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Arran's Weekly Newspaper SATURDAY, 4 APRIL 2015 No 2007 60p

Easter Weekend ON ARRAN 4 PAGE FEATURE INSIDE

Packed Easter ferries leave islanders with nowhere to go

Car bookings monitored to see how CalMac cope

Arran is ready for one of its busiest Easter weekends in years.

Ferries have had their 'fully booked' signs up for vehicles for weeks as thousands of visitors flock to the island taking advantage of the new cheap fares.

The sheer volume of traffic expected has already seen Caledonian MacBrayne put on a rare extra sailing on the Ardrossan to Brodick route on Thursday night.

And the Lochranaza to Clonaig summer ferry started two days early.

However, in the first downside to the new Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) fares islanders are finding it increasingly difficult to book vehicles on ferries to and from the mainland, particularly at short notice for emergencies and personal or business commitments.

Visitors are also being urged to book their ferry places early after the first reports of accommodation bookings on the island being cancelled because visitors can't get a vehicle ticket.

REPORT
by HUGH BOAG
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

There is also concern that commercial vehicles are blocking private bookings which are then freed up on the day.

This week there were warnings that the last day to get a car off the island from Brodick was Wednesday until after the Easter holidays.

The 8.20am Brodick sailing appears to be the most problematic, but customers are finding on occasion that the 11.05am is also fully booked.

The problem is exacerbated with the start of summer traffic by the fact that there won't be a second ferry until the Isle of Arran arrives at the end of the month.

The situation was discussed at the Arran Community Council meeting this week.

As a result it is to monitor ferry bookings in a bid to build up evidence on how CalMac is coping with the huge increase in demand, which, as previously reported, has seen a 48 per cent increase in cars since the intro-

duction of RET last October.

From early evidence, vice chairman Bill Calderwood told the meeting that the Monday ferry was a particular problem and the situation seemed to get more difficult as the week went on.

However, he said he had no criticism of the port staff in Brodick or Ardrossan who he said did a good job trying to accommodate people. 'It is the system which needs changed,' he said.

Whiting Bay representative John Lamont said he was concerned that the situation with commercial vehicles was creating 'two classes of citizen' and added: 'The dilemma is only going to get worse in the summer.'

Chairman Richard McMaster said: 'We may well all need to learn to book further in advance but some way has to be found to get four or five cars on the ferry in the event of an emergency or a hospital appointment.'

A CalMac spokesman said all matters relating to the introduction of RET were a matter for Transport Scotland.



Shiskine shines at spring show

Shiskine Primary School was the winner of a brand new trophy at the spring flower and bulb show in Brodick last weekend.

It lifted The Brodick Castle Gardens Cup for the primary school with the most points at the show. It also picked up a second trophy and pupils won a number of other prizes on the day.

Our picture above shows Shiskine pupils, from left: Heather Beeton, Leah Brown, twins Isaac and Eoin Jones, sisters Ava and Olivia McNiece and Amelia Robertson.

Right is Scott McAllister of Kilmory with his prize.

Full report and more pictures on pages 6 and 7.

Photos Christopher Hogge.



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Couple plot exciting new plan for Pierhead Tavern

A much-loved Lamash pub, which many thought would never open again, is to be given a new lease of life.

New owners have bought the Pierhead Tavern and have ambitious plans for its development.

The pub closed its doors for the last time seven months ago and with planning permission for flats it looked like the end of the history of 125 years of licensed premises on the site.

However, that all changed this week when husband and wife team Alistair and Jane Howe took possession of the Shore Road premises.

But Jane admitted that before they can reopen the PHT is going to need a considerable amount of TLC.

'There is a lot of work to be done,' Jane told The Banner 'but we are absolutely committed to the island and to the PHT.'

Damage

'Our first job has to make it wind and watertight as it is quite a mess at the moment with flooding at the back causing a lot of damage.'

'We want to get work started as soon as possible but we know we will miss most of the summer season as it is probably a six-month job.'

For Alistair and Jane the

purchase of the PHT represents a completely life changing decision.

Before they came to the island at New Year for a break, they had never been to Arran, but they fell in love with the island and with the location and development potential of the PHT.

Alastair presently runs his own architect firm and Jane is a specialist teacher and the couple live in Harlow, Essex.

Right time

With oldest daughter Bethan at university and son Leam starting after the summer holidays the couple decided this was the right time to make the change.

And with Alastair a keen mountaineer and mountain biker and Jane a lover of sailing and music, their own pub on Arran makes perfect sense to them.

'We want to attract sailors to use the PHT when they are moored in Lamlash Bay and as a starting and stopping point for round-the-island cyclists. That's why we would like to have changing rooms and bike washing facilities on the premises.'

They have plans to turn the present bar into a music venue, will promote real ale and have a restaurant.

They also want to create a



Welcome to Arran: A windswept Jane and daughter Bethan get blown away on Brodick shorefront. 20_b14pier01

rooftop outdoor garden, subject to planning permission for the long summer days.

But Jane said: 'We want to hear what the community want from the pub. The days of people popping in for a

couple of pints after work have long gone. We want to know what local people would like to see us providing as they are as important to us as the visitors.'

After the pub first closed

down in 2013 it was taken over by Arran Brewery boss Gerald Michaleuk in a caretaker role, but he was unable to make a viable go of it and it has now been sold by Punch Taverns.

Petrol prices drop at pumps

The sole supplier of petrol to Arran has promised hard pressed island motorists will see a drop in prices at the pumps.

North Ayrshire and Arran Labour election candidate Katy Clark met with Certas Energy bosses to discuss the price of petrol on Arran before parliament was dissolved earlier this week.

Ms Clark told The Banner: 'I have been assured that recent deliveries of petrol to the island will result in a drop in Certas's prices which will hopefully bring some relief to motorists on Arran in the short term.'

Already pump prices have dropped from a high of £1.36 a litre of unleaded petrol earlier this year. This week petrol on the island could be found at £1.23, although the average was around £1.28.

Ms Clark met with Brian Worrall, the director of corporate affairs at Certas, to discuss why Arran prices have been so high historically and what steps can be taken to bring prices down.

She has previously written to the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) requesting they investigate the matter.

Ms Clark added: 'I remain however concerned about prices on the island. The CMA are asking that more evidence is presented to them about the petrol market on Arran and I will be working with Arran residents to compile this over the coming days.'

The SNP MSP for Cunningham North Kenneth Gibson is due to meet Certas bosses on the island in the coming days.

The Conservative candidate for the seat Jamie Greene has called for all parties to work together to resolve the issue.

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It pays to advertise in the Banner

Music festival gets new logo

The Arran Music Festival has a new look this year.

A logo designed by Adam Aiken of S1 at Arran High School will be used to promote the event which is taking place from 8 June to 10 June this year. The syllabus for this year's festival is now available from usual outlets.

Organiser Lorna Buchanan said: 'We would like to thank Adam for this and also everyone else who took part in the logo design competition.

'There are two new classes this year, an open class for primary age pupils and for secondary age. These classes are for young people who would like to gain experience of performing, whether it be instrumental, vocal, verse, dance etc but without the competitive element.'

Please feel free to give Lorna a call on 860262 or contact any other committee member.

The closing date for entries is Thursday 30 April.



The new festival logo.

Co-op flyer confusion

Shoppers on Arran were left baffled this week by the latest Co-op promotional flyer.

The postal leaflets and coupons were for a new Co-op food store in Northern Ireland.

The new store, which opened on Thursday, is in Fivemiletown in the far southwest corner of the country and is 64 miles from Belfast.

Arran residents would have had to make a lengthy car and two-ferry journey if they wanted to take advantage of the £9 worth of offers plus a free cake.

It is assumed that the promotion was meant for the Aran Islands off the west coast of Ireland.

However, as a result of the mix up the Co-op says that the vouchers will be accepted at the main Co-op in Brodick.

A spokeswoman for The Co-operative Food confirmed: 'We apologise for any confusion caused by our error, and the Brodick store on Shore Street is accepting the money off and member coupons.'

Roots team wins £3,000 in school charity contest

Roots of Arran is £3,000 better off after a team supporting it won a school debating contest.

S2 pupils had chosen seven Arran charities to represent at the Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) held at Arran High School.

The charities chosen were: ArCaS, Arran Mountain Rescue Team, Royal National Lifeboat Institution, Heartstart, Arran Youth Foundation Brodick Nursery and Roots of Arran.

The winning team were Alice Kinniburgh, Lauren

McLean, Max Robson and Jack Burke. The initiative is a one-of-a-kind experience encouraging young people to create social change and be part of a compassionate community. YPI promotes responsibility, respect and a commitment to building links

with local charities. The S2 pupils have been taking part in this experience in RME, PSE, social subjects, computing and English. They shared their discoveries of their personally selected charities at the event with the aim of not only raising awareness of the good work that their charity

cheque for their charity.

The decision to award the £3,000 to Roots of Arran was reached by a team of five judges: Barry Smith, AHS head teacher; Arran police sergeant Allen Dodds; Kenneth Bone, representing the parent body and local businesses; Brodie Pearcy, assistant island officer and Councillor John Bruce.



The winning charity contest team with Juliette Walsh of Roots of Arran. 20_b14charity01

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Tea for two is new at the Auchrannie

Anyone looking to wile away a couple of hours relaxing in the Auchrannie can now do so over a leisurely afternoon tea.

The resort has introduced tea for two as an addition to its many dining experiences already available.

And it has taken the best ideas from the many venues on the mainland which provide afternoon tea to make it something special.

Served on elegant slates every one is made fresh and offers a selection of sandwiches, savouries and specially made cakes and scones.

As many local ingredients as possible are used including

Arran cheese and pickles and even the rhubarb is grown in Brodick.

Business development manager Gordon Hay said: 'Afternoon tea has always been popular and we decided it was time to try it on Arran.'

'We hope it will appeal to day visitors to the island as well as guests spending a spa day with us.'

The teas are served in the hotel lounge and elsewhere and will be available outside when the weather gets better.

The cost is £24 for two and booking is advisable. They are available from Thursday to Monday inclusive from 1.30pm to 4.30pm.



Afternoon tea now served at the Auchrannie. 20_b14tea01



The ladies get to work on their Easter baskets.

Easter basket fun at Montrose House

Montrose House residents and Stronach Daycare clients enjoyed sunshine inside and outside last Wednesday with their yearly Easter Baskets competition. Fourteen ladies had a very jolly afternoon of flower arranging in their new day care facility at Glenclay, with baskets of daffodils everywhere.

Alex Lawrie, secretary of Friends of Montrose House Association, was given the difficult task of judging the winners but decided that all were worthy winners, so everyone received miniature chocolate eggs.

The ultimate winners were

declared as Vera Barker, Doreen Hodgkinson, Fiona Gorman and Jean Andrews, who each received a large Cadbury Easter egg.

The afternoon was rounded off with tea, cake and biscuits with thanks to staff and friends who assisted.

Thanks also go to El-lie Jones for arranging the event once again on behalf of Friends of Montrose House Association. The ladies later took their arrangements to their rooms or home to enjoy throughout the Easter season.

Their floral displays come together.





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Young chefs are game to make new Black Grouse a winner

The reintroduction of Black Grouse to Arran may be proving a challenge, but one has been spotted in Blackwaterfoot.

But twitchers can relax as it is not the rare game bird but the newest restaurant on the west coast.

Chefs David Brand and Gordon Decaestecker have joined forces in setting up the Black Grouse Bar and Restaurant at the Blackwaterfoot Lodge, having spent years learning their craft in restaurants and hotels throughout Scotland and Canada.

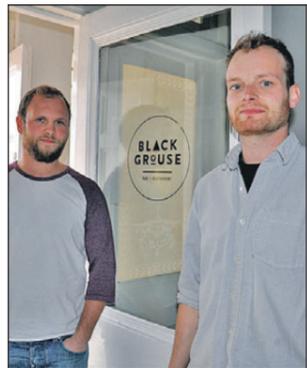
For 32-year-old David it is a case of coming 'home' to Arran where he spent some of his childhood. His mum Ann Relf ran the Lodge with husband Ian for a number of years, and will continue to run the bed and breakfast side of the business.

David has now returned from three years in Ontario, Canada to take over the restaurant side of the business and is planning to settle back on the island with his wife Aileen and 18-month-old Calum. The couple have another baby on the way.

He has been joined by 30-year-old Gordon and as

well as a family connection, they both share a love of cooking and food.

Gordon, who arrives on Arran from the famous Stravagan restaurant in Glasgow's West End has worked extensively in the Highlands and the Borders as well as in Glasgow and says one of his biggest influences has been top chef Mark Greenaway.



Gordon and David with the new distinctive Black Grouse sign. 20_b14grouse02

He came to Arran with girlfriend Kirsty in January and she will also be involved in front of house work at the restaurant.

The last two months has seen some hectic activity at the Blackwaterfoot Lodge as

the duo created their brand new restaurant which opens tonight (Friday).

Having their own restaurant is a dream come true for the pair but they are not resting on their laurels.

They know that to get the restaurant on the map, there is going to be a lot of hard work in the weeks and months to come.

The new restaurant has a flexible layout with interior tables and a bright and airy conservatory. There is also a cosy bar and outside tables for when they weather improves.

With a contemporary Scottish feel, the boys want to use as much Arran and Scottish produce as possible on their menu. David said: 'We want Black Grouse to become a place for family, friends and any social occasion in a relaxed, friendly atmosphere while showcasing some of Scotland's finest produce.'

The menu incorporates some traditional Scottish dishes, but many of them also come with David and Gordon's own twist, including dishes like west coast mussels in a Thai broth and homemade venison sausages.



David and Gordon in the new look conservatory restaurant. 20_b14grouse01

Lunches have a distinctly international feel with the Indian The Vada Pav, The Cubano from Miami and The Choripan from Argentina.

Gordon said: 'The sandwiches are influenced by a love for world flavours and what better way to showcase this than in a few mouthfuls. These sandwiches are just

a few of the hundreds from around the world that have unique and distinctive flavours.'

For dinner there is traditional Cullen Skink, a seasonal game pie for starter, followed by a haunch of Arran venison or brown crab ravioli, all rounded off with their take on a deep fried Mars bar or an

Arran whisky rice pudding ball.

David added: 'We're very excited about opening the restaurant. There is a lot going on over this side of the island and hopefully with the cheaper ferry fares it will encourage more people to bring their cars and holiday homes and explore the west coast.'

RNIB drop-in advice sessions

Is sight loss affecting your daily living or that of someone you care for?

If so the Royal National Institute for Blind People (RNIB) Scotland is holding drop-in information and advice sessions.

A representative from RNIB Scotland will be in Brodick Library on 30 April between 11am and 1pm to discuss any concerns or needs people may have as a result of eyesight loss; provide leaflets and information; demonstrate a small range of daily living equipment and give hints and tips on living with sight loss.

Contact Joanne Reilly, vision support officer, community, on 07584 203040 or 01563 526011.

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Janet receives one of her two trophies from John Sillars. 20_b14hort02



Jo Totty and daughter Gemma collect the photography prize from John Sillars. 20_b14hort05



The show attracted an appreciative crowd. 20_b14hort11



Cadbury Easter Egg Trails

We've teamed up with Cadbury again to bring Easter Egg Trails to 50 National Trust for Scotland places across the country from Good Friday to Easter Monday

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Brodick in spring flow

Brodick Hall was blooming on Saturday at the annual spring flower and bulb show.

It was the best for a number of years in respect of the number and quality of entries.

Organised by the Isle of Arran Horticultural Society, the show attracted good crowds throughout the day.

President John Sillars said: 'The show was a great success. Entries were up by a considerable number covering a wide range of top quality spring blooms/plants. The primary schools and nurseries added a huge amount of interest and colour in the children's sections with lots of inventive hard work. There were also entries from Beavers and Cubs groups. Many thanks to all who participated and donated raffle prizes and baking.'

A new trophy was awarded for the first time this year: The Brodick Castle Gardens Cup for the 'Primary School with the Most Points' which was

donated by the NTS at Brodick Castle and Gardens and won by Shiskine primary. The society was delighted at this donation.

Plans are already in place for a coach trip to the Scottish Garden Show at Ingliston in late May.

Results: Section 1: Bulbs 1. Daffodils/ Narcissi: 1 Carol Vella-Boyle; 2 Laura Currie; 3 Angela Cassels; Highly Commended: Andrew Stefanuti. 2. Crocus: no entries. 3. Tulips: 1 Sonia Harding. 4. Hyacinth: 1 Janet Logan; 2 Carol Vella-Boyle; 3 Andrew Stefanuti. 5. Cyclamen: no entries. 6. Amaryllis: 1 Elizabeth Ross; 2 Janet Logan. 7. Miniature Daffodils: 1 Andrew Stefanuti; 2 Elizabeth Ross. 8. Miscellaneous: 1 Jan Murray; 2 Jim Jack; 3 Angela Cassels. Section 2: Cut Blooms: 9a. Daffodils/ Narcissi (Trumpet): 1 John Sillars; 2 Laura Currie; 3 Whiting Bay Primary School. 9b. Daffodils/ Narcissi (Large Cup): 1 John Sillars; 2 Andrew Stefanuti; 3 Karine Russel. 9c. Daffodils/ Narcissi (Small Cup): 1 Andrew Stefanuti; 2 Nicki Leckey; 3 Whiting Bay Primary School. 9d. Daffodils/ Narcissi (Double): 1 Jo Totty; 2 Jo Totty. 9e. Daffodils/ Narcissi (Multi-Headed): no entries. 10. Any other flowering bulb: 1 Angela Cassels. 11. One bloom of Narcissi (Names): 1 Carol Vella-Boyle; 2 Angela Cassels; 3 Sonia Harding. Section 3: Floral Art: 12. Flower arrangement: 1 Karine Russel; 2 Sonia



The winning bulb entry from Shiskine Primary. 20_b14hort09



The pr Cathy!



Janet Logan with her trophy and her best exhibit hyacinths. 20_b14hort01



Scott McAllister collects The Neil McLean Cup for Kilmory school from John Sillars. 20_b14hort03



Sisters Ava and Olivia McNiece with their prizes. 20_b14hort07

bloom at er show

Photos
courtesy of
Christopher
Hogg

Harding; 3 Nicki Leckey. 13. Floral Art Theme - Easter Bonnet: 1 Cathy Steed; 2 Angela Cassels. Section 4: Miscellaneous: 14. One Vase Foliage: 1 Cathy Steed; 2 Carol Vella-Boyle; 3 Carol Vella-Boyle. 15. Garden in a Tray: 1 Angela Cassels. 16. Pot Plant - Foliage: 1 Cathy Steed; 2 Carol Vella-Boyle; 3 Carol Vella-Boyle. 17. Pot Plant - Flowering: 1 Brenda Stewart; 2 Brenda Stewart; 3 Brenda Stewart. 18. Patio Pot - Spring Collection (At least 3 different bulbs or plants): 1 Sonia Harding; 2 Arran High School. 19. Patio Pot - 1 or 2 Varieties: 1 Jo Totty; 2 C. Davidson; 3 Jo Totty. Highly Commended: Jan Murray. 20. Cut Flowering Shrub in vase: 1 John Sillars; 2 Jo Totty.

Section 5: Children: 21. Garden in a Tray containing growing matter: 1 Shiskine Early Years; 2 Brodick Nursery; 3 Olivia and Ava McNeice. All other exhibits were Highly Commended. 22. Painted Decorated Egg - Floral Theme: 1 Kaithlyn Rodgers, Kilmory P.S. 2 Keir Riddell, Kilmory P.S.; 3 Roisin Ballantyne, Kilmory P.S. Highly Commended: Mhairi Thomas. 23. Bowl of Bulbs: 1 Shiskine P.S.; 2 Whiting Bay P.S.; 3 Kilmory P.S. Highly Commended: Shiskine P.S. 24. Scarecrow up to 1.8m: 1 Shiskine Primary 4/5/6; 2 Shiskine Primary 4/5/6; Shiskine Primary 4/5/6. 25. Coloured Picture- Spring Flowers: Schools: 1 Kilmory P.S.; 2 Kilmory P.S.; 3 Shiskine P.S. Individual: 1 Olivia McNeice; 2 Gen Inglis, Lamlash P.S.; 3 Iain Gold, Corrie P.S. Section 6: Photography: 21. Photograph - Images of Winter and Spring 2013/14: 1 Jo Totty; 2 Jan Murray; 3 Jo Totty.

Trophies winners:

Royal Bank of Scotland for Best Exhibit in Show: Janet Logan. RW McKelvie Cup for the Best Exhibit in Section 1: Janet Logan.

The Neil McLean Cup for the Best Exhibit Entered by A School: Kilmory Primary School.

Spring Photography for the Best in Section 6: Jo Totty.

The Brodick Castle Gardens Cup for the Primary School with the Most Points: Shiskine Primary School.

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Three cheers for new ventures

What excellent news that the Pierhead Tavern has new owners. And while they will, unfortunately, miss the bulk of the summer season, we wish them luck with their hard work ahead. Many had gloomily predicted that the pub would never open again.

And with some justification. Pubs are closing down all over the country and the new draconian drink driving laws in Scotland are squeezing the lifeblood out of the village pubs that are left.

Before selling the property Punch Taverns spent a few bob getting planning permission to turn the pub into three flats. If that had gone ahead there would have been no way back for the PHT.

As it is the pub and the community can look forward to continuing more than 125 years of licensed trade history on the very same site.

And the new owners have some interesting ideas with a view to attracting sailors and cyclists - but have vowed that they will not forget the locals. Music too is on the agenda. It means another venue with Lamlash becoming THE place of dining choice.

Last year the excellent Altachorvie, joined the long established Glenisle Hotel and Drift Inn for fine food. The Lamlash Bay has just had a makeover and work is expected to start soon at the new restaurant planned at Studio 4.

The village also has two nice coffee shops.

Good also to see this week another new dawn at the Blackwaterfoot Lodge of the Black Grouse Bar and Restaurant. The two chefs David and Gordon seem to have a real passion about opening their first restaurant and we wish the venture every success.

There is now doubt the cheaper RET fares will give visitors in their cars more chance to see more of the island and drive to the west coast where there is now a selection of eating choices.

How good it would be if, at the start of another holiday season, the sale of Eden Lodge in Whiting Bay could be finalised and news emerged of the future of the McLaren Hotel in Brodick which sits sad and forelorn on such a prime shorefront site.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy, He has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.' (1 Peter 1:3)

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your letters

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Letters to the Editor



Small matter turns into a hot topic

Sir
I refer to 'A small matter' from Dr G Avison which appeared in the Banner dated 28 March. If this was four days early for an April Fool then I retract this letter - otherwise I would like to reply.

I find it hard to understand the personality of someone who is going to be driven mad as the politicians write personuscripts of their personifestoies in the forthcoming elections. Lucky the doctor doesn't live in a personor house and even more lucky that the personor house isn't in Personchester, Personfield or Personnington in Dorset. On the other hand, I was rather surprised to read that the doctor resides in St John's Villa (should this not have been St Joan's or St Joanna's?)

The doctor must become incandescent with rage any time Personfred Personn's records are played on the radio. Does the doctor refuse to treat personal labourers, those who have fallen down a personhole or even clergypersons reciting persontras?

What is the opposite of 'man' anyway - can't use 'female' because of the presence of 'male; can't use 'woman' because it contains 'man' and, presumably, can't use 'lady' as it is 75 per cent 'lad'!

Must the following on Arran be re-named because of their blatant male orientation? King's Cave; Ballmichael; Pladda; Kingscross; Dougarie; Ossian's Cave; Cladach; Knockenkelly and even Brodick?

I assume the good doctor will also be contacting Personhattan, Personitoba, Persondalay, Personila and Personchuria to express torpersonst and as for the dastardly Chinese speaking Persondarin.

PS: I collect dictionaries - I have 27 and could find no mention, in any dictionary, of the word 'horsepersonship'.

Yours,
Mike Rose
Oakbank
Lamlash

Deadly serious

Sir,
At first glance, I assumed the letter on the allegedly politically incorrect 'horsemanship courses' poster in Lamlash was an early and clumsy attempt at an April Fool jest (Banner, March 28).

On second reading, however, it became evident that Dr Avison was being deadly serious.

Perhaps he or she should go the whole hog and demand new names for Arran locations such as Blackwaterfoot and Whitefarland.

One wonders how Dr Avison copes with existing in London, living so close to the likes of Lord's Cricket Ground, Maida Vale, Queensway, King's Road etc.

It is also not hard to imagine why he or she would prefer Isle of Arran to Isle of Man!

Yours,
David Kelso
Sannox

Smiling faces

Sir,
With regard to the letter (Banner 2006) from Dr G Avison, whose holiday was marred by the advert on the notice board in Lamlash, re horsemanship courses.

I hope the offending advert is altered and that the addition of horses of all colours, breeds and sexes (including geldings) be included. Then our holidaymakers will return home with smiles on their faces.

PS: I am glad the seaman-ship of the Caledonian Isles did not upset the doctor.

Yours,
Donald Cowan
Lamlash

New bus concerns

Sir,
I read with great interest your article on pages one and two of issue 2005 glorifying the new buses that have just arrived on the island. Quieter?

yes, without a doubt, I nearly missed one the other day because I didn't hear it coming. Less pollution? If they say so. Easier to board? Most certainly. Wheelchair and child buggy friendly? Yes, after a fashion, but there it stops.

There was no mention of the seating capacity, 32ish if my memory is correct, fewer than the old buses. Where do passengers with luggage store said articles? On the raised section just behind the door? Certainly not. Anything placed there would be unceremoniously dumped behind the doors in the event of the driver having to brake hard to avoid an accident. So they put their luggage on the seat beside them reducing still further the already reduced seating capacity.

Then, on boarding, those of us with travel cards or prepaid cards going to place them on the card reader/ticket machine are met with a sheet of plastic, so clean and new we end up with bruised knuckles. Do we reach around behind the screen and encroach the driver's space? A security breach if ever there was one. Some drivers allow this, others take the card from you and hand the ticket and card back to you.

Still on the subject of travel cards, I was lead to believe that RET meant Road Equivalent Tariff, I can travel to Glasgow or Kilmarnock for nothing using said card on the buses, so why not the ferry?

Still on the subject of RET, yes, it is bringing extra people to the island, the trouble is the ferry does not appear to have the capacity to cater for people wanting to travel when they want to travel. A local hotelier was telling me last evening he'd had two cancellations as the people booking the rooms couldn't get off the island on their preferred day of travel - Sunday 22 March.

I could go on but I have a feeling I've overstayed my welcome, answers from SPT/Stagecoach and CalMac would be much appreciated.

Yours,
John Lawson
Catacol

Reinstate Fairlie

Sir,
I refer to John Boyd's letter in last week's Banner. In my young days the ferry sailed to Ardrossan during the summer timetable and Fairlie

during the winter timetable. I do not remember many cancellations. Why not reinstate Fairlie?

Yours,
R Allan Richardson
Beith

Residents right

Sir,
In response to Catriona McGeough's rather patronising letter (letters, 14 March) I note that whilst chiding a previous correspondent for 'sniping' about CalMac and North Ayrshire Council she herself is not above taking a swipe at South Ayrshire Council.

I agree that Arran is indeed a great place to live and it would be even more wonderful if all the residents of Arran had to do was admire the scenery and play golf every day. However, islanders also need to travel to schools, hospitals, places of employment etc. Many residents are either employed by or run businesses on the island and as such require basic infrastructure and services for the island to function and prosper, not least of these are driveable roads and a reliable ferry service. I would also suggest that better infrastructure means more successful businesses which means more tax take for NAC.

As contributors to, and users of, NAC and CalMac services I think that we Arran residents have the right to praise and/or criticise these institutions as we see fit.

Yours,
Kate Mackintosh
Hamilton House
Shiskine

Coffee thanks

Sir,
May we, through your column, take this opportunity to thank everyone who made our coffee afternoon on Saturday 14 March in Kinloch Hotel such a success. Special thanks to the Kinloch staff and the girls who, once again, helped with the raffle. The sum of £970 was raised

Yours
Elma Judge
Shiskine and Machrie
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Volunteers hear of Save the Children's work

For the first time, the annual Save the Children Volunteer Day was held in Arran on Thursday 19 March with the Douglas Hotel kindly providing the venue for the occasion.

Carol Burge, chairwoman of the Arran branch, welcomed everyone, especially delegates from other west of Scotland branches.

Carol then introduced the first speaker, Neil Mathers, Save the Children head of

Scotland. Neil gave a very informative talk on the work in progress in Scotland, interspersed with some startling statistics. One in four children live in poverty; 220,000 families including 80,000 children are on low incomes; most of these children progressively fall behind in their education.

As well as practical help, Save the Children is working in coalition with other agencies, including families and schools, on a reading pro-

gramme. Reading is seen as the essential key to closing the achievement gap. Other previous programmes such as FAST (Families and Schools Together) and ESLP (Eat, Sleep, Learn and Play) are on-going.

Neil was followed by Susan Barron, acting community engagement manager.

Susan had recently visited Bangladesh, which is one of the most densely populated countries. She gave a very interesting account of her travels illustrated by a video.

There, 18 per cent of the population live in extreme poverty. Susan visited several clinics built by Save the Children and saw the benefit of the services now available. She also visited schools set up by Save the Children which only a fraction of children are able to attend. Child labour is still a big issue. Again, education is seen as the key to progress and students and local communities are putting pressure on the government to raise



Some of the volunteers and guests.

the minimum working age so that more children can attend school.

The third speaker was due to have been Rob McGilivray, regional humanitarian director for West and Central Africa but, following the outbreak of Ebola, his leave was cancelled and he was directed to Sierra Leone. Fortunately he was able to give his talk by video which also enabled the group to see the work being carried out by Save the Children. Because of the emphasis on Ebola, many other medical complaints are not being treated as people are afraid to

go to hospital. Also, many of the schools are closed. This was a very moving presentation.

Following a pleasant lunch and a chance to exchange ideas, Morag Smith, regional fundraising manager for the west of Scotland, gave a quick resume of last year's results. She reported that £142,000 was raised by local branches, a big increase on the previous year. Morag concluded her report with an outline of plans for 2015.

Carol closed the meeting by thanking the speakers and everyone for attending.

Car wash for Malawi trip

Four youngsters are holding a car wash on Easter Monday to raise money for the Arran High School Malawi trip.

Aidan Gold will be washing cars with friends Tom, Katie and Alan at the lifeboat station in Lamlash from 11am till 2.30pm, as part of their fundraising.

Aidan said: 'As our trip to Malawi is now approaching in July, anticipation and excitement is growing. We have all been getting our vaccinations, the rabies shots are particularly unpleasant.

'We have also been lucky enough to have Helen Kerr, who lived in Malawi, come in to the school to give us some lessons in Chi Chewa so that when we go to Malawi we may know some basic phrases. Some of us have picked up the language better than others. I, myself, find it very challenging but all of us try to learn.

'We are all still working and fundraising to pay for our trip and that is going well. Thank you to all the Arran community for your generosity. So if you have a dirty car and fancy coming along we would love to see you.'



From left: Speakers Morag Smith, Susan Barron, Neil Mathers and Arran chairwoman Carol Burge.

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Youngsters put new cooking skills to work at dining night



There are a lot of plates to fill. 20_b14rest03

The young members of Arran Youth Foundations hosted their second annual cooking event, again taking over Auchrannie's 1869 restaurant to wow invited diners with a stunning three-course meal.

Since the start of the year, young people have been gaining culinary skills, learning how to create a range of dishes as AYF delivered its cooking project for the second year running.

Every Monday night, young folk met after school to learn dishes such as banana loaf, Singapore noodles, alco-



The youngsters cook up a storm in the kitchen. 20_b14rest01

hol-free tiramisu and chicken and chorizo couscous with chickpeas.

Funded by STV Appeal, the project twice saw the group learn from the Douglas Hotel's chef Duncan Heenan, who taught the young folk how to make garlic bread, spaghetti carbonara, shortbread and delicious pastry tarts.

As in 2014, the project culminated in going to 1869 thanks to the incredible generosity of Richard Small and his staff at the Auchrannie, who volunteered their time to help create an amazing night for the invited parents, trustees, guests and funders.

Head chefs Craig and Ricky helped provide guidance and expertise to the young folk preparing the food, assisted by kitchen porter Conrad, while food and drinks manager Sheila and staff members Dani and Duncan helped teach the young folk running front-of-house about hospitality.

Young people greeted guests, waited tables, took orders, made all the courses from scratch and even washed the dishes at the end of the night. Parents were given tours of the kitchen in

action and all were blown away both by the hard work demonstrated by their youngsters and by the quality of food served.

On the night, the kids made a three-course menu that included, for starter, butter-nut squash soup with crème fraîche and black pudding and goat's cheese tart. Main courses were spaghetti and meatballs in a tomato sauce or vegetable stir fry with rice and for dessert strawberry cheesecake and apple crumble was the tasty choice.

Graeme Johnston, youth

work project manager, said: 'Overall, the cooking project was a fantastic success, with excellent feedback from the diners on the night, the staff at the Auchrannie and most importantly from all the young people who took part in the 12 weeks of cooking sessions. On the night, we raised a fantastic £400 which will help AYF continue to deliver quality youth work throughout 2015.'

'Huge thanks go to all of the staff at the Auchrannie who helped make the evening happen.'



Getting to grips with the soup blender. 20_b14rest02

THE ARRAN BANNER COMPETITION

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The Ideal Home Show Scotland makes a welcome return to Glasgow's SECC from 22nd – 25th May 2015.

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Tickets can be either booked online or by calling the 24 Hour Ticket Box Office on 0844 854 2014 or by visiting www.idealhomeshowscotland.co.uk. For further information about the show, visit the website www.idealhomeshowscotland.co.uk.

The Ideal Home Show Scotland is offering **5 lucky readers** of The Arran Banner the chance to win a pair of tickets to this year's event in Glasgow's SECC from 22nd – 25th May 2015.

To enter simply answer the following question, complete the coupon and post it to: **Ideal Homes Competition, Wyvex Media, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB.** Entries must be submitted by Friday 1st May.

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The front of house staff. 20_b14rest05

Antiquarians hear of the very varied artworks of the Beckford Collection

More than 60 members of the Arran Antiquarians welcomed Sue Mills as speaker for their monthly meeting held in Brodick Hall on Monday 16 March.

Sue, who has now been resident on Arran for the last 18 years, gave an excellent and informative talk on the works of art at Brodick Castle.

She worked previously at the Hancock Museum of Natural History in Newcastle and combined this with time spent as a bat worker with the Durham Bat Group.

Sue has now worked for National Trust for Scotland at Brodick Castle for 10 years as head education guide and events organiser.

Apparently paintings in the castle fall into four different groups. Sue concentrated on two groups, the family history as shown in portraiture, and a very varied selection of art works from the Beckford Collection.

The original Brodick Castle was built around 1275, and was a true Scottish baronial castle. The building was initiated by King Alexander III because of its strategic position. Before long it was taken by English forces, who used it as a base in the Wars of Independence.

At various times it was attacked by the Stewarts of Bute, the MacDonalds of the Isles and even by Henry VIII's galleons during 'The Rough Wooing'. Indeed, the latter left it pretty much in ruins.

On the occasion of the marriage of James Lord Hamilton and Mary Stewart, daughter of James II of Scotland, much of Arran, including Brodick, passed to the Hamiltons.

In 1503 James IV created the title Earl of Arran for his cousin, James Hamilton, on the day he himself was wed to Margaret Tudor, sister of Henry VIII. The Hamilton star was certainly in its ascendancy.

The first painting featured was the very famous one of the Good Duchess Anne, who was Duchess in her own right. Her father, a Gentleman of the Bedchamber to Charles I, was captured at the Battle of Preston in the Civil War, and was executed.

Her uncle, the 2nd Duke,

was also killed in the Civil War, so Anne became heiress at the age of 16. As all her castles and properties had been confiscated, she went to live with her formidable grandmother while she petitioned the restored Charles II and his Generals for the return of her lands.

She married the Duke of Selkirk, had 13 children, was instrumental in the grand design of Hamilton Palace with its 300 rooms and lived to the age of 84. Her son, the 4th Duke, was killed in a duel in the walled garden, and Anne then proceeded to rear her grandson. Her portrait was painted by Scougal and

times, finally to Anne Spencer of Rendlesham, an heiress. They were based in Bath. James vacillated between the Jacobite and Hanoverian camps, and died at the age of 41 of a fever. Despite subsequent remarriage, his widow's fortune eventually came back to the Hamiltons. His portrait is by William Hoare.

Alexander, the 10th Duke, was a larger than life character called 'El Magnifico'. He was a connoisseur of the arts and renovated Hamilton Palace. He was High Stewart of Scotland, Master of the Masonic Order, Ambassador to Russia and a great admirer of

Baden. He was a playboy who loved horse racing. He was thrown out of university and at 22 was almost bankrupt when a Derby win by his horse came in the nick of time.

He loved large, fast yachts, commissioning the building of three 200-foot boats. He was a close friend of Edward, Prince of Wales. In 1873 he married Mary Montague. He died in Algiers at the age of 51. His portrait is by Winterhalter, who incidentally painted 120 portraits of Queen Victoria and her family.

The last family portrait and the most recent was of Mary Louise Hamilton, who be-

Sue then showed the audience some lovely small rural studies by Gainsborough, who we understand much preferred them to the large portraits of the great and the good that he was commissioned to paint.

William Beckford had many small but priceless pictures in his collection. He was the father of Susan Euphemia, wife of the 10th Duke. He had made his money from the slave trade and the 13 sugar plantations he owned in Jamaica. He was a complex man with a fascinating life story, but it is the collection he accumulated that interests us.

These were miniatures by Frans Porbus the Younger, of Archduke Albert and Archduchess of Austria (16th century), The Temptation of St. Anthony by David Deniers the Younger, 17th century paintings by Jean Antoine Watteau, based on figures from the 'Comedie del Arte', who he used as models, and one early 1500s painting by a Flemish artist.

Sue finished with a portrait of Charles IX of France, painted by Francis Clouet, the court painter (1510-



The famous painting of the Good Duchess Anne.

1572). He was a Renaissance miniaturist and designed coinage and the death masks of French Kings. This piece of art belonged to Charles I at one time, and had been hung in Windsor Castle. Appropriately, a painting by Willes Maddox showed William Beckford on his deathbed in 1844.

Members were all familiar with these works of art, but now know so much more about them, and will look again with new eyes.

The next meeting of the group will take place on Monday, 20 April, when Duncan Lunan, an astronomer from Troon, will talk to them about The Stones and the Stars, the relationship between the standing stones of Arran and their positions in relation to the stars. This will be interesting but unusual. ND



Speaker Sue Mills (left) with Norma Davidson and Myrna Boal of the Antiquarians group.

hangs in the Boudoir.

A portrait of William, 2nd Duke and Duchess Anne's uncle, was Secretary of State for Scotland and a staunch Royalist, who died at the Battle of Worcester in 1651. This portrait by Hanneman, who lived in the Hague and specialised in portraits of exiled aristocrats, is much influenced by the style of Van Dyke. Many copies of this portrait exist, including one hung in Windsor Castle. The Brodick painting was bought by Lady Jean's mother in 1925, and hung in the castle.

Duchess Anne's grandson, James, the 5th Duke, was sent to Oxford and studied art. He was married three

Napoleon and his sister with whom he had a dalliance! He owned works by Reubens, Tintoretto and Da Vinci, as well as priceless pieces of furniture.

He had constructed the Hamilton Mausoleum with the family niches and a raised floor of black marble for himself, complete with an Egyptian sarcophagus.

He married Susan Euphemia Beckford, the daughter of one of the richest men in Britain. His portrait was by Willes Maddox, who sadly died in Istanbul of a fever at an early age.

William Alexander, the 12th Duke, was the son of the 11th Duke and Princess Marie of

came the Duchess of Montrose. She was 28 when it was painted by De Lazlo, a Hungarian artist.

When her father died she inherited the island and castle, but the title moved to another branch of the family. She married the Marquis of Graham and was much loved in Arran. In addition to raising her family she loved the castle gardens and did much war work on the island. The artist De Lazlo, painted the Bulgarian royal family and specialised in large, elegant portraits.

He married the daughter of the Guinness family, but was interned in World War I, but survived to continue his art.

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THE DRIFT INN

LAMLASH
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LIVE MUSIC
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Isle of Arran **HERITAGE MUSEUM**

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Rosaburn, Brodick, Open Daily 10.30am to 4.30pm
Learn about the island's Social History, Archaeology, The Arran Clearances, Farming, Geology and Lots More.
Visit the 19th Century Cottage, 1940's Schoolroom, and Blacksmith's Forge.
Archives and Genealogy researchers welcomed
(on Wednesdays only from 10.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm, or by appointment.)

Children's Quiz and Playhouse
Riverside Picnic Area • Gift Shop
Lovely Snacks and Meals at Café Rosaburn

It's hard to believe but Easter is here already. For many it marks the start of the main summer season and with new cheaper ferry fares to Arran it looks like being a bumper start.

With this in mind many businesses are really pulling out the stops to make sure the holiday is a big success. And with the weather looking dry, with even a bit of sunshine, the outdoor events should be clear of rain.

Arran Rugby Sevens

Always one of the most popular of the Easter weekend is the Arran Rugby 7s. This year they are being sponsored for the first time by the Isle of Arran Distillery and seven invited teams will join Arran for a day of fast flowing rugby 7s. Staged at Ormidale Park in Brodick the day will also feature music from the Arran Pipe Band and there will be a hot dog stall and a beer tent. The action starts at 11.30pm. In the evening the popular Arran Rugby 7s Dance will be held in the Brodick Hall with an 8.30pm start.

Isle of Arran Distillers

However, if you would prefer to visit the distillery rather than watch rugby, a full weekend of distillery tours is available at the Lochranza whisky plant. There you will also find whisky tasting, a whisky and fancy goods shop and the excellent Casks Cafe Bar.

Brodick Castle Fun Day

Easter gets off to a flyer with the annual fun day at Brodick Castle and Country Park on Sunday. For the eighth year running, Cadbury is supporting the National Trust for Scotland to bring you the 2015 Easter egg trails which will inspire your child's inner adventurer and transform them into an eggsplorer! They'll follow the trail, collect the clues, solve the puzzle and be rewarded with a delicious Cadbury Egghead. There will also be an Easter bonnet competition, egg decorating, races and a duck derby.



The warm sunshine at last year's rugby 7s saw crowds of people gather to cheer on the participating Arran teams.

friday's child ...not your average gift shop

GIFTS, GAMES AND POCKET MONEY FUN

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9.30 - 5.30 • Home Farm • Brodick • 01770 303 987 • www.fridayschildonline.com

EKOND ON ARRAN

David Cameron, property manager at Brodick Castle, said: 'We're excited to be working with Cadbury to bring Easter egg trails to Arran this April. The castle has lots for your little explorers to discover all year round. What better way to spend Easter than coming along to our trails and earning a chocolate reward as well.'

The event will be held from 12noon till 3.30pm.

Lochranza Daffodil Tea

And there is more egg hunting on offer at The World Famous Lochranza Daffodil Tea on Saturday from 2pm to 4pm in Lochranza Hall.

Arran Visual Arts

If art is more your scene, visit the Arran Visual Arts Easter Exhibition at Arran High School in Lamlash. The exhibition starts today (Saturday) and is on until Thursday.

Family art and craft sessions will also take place from Monday to Wednesday from 2pm till 4pm.

Arran Heritage Museum

If you are looking to find out more about the island's history, pay a visit to the Isle of Arran Heritage Museum at Rosaburn, Brodick, where a lot of work by volunteers has been going on over the winter months in preparation for the new season.

COAST Beach Scavenger Hunt

If nature is more your interest, the kids will love the Beach Scavenger Hunt which will be held by the Community of Arran Seabed Trust on Lamash beach on Saturday, starting at 10am.

Whiting Bay Hall Wedding Fayre

If you are planning an island wedding, go along to the open day and wedding fayre at Whiting Bay Hall from 11am to 3pm on Sunday.





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www.oldbyre.co.uk

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ARRAN MALT RUGBY SEVENS
Saturday 4th April
Starts 11.30am
Hot dog stall, Beer tent & Arran Pipe Band



Followed by Arran Rugby 7's Dance
in Brodick Hall at 8.30pm
Licensed Bar



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DISTILLERS

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Arran Visual Arts
Easter Exhibition
Arran High School, Lamlash

Saturday 4th April - Thursday 9th April
Monday - Wednesday 10.30am - 5pm
Thursday - 10.30am - 4pm

Family Art & Craft Sessions
Monday 6th & Wednesday 8th 2pm - 4pm
Children must be accompanied by an adult

NEW BAR AND RESTAURANT NOW OPEN
AT BLACKWATERFOOT LODGE



NEW, INNOVATIVE AND DELICIOUS

Taking bookings for evening meals 5pm-9pm, lunches available from Sat 4th April 12pm-2pm.

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EASTER at THE CASTLE

Sunday 5th April
11.00am - 3.30pm

*Come along to our great Family Day
at Brodick Castle*

- Easter Bonnet Competition**
- Egg Decorating**
- Cadbury's Egg Trail**
- Duck Derby**

With the help of The Friends of Brodick Castle



**The World Famous
Lochranza Daffodil Tea**

Saturday 4th April
2pm - 4pm in Lochranza Hall

Lots of Children's activities - Home Baking,
Egg Hunt, Plants, Tombola, Bric a Brac, Raffle,
Jewellery, Cards. Cream Teas Adults £3 Deals for families
And the incredibly delicious Lochranza tea!



Food and Drink this Easter

Black Grouse Restaurant

With all this activity going on you're going to need somewhere for lunch and dinner. All round the island there are excellent eating places, but the newest is the Black Grouse which opened last night (Friday) at the Blackwaterfoot Lodge.

The new restaurant is the brainchild of chefs David Brand and Gordon Decastecker and is offering traditional Scottish fayre with some really interesting international influences.

Cafe Thyme

On the west coast of the island, Cafe Thyme at the Old Byre Visitor Centre is always a popular choice. Open every day for lunch it is now serving dinner Monday to Friday as well as tomorrow (Easter Sunday).

The Wineport

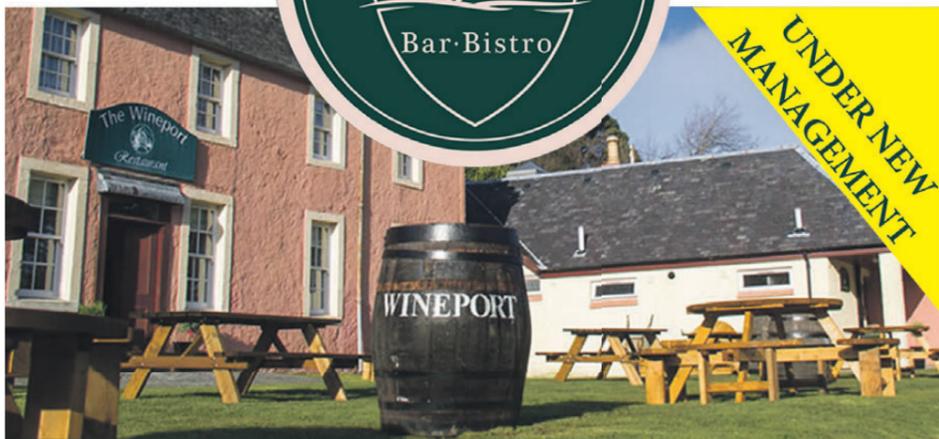
Another place with a new look is the Wineport at Cladach which is now under new management. It has had a complete facelift and there is a cosy bar with an open fire for chilly days and, of course, their already popular large beer garden for sunny days. The bar and bistro are serving delicious food and home baking every day till 7pm and a new all-day Sunday Brunch has been launched for the season.

Drift Inn

Back in Lam-lash the always excellent Drift Inn is now open seven days a week serving food from 12noon to 9pm and it is always worth looking out for live music with The Usual Suspects, due to perform last tonight (Friday) at 9pm.

**Fiddlers' Music Bar
& Bistro**

If live music is up your street then head along to Fiddlers' Music Bar in Brodick, which has live acoustic music every Monday to Saturday from 8pm. Stop by for a tasty bite to eat, meet the friendly staff and enjoy the music. You could even bring your own instrument and join in with the open sessions every Sunday from 2.30pm.



THE WINEPORT IS NOW OPEN

Delicious food & home baking
Served every day from 11am - 7pm
All day Sunday Brunch

*Cosy bar with open fire for chilly days
Large beer garden for sunny ones!*

Also taking bookings for private functions

Telephone: 01770 302101



These girls' prizewinning Easter bonnets at last year's Brodick Castle fun day were particularly eye catching.

Wooleys of Arran

Don't miss the great Arran shops selling super Arran produce like the bakers, Wooleys of Arran, in Brodick and Lamlash which have special Easter opening hours.

Co-operative Food

If you're here self-catering there is only one place to stock up and that's at the main Co-operative food store just a stone's throw from the ferry terminal. It has some great Easter bargains on offer from practical kitchen towels, Andrex and Lenor to fun Easter eggs and wine.

Arran Private Hire

And if you don't have a car then, as well as an excellent bus service, there are several private hire firms including the always reliable Lamlash-based Arran Private Hire.

Easter Shopping

Friday's Child

If you are looking for gifts, look no further than Friday's Child at Home Farm in Brodick.

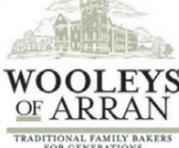
Rightly billed as 'not your average gift shop' it is open seven days for gifts, games and pocket money fun.

Arran Active

Just along the road at Cladach is the Arran Active Outdoor Shop where you can get everything you need for those days in the hills. Open seven days a week the shop always has a wide range of top brands including The North Face, Merrell, Keela and Craghoppers, with sale prices on some items.

The Whins

Back up in Lochranza it is always worth popping in to The Whins craft workshop where you will see the Arran stonemason at work and a range of gift items on sale.



EASTER OPENING HOURS

Brodick
Open Monday to Saturdays 7am - 5pm

Lamlash
Open Monday to Friday 7am - 3pm
Open Saturdays 4th & 11th April 8am - 2pm

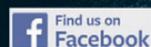


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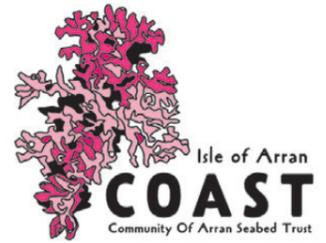


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Benlister Terrace
Lamlash, Isle of Arran
KA27 8LN

COAST Beach Scavenger Hunt

Saturday 4th April
Events start at 10am
Lamlash beach, opposite the Lamlash Bay Hotel



COAST will be running a beach scavenger hunt on Easter Saturday in Lamlash Bay. Come along at 10am and learn more about the amazing marine life on our shores.

Also a chance to discover hidden Easter Eggs!

Whiting Bay Hall offers an excellent venue for your celebrations and we invite you to our

Open Day and Wedding Fayre

on Easter Sunday
5th April from 11am - 3pm
Contact Sandy - Tel: 700445. All welcome

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Lenor 1.1l - £3.80 **NOW £2.00**

Cadburys Medium Easter Eggs - **BUY 1 GET 1 FREE £3.50 each**

Lindemans Private Estate Sauvignon/Chardonnay 75cl - £7.49 **NOW £4.99**



Why not try our website dinner4tonight.com for dinner inspiration

EASTER AT

Arran Active Outdoor Shop



Craghoppers men's Comlite Packaway RRP £60 - now £45



The North Face women's Kutum full zip fleece in blue - £70



Merrell Women's All Out Blaze Goretex Shoe in plum - £115



Keela Women's Storm Jacket in blue - £65



Keela Men's Saxon Jacket in Lime - £65



The North Face men's Verbera Hiker II walking boot - £140

OPEN 7 DAYS Mon-Sat 9.30 - 5.00 Sun 10.00 - 5.00
Cladach, Brodick, KA27 8DE
Tel 01770 302416 andrew@arranactive.co.uk



Primary 3,4 and 5 studied rocks as part of the project. 20_b14whit09



Jay Pearcy and Harvey Dale get their hands dirty with the rest of P1/2 class busy behind them. 20_b14whit14



Gregor Crichton inspects insects under a microscope. 20_b14whit08



Pupils at Whiting Bay Primary har

Whiting Bay sci learn about eve under the sun

Pupils at Whiting Bay Primary School recently held a Science Fair to which family and friends were invited to come along and get involved in projects about 'everything under the sun'.

Seven P7 pupils have been working on the 2015 Junior Saltire Award. Their brief has been to design, build and test a simple floating wave energy converter.

After researching the subject they split into two teams and designed two separate models.

The models are almost finished and now they have to work out a safe way of testing them to see if their devices can produce an electrical output.

During the day, P6/7 were

also working on the Chocolate Box Challenge which was a series of work stations to solve problems in order to keep the Chocolate Box factory from closing.

Each problem had a scientific context, for example: to solve the problem of slippy floors the pupils investigated friction and different floor surfaces; they needed to design an efficient fire alarm using the properties of a bimetallic strip; to solve the problem of noise pollution they had to test out different 'lug plugs' and to strengthen brittle chocolate they added pasta.

The rest of the school demonstrated what they had been learning in science this term

at the fair with P1/2 learning about electrical circuits, growing plans and freezing and melting.

P3/4 and 5 have been learning about the environment in Forest Schools and finding out about Scotland's rocks.

On Thursday 26 March pupils finished their science activities by taking part in two workshops run by Generation Science.

P3-7 pupils learned how to programme a Lego robot and carry out a series of missions.

One pupil was overheard saying: 'I can't wait till I get home to tell my mum that I was programming a robot.' All pupils had a very enjoyable and challenging time.



Left: Grace Crichton and Amelia Kemp work out what causes gravity. 20_b14whit03



Rosie McNamara takes the sound

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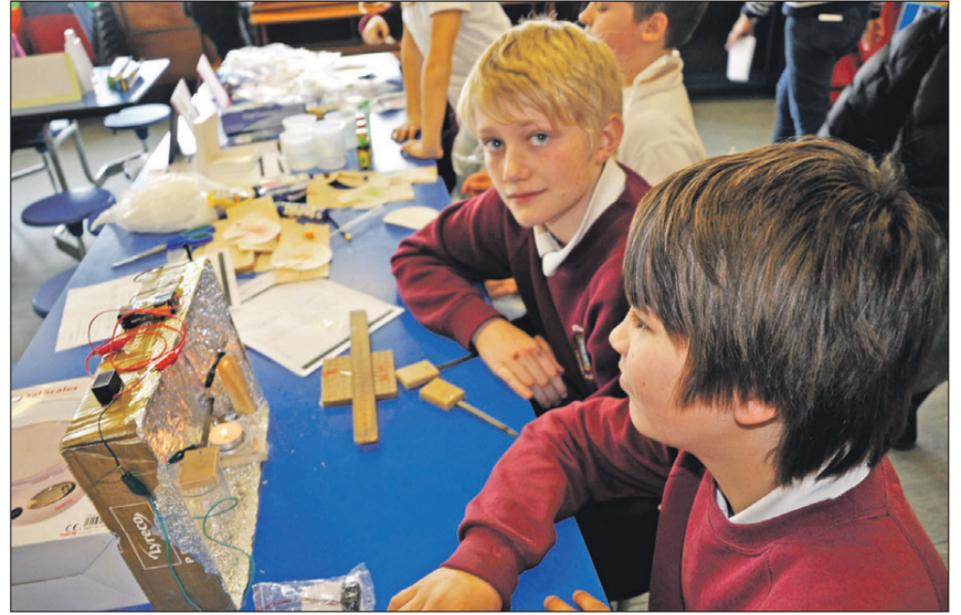
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Children at work on their science projects. 20_b14whit01



Finn MacArthur and Joe McHugh with their house alarm. 20_b14whit06

Science pupils try everything



P1/2 making lighthouses which actually light up. 20_b14whit11



Pupils take part in the Generation Science workshops.



Iona Summer with the train she built for a competition. 20_b14whit07



Liam Bremner with one of the wave energy converters. 20_b14whit05



challenge. 20_b14whit13



Young James Hackett tries to match words with objects with his dad David. 20_b14whit12



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Keeping in touch with Arran's birds

In 1980, Maggie H Dunn produced the first bird report for the Arran Natural History Society. It was five pages long, cost 25p and had contributions from 45 people who recorded 141 species, including king eider, roseate tern, red-backed shrike and nine churring nightjars, none of which appear in the latest annual report.

There has been a bird report every year since then. The

complete collection of annual reports is available for access from the archivists at the Arran Heritage Museum.

In 2014, Maggie H Dunn was one of more than 300 contributors who submitted more than 9,500 records on 160 species, including one that had never been recorded on Arran before. This latest bird report is 64 pages long including four in full-colour plus full-colour covers.

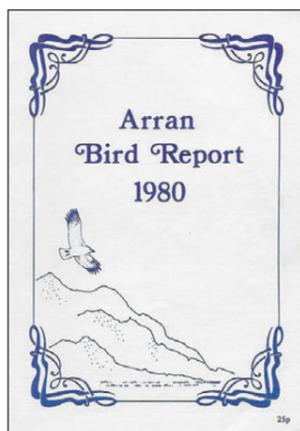
The Arran Bird Report 2014 is a must for anyone interested in the birds of Arran.

It includes information on all species seen on Arran, a month by month summary of what was around last year, the impact of weather on birds, information on ringed birds and reports on some of Arran's bird projects.

The uniqueness of Arran is reflected throughout the report, including the number of UK protected birds that share our island with us, as well as the differences between here and the adjacent mainland.

Make sure you get your copy as only a limited number have been produced.

This latest version of the annual bird report is now available from shops and other outlets throughout the island for the bargain price of £5 or directly from Alan and Jill Hollick of High Kildonan alanandjillhollick@gmail.com



The first report produced in 1980.



The very different looking report out now.



One of the many razorbills found two years ago.

Only four casualties found from winter storms

Living on an island, everyone knows only too well the impact of winter storms but what effect do these storms have on birds, particularly sea-going birds?

In February there is the annual systematic count of dead shore birds called the Beached Bird Survey. It is a European-wide survey giving an insight into the impact of winter storms on sea-going birds. On Arran around 20 volunteers from the Arran Natural History Society walked the shores counting and identifying dead birds around the weekend of 21/22 February.

In February 2013 the Arran volunteers walked almost 70 kilometres of beaches and found a total of 281 dead seabirds. This works out at more than four dead seabirds per kilometre. By far the largest group were razorbill, being 80 per cent of the bodies found. The next two largest groups were guillemot at eight per cent and gulls at seven per cent. These birds seemed to have died of exhaustion or starvation as a result of days of gale-force winds, which made it impossible for them to fish.

In 2013 nearly four thousand dead birds were washed up on UK coastlines. In France a total of 21,341 dead birds were found in western France

by 500 volunteers working over three weekends. It was similar from Portugal to Shetland and 2013 may have been the biggest North Atlantic seabird mortality in living memory.

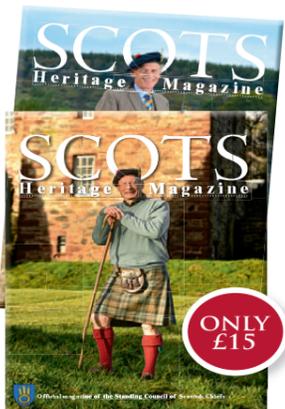
By contrast this year, the figure from Arran was not 281 as it had been in 2013 but four, all gulls. Why the marked difference? It may have been that last winter there were prolonged strong gales and high seas in the birds' feeding areas. Hence numbers of birds died through being unable to forage in the sea. This year the gales may have been fewer and shorter. The birds know how to find shelter in

bays and around islands. The seabirds can last a few days in stormy weather no problem.

It's when it goes on and on, as it did last winter, that they have problems as they did last winter but not this winter.

Enjoy your birding. Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or email me at jim@arranbirding.co.uk. I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Atlas 2007-2012 as well as the Arran Bird Report 2013 and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk

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Donald Trump, owner and president, The Trump Organisation

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Isle of Arran Mountain Festival
15 - 18 May 2015
Family Ceilidh
Brodick Church Hall
11 April - 7.30-11pm
Decorated Egg Competition ~ BYOB ~ Haggis
adult £6 ~ under 16s £3 ~ family £15
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THE ARRAN

BANNER

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Saturday 8 April, 1994

Sillars sails in

John Sillars had a very convincing win last night to become the first Arran councillor to be elected to the new North Ayrshire Council.

Exactly half of all the 2,020 votes cast were for him, making John the first Labour councillor ever to represent Arran.

Conservative Tom Knox, who had been Arran's councillor on Cunninghame District Council for the past three years, came second with 26.2 per cent of the poll. A little behind him was the SNP's Dr Malcolm Kerr while John Roberts, the SLD candidate, polled 3.5 per cent.

It was a very high poll on Arran with an average 54.87 per cent of the electorate casting their votes, with Corrie the highest village turnout at 70.42 per cent.

Whisky still

Perhaps the most symbolic aspect of whisky manufacture is the still. Its distinctive shape and its burnished copper speak of a mysterious chemistry and a heartwarming magic.

This week two stills arrived at Lochranza and were hoisted by crane and lowered through the, as yet, incomplete roof at the new Arran distillery. Mash tuns, the huge barrels in which the barley and water are mashed, were also lowered into place by crane.

Now that these pieces of plant are in place the roof can go on, with the aim of whisky production commencing in June.

Hitch-hiking thief

A shoplifter got into trouble with the law on Wednesday in the most curious and unexpected manner.

Seen helping himself to goods in Curries of Brodick, staff tried to stop him but he ran away. Staff gave chase but lost the man, who is believed to be from Saltcoats but living in Whiting Bay.

A short time later the shop owner was driving his van towards Lamlash when he saw a man hitch-hiking. He stopped to give him a lift and saw, surprise, surprise, that it was the very same man who had been chased from Curries.

So he drove him to Lamlash and pulled up outside the police station where the miscreant was too astonished to run away a second time.

Only joking

For the sake of those people who retain some vestige of anxiety about wolves coming to Arran (see last week's 20 years ago), let us say now that it was an April Fool, although an April Fool which really got folk going.

It seems to have something to do with the story beginning on a serious level and gradually becoming less believable as it went on.

We do have much evidence that some people's anxieties rose without them getting to the end of the article. Certainly a number of worried phone calls were made, especially from sheep farmers.

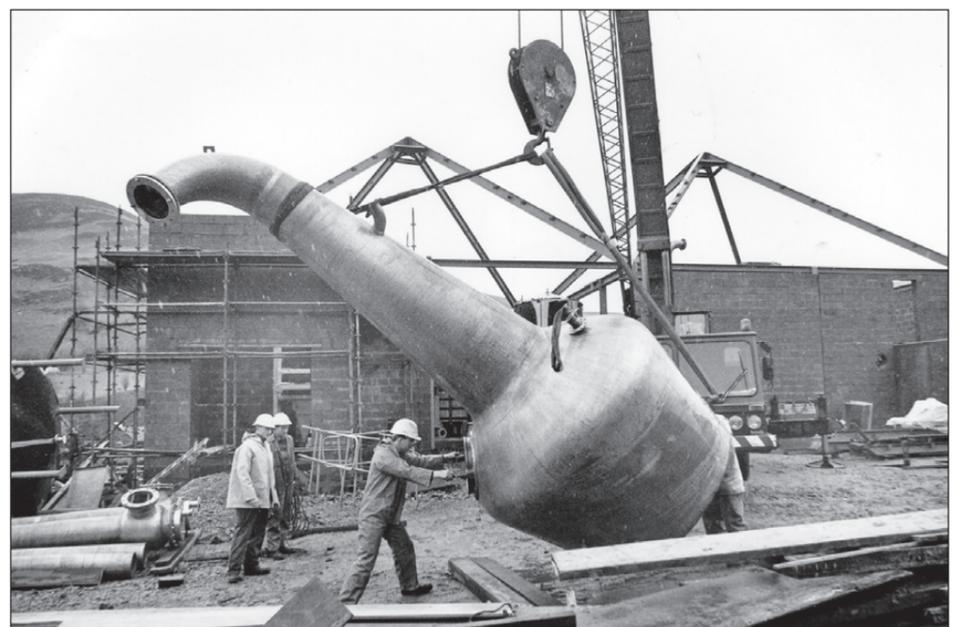


The annual Arran Music Festival was held last week. Among those who picked up trophies were Hannah Taylor and Lindsay Wheeler, seen here collecting their country dancing trophy from adjudicator Joe Rae. The three individual overall trophy winners were Jennifer Turner, Iain Keen and Emily Broadis.

b14twe01, b14twe02, b14twe03 and b14twe04



Jack Lennox may now have owned Arran's buses but, for many years, he was the man to go to about buses on the island. He organised them at the pier, he gave the drivers their schedules and sometimes drove them. Last week Jack retired at the age of 65. He started working for his uncle's company A C Lennox of Whiting Bay after his National Service with the RAF. On Friday night he had a small send off in the Brodick Bar. b14twe05



The huge whisky still is hoisted up by a crane at the distillery. b14twe06

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Everyday

Trout Fly Fishing
 Brodick Castle, Garden Open
 Arran Brewery
 Arran Brewery tour
 Lamlash Tennis Courts/Putting Green

Loch Garbad, bank fishing
 9am-Dusk
 Monday - Sunday, 12.30pm - 5pm
 2pm (limited spaces call for availability)
 Open all day

Saturday 4th April

Army Cadets
 Over 21s Disco
 Family Games
 Fun in the pool
 Live music
 Brodick Market
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game
 COAST beach scavenger hunt
 Fionna Duncan & Friends
 Race night followed by 70s & 80s disco
 Lamlash SWI Coffee morning & baking
 Live Music - Biff Simpson & Band
 Famous Lochranza Daffodil Tea
 Arran Visual Arts
 Rugby 7s
 Rugby 7s Dance

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa pool, 4-5pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick from 8pm
 Auchrannie Road, Brodick, 10-4.30pm
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.45pm
 Lamlash Beach, 10am
 Altachorvie, Lamlash, 3.30pm
 Lamlash Golf Club, 6.30pm
 Arran High School, 10am - 12noon
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 8pm
 Lochranza Hall, 2pm-4pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 10am-5pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 11.30am
 Brodick Hall, 8.30pm

Sunday 5th April

Family Games
 Fun in the pool
 AA Meeting
 Open Session - All musicians & Singers welcome
 Wedding Fayre
 Easter Egg trails
 Arran Visual Arts

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
 Brodick church Hall, 5pm-6.30pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick 2.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 11am - 3pm
 Brodick Castle, 12noon - 3.30pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 10am-5pm

Monday 6th April

Over 50s Badminton
 Badminton
 Morning Fitness
 Table Tennis
 Badminton
 Arran Junior Football Club
 Yoga
 Circuit Training
 10/10 Total Body workout
 Arran Visual Arts
 Family Art & Craft Sessions

Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
 Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
 Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm
 Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm
 Corrie Village Hall, 11am - 12 noon
 Auchrannie Gym, 6-7pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 6.45pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 10am-5pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 2pm - 4pm

Tuesday 7th April

Pop Quiz
 Auchrannie Winter Bowls
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Youth Club
 Rotary club
 Healthy Outdoors
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game
 RunArran

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Auchrannie 7pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
 Kildonan Hall, 7pm
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm
 10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.45pm
 Hospital Hill car park, Lamlash, 5.30pm

Bridge for beginners
 Scottish Country Dancing
 Arran Visual Arts

Wednesday 8th April

Rock & Pop Bingo
 Tae Kwondo
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Arran Brass Rehearsal
 Yoga
 Hydrofit
 Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service
 RunArran
 Yoga-Arran
 Drift Inn Quiz
 Mixed Hockey
 Dog classes
 Knitting & Crochet drop in group
 Coffee Morning
 Arran Visual Arts
 Family Art & Craft Sessions
 Coffee Morning

Learning Centre, Lamlash 7-9pm
 All Stages, Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 10am-5pm

Ormidale Hotel 9.30pm
 Arran High School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm
 Auchrannie Studio, 9am-10am
 Auchrannie Hotel leisure, 10.15 - 11.15am
 10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30
 Auchrannie car park, 5.30pm
 Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm
 Lamlash, 9pm
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7.30-9pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 1pm
 Brodick Library, 4pm - 6pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - 12noon
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 10am-5pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 2pm - 4pm
 Brodick church Hall, 10.30am - 12 noon

Thursday 9th April

Morning Fitness
 General Knowledge Quiz
 Folk, Country, Bluesy Night with Cams & Friends
 Yoga
 Bridge Club
 Ladies Hockey
 RunArran Beginners
 Cardiac Rehab
 Body & Mind
 Country Park Volunteer Day
 QuiltArran
 Auchrannie Winter Bowls
 Weighing in for Marys Meals
 Weighing in for Marys Meals
 Arran Visual Arts

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 7.30pm
 Corrie Village Hall, 6pm - 7pm
 Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30-8.30pm
 Auchrannie Car Park, Brodick, 5.30pm
 Auchrannie leisure club, 2-3.30pm
 Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6-7pm
 Brodick Castle, 10am - 4pm
 Lamlash Fire Station, 2-4.30pm
 Auchrannie, 7pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 4pm - 4.30pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 5.15pm - 5.45pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 10.30 am-4pm

Friday 10th April

Yoga
 Hydrofit
 Arran Youth Foundations
 Live music
 Lochranza Kids Badminton
 Lochranza Adults Badminton
 Family fun night
 Brodick Market
 AA Meeting
 Live music
 Tae Kwondo

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9am - 10am
 Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 10.15 - 11.15am
 Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 8pm
 Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm
 Lochranza Hall, 8pm
 Brodick Golf Club 4.45pm
 Auchrannie Road, Brodick, 10-4.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 8pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash Adults, 7pm -8.30pm

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An exciting opportunity has arisen for an enthusiastic, flexible Staff Nurse to join our team of staff providing care to patients within all of the hospital settings. You should be a first level Registered Nurse with previous experience in a variety of acute clinical care settings. You will be required to work shifts on all shift patterns. **Ref: N/819/14.**

Informal enquiries are welcomed by Ailsa Weir, Senior Charge Nurse on 01770 600777.

Membership of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme is a condition of this post and the successful applicant(s) will require to join the scheme prior to appointment. Further information on scheme membership is included within the application pack, and can also be found at www.disclosurescotland.co.uk.

An application for this post can be completed online at www.jobs.scot.nhs.uk
Alternatively, to request an application form please contact the Department of O&HRD, University Hospital Crosshouse, Tel 01563 825725 or email: Kelly.Walker2@nhs.uk

Closing date: xxx April 2015.
Please quote reference number on enquiry.

To find out more about NHS Ayrshire and Arran and services visit www.nhsaaa.net



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Ideally, you will have previously worked in sales or customer services, although full training will be given. The successful candidate should be confident in dealing with customer calls over the phone and by email. You need to be able to work in a busy open plan office and work calmly and confidently under pressure, with competing demands. To excel in the role you will also need to be organised and know how to prioritise.

Arran Aromatics continues to grow both its retail and wholesale business. This is an exciting time to be joining the team and for the right person this opportunity could develop a broader remit as the business continues to grow.

To apply - please email your letter of application and CV to Janice Miller, Customer Services Manager no later than Friday 17th of April
janicem@arranaromatics.com

Alternatively for postal enquiries please send your application to-
Janice Miller
Arran Aromatics Ltd
The Home Farm,
Brodick,
Isle of Arran.
KA27 8DD

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Public Notices

Lamlash Moorings
AGM
Tuesday 21st April, 8pm
Glenisle Hotel, Lamlash
All Welcome

Sannox Cricket Club
AGM
7.30pm Monday 20th April 2015
Ormidale Hotel

Lamlash Bowling & Tennis Club
AGM
Tuesday 7th April 2015 at 7.00pm
Bowling Clubhouse, Lamlash
All Welcome

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

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined at Planning Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine*, between 9am-4.45pm weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk *and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy Et Communities) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 24.04.15. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)

15/00177/PP; Site Opposite, Ibrox Cottage, Whiting Bay, Brodick; Section 42 application to amend the wording of conditions 2, 9 & 12 of planning permission N/14/00371/PP.

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

Applications for development within a Conservation Area. Written comments to be made within 21 days.

15/00174/PP; Co-Operative Retail Services Ltd, Lamlash, Brodick, Isle Of Arran; Erection of single storey extension to side of existing retail unit.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Air a Tuath

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STOVES electric fan oven. Stainless steel, good working order. £30, STOVES electric hob. Stainless steel, good working order. £30, DURABRAND filter coffee maker. Brand new, boxed, never used. £10, Tel: 303512	Arran Paintings - Unique opportunity to acquire four, original and signed Paintings by wonderfully talented local artist Pat McDonald. All four paintings are of Arran views, namely Lochranza (including the castle), High Corrie, Bannan Head and one titled Red Roof Call Allan or Jane on 700405
Five Phillips Picture Lights complete with halogen bulbs, three bronze and two brushed chrome finish. Brand new and boxed items. Cost £20.00 each. Will sell for £7.50 each or £30.00 for all five. Call Allan on 700405	Mahogany dining table 88cm x 176max and 6 chairs, mahogany 2 low book cases and corner unit, draylon bow style 3 seater settee any reasonable offer accepted Tel: 850541
Two Brand New with tags attached, Dunelm "Aquarack" Bathroom organisers. Stainless steel with three point suction cup fixing (No unsightly holes in your bathroom tiles £2.50 each. Call Allan on 700405	WANTED Small dinghy or Dory approx 10' with oars and trailer if possible Tel: 700389
Einhell 1231 Electric powered scarifier and lawn aerator (unused) cost £90 will accept £45 Tel: 600605	Round sandstone coping stones. Tel: 600835
FREE TO UPLIFT Double bed - wooden frame dismantled but easy to reassemble with mattress. Seldom used Tel: 700209	Small Chest Freezer - Tel: 600538
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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 5th April
 (Easter Day)
 Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
 Mr John Roberts.
 Coffee after service.
Wednesday 8th April
 Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
 ALL WELCOME.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill and Shiskine Independent but working together
 Minister:
 Rev Angus Adamson
 Parish assistant:
 Mrs Jean Hunter:
 Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.
Sunday 5th April
 Lochranza and Pirnmill Churches. 10.15am
 Easter Day Worship in Lochranza accompanied by string group ARCO.
 Shiskine Church, 12noon
 Easter Day Worship.
 Brodick Church, 10.30am
 Easter Day Worship and dedication of stained glass window in memory of the late Evelyn Sillars.
 Corrie Church, 11.30am
 Prayer Meeting
 12noon Easter Day Worship
 There will also be a Service of Easter Day Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 5th April
 Kilmory 10am
 Lamlash 11.30 am
 Rev Lily McKinnon
 All welcome, including families; children's area
 Scottish Charity SC015072

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 5th April
 Morning Service, 11am
 Trust Housing Lounge,
 Glen Estate, Brodick
 Evening Service 6.30pm
 5 Glen Road, Brodick
 Prayer Meeting
 Wednesday 8th April
 at 7pm
 5 Glen Road
 All welcome

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS

Quakers meet every Sunday at 11am. For meeting venue ring - 830622, 820223

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(Charity Number SC014005)
Good Friday
3rd April at 7pm
 In the Transept, there will be a service of praise and meditation on "Reactions to Calvary".
 Tea and coffee will be served after the service.
 All welcome
Sunday 5th April
 Easter Sunrise Service - please note a change of venue for this.
 At 6.30am, for an expected sunrise of 6.38am, there will be a short service to celebrate Christ's resurrection down on the beach at Sandbraes.
 Breakfast will be served in the Church Hall immediately afterwards.

Family Worship for Easter Sunday will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am.

Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service. All very welcome to celebrate this most wonderful of days.
 There will be a service in Coorieoon at 2.30pm to which all friends are welcome.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Good Friday: Arran churches Together witness walk 2pm
 Evening Liturgy 7pm
 Holy Saturday: Polish blessing of Easter food 11am
 Easter Vigil 9pm
 Easter Morning Masses 9.30 and 11am

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 5th April
 11am Morning worship in the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick
 Tea and Coffee after the service.
 Wednesday at 7.30pm
 Home Fellowship Group for Bible Study and Prayer.
 Contact phone no 600222
 Everyone warmly invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 5th April
 Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
 Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)
 Rev David Ford

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kirsten takes ladies pool day trophy

There was a close finish to the final of the ladies pool day held recently in Kilmory Hall.

There was a really good turn out with 13 ladies present. Two groups played each of their group once, with the top two going through.

Kirsten Nicholson made the final undefeated where she met Cathy Hamilton.

In a best-of-five final Cathy took the first game, before Kirsten drew level. Cathy then won the third and Kirsten took it to a decider by winning to make it two each.

Final result was 3-2 to Kirsten.

Eddie Picken presents the pool trophy to Kirsten Nicholson as Cathy Hamilton looks on.



Brodick Golf Club

Seven played on the last round of the Wednesday Seniors Winter Cup, which was won by J Green with an overall total of 303, well done Jim. There was one magic two by W Kroner and the winner of the sweep was C O'Neill with a score of 82-18=64. That is it for this winter hope to see you all in September.

Sunday 29 March, Winter Cup final round. Due to the appalling weather, only five brave souls played. 1 I Sillars (15)40 pts, 2 D Robertson (16)36 pts

A great score from Sid on the final day means he over-

took David Hendry to win the Winter Cup with a points total of 192, ahead of David Hendry in second place with 188 points.

Fixtures: Sunday 5 April, Brandon, open draws at 8.30am and 1pm. Sunday 12 April, British Legion 36 holes.

Ladies: Tuesday 7 April, April Medal, 9.30am 1pm, 4.30pm by arrangement, Tuesday 14 April, Coronation Foursomes. Choose your partner and enter by Sunday 12 April.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday 29 March, no sweep due to the weather, but respect to the four hardy souls who ventured out anyway. We look forward to seeing them back at the club once they've dried out, hopefully in time for Easter.

Fixtures: Saturday 4 April, Poole Trophy mixed fours, draw at 11am. Sunday 5 April, Roy Ure Tankard, usual draws at 9am and 10.30am. Wednesday 8 April, first round of the Summer Trophy, evening draw at 5.30pm.

Lamlash Golf Club

Sunday 29 March, Winter Stableford. 1 Graeme Andrew 39pts. Overall winner of Winter Stableford John O'Sullivan 103 pts.

Fixtures: Saturday 4 April, Glenisle Mixed 4s, make up own groups and see starter for times. Sunday 5 April, Easter Mixed Texas Scramble, 12noon for 12.30pm start. Thursday 9 April, Summer Cup, make up own groups and see starter for times

Shiskine Golf Club

Sunday 29 March, Stableford, 13 played. 1 D Price 23pts BIH, 2 D Logan 23pts BIH, 3 G Hay 23 pts BIH. Magic twos by A Kerr and G Hay.

Fixtures: Sunday 5 April, 12 hole medal (gents), Wednesday 8 April, Daniel

Ferguson Trophy (Gents), Thursday 9 April, 12 hole medal (ladies).

Machrie Golf Club

Tuesday 24 March, Winter Cup, nine played. 1 David Price 71-12=59, 2 Phil Betley 77-11=66, 3 Elizabeth Kelso 94-22=72.



Jim Green with his Seniors Winter Cup trophy.

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Eight teams set for a feast of rugby

Arran Rugby Club are hoping for a big crowd today (Saturday) for the annual Arran Malt Rugby Sevens, sponsored for the first time this year by the Isle of Arran Distillery.

Seven visiting teams will join Arran for a day of fast flowing sevens rugby at Ormidale Park, where the Arran Pipe Band will also entertain and there will be a hot dog stall and a beer tent. The action starts at 11.30am.

Junior hockey trial for Ellie

An Arran schoolgirl has missed out on selection after taking part in the under-14 west district hockey trials.

But Ellie Woods, who plays for the Arran Ladies hockey team, will try again next year.

Captain Victoria McNicol said: 'It has been great starting the ladies club as we can now advance the juniors through a wide range of contacts. There is even a veterans Scottish team.'

'Unfortunately Ellie was not selected this year, however she can always try again next year and will have more knowledge on what to expect. She played well but some of the girls were phenomenal.'



Ellie Woods



Bridge club prize winners with their trophies.

Tricia cleans up at Arran Bridge Club annual prizegiving

The AGM and prizegiving of the Arran Bridge Club for 2014-15 was held at Lamlash on Monday.

Pat Adamson, the first president of Arran Bridge Club has had a most successful term in office and has set a very high standard for her successors to follow.

Members are all aware of how much she has contributed to the successful launch and smooth running of the newly formed club and they appreciate all she has done for the

club in the past two years. The new President is Tricia Martin and her vice-president is Alison Bilsland and members wish them both a happy and successful two years in office.

The season 2014-15 has been a most successful year for Tricia Martin and her bridge partners David Campbell and Douglas Hamilton. Between them they won every competition.

The prize list is as follows: The Adam Morrison Cup.

- Tricia Martin and David Campbell; The Millband Tray (runners-up) - Janie Maclure and Anne McKelvie;

The Peggy Currie Cup - Tricia Martin, Douglas Hamilton, Margaret Bruce and Douglas Bruce; The Ann Cook Tray (runners-up) - Fiona Henderson, David Henderson, Vic Iutz and Michael Iutz; The McConnell Tray - Tricia Martin and David Campbell; The Duncan Trophy - Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton; The

Boyd Trophy- Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton; Arran Bridge Union Trophy- Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton.

Arran keep up the pressure at the top with good away win

Lanark 8 Arran 17

Despite the dreadful weather on Saturday Arran Rugby Club made it to the mainland on Saturday for the long trip to Lanark.

But it was worth the effort as they picked up another valuable three points which keeps them second in the BT West Division 3 league.

Arran dominated the first half and tries by the Mcmaster brothers, first by Niall and the second by Stuart, made it 12-0 at half time.

Lanark came out in the second half and began to play a bit better and got a try, followed quickly by a drop goal, which got them back into the game.

But Arran kept plugging forward and off the back of a scrum Kyle Barbour secured the points for Arran with their third try.

Football friendly match in Lamlash

A football friendly is to be played on Arran next weekend.

An Isle of Arran select team will welcome Grange Amateurs from Kilmarnock for a friendly match on Saturday 11 April.

The kick off is at 12noon at the grass pitch next to Arran High School in Lamlash. Food and refreshments will be available at the Ormidale Hotel in Brodick afterwards.

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