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Season's Greetings and Good Wishes for a Healthy and Happy New Year

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Isaac is named young naturalist of the year

Outdoor enthusiast Isaac Jones has been chosen as the young naturalist of the year for 2021 at the Young Naturalist Club run by the Arran Ranger Service.

Isaac was presented with the award for his great enthusiasm for natural history, as his attendance at the monthly meetings certainly proves.

Runners-up for the accolade were Callum Brand and Mac McArdle. They received their awards at the club's Christmas party.

A spokeswoman for the ranger service said: 'All our young gnats have been magnificent this year.'

'We've been out on the seashore looking at seaweed, out in the woods looking at footprints and making bird feeders to help feed the birds this winter.'

The young gnats club is for six-to-11 year olds, and meets once a month at the ranger centre to explore the natural world on our doorstep and have lots of fun.



Isaac, third from right, and runners-up with their prizes at the young gnats Christmas party held at the ranger centre.

Arran on alert as Covid cases rise

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



But many pre-planned New Year events still going ahead

Arran has seen the highest number of recorded Covid cases this week since official figures began, putting the island on high alert.

Latest figures show there are 30 confirmed cases of the coronavirus on the island – easily the largest number since Covid first swept across the island in April 2020.

The big rise on Arran mirrors the situation across Scotland

with the daily national figures over Christmas the highest totals seen throughout the pandemic, with the warning that cases are likely to increase further.

Around 85 per cent of cases are now the Omicron variant.

However, there was better news. With the new Covid precautions in place, most hospitality venues were going ahead with their pre-planned

New Year events this weekend.

But the new restrictions, which came into effect this week, mean it will be table service only with one-metre social distancing and no more than three households allowed in each group. Venues must also collect customer contact details.

As the Banner went to press there were calls for the 10-day isolation rule to be cut in half

because staff shortages as a result were affecting both the NHS and the hospitality sectors.

VisitArran executive director Sheila Gilmore in her weekly newsletter said: 'It's very distressing and obviously extremely disappointing that our hospitality colleagues are going to be further impacted at a time of year when they would normally be very busy.'

'A year ago, we all thought this would be behind us, we now know better.'

The Scottish Government has pledged financial support to affected businesses, but there is concern this may not be enough to cover the extent of losses incurred at one of the busiest times of the year.

One venue forced into restrictions as a result of the new rules was the Auchrannie

Resort in Brodick which closed its doors to non-residents over Christmas and the New Year, but will reopen on Monday January 3.

The resort also limited its residential occupancy levels in order to restrict numbers over the festive period which is usually the busiest time of the year for the organisation,

Continued on page two.

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Arran on alert as Covid cases continue to rise

Continued from page one.

which sees all of its accommodation offerings fully booked over Christmas and Hogmanay.

In a statement the resort said: 'Auchrannie is fully committed to welcoming the community and visitors to our resort; this is the last thing we wanted to do and we apologise for any disappointment and inconvenience this may cause.'

'However, we must follow the regulations and safeguard public health at this difficult time. All going well we look forward to welcoming everyone back from January 3, 2022.'

The Arran Medical Group, meanwhile, is urging anyone over 18 who still needs a booster jab to call when it reopens next Wednesday. There are various times available between now and mid-January.

There must be an eight-week gap between first and second doses and three months between second and booster. Call 01770 600516 from January 5.

Food and drink halted again amid ferry havoc

Ferry operator CalMac has cancelled all food, drink and retail offerings in an effort at protecting and reducing staffing requirements during the worsening Covid pandemic which is causing disruption to its services, writes Hugh Boag.

The decision, which came into effect last Sunday sees all restaurants, coffee cabins, bars and shops on board ferries closed until further notice.

It is the second time during the pandemic that food and drink and other services have been halted.

Positive Covid tests have disrupted a number of CalMac services throughout the week, including on the Stornoway to Ullapool route, Wemyss Bay and Rothesay, Oban to Coll and Tiree, as well as the Oban to Craignure service.

The spike of several positive Covid cases across the CalMac



Mariners café on the MV Caledonian Isles is now closed until further notice.

01_B53CalMac01

network has left the carrier with a reduced crew.

A CalMac spokesman said: 'We understand the effect this will have on our customers; however, we have taken this decision to allow us to focus our resources on maintaining

the service, while prioritising the robust cleaning protocols we have in place, and limiting contact between customers and crew. We are communicating with our customers to urge them to come prepared for their journey, particularly longer sailings.'

Meanwhile, some travellers hoping to spend Christmas on Arran were left disappointed, claiming that Christmas had been ruined, after all sailings to and from Arran were cancelled on Christmas Eve after the 1.55pm sailing from Brodick, owing to weather and

sea swell conditions.

Positive Covid tests, staff shortages and staff isolating were also blamed for cuts to ScotRail's services, which will take place throughout January.

The rail service announced the cuts at the start of the week in order to provide their customers with a level of certainty about which services are running in the coming weeks.

ScotRail said that it was better for some services to be temporarily withdrawn on a planned basis than to have chaotic last-minute cancellations.

Lonely elderly urged to call friendship line

Age Scotland is encouraging older people who are feeling lonely or isolated to call their free friendship line.

The plea comes after new Covid restrictions were brought in advising people to limit social interactions and to stay at home as much as possible.

Age Scotland's 0800 12 44 222 friendship line is open from Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm, and will offer a friendly voice at the end of the phone for anyone who is on their own.

The charity for the elderly is also urging people to continue checking in with older friends, relatives and neighbours over this period to see if they are in need of any extra support.

Age Scotland chief executive Brian Sloan said: 'The festive period is always a really difficult time of year for many older people, especially those living alone or without friends and family close by.'

'After the festivities are over on the 25th, they might find



Brian Sloan, Age Scotland chief executive.

themselves struggling with feelings of loneliness and isolation.

'It'll be particularly difficult this year given the new restrictions in place. These are an important and necessary measure to slow the spread of Covid and protect the NHS at this critical time of year, but they will undoubtedly have a further impact on loneliness levels.'

'Our free friendship line is a place where older people can turn if they are in need of sup-

port, comfort and reassurance or even just a friendly chat, and we're delighted to be able to offer this service over the extended festive period this year.'

'For those who find it difficult to tell loved ones how they are feeling, or who might not have anyone else to turn to, our experienced advisers are on hand to listen and have a blether.'

'It's also vital that we all reach out to older people in our streets and communities at this time of year, as together we can all play our part in making sure no one feels they are going through it alone.'

'At a time when it is more important than ever for older people to feel valued and connected, our friendship calls can be a lifeline for those who are feeling alone.'

'Just having a chat or a friendly ear to listen can make all the difference. It's free to call on 0800 12 44 222, Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm. We look forward to hearing from you.'

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Tap turns on the water and it's free

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Arran has a new top-up tap on Brodick promenade after it was installed by Scottish Water.

The tap is part of the 'Your Water, Your Life' campaign, which has committed to install outdoor water bottle filling stations across Scotland to encourage and promote the use of refillable bottles.

The standardised blue dispenser joins more than 50 other top-up taps already installed at locations from Dumfries to Lerwick and in 'iconic locations', such as outside the Scottish parliament and at either end of the West Highland Way in Milngavie and Fort William.

Scottish Water sub-contractor Clancy began installing the tap in mid-December but

it remained covered until the water was sent for testing and switched on just before Christmas.

Situated on the shorefront across from the Big Co, it is expected to be widely used by the thousands of visitors who will pass it after arriving at Brodick ferry terminal as well as the many runners and dog walkers who use the wide walkway.

The blue top-up taps are aimed at helping people stay hydrated on the go – saving them money as well as being kinder to the environment by reducing litter and waste.

More than 187,000 litres of water have been dispensed from the taps into refillable bottles.

It adds up to the same as 500,000 330ml plastic bottles.

Scottish Water chief executive Douglas Millican said:

'We launched these taps to make it easier to top up with fresh drinking water on the go and encourage people to stay hydrated, save money and help protect the planet.

'And that is what has happened.

'We've had incredible feedback from people thanking us for installing taps where they live or places they visit with many saying it prompted them to start carrying a refill bottle.

'We now have a growing network of refill taps the length and breadth of Scotland issuing free, tasty tap water at the push of a button with plans for many more to help the growing thirst for sustainability to continue.'

The campaign has received widespread support, including from environment secretary Roseanna Cunningham, who said: 'This is a fantastic cam-



John Russell, left, and Tommy Anderson from sub-contractors Clancy beside the new top-up tap. 01_BS1tap01

paign which fits in with our work to reduce Scotland's dependence on single-use plastic and is raising awareness of the health benefits of drinking more tap water, which is excel-

lent in quality and value.

'We would encourage people to make the switch to reusable bottles if they can as it will help to protect the environment and can save money.

'This campaign also builds on our commitments to tackle our throwaway culture as we are the first part of the UK to commit to a deposit return scheme.'

Sale shoppers urged to watch out for scams

With January sales offering bargains and fantastic deals, shoppers are being urged to make the most of their money and to watch out for those fraudulently trying to trick them out of their hard-earned cash.

Advice Direct Scotland, the country's national advice service, has encouraged Scots to create a budget and think about how much money they can afford to spend during the sales before venturing online or setting foot on the high street.

In advance of going shopping, consumers should sit down and plan their purchases and the shops they would like to visit, along with their budget.

Having a list will allow shoppers to stay focused and avoid the all-too-easy impulse purchases.

Another important thing to be aware of when shopping during January sales is that

some shops will offer slightly different returns policies on sale items, so it is important to double-check retailer terms and conditions before making a purchase.

Some might be offering an exchange-only policy on sale items, however, these policy changes should not affect statutory consumer rights.

It is important to remember that shoppers have more rights online than in store, including the right to return most goods purchased online within 14 days for a full refund.

Colin Mathieson, of Advice Direct Scotland, said: 'January sales can be a good time to pick up a bargain, both online and on the high street.

'There are different things that we can do as consumers to make sure that we avoid living beyond our means, and the simplest way to prevent an accidental overspend is to create a budget.

'It can be helpful to keep an

eye on your spending, either by jotting it down in a notepad, or by checking your online banking to make sure you are staying on track throughout your time shopping.

'Having a list will allow you to stay focused and avoid the all-too-easy impulse purchases. Also keep in mind that it's only a great deal if you will use or need the item.

'If purchasing online, shop around, check for offers on free deliveries, and pay on a credit card if possible. And if it seems too good to be true, it probably is,' he added.

While shopping online people are also being urged to be aware of scammers, particularly when spotting bargains on social media marketplaces and targeted advertising.

Scammers are always looking at new and innovative ways of separating you from your money and a healthy dose of scepticism could pay dividends later on.

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Pharmacist on call over holidays

Arran residents will be able to access an on-call pharmacist by contacting NHS24 in the event of an emergency.

The service will be available over the weekend and on both Monday January 3 and Tuesday January 4 2022 by calling 111, when Arran Medical Group and pharmacies remain closed. The out-of-hours 111 number should be used if you think you need accident and emergency (A&E), but it's not a critical emergency. Phone 111 before you attend A&E. This service is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

This service will provide you with urgent care and you'll be assessed for a range of concerns including cuts, burns, suspected broken bones, sprains and other injuries or illnesses.

This may involve a telephone or video consultation with a clinician from your local health board or an appointment to attend A&E or minor injuries unit, avoiding a long wait in a hospital waiting room. Phone 999 or go straight to A&E for life or limb-threatening emergencies. This might include a suspected heart attack or stroke, severe breathing difficulties, severe bleeding or severe injury.

The Arran Medical Group is open until 5.15pm today (Friday).



New chairman takes the helm of Arran Ferry Action Group

The new chairman of Arran Ferry Action Group believes this is a critical point in the development of the infrastructure of the island's lifeline ferry service.

Sam Bourne, of Lamlash, was appointed chairman of the action group at its annual general meeting last Saturday, held online via Zoom.

Sam, who studied naval architecture and small craft engineering at Strathclyde University, takes over from retiring chairman Gavin Fulton, who will remain on the committee.

Secretary Chris Atkins was re-elected and John Ford will continue as treasurer. The other committee members are David Millar, Sharon Shenhav, Barb Taub and Sally Campbell.

Outgoing chairman Gavin, in his report, told the meeting he believed there is still a long road ahead fighting for a reliable ferry service and that it is likely to get worse before it gets better. Adding that there may now be some political will, born of embarrassment, to sort things out, he said he believes the problems are so deep-seated and inter-linked that root



'I will do my utmost, as chairman, to ensure Arran Ferry Action Group can hold our representatives to account and ensure the voice of the community is heard.'

and branch reform is required. He also reaffirmed Arran Ferry Action Group would continue to press for reform, including better representation for islanders, accountability of management, politicians and civil servants and consultation on decision making.

In stepping down as chairman, Gavin expressed his gratitude to the committee and wished his successor Sam

ongoing success.

Sam has 22 years of experience in the performance leisure marine industry working as a technician and project manager on prestigious events including the Volvo Ocean Race and America's Cup which has given him a depth of knowledge and practical solution-based experience. He has also recently qualified as a specialist non-destructive testing surveyor within the marine and industrial sectors.

The new chairman said: 'We are at a critical point in the development of the infrastructure of our lifeline ferry service. As it stands, we have a pier at Brodick that is hopelessly compromised in any more than moderate easterly winds, a long-delayed and significantly over-budget new ferry still in build on the lower Clyde and a harbour



New chairman Sam Bourne was appointed at the action group's online annual general meeting.

redevelopment at Ardrossan that appears to be completely stuck at the start line. The absence of timely updates to the community, the apparent lack of action and acceptance of a sub-standard service needs to change.

'I will do my utmost, as chairman, to ensure Arran Ferry Action Group can hold our representatives to account

and ensure the voice of the community is heard.'

Arran Ferry Action Group has 1,355 supporters who are lobbying for improvements to the ferry service and effective consultation in future investment decisions, with their main focus on reliability and resilience, ships and harbours fit for purpose and a reliable port of refuge.

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Piling being installed at Troon harbour.

Troon gets ready to welcome Arran ferry

...but who knows when Ardrossan work will begin

Work to upgrade Troon harbour is continuing steadily in readiness to accommodate the Arran ferry service during the Ardrossan harbour redevelopment work.

The Banner first revealed more than a year ago that the ferry would be diverted to Troon during the work. At that time, it was said this would be for around 18 months from September 2022 to the spring of 2024.

But, 12 months on, no agreement has been reached between Transport Scotland and owners Peel Ports as to what their share of the £35 million cost will be. Once this has been finalised, CalMac will develop a timetable and service levels will be announced during a public consultation expected early next year.



Revetment repairs on the existing dock.

Troon harbour, owned and operated by Associated British Ports (ABP), has been procured by the Scottish Government to

support the operation of the Arran and Campbeltown ferries during the redevelopment work at Ardrossan, as well

as an alternative mainland port during any periods of disruption.

A working group, comprising ABP, Transport Scotland, Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) and Caledonian Ferries Ltd (CalMac), meet monthly to progress work required at the port.

Work at the port started in July this year and includes a suspended concrete deck and new fenders.

The working group is currently designing the passenger services. These will include a temporary terminal building, shuttle bus service, car parking, a marshalling area and public toilets. Connecting various modes of transport is also being considered by the group and details of this will be released shortly.

It's time to roll up your sleeve again



The new Omicron variant of COVID-19 is highly infectious and spreading fast. Our immunity reduces gradually over time so it's important for every adult to get the COVID-19 Vaccine Booster. It gives you more protection and should significantly reduce your risk of serious illness and hospitalisation.

Book your COVID-19 Vaccine Booster now or check arrangements in your local area at [nhsinform.scot](https://nhs.uk/nhsinform) or call 0800 030 8013.



LETTERS

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

Ready for Troon

It is good to know someone, somewhere is thinking about a future contingency plan for the Arran ferry.

It is highly likely that by this time next year the daily ferry sailings from Brodick will be to Troon and that is a sobering thought, particularly at this time of year, especially for foot passengers.

But fear not. Work has already started to ready the port for the arrival of the Arran ferry and, as well as improvements to the Troon's East pier, including new berthing fenders, the work will also include a new temporary terminal building, a shuttle bus service, car parking and a marshalling area.

However, as we enter 2022 we still don't know when this will be happening as Peel Ports has still to agree funding for the redevelopment of Ardrrossan harbour with the Scottish Government.

Perhaps if it was suggested to Peel Ports that it could risk losing the contract all together, given that Troon will also be the new port of refuge, it may help focus people's minds.

In the new year CalMac is expected to announce a timetable and the services levels, on which there will be a public consultation. Let's hope it meets the needs of the island that are the top of the priority list when this is drawn up.

Thought for the week

'And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins.' **Luke 1:76**

Sparkling donations

Sir,
On behalf of all my six schools, and I know that Mrs Foster, head teacher in Lamlash will agree, can I pass on a huge thanks to everyone at Santa's Sparkle for donating a cheque for £100 to each of the school parent councils.

A successful event takes a huge amount of behind-the-scenes planning and preparation, and Santa's Sparkle certainly showed the many talents of the island, the huge amount of creativity around and brought some happiness and fun to many. My thanks go to all involved.

Fundraising opportunities have been limited over the last almost two years, so this donation is much appreciated and goes towards opportunities for the children to enhance their experiences.

Best wishes for 2022.

Yours,
Shirley MacLachlan,
Head teacher.

Arran cats

Sir,
We would like to thank all our supporters on the Isle of Arran and beyond for helping us to help the cats on Arran.

After a national charity closed the island branch unexpectedly during the Covid pandemic in 2019, volunteers here on Arran decided to ensure the cats did not suffer as a result.

Thus, Arran Cat Rescue was born, and with a small but growing group of volunteers has been helping cats for the last 18 months.

We could not have done it without your help, and you have all been fantastic in your response and support - Thank You.

Anyone thinking of donating towards Arran Cat Rescue should be aware that the volunteers all give their time freely, no wages, no advertis-

ing budgets, central costs, or control.

Unlike national charity groups every penny raised stays on Arran and helps the cats here on the island to ensure they are vet health checked and receive all appropriate veterinary care as needed before they are rehomed and that we also run a feral trap, neuter and return (TNR) campaign.

We receive no government assistance, no help from any national charity and rely on donations from residents; as well as tourists and supporters on the mainland, right across the UK.

If you wish to contact us please do so via our Facebook page www.facebook.com/isleofarrancats. We shall have a website soon so watch this space!

We always need more volunteers, particularly those who can help either with fostering or trapping cats for neutering; someone who would like to help with the Facebook page who has experience of doing so as well as volunteers who would like to help with fundraising. All training is given, and cat care costs covered when fostering.

Yours,
Linda Hartley, Teresa Beckett, Frances Coyle, Iris Russell, Charlotte Karsmeijer and Pietre Johnston,
Arran Cat Rescue.

Faster connections

Sir,
With record demand on our broadband and mobile networks - and periods of extreme Scottish weather to contend with - I'd like to thank all our front-line colleagues for keeping our customers and communities connected during a challenging year.

The pandemic has accelerated Scotland's shift online. We've learned new terms like 'Zoom calls' and 'vaccine passports'.

With the average home predicted to have 50

connected devices by 2023, families need better and faster connections, no matter where they live.

To future-proof our networks, BT Group confirmed plans to invest around £15bn so Openreach can extend its ultrafast, full-fibre broadband network to 25 million UK homes and businesses by 2026.

More than 438,000 Scottish premises can already order full-fibre, with thousands enjoying ultra-reliable, ultrafast speeds.

Our mobile network, EE, has already reached around 40 per cent of the UK's population with 5G, with plans to offer the service in every corner of the UK by 2028. And on 4G, we'll expand our network to 600 more rural Scottish communities by 2025.

This ultrafast connectivity is being expanded on a daily basis. We're building like fury, and we know there's more to do.

To make sure this digital future benefits as many people as possible, we published a 'manifesto' for the next decade, setting out how we'll support responsible technology, become more inclusive and do more on climate action, including electrifying our vehicle fleet.

Despite these challenging times, we're working hard to bring next-generation networks and digital services to millions more in the coming years.

Yours,
Jane Wood,
BT Group Scotland Director,
Edinburgh.

Fireworks pet plea

Sir,
National pet charity Blue Cross is once again urging people to consider the devastating effect fireworks can have on animals and people, and to be sensitive to neighbours this Hogmanay.

We know only too well the fear and distress fireworks cause to animals, with 70 per cent of owners reporting their pets being affected.

As another difficult year for everyone draws to a close, it is understandable the British public will want to celebrate new hope for 2022, but we'd urge people to stick to sparklers during their celebrations. If this really isn't possible, then opt for low noise fireworks and please let your neighbours know in advance - this allows some preparation for those people and animals that are particularly vulnerable and frightened.

Yours,
Claire Stallard,
Animal behaviourist,
Blue Cross.

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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 timely, 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 phone number.

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We are open to accept all your deliveries large and small. A lot of companies won't deliver to Islands, why not use us as your mainland address and let us bring it to your home. We have all the national parcel companies and pallet networks calling in daily to our Parcelpoint. If you are ordering from a few different companies we can

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.



Above left: James being presented with a box of crystal whisky glasses by managing director Euan Mitchell when he was named head of the White Stag Community in 2017. Above right: James tests the whisky with his valinch in the warehouse at Lochranza distillery.



It's whisky no more for retiring master distiller James

Isle of Arran Distillers' production director James MacTaggart is hanging up his valinch on his retiral from the whisky industry.

Master distiller James came to Lochranza distillery in 2007, taking over from Gordon Mitchell and since then has been in charge of all aspects of production, guiding the company through the release of key age statements such as the 14, 18, 21 and 25-year-old expressions. He also worked closely with Lagg distillery manager Graham Omand in the establishment of the company's second distillery at the south end of the island.

Originally from Islay, his long career in the whisky industry spans 45 years which began at Bowmore, where he had a direct involvement in producing the spirit which would later become some of the world's most revered and sought-after Scotch whisky. During his time there, due to being known for his tendency to 'speak up for the boys', he was the team representative at pay and pension talks as well as being on the staff liaison panel alongside senior management at the company's

head office. He accepted The Queen's Award for Industry from HM Queen Elizabeth at Buckingham Palace in 1998 on behalf of Bowmore.

James has been pivotal to the success of the Arran single malt and company in general over the past 14 years and will be hugely missed by the team.

His labour is starting to bear

'James has had a hand in literally every facet of whisky production for the best part of 45 years...and as such has an exceptionally broad understanding of the product.'

fruit as the brand and the Arran 10-year-old single malt garners more and more attention for quality and no-nonsense style – a MacTaggart hallmark, that the distillery will continue to uphold indefinitely. He also designed and commissioned the plant at Lagg distillery with an equal measure of traditional and modern in classic MacTaggart style.

An Arran Distillers spokeswoman said: 'James has had a hand in literally every facet of whisky production for the best part of 45 years - rather than

someone who has specialised in a single department - and as such has an exceptionally broad understanding of the product which has developed to the point of second nature/instinct. He is not someone who has ever pushed his way towards the limelight and would far rather make an impact by influencing from the inside out - positively supporting and inspiring the people around him.

'He is of the most traditional school possible, however, he is more than willing to accept change and modernise methods and thinking, as long as it is not at the cost of the quality of the spirit or end product.

'His personality is genuine, disarming, confident, quiet and cheeky in equal measure. We have been very lucky to have him around as a role model for younger members of staff. The fact his initials remain on his old locker in the still house at Bowmore, despite him not working there in 14 years, tells you all you need to know about his reputation there. He thoroughly deserves recognition for his impact on the industry.

'We'll miss you James, but we know you'll never be a stranger. Enjoy every moment of your well-earned retirement,' she added. James is expected to spend his retiral on Islay.

Cash available for play park upgrades

Play parks on Arran could be upgraded as part of a major investment by North Ayrshire Council and the government. The funding boost includes £500,000 for coastal play parks and Scottish Government funding of £118,000 for other parks as part of a project to improve and develop existing play parks.

And you can have your say on how the money is spent by completing a survey. According to a survey: 'Your feedback can help shape the improvements we make allowing us to provide facilities that can be used and enjoyed by a wider selection of our communities and visitors.'

The closing dates for responses is Friday February 4 2022, then appropriate equipment in line with the survey results will be chosen before work starts.

Feedback on what improvements can be made, and where, can be made in the survey at <http://bit.ly/NAPlayParkSurvey>



A young James at work in a distillery.

SALE

IN STORE AND ONLINE

arranactive.co.uk

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year

From all of us here at Arran Active we wish you an amazing holiday season; thank you for all the support over the last year and here's to a fantastic 2022!

Arran Active

Mon-Sat: 09:30-17:00 | Sun: 10:00-17:00 | Closed Xmas Day, Boxing Day & NY Day
01770 302113

Review of the year

In part two of our customary look at the year in review, we highlight some of the human stories that made the headlines from July to December this year. There can be no doubt that 2021 has been a challenging year for all on Arran. Still, despite the challenges, Arran residents have once again taken on life's obstacles with stoicism, courage and an indomitable spirit and achieved remarkable things. And it is with this same resolve we can all look forward to a prosperous, happy and healthy 2022.

July to December 2021



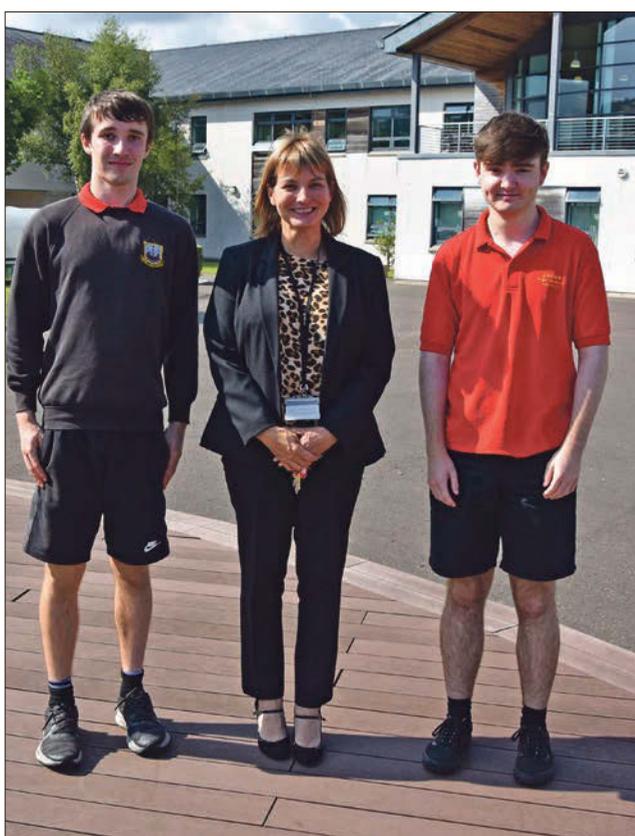
JULY – Arran High School pupils Ross Currie, Jemma Totty, Catherine Smith, Jack Popplewell and Zac Stone secured £3,000 for the RNLI during the youth philanthropy initiative. Lead teacher Mara Gosman presented the cheque to the winning team.



AUGUST - P6/7 Whiting Bay Primary pupils received their John Muir Awards for completing a number of achievements which qualified them for Discovery Level recognition from the John Muir Trust. No_B27WB01



OCTOBER – Pirnmill villagers celebrate taking ownership of the Pirnmill Village Hall after operating it on a lease basis for 30 years. 01_B40pirnmill01



AUGUST – Head teacher Susan Foster with this year's shared Dux winners Mackenzie Campbell and Milo Godwin.

01_B35AH503



JULY – Community responders' Covid efforts were recognised and six first responders also received their 10-year pins. They are, left to right, Mark Harwood, Stuart Blake, Chris Traill, Fiona Laing, Julie Graham and Liz Evans, who are accompanied by Susan Gardner Scottish Ambulance Service community facilitator (west).



SEPTEMBER - Liz Maclean was awarded the prestigious British Empire Medal by the Lord-Lieutenant of Ayrshire and Arran Sheriff Iona Sara McDonald in recognition of her work as a frontline food retail worker for services to the Covid response. 01_B39Liz08



SEPTEMBER – The cast and writers from the Whiting Bay Club of Drama and Music take a bow after a successful run of shows called A Night of Nonsense which were attended by large audiences. 01_B36plays24



NOVEMBER - Protesters made their voices heard as part of a large COP26 climate change demonstration held in atrocious weather conditions in Brodick. 01_B46climatefront01



NOVEMBER – Players in the Arran Music School Pipe Band were celebrating a kind donation from the Co-op community fund which will be used to help buy new uniforms. 01_B48coop05



DECEMBER - The full cast of Albert Laddin take a bow after their panto performance by the members of Whiting Bay Club of Drama and Music. 01_B51panto12



OCTOBER - All the youngsters dressed up at the Shiskine Hall Hallowe'en party. 01_B45Hallofront01



DECEMBER - Santa made his arrival heard by ringing his bell as he arrived at the Santa's Sparkle event accompanied by a Viking and his elf entourage. 01_B49santafront01



OCTOBER - Whiting Bay children pose for a group photograph at their Hallowe'en party. 01_B45Halloween18

For part 2 of our
Sports Review of 2021
see pages 15 and 16

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Development at Old Pier refused

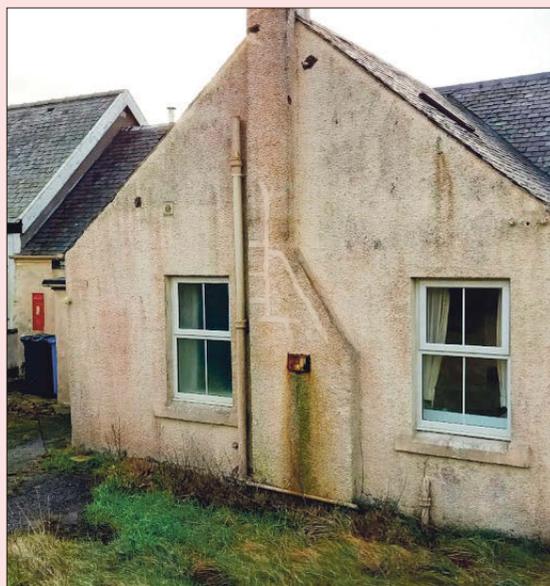
Planning officials have refused to allow a two-storey building on the site currently occupied by Johnston's Marine Stores.

The application, submitted in October, sought permission for a building comprising a workshop and a shop on the ground floor, with a residential flat including a roof terrace on the floor above, on the site at the Old Pier which is within the Lamlash conservation area. A separate application for Conservation Area Consent was also submitted, and subsequently refused, to seek authorisation for the complete demolition of the existing building on the site.

Planning officials refused permission on the grounds that the proposal would unacceptably affect the amenity of existing and future users of surrounding properties in terms of parking, daylight and sunlight.

It also stated the proposal was contrary to the Local Development Plan as it had not demonstrated the height and scale of the building would preserve or enhance the character of the conservation area or accord with the strategy of the Lamlash township audit, which requires proposals around the pier to maintain through views. Planners also said the proposal did not include measures to protect and manage flood risk.

Shannochie Post Office demolition approved



Permission has been granted for the demolition of the old Shannochie Post Office.

The historic Shannochie Post Office can be demolished to make way for the construction of a four bedroom house, North Ayrshire Council planners have ruled.

The Post Office was one of the last in Scotland to have a thatched roof and, with the adjoining general store and public telephone box, served Arran's most southerly located dwellings and the surrounding area for generations until it closed in the mid 1970s.

The application to demolish the building, to build a new house, is the second application for the property after the applicant withdrew their initial application and revised it to include an earth-sheltered house.

Both applications received objections, citing the historical connection to the village, however, the main objection was from Arran Civic Trust – which also objected to the earlier application – but noted the revised application was an improvement on the initial application.

However, it added the new building lacked any sense of place or character and lamented the fact the building was not being repurposed and the carbon footprint of the building min-

imised. Citing the building's historical connections to Arran, the trust said it would be a pity if the demolition was allowed as the small cottage could have added to Arran's current stock of small properties without considerable investment.

The owner of the property, through his architect's 13 page design and access statement submitted with the application, said the property was in a poor structural state with access issues and an internal layout that is not conducive to modern living. It also said the building would require complete replacement or almost total rebuilding to bring it to an appropriate modern standard.

Planning officials granted planning permission for the development subject to seven conditions.

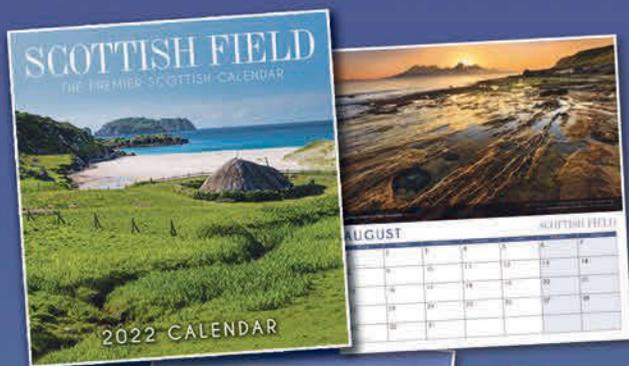
These include protecting and the relocation of the post box, informing planners of the finishing materials, landscaping and details of the heat and power for the building and the hedge bordering the property has to be retained, along with provisions regarding access and water flowing on the public carriageway.

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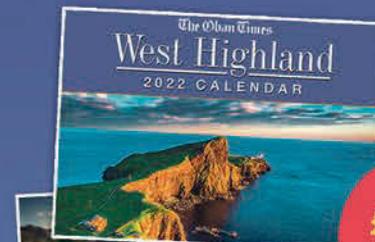
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Nightjars are returning to Arran after four years away

Hearing a nightjar used to be a not uncommon experience in Arran, but in the latter part of the 20th century there was a decline.

In 1980, nine churring nightjar were reported from Merkland.

In 1984, eight pairs were reported but the rest of the 1980s show a decline with four or five pairs in 1985 and three or four pairs in 1987 and one calling male in 1988.

Single birds continued to be reported mainly in the Merkland area until 1995. In 1996 there no reports from Merkland but two from elsewhere.

The last report in 1990s was one in 1998 at Maol Donn.

There was then a gap with no records until 2013 when one was calling at Merkland from 17 June to 26 June 2013. In 2017 there was one report.

In June 2021 there was more encouraging news. In a clear-felled area in the south of the island between June 24-26 nightjars were heard churring, contact calls were heard, breeding was confirmed, and one male was caught under licence, photographed and ringed.

With the extensive clear-felling being done in Scotland by Forestry and Land Scotland it is hoped that the increase in

Bird notes by Jim Cassels

more suitable open heath type habitat adjacent to woodland may result in resurgence of this species.

The increase of these areas in Arran may encourage the re-establishment of the nightjar.

These new areas provide good nesting cover, plenty of perches and an abundant food supply. It is hoped that 2021 may mark the beginning of this re-establishment.

Nightjars are birds of legend including the widely held belief that nightjars sucked the milk of grazing animals. Thus, its other name 'goatsucker'.

In reality, nightjars feed on insects, mainly larger moths. Nightjars migrate to Britain from Africa and return there after rearing their chicks.

They arrive in Scotland in late May and early June when the moth population explodes. They are most active at the same times of day as moths, at dawn and at dusk.

With their large eyes, huge

gape surrounded by 'whiskers' they are well adapted for catching their prey.

Nightjars are rarely seen during daylight. Normally motionless on the ground, relying on their amazing camouflage - feather patterns that look like dead leaves and old tree bark - to avoid detection.

But at night when they are churring, they often perch on the branch of a prominent tree and can be picked out against the night sky.

Males perform this prolonged churring call (nightjar means night-churr) that may go on for several minutes, varying in pitch and volume.

When the birds stop churring, they are often in flight and two other sounds are frequently heard.

The first is a rather soft coohwick given as a single note and thought to be a contact call.

The second is a slapping or hand-clapping sound caused as the birds clap their wings in flight.

When flying, nightjar swoop and flap around their territories, often coming very close to any observers.

Males have prominent white markings on the wings and tail, and females have brown markings that are much less prominent. The white-markings stand out even at night, so it is often possible to identify the bird's sex.

Encountering a nightjar in the gloaming is a magic birding moment if you can thole the inevitable midges.

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/index.html>



The large eye and 'whiskers' of this nocturnal species. Photo Rachel Dobson

A male scaup lingered in Brodick Bay

Looking back over my notes for 2021 there is one event which went unrecorded at the time which, as we look forward to the New Year, I thought was worth recalling.

For three days from May 14 to 16, a male scaup was reported from the north end of Brodick Bay.

There were good views of this diving duck from the putting green and from Fisherman's Walk.

This occasional winter visitor to Arran seemed to be lingering.

Scaup are diving ducks with a resemblance to tufted ducks. Males have black heads, shoulder and breast, white flanks, grey back and a black tail.

Females are brown, with characteristic white patches around the base of the bill.

In flight they show white patches along the length of the trailing edge of the wing.

The features of the male in Brodick Bay were captured well in Colin Cowley's photograph.

It is a circumpolar species.

In Europe it is called scaup and in North America greater

scaup or colloquially 'bluebill'.

It spends the summer months breeding in the northern-most reaches of Europe; Siberia, Alaska, and northern Canada. During the winter, it migrates south to the coasts of Europe, North America and Japan.

Scaup dive to obtain food, which they eat on the surface. They mainly eat shellfish, aquatic plants, and aquatic insects.

Submerged

With the scaup's webbed feet and weight, it can dive up to six metres (20ft) and can stay submerged for up to a minute, allowing it to reach food sources that are unobtainable to some other diving ducks.

Information from the BTO Wetlands Bird Survey suggest a decline in the numbers of scaup wintering in UK waters.

Climate change may be enabling these birds to winter further north.

Other factors may be



The male scaup which lingered in Brodick Bay in May. Photo Colin Cowley



The wing and tail markings of the nightjar. Photo Rachel Dobson

involved. For example in the 1970s it is estimated that 30,000 scaup used to winter in the Firth of Forth feeding on waste grain from the breweries and distilleries until tighter sewage regulations stopped the discharges.

The name scaup? One suggestion is that it comes from scalp, another name for 'bed of shellfish'.

First known use of the word is in 1797.

CONTACTUS
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01770 302142

THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday December 29, 2001



Santa is half hidden by a sea of smiling faces at the Pirnmill Christmas party. 01_B53ABTYA06



Corrie's Christmas angels play their harps and sing in full voice from the clouds in the village hall. 01_B53ABTYA05



Brodick Primary children sing carols at Brodick Church before the school term finishes.

01_B53ABTYA04



Nan Noble, 76, Mary Parkinson, 91, and Nan McCree, 81, prepare to avoid the travel disruption caused by the ferry strike by taking a helicopter to the mainland to spend Christmas with their families. 01_B53ABTYA01



Brian Taylor, political editor of the BBC and George Reid, deputy presiding officer, present Craig Borland of Whiting Bay with his Kenny McIntyre Award for Scottish Journalism in the black and white corridor of the Scottish Parliament. 01_B53ABTYA02



A small group of carol singers enjoy carolling around the Christmas tree in Whiting Bay accompanied by Arran Brass. 01_B53ABTYA03

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

Saturday 1st January 2022

*Happy
New Year!*

Monday 2nd January

Survivors Session - open session,

Crofters Arran, Brodick, 3pm

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 3rd January

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

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting,

Brodick Church Hall, 2pm

Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 1.30pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Wednesday 4th January

Hydrofit, 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

Thursday 5th January

Eco Savvy Community Shop,

Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm

Arran Cancer Support Group,

Banner Lodge (left of Heather Lodge), Brodick, 2pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Senior Hockey (12+),

Ormidale Astro Pitch, 7pm – 8.30pm

Friday 6th January

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

Live Music, The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

Saturday 7th January

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



Judy Porter being presented with the David Price Rosebowl by club president Vic Uitz. This is a new trophy which was gifted by David's wife Val in memory of David, who died last year.

New memorial rosebowl presented at bowling club

Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club recently held their annual prize-giving where trophies were awarded to the winners of the various categories, including a new rosebowl in memory of long-time member David Price.

They were: ladies' singles Judy Porter; gents' singles and championship winner Brian Sherwood; nominated pairs Vic Uitz/Brian Sherwood; club pairs Reuben Betley/Brian Sherwood; triples Judy Porter/Vic Uitz/Malcolm Jones.



All of the Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club trophy winners.

ARRAN BANNER GOLF

Lamlash Golf Club

Sunday December 26, Boxing Day bottle: 1 Robbie McGunnigle 69-9=60, 2 Martin Wallbank 73-12=61. Best scratch Russell Adams 67. Magic twos Robbie McGunnigle @16th. Fixtures: Sunday January 2, course backwards, 10.30am start. Thursday January 6, Yellow Medal, draw at 11am.

Machrie Golf Club

Tuesday December 21, Lochranza Hotel Cup: 1 Hamish Bannatyne 37pts, 2 Brian Sherwood 36pts, 3 Alex Morrison-Cowan 32pts. Magic two Hamish Bannatyne. Fixtures: Tuesday January 4, Winter Cup, tee off noon. Saturday January 8, Lochranza Hotel Cup, tee-off noon.

Corrie Golf Club

Monday December 27,

Monday Cup: 1 John Quigley 68-11=57, 2 Quintin Oliver 81-22= 59, 3 Donald Logan 72-11=61 (BIH over Alastair MacDonald 76-15=61). Magic twos Graeme Andrew @14th and Alan Smith @1st. Best scratch John Quigley 68.

Fixtures: Saturday January 1, New Year's Day Medal, ballot at 11.30am. Monday January 3, Monday Cup, ballot at noon.

Brodick Golf Club

Saturday January 1, New Year bottle and Hirsell Trophy. Sunday January 2, course backwards competition. Sunday January 9, AGA Duncan Trophy and sweep.

Shiskine Golf Club

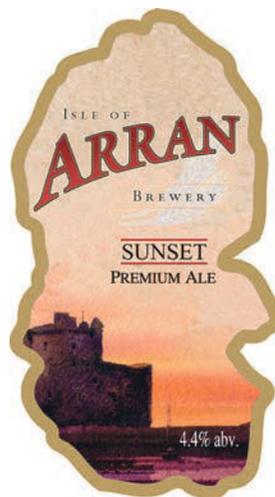
Sunday December 26, Boxing Day Texas Scramble: 1 Liz Kerr, Gator, Sandy Kerr and Marc Campbell. At time of going to print £180 was raised for Etta Thompson.

Arran Sunset

The Isle of Arran Brewery's Sunset Ale is one of the brewery's most popular beers.

A light and fruity beer, with balancing hoppy flavours and pleasant, dry finish.

The beer is available on hand pull at selected pubs on the island 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

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

PUBLIC NOTICES

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL: COMMUNITIES DIRECTORATE

CHILDREN ENTITLED TO START P1 – SESSION 2022/2023

Children who attain the age of 5 years between 1 March 2022 and 28 February 2023 should be registered to start primary education from August 2022.

Registration for August 2022 is an online process and will take place during the period Monday 10 January 2022 and Sunday 30 January 2022.

Information on how to register your child can be found on the Council's website: www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk or by telephoning 01294 310000.

You have the choice to submit a placing request to a primary school outwith your catchment area but you must first register with your catchment primary school.

If you decide to make a placing request, then you should complete an online placing request application via the Council website: www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk, before 15 March 2022.

More information on placing request applications and how we process these can also be found on our website.

Registration at your catchment area primary school does not guarantee entry to that school.

Andrew McClelland, Head of Service (Education)

Craig Hatton
Chief Executive
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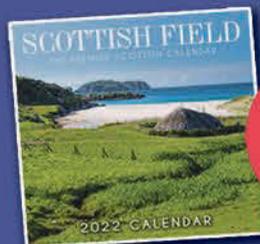
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CHURCH NOTICES

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 2nd January
Lochranza & Pirnmill Churches-
Service at Lochranza Church
10.15am Morning worship
Shiskine Church 12noon.
Morning worship.
Broddick Church 10.30am.
Morning worship.

Corrie Church 12noon. Morning
worship
The Food Bank continues from
Broddick Church

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Whiting Bay and Kildonan
Church of Scotland

Charity Number: SC014005
Sunday 2nd January
Worship will be conducted at
10.30 am.

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 2nd January
Kilmory at 10 am
Lamlash Church at 11.30 am
To comply with "Trace and
Protect" regulations, name and
contact details will be asked for,
on entering

We are also reminded of the
Scottish Government advice to
take a Lateral Flow Test on the
day we intend to come to church,
to attend if negative.

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 2nd January
Epiphany
Sung Eucharist at 11 am
Revd Adrian Fallows
ALL WELCOME

We observe strict SEC guidelines

DEATH

WALKER - Robert Bryce. Peacefully
at Arran War Memorial Hospital on
Thursday 16th December 2021, aged
77. Much loved partner of Cat, Dad
to Lynn, Stephen, Rhona, Hollie and
Mia and Grandpa to Cameron.

Service and committal at Shiskine
Cemetery, Thursday 6th January
at 11:30 (family only). The cortège
will leave from Broddick Pier at 11:00
for those who wish to pay their
respects. From 12:30, the family
invite anyone that knew him to
join them at Broddick Golf Club to
celebrate his life. For those arriving
off the 09:45 ferry the club house will
be open. Family flowers only please.

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

www.arranbaptistchurch.org.uk
Sunday 2nd January
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 2nd January
Morning Service at 11am
Free Church Building, Alma
Road, Broddick
All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF
SCOTLAND
Sunday 2nd January
Morning service at 11 am
Shiskine Free Church
All welcome

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC
CHURCH
CHRISTMAS MASSES AT
HOLY CROSS

Saturday 1st January
Mass 11am - booking not
required

Sunday 2nd January
The Feast of the Epiphany -
Mass 11am - Booking required.
(please note there is no Saturday
Vigil Mass this weekend)

Booking for mass is essential.
Please note new booking contacts:
email: cjenks@btinternet.com or
telephone 01770 870245 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

BANNER
ANNOUNCEMENTS
BANNER
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donations to Arran War Memorial
Hospital.

Please note, that you must be fully
vaccinated. Please take a lateral flow
test before attending, as Bryce would
have wanted you all to stay safe.

MARSHALL - INA - Passed away
peacefully at Crosshouse hospital
on Thursday, 16th December 2021
aged 76 years, much loved mum to
Grahame, Derek and Linda, loving
grandma to Nicola, Abbie, Devin
and Frazer. Cremation service at
Clyde Coast and Garnock Valley
crematorium on Thursday, 6th
January at 12:00 noon to which all
are welcome. Family flowers only
please.

Sporting review of the year

Continued from page 16

JULY TO DECEMBER 2021

October



The senior ladies' division of the Arran Hockey Club made a return to competitive matches by inviting islanders to form teams and play against them. 01_B42hockey02

November



Arran Junior Rugby Club saw a welcome resurgence, with many new players joining the evening training sessions. 01_B46rugby01



Arran AFC has enjoyed a successful season and are managing to stay near the top of the table in the Ayrshire Sunday Amateur Football Association league. 01_B43football01

December



The runners and riders who took part in the annual Santa Dash event. 01_B51dash01



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and receive a
FREE bottle
of Arran malt
whisky

So that was 2021... Stephen Jardine's Credo...
The Hebridean Baker recipes... Quiz of the Year...
Stunning aerial photography... Scafront interiors...
Artist Mouse Macpherson... A Perth garden...
Rule, Britannia! writer... Book reviews...

Sporting review of the year

A look back at some of the sporting events and achievements which took place this year.

JULY TO DECEMBER 2021

July



A poignant photograph in memory of Sid Sillars who recently passed away. He is seen here proudly holding the AGA Hope Cup as captain of the victorious Brodick Golf Club team in July, with team members Greg McCrae, Gordon Hendry, Matthew Dobson and Euan McKinnon.

August



All the prize-winners at the Shiskine Ladies Open Greensomes, including winners Esther Henderson and Isobel McDonald, and scratch winners, Susan Butchard and Jennifer Maxwell.

August



The Brodick-Glenclay race organised by Arran Runners welcomed an international complement of runners taking part in the 10k event.

September



Prize winners Ben Kroner, Fay Mackay and Jamie Stewart with Gege and Markus Kroner, and Whiting Bay Golf Club captain Stan Rainey, at the Wolfi Kroner Open Stableford.

**Continued on
page 15**



The Arran Banner: 85p

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