas 13, 61, 3 Duncan Heenan 12, 63. Gavin Mainds returned the lowest gross score of 69, while Tom Paterson and Duncan Heenan scored the only twos of the day.

Fixtures: Sunday October 17, Stableford, yellow tees.

Lamlash Golf Club

Sunday October 10, Glenburn Cup: 1 Billy Skinner 78-20=58, 2 John O'Sullivan 91-30=61. Best scratch Paul Cowan 70. Magic two Billy Skinner @16th.

Fixtures: Sunday October 17, Glenburn Cup, noon draw. Thursday October 21, back nine medal, make up own groups and see starter for times.

Brodick Golf Club

Sunday October 3, Brandon qualifier, 16 played. Bruce Jenkins 67-6=61, Bob McCrae 70-8=62, Tam McNab 74-11=63. Scratch, Bruce Jenkins



67. Sunday October 10, Winter Cup Stableford, 23 played. Donald McKinnie 13, 46pts, Iain Sillars 19, 44pts, John May 22, 42pts.

Fixture, Sunday October 17, Winter Cup Stableford.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday October 5, Winter Cup: 1 Brian Sherwood 66, 2 John Pennycott 68 BIH, 3 Alex Morrison-Cowan 68.

Fixtures: Saturday October 16, Eddie Rankin Trophy. Machrie vs Corrie at Machrie. Shotgun start at 1pm. Tuesday October 19, Lochranza Hotel Cup, tee-off noon.

Corrie Golf Club

Fixture: Saturday October 16, Eddie Rankin Memorial Trophy to be played this year at Machrie GC at 1pm. For those unable to attend an 18-hole medal can be played at Corrie GC. Arrange your own pairings.

Shiskine Golf Club

Sunday October 10, Gents 18-hole medal: 1 and scratch, J McNally 70-5=65 BIH, 2 S Black 75-10=65, 3 A Stewart 74-8=66. Magic twos, S Kerr and J Salton x2.

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.co.uk

TOURS AND TASTINGS BY APPOINTMENT



Every Day

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

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

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

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

COAST Discovery Centre, Lamlash, Open Monday - Saturday, 10am – 4pm

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

Autumn Show, every Tuesday - Saturday, Saltwater Gallery, Cladach, 10am - 5pm

Saturday 16th October

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

Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm

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

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

Sunday 17th October

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

Monday 18th October

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

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

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

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm - 10pm

Tuesday 19th October

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, Brodick Church Hall, 2pm

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

Junior Hockey, P1 - S3 (age 5 to14 yrs), Ormidale Pavillion, Brodick, 6pm – 7pm

Bible Meetings, Shiskine Village Hall, Shiskine, 7.30pm - 8.30pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Pop Music Quiz, suits all ages, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Wednesday 20th October

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 @arranpace-makers, Venue varies, 5.30pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Bible Meetings, Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick, 7.30pm - 8.30pm

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

Thursday 21st October

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

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

Arran Cancer Support Group, Banner Lodge (left of Heather Lodge), Brodick, 2pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Isle of Arran Music School AGM, contact@arranmusicschool.org.uk, 7pm

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

Quiz – General Knowledge, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Friday 22nd October

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

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

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

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting. Whiting Bay Hall, Whiting Bay, 7.30pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Fish Frydays, Lochranza Centre CIC, 6pm – 7.30pm (Order before 5pm for collection)

Live Music Crofters' Bar and Bistro, from 9pm

Saturday 23rd October

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

Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm

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

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

Red Squirrel

The Isle of Arran Brewery's Red Squirrel is one of the brewery's most popular beers.

A fantastic session beer, with a great balance of malts and hops, with hints of liquorice, burnt toffee and nutty flavours.

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



RECRUITMENT



Blackwaterfoot Garage currently have the following vacancies:

- Class 4 MOT tester
- Light vehicle mechanic
- Light vehicle apprentice

All enquiries to Colin Cameron
Blackwaterfoot Garage, Blackwaterfoot, Isle of Arran, KA27 8ES
blackwaterfoot@btconnect.com

PRIVATE SALES

WANTED

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

FOR SALE

KUBOTA GR 1600 II SIT ON MOWER
1400hrs 2088, good condition. Please contact 07979 030420 or 01770 860544

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 online at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk
Comments should be made online at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 05.11.21. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 Regulation 20(1)
21/00969/PP; Dundhu Cottage, Corriegills, Brodick, Ayrshire; Erection of replacement 1 and 1/2 storey detached dwelling house.
21/00965/PP; Site To South Of Stonedown, Ardmhor Road, Whiting Bay, Brodick; Erection of detached dwelling house.

Craig Hatton
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Air a Tuath

Auchrannie Resort is proud to be a Real Living Wage employer and Scotland's first Employee Owned Resort. In 2020 we were voted in the Times Best Companies Top 50 places to work in Scotland and we truly believe that our People are the key to our success.

We are currently looking for Full and Part Time Night Porters to join our team.

We offer an attractive salary of £11.50 p/h. Great benefits including full leisure membership, share of resort tips and much more. All applicants must be over 25 and hold a valid driving licence. Some experience of Health and Safety and First Aid would be advantageous, however full training will be provided.

To apply or for more information please email hr@auchrannie.co.uk or call 01770303329.

PROPERTY

RENTAL PROPERTY REQUIRED

Young Family moving to the island looking for rental property from Jan 2022 (minimum 2 bedrooms).

Please contact Emily Mawson:
emilyrosemaswon@hotmail.co.uk

Looking for a small short winter let for 3- 5 months anywhere on Arran.

I'm a considerate and tidy professional who will be working from home so just needs to have good internet. Please ring Alison on 07791623515 or

email:
alisonsharkey@hotmail.co.uk

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Gavin Fulton 01770 600705
www.arranstorage.co.uk



Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc

MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010

CABLE REPLACEMENT, CARRADALE TO ARRAN

Notice is hereby given that Scottish and Southern Electricity Works has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of a cable replacement at:

Cost	£6,500,000	
Location	Latitude	Longitude
Carradale to Arran, Kilbrannan Sound, Firth of Clyde	55° 36.016 N	005° 22.984 W
	55° 35.709 N	005° 22.750 W
	55° 35.652 N	005° 22.876 W
	55° 35.804 N	005° 23.553 W
	55° 36.084 N	005° 24.640 W
	55° 35.952 N	005° 25.026 W
	55° 35.913 N	005° 26.282 W
	55° 35.879 N	005° 26.983 W
	55° 35.810 N	005° 27.805 W
	55° 35.756 N	005° 28.229 W
	55° 36.076 N	005° 28.401 W
	55° 36.158 N	005° 27.717 W
	55° 36.306 N	005° 26.858 W
	55° 36.295 N	005° 25.801 W
	55° 36.260 N	005° 25.173 W
	55° 36.411 N	005° 24.729 W
55° 36.392 N	005° 24.519 W	
55° 36.256 N	005° 23.884 W	
55° 35.916 N	005° 28.333 W	
55° 35.889 N	005° 22.937 W	

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at <https://bit.ly/3apEEXB>.

Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made by email to:

MS.MarineLicensing@gov.scot within 28 days of the date of this notice, quoting reference: **00009441** and **Scottish and Southern Electricity Works**.

Fair Processing Notice

The Scottish Government's Marine Scotland Licensing Operations Team (MS-LOT) determine applications for marine licences under the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010 and the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. During the consultation process any person having an interest in the outcome of the application may make representation to MS-LOT. The representation may contain personal information, for example a name or address. This representation will only be used for the purpose of determining an application and will be stored securely in the Scottish Government's official corporate record. Representations will be shared with the applicant and/or agent acting on behalf of the applicant, any people or organisations that we consult in relation to the application and, where necessary, be published online, however personal information will be removed before sharing or publishing.

A full privacy notice can be found at: <https://www.gov.scot/policies/marine-and-fisheries-licensing/marine-licensing-operations-team-privacy-notice/>. If you are unable to access this, or you have any queries or concerns about how your personal information will be handled, contact MS-LOT at: ms.marinelicensing@gov.scot

CHURCH NOTICES

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

Independent but working together
There is a booking system at
Shiskine church - John Kerr 860
498

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

Sunday 17th October

Lochranza & Pirnmill Churches-
Morning worship at Lochranza
Church 10:15am

Morning worship at Shiskine
Church 12noon.

Morning worship at Broddick
Church 10.30am

Morning worship at Corrie
Church at 12noon.

The Food Bank continues from
Broddick Church

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Whiting Bay and Kildonan

Church of Scotland
Charity Number: SC014005

Sunday 17th October

Worship will be conducted at
10.30am

As we are now able to socially
distance at one metre, booking is
not required.

Contact details will, however, be
requested.

All welcome.

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

Scottish Charity SC015072

Sunday 17th October

Kilmory at 10 am

Lamlash Church at 11.30 am

In Lamlash: Sacrament of Baptism
To comply with "Trace and
Protect" regulations, name and
contact details will be asked for,
on entering. 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 17th October

20th Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion at 11 am.

Revd Canon Simon Mackenzie

ALL WELCOME

Please join us for coffee after the
service

We follow strict SEC guidelines

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH Minister - Rev. Vince Jennings

Tel: 01770 600222

www.arranbaptistchurch.org.uk

Sunday 17th October

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 17th October 11am

Free Church Building, Alma

Road, Broddick

Rev.J.Gracie

All welcome

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass: Saturday Vigil at 5pm

Sunday Morning at 11am

Booking for mass is essential.
Please email peterdwilko@gmail.
com or telephone 600595 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
and NHS test and protect details
will be kept.

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 19th October

Shiskine Village Hall, Shiskine at
7.30pm - 8.30pm

Wednesday 20th October

Ormidale Sports Pavilion,
Broddick at 7pm - 8pm

Conducted by W Craigs and R
Hughes

Contact 07756836670.

All are welcome to attend.

DEATHS

BARNETT - Mandy. Peacefully
passed away after a short illness
on the morning of Saturday 9th
October at Arran War Memorial
Hospital with her daughters by
her side. A celebration of her life
will take place on Thursday, 21st
October at 11am at the Clyde
Coast and Garnock Valley
Crematorium, Largs. Family
Flowers Only. Donations to
the Arran Hospital Supporters
League and ArCaS.

CRAIG - Robert. With great
sadness, we announce the
passing of Robert (Bobby) Craig
on Friday 8th October, age
76. A beloved husband, father
and papa, his graveside service
for family and friends will be
held at Lamlash Cemetary on
Wednesday 20th October at
11.30am.

KERR - Ian (John) Alexander.
Ian (John) Alexander Kerr
passed peacefully aged 88
years, 22/01/33 - 04/10/21,
beloved husband of Avril, Ian
was a dearly loved husband,
Dad, Father-in-law, Grampa
and Great Grampa, Ian was
born in Cathcart and attended
Hutcheson's boys Grammar
School and Glasgow University.
Ian enjoyed a life well lived in
Glasgow and then Stonehaven
and he was a son of Lochranza,
Isle of Arran. The funeral
service will be held at Fetteresso
Church, AB39 2DH, Monday
18th October at 10am followed
by a short service of love and
remembrance at 11.30am in
Baldarroch crematorium, AB31
5JL. Family flowers only but
donations may be given, in lieu,
at the church door to Alzheimer
Scotland in Ian's memory.

Pink Ladies fail to overcome senior Arran Ladies team

Continued from page 20.
occasionally to explain the
rules to the visitors.

The spirit of co-operation and
friendly rivalry dominated the
game, particularly as there
were a number of husbands
and wives and mums and sons
and daughters on opposing
sides.

Still, all the friendly rivalry
did not stop the visitors from
putting up a determined fight
with the 5-2 scoreline - in
favour of the senior ladies -
reflecting this.

Goal scorers for Arran
Ladies were Lorraine Hewie,
who scored a hat-trick, and
Jenny Crockett, who scored
a brace. Not to be outdone by
Lorraine's hat-trick, husband
Paul and daughter Kayla
Hewie each scored for the
opposition team.

Arran Ladies thanked every-
one for what was described by
most as a thoroughly enjoyable
match and, particularly, Cat
Galbraith who was drafted in
as umpire while dropping off
her daughter, despite her being
without her glasses.

The Arran Ladies are
arranging a number of
friendlies against other teams
in the Women's West District
Division since all league
games have been cancelled
this season, however, after
Saturday's match, which
provided invaluable experience
and much enjoyment for the
regular players, it is most likely
that further 'home' friendlies
will be arranged in the future.



Husband and wife, Paul and Lorraine Hewie, challenge each other for possession of the ball.

01_B42hockey07



Harris McCormack outpaces the opposition to make one of his numerous attempts on goal.

01_B42hockey09



Junior Arran Hockey Club player Kellen Craig has a shot at goal.

01_B42hockey08



The senior ladies' division of Arran Hockey Club.

01_B42hockey02



The ball is in the back of the net after an attempt by the senior ladies.

01_B42hockey05



The senior ladies celebrate a goal by Lorraine Hewie.

01_B42hockey04



Arran Ladies come out on top of some friendly fire



The hastily assembled Pink Ladies team. 01_B42hockey01



Mum Marie Louise Craig and son Kellen tussle for the ball. 01_B42hockey06

Graeme Reid attempts to wrestle the ball from a smiling Anna Wickstead. 01_B42hockey03

The Arran Banner: 85p

Arran Ladies 5
Pink Ladies 2
Hockey friendly match

non-league players and anyone else wanting to take part in a friendly game of hockey.

On Saturday afternoon in bright sunshine, interspersed with periods of drizzle, seven men and three women, including two juniors, rose to the challenge to take on the professionals.

Rather mischievously, and all done with good humour,

Words and photos by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



the challengers were provided with pink bibs and given the moniker the Pink Ladies.

The match was played like no other, with the league players shouting advice to their opponents and pausing

Continued in page 19



Cladach Sawmill and *Garden Centre*

For all your Garden Needs...

WE WILL BE CLOSED ON SATURDAY 16TH OCTOBER, SORRY FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE

Large selection of
compost and a great
range of pots and
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Houseplants; Shrubs; Alpines and Herbaceous;
Ornamental trees; Fruit trees,
bushes and plants; Grass, flower,
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service
available

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bedding and
Spring bulbs
now available

