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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 11 APRIL 2015

No 2008 60p

Going, going... gone!



Take cover! Country ranger Corinna Goeckeritz throws dozens of ping pong balls down the stairs of Brodick Castle during the 'duck' derby held as part of the Easter at the Castle event last Sunday which saw hundreds turn out at the castle and country park. b15egg01 b15egg02 and b15egg03

Holidaymakers flock to island in the sun

REPORT

by HUGH BOAG

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Arran enjoyed one of its busiest Easter weekends in years setting tourist businesses up for a splendid summer season.

A combination of factors make the spring holidays

something special for the island.

The new cheap RET fares certainly brought daytrippers flooding to the island with Easter Monday an especially busy day.

Many here for longer brought their cars, some for the first time, while there was a marked increase in

the number of motorhomes. Tour buses are also putting Arran back on their maps.

Business was also boosted by the early summer sunshine which brought out the crowds at the Arran Malt Rugby Sevens and at the fun Easter at the Castle event which saw 1,500 visitors through the gates of Brodick

Castle - more than double the number who turned up last year and causing a huge parking headache for staff.

For new businesses across the island it is an encouraging start to the season with restaurants, pubs and other eating establishments all reporting a busy time.

The Wineport at Cladach,

under new ownership, had a very busy weekend with the beer garden overflowing with visitors at times. Their live music event on Monday was also packed.

Along Shore Road Little Rock, Bunty's and the new-look Taste of Arran shop all reported a busy Easter which continued throughout

the week. But it was not just Brodick that benefited. The new Arran Family Fun Park at Balmichael reported a 'fantastic' opening weekend.

New owner James Clark said: 'We couldn't have hoped for better weather or from the support of the customers who came along

continued on page 3



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At the hustings . . . At the hustings . . . At the hustings . . .

Katy Clark calls for progressive taxation

Labour parliamentary candidate Katy Clark has welcomed Labour's plans for a more progressive tax system. Speaking on the subject Ms Clark said: 'We urgently need an economy that works for everyone not only those at the very top. Unfortunately the priority of this Government has been to deliver a millionaires' tax cut by reducing the top rate of income tax while increasing VAT to 20 per cent, something which has hit the lowest paid hardest. This is in sharp contrast to the previous Labour government who responded to the financial crisis by cutting VAT and increasing the top rate of tax. 'Labour believes that we should change the existing tax system so that those who stand to benefit the most from the economic recovery should contribute the most towards it. That's why we will increase the top rate of income tax from 45p to 50p in the pound, introduce the mansion tax for homes over £2 million and reintroduce the bank bonus tax. 'The money raised from these measures will be invested into our NHS, paying for 1,000 new nurses across Scotland and job creation programmes providing guaranteed work for young peo-

ple and the long term unemployed. 'We face a choice at this election between a Conservative government who want our tax system to benefit the wealthiest in society or a Labour government committed to progressive taxation and economic recovery for all.' Meanwhile, Ms Clark has welcomed Labour's five point plan to reduce the number of people dependent on foodbanks. She said: 'The three largest causes of foodbank use in recent years have been low pay, benefit delays and benefit cuts. Labour's plan addresses each of these issues. We need to put a stop to the Tories' plans for a further round of cuts to social security. Instead we need a strong Labour government that will invest in our welfare state and jobs, tackling the appalling levels of low pay and insecure employment we see today.'

Conservative candidate seeks answers from rural minister

Conservative candidate in the forthcoming general election, Jamie Greene, has written to Richard Lochhead MSP, the cabinet secretary for rural affairs to seek re-assurances over the support the Scottish government is doing to help

dairy farmers in North Ayrshire and Arran and across Scotland. Speaking after a visit to Blair Ardoch farm in Dalry where Mr Greene met with local farmer Willie Lamont, he said: 'I was impressed by the scale and efficiency of the dairy farm but moved and troubled by the long list of concerns that farmers have. 'The things we take so easily for granted, milk and cheese, end up in our fridges as a result of a lot of hard work. 'Whilst we all want a bargain and seek out the lowest prices it is important to remember that the farmer producing the milk might be getting paid less for his milk than it costs to produce and that is simply unsustainable. In Scotland the number of farms and herds is at an all-time low and this affects not just the farming businesses themselves but also the many businesses who supply the industry.' Jamie wrote to Mr Lochhead to seek assurances that in light of the recent news that Europe will relax quotas on dairy production levels (which in effect restricts the amount of output farmers can produce) will not bear any burden on local farmers. In a copy of his letter sent to local press and also to local MP Katy Clark and MSP Kenneth Gibson, Jamie asked what steps are being taken to ease the cost of transportation on ferries, what the SNP administration is doing to protect farming in Scotland and what

Mr Lochhead's views on the European legislative changes will have on farmers in North Ayrshire and Arran. Jamie concluded by saying: 'As a candidate in this election my message is simple, I will stand up and fight for our rural and agricultural industries regardless of who is in power and make sure their voice is heard. Rural voters should feel like there is someone on their side. There is much goodwill around towards them but not enough action being taken. I look forward to a response to my letter'

SNP challenges other parties over disability benefit cuts

SNP candidate for North Ayrshire and Arran, Patricia Gibson, has said that the plans of the Westminster parties to cut benefits for disabled people are a clear dividing line between the 'progressive politics' being advocated of the SNP and the austerity offered by the Tories, Lib Dems and Labour. Rolling out Personal Independence Payments (PIPs) to replace Disability Living Allowance will see over 100,000 working age disabled people in Scotland lose some or all of their benefit by 2018 - representing a cut of £300 million a year, with a loss of at least £1,120 a year

per person. Some 47,000 disabled people in Scotland are expected to lose up to £2,964 a year as a consequence of changes in eligibility to the mobility component. The SNP proposes a modest increase in public spending in real terms in order to stop the roll out of PIPs and halt the cuts to disability benefits. Labour has failed to commit to reversing these cuts and in the Scottish Parliament vote last November, voted with the Tories and Lib Dems against an SNP Government

motion calling for the roll-out of PIPs to be halted. Patricia said: 'A clear dividing line in this election is between the progressive politics advocated by the SNP and the austerity politics of the Westminster parties. 'Disabled people have been singled out for severe cuts. SNP MPs in a hung parliament will vote to halt the roll out of the botched reforms responsible for these cuts and challenge Labour to back us, which they have so far refused to do.'



Manager Lee Harvey with staff members Lisa Miller and Debra Kelly and the collected eggs.
20_b15bank01

Bank ensures Easter is enjoyed
Staff at the Bank of Scotland held a charity Easter day in the Brodick branch last Thursday. During the event they collected 52 eggs for the local food bank which were delivered on Thursday after the branch closed. Easter cakes were also on sale to raise funds for the bank's charity of the year Children in Need. Ann Hutchison was the nearest guess of the amount of mini eggs in the jar and won a bottle of wine. Manager Lee Harvey said: 'We would like to thank the Co-op and all our customers for their donations.'

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It pays to advertise in the Banner

continued from page 1

on our opening days which bodes well for the season ahead.'

The Black Grouse Bar and Restaurant in Blackwaterfoot also had a good opening weekend. Joint owner David Brand said: 'The locals really came out to support us on our opening night and we have been busy with visitors since. I think it has been a great opening weekend to the season.'

At the established Island Cheese Company at Home Farm owner Gordon Kinniburgh said: 'We have been busy over the Easter weekend and well up on the same dates last year, but down on Easter weekend as it was the end of the month last year.'

'March was up slightly on last year which I put down to the RET because the weather was against us ferry wise, so I would have expected it to be down.'

'All in all it's looking good,' he added.

Sheila Gilmore, executive director of VisitArran said: 'It was a good Easter overall, with super weather, good numbers on the ferry and visitors enjoying the best that Arran has to offer.'

'However, whilst great weather does tend to make people enjoy Arran's fabulous outdoors, this can impact negatively on some of the island's indoor businesses - people want to get out and make hay while the sun shines, so to speak.'

'Hopefully we can welcome everyone who enjoyed themselves at Easter, when they return later in the season, allowing them time to explore more of our island's offerings.'

Church stained glass window unveiled in memory of Evelyn

A stained glass memorial window in memory of the late Mrs Evelyn Sillars, MBE MA JP was formally dedicated at the Easter Sunday service in St Bride's Church, in Brodick.

A very well filled church celebrated a traditional service of worship including Easter hymns, bible readings and prayers, with a mezzo-soprano introit and voluntary sung by Mrs Helen Cruddis, a visitor from Shetland.

The final item in the Order of Service was the dedication of the stained glass window. A full size model of the window, placed on an artist's easel in front of the pulpit, was unveiled.

Lady Jean Fforde gave a brief outline of Evelyn's life of service to the community and the church, referring to the fact that they both served

at Bletchley Park during service in the second World War, although such was the high level of security that they didn't discover this until later.

In the afternoon the model of the window was taken to Montrose House and displayed at the weekly in-house service of worship, for the benefit of residents and their visitors, some of whom had contributed to the appeal fund and had connections with Evelyn who opened the original building in 1974.

Many thanks are due to all who contributed to the project and to Richard Leclerc for creating a beautiful design which greatly enhances the church.

The church is open each day from 10am till 5pm. For anyone wishing to view the window which is located in the vestibule of the church.



Lady Jean paying tribute to Evelyn Sillars.



Lady Jean with Evelyn's daughter Lyn admiring the memorial window in the vestibule.

Walk of Witness

A solemn procession through Brodick brought home the true meaning of Easter on Friday afternoon.

Around 50 people took part in the annual Walk of Witness, which has become a key feature of the Easter weekend on the island.

The event, organised by Arran Churches Together brings Christians from across the island together for a procession every year along Brodick seafront for

the Good Friday event.

People gathered at the Holy Cross Church for a short service at 2pm before those assembled began a silent procession down to Shore Road with a large wooden cross carried in front.

The procession then made its way along through the village to St Bride's Church at the opposite end of the village another short service of forgiveness was held.

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The Arran B team still positive after a heavy defeat. 20_b15rugby12



The Greenock gang who took part. 20_b15rugby05



The Zulu Warriors in action against Carrick. 20_b15rugby15



The Queenies team are all smiles. 20_b15rugby04



The Douglas team with manager Jim Reid. 20_b15rugby07

Teams bat for new trophy

The sun broke out at Ormidale Park in Brodick on Saturday and so did some fast-flowing sevens rugby, as our pictures show.

By the early afternoon a large crowd had gathered to watch the eight teams battle it out for the trophy, enjoying the sunshine, the rugby and the beer tent - in

varying degrees of interest.

Now called the Arran Malt Rugby Sevens, the event was sponsored for the first time this year by Isle of Arran Distillers who have donated a new trophy for the competition. The prizes were presented by managing director Euan Mitchell.

Teams now play for the new



The large crowd who watched the tournament. 20_b15rugby14

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Nick Emsley on the attack for Queenies. 20_b15rugby02



Arran's Gregor Adamson on the charge against Carrick. 20_b15rugby08

Arran's Niall McMaster fends off a Zulu Warrior player in the semi-final. 20_b15rugby21

tle it out ophy

trophy and the old Isle of Arran Society Cup.

With Irvine and Marr both late call-offs, Arran Rugby Club players had to make up four teams - Arran A, Arran B, Zulu Warriors and Presidents - to take on the opposition from Carrick, Greenock, Queenies and the Douglas Hotel.

Carrick emerged the winners for the second year in a row.

During the day there was also a women's friendly match made up mainly of players from Greenock but also involving Arran's own budding rugby talent Liusaidh McMaster and Rachael Mulholland.

For a full report, see back page.



Arran's Liusaidh McMaster (front centre) and Rachael Mulholland (far right) with the players who took part in the women's friendly. 20_b15rugby27





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Arran cheese at deli

Isle of Arran made cheese has a new outlet on the mainland.

The Co-operative Food store in Laigh Road, Beith has started to sell Isle of Arran Scottish cheese from Torylenn Creamery at its deli counter.

As a community retailer, The Co-operative goes above and beyond to source home-grown products, support local economies, and champion a better way of doing business.

Beith store manager Frank Grant said: 'We are very excited to be selling locally sourced Isle of Arran cheese and are expecting it to be very popular with our customers, who are always keen to buy locally produced products.'

New logo

The winner of the new Arran Music Festival logo was Patryk Dybalski and not as stated in The Banner last week. Aitken Adam, as his name should have been printed, was the runner up. Both will given an award for their work.

Draw winner

Congratulations to Donald Murchie of Blackwaterfoot for winning the March 2015 SNP 50/50 Club draw of £135. Next month's draw is on 28 April. New members welcome. Contact Penny Brass on 860376.

Brewery look to round of crowdfunding for sake project

Arran Brewery is to run a second round of crowdfunding to finance Scotland's first sake brewery.

The project took a step closer to becoming a reality last week when North Ayrshire Council planners approved building warrants for the development in Dreghorn near Irvine.

The Arran View Brewery will house the brewery's bottling plant, including canning, kegging and casking not only for Arran Brewery's beers but also for third party breweries in Scotland.

As well as producing sake, independent research facilities will be available to undertake statutory testing for both the Scottish brewing and distilling industries.

The project is now what they call 'shovel ready', meaning it is ready to go once funding is finalised.

Arran Brewery plans to use the same advisory team as in their previous successful round of crowdfunding: HBJ Gateley providing legal advice, BDO accountancy,

Magarch providing regulatory compliance and Computershare dealing with the share administration.

Managing director Gerald Michaluk said: 'We are extremely busy with the completion of Arran's Loch Earn brewery, hotel and visitor centre in St Fillans Perthshire. We are negotiating a deal to use local barley and as the temperature rises we can finally lay the concrete floors we have been waiting to do since November.'

'This will be our first venture into craft lager and craft cider and we are very excited.'

'The funding of the project at Loch Earn has been through the Bank of Scotland and we are confident that, if we raise enough through grants and crowdfunding, the bank will also support the new developments at Dreghorn.'

'We anticipate shares will be available to purchase from early May. Details will be published in the offer documents. As a responsible company we will be screening potential applicants for shares by questionnaire to ensure they understand fully the risks in this kind of investment, if they are not 'sophisticated investors'.'

Arran Butcher lifts inaugural Scottish Rural Award

The Arran Butcher has picked up another top award.

The shop was named the best butcher in the country at the inaugural Scottish Rural Awards gala dinner held recently at Our Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh.

The new awards are the first major event of a five-year partnership between, our sister publication, Scottish Field magazine and the Scottish Countryside Alliance to celebrate the entrepreneurship of rural businesses.

Nominations

More than 200 public nominations were received, for businesses and people from as far afield as the Outer Hebrides and the Borders.

Judging took place at the end of January to select a winner, runner-up and highly commended in each of the ten award categories, encompassing every aspect of rural enterprise, from aquaculture to artisan food producers.

The Arran Butcher beat Macbeth's into second



Fiona Bennett of Wyvex Media, the Arran Banner's parent company, received the award on behalf of The Arran Butcher.

place with the Castletown butchers highly commended.

Richard Bath, editor of Scottish Field, said: 'Showing our readers the joys of the Scottish countryside is one of the main aims of

Scottish Field, so our sponsorship of the rural tourism award is a perfect fit.

'I was amazed by the quality and attention to detail showed by all of the nominees across each hard-fought category.'

Scottish Field
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Paddle steamer Waverley celebrates a special year

The owners of the world's last sea-going paddle steamer are inviting the public to join them and be part of a special year for Waverley.

This year marks the 40th year that the ship has sailed in preservation. Sold by Caldonian MacBrayne for £1, Waverley has been operated by a charity since 1975, and preserved as a heritage asset for the benefit of the communities around the UK, creating an economic impact and connecting communities.

Incredibly, she has had a longer career in preservation than she had as a commercial enterprise.

Summer sailings from Arran aboard the world's last sea-going paddle steamer begin on 25 June and continue until 27 August. Sailing from Brodick Pier every Tuesday and Thursday, passengers can recapture happy memories or create new ones as they visit the seaside at Largs or Dunoon, enjoy a spectacular cruise steaming up Loch

Long to view Carrick Castle or view the magnificent scenery along Arran's coastline and steam round Holy Isle.

Sailing aboard Waverley from Lochranza Pier for three days only, passengers can enjoy a Sunday roast with the best views in the world. On 19 July, passengers can visit Campbeltown, or cruise the Kintyre Peninsula to view Sanda Isle – with seals visible on the shore. On 2 and 23 August, the boat will steam across the Kilbrannan Sound and up the Kintyre Peninsula to Skipness Point with views of Skipness Castle.

Andy O'Brian, Waverley's captain said: 'There is no better way to spend the day than relaxing on deck and watching the spectacular scenery of Scotland's West Coast slip by. As well as taking passengers on great days out from the island, we bring many passengers to Arran each year. There is a trip for everyone – young and old – to enjoy and we look forward to welcoming



The Waverley sailing out of Brodick last summer.

you onboard during this special year.'

Waverley has excellent onboard facilities including a restaurant serving hot and cold snacks, two bars, heat-

ed lounges, engine room and paddle wheel viewing gallery and a souvenir shop.

Prices start at £19 for adults and there are discounts for senior citizens,

children under 18. Children under 5 can travel free. To book tickets or for more information, visit: www.waverleyexcursions.co.uk, or call: 0845 130 4647.

Corrie Film Club

The Wind Rises (2013 Japan Cert. PG)

This month's Corrie Film Club offering is a gentle and intelligent animation by the acclaimed director, Miyazaki. Understood to be his final work, this film is a tribute to the aeronautical engineer, Jiro Horishoki, who was a pioneer in aircraft design during the first half of the 20th Century.

His planes are visions, poems in flight and the title is an allusion to lines of Paul Valery repeatedly cited in the film: 'The wind rises, we must try to live.' In the same way this film reveals itself to be not just a drama about love, romance, aircraft, or war, but a drama of the very essence of humanity: why do we try to live? Fittingly, for a film that Miyazaki says will be his last, it's also something of a self-portrait in its depiction of a nearsighted, work-driven dreamer whose imagination soars above the rest.

See this interesting film in Corrie and Sannox Village Hall on Sunday 12 April at 8pm.

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Super start to summer season

The sun certainly put its hat on to welcome visitors to Arran over the Easter weekend. What a start to the season it is has been and everyone in the tourist trade is right to be optimistic for the months ahead.

The weather just gives everything that extra lift and puts a real holiday feel to the place - and remember it's only the start of April.

The new cheap RET fares certainly brought daytrippers pouring over by the ferry load, given as one businessman put it, that a single fare is now cheaper than a pint!

We can only wait and see if the old adage is true - if they come they will spend.

Certainly the restaurants, bars and cafes around the island appear to have had a bumper weekend, continuing during the week with longer staying visitors.

Hotels and guest houses too had their full signs up weeks ago and ferries were jam packed with cars - but that's a discussion for another time.

Bigger events too fairly packed in the crowds, none more so than the fun Easter at the Castle event which attracted a tremendous 1,500 people on the day - more than double last year's figure.

And if more cars are coming, is there any evidence yet that they are sharing their largesse around the island? Well certainly the new Arran Family Fun Park at Balmichael and other businesses on the west had a good weekend, so we can only live in hope.

If there was a downside it is maybe that the weather was 'too good' for some indoor attractions, but they should not be too downhearted as the sunshine can't last all summer.

Also there is continuing, justifiable, concern at the place of the motorhome and caravans in this brave new ferry free-for-all. They have been spotted pitched and all set up in the car park behind the small Co-op and even along the Brodick seashore in spaces - I imagine - which were designed for cars.

This cannot be ignored, in the hope it will go away. Motorhomes are now a fact of life on Arran and the authorities have to provide proper facilities for them to become part of the complex tourism jigsaw on the island.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Jesus said, 'Peace I leave with you; My peace I give you. I do not give as the world gives so do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.' (John 14: 27)

press policy

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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 senior reporter on 01770 302142 or write to the Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

We will attempt to resolve your issue in a timeous, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can either telephone IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body which deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers and magazines. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

your letters

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 200 words in length for publication on this page. The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including on e-mails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters Page, The Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran. E-mail editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Letters to the Editor



Cannae get your granny on a bus

Sir,
I read with interest your front page article of 28 March regarding the new bus stops.

As someone who has been confined to a wheelchair for almost forty years now, I had been looking forward immensely to the introduction of wheelchair-accessible buses on Arran.

Imagine my excitement, then, when I discovered that a number of raised pavements had already been constructed adjacent to various bus stops around the island, presumably to facilitate access to the new fleet of disabled-friendly buses.

Alas, closer inspection of the new pavements in Kildonan has since revealed a slight oversight by the designers; apparently, they seem to have forgotten to provide ramps for wheelchair access.

Recently, I promised my three lovely grandchildren that one day soon I would take them around the island on the 'big bus, belting out the famous strains of 'Oh You Cannae Shove Your Granny Off The Bus'. Now, I fear, we will still need to travel by car as usual, singing the alternative lyrics, 'Oh You Cannae Get Your Granny Onto The Bus'.

When, oh when, will the penny ever drop for those who design disabled facilities, that before they start getting their cement mixers out it might just be a good idea to ask disabled people themselves about what they actually need in the first place?

I look forward to 'phase two' of the project with eager anticipation.

Yours,
Nan McMurdo
Kildonan

Looking for answers

Sir,
I would like to respond to the letter from Mrs Gibson in your letters page of 28 March.

Mr Inglis asked a very valid question about the cost of fuel on Arran. Typical of all politicians, he got a tirade of

political flag waving (I know an election is looming) but no answer.

All the fuel sold in the United Kingdom starts off with a price known in the industry as Platt's Pricing. From that start point, all the costs of storage, transportation, duty and dare I say it, profit for the seller and the retailer, then VAT are added. The same fuel duty is paid by everyone.

Why the fuel duty is so high is a different argument for another day.

What the people of Arran want to know quite simply is why on the mainland, even in rural areas, they can retail fuel up to 25 pence per litre (ppl) cheaper than here on the island?

I think we would all like to know:

1. How is the fuel delivered to the island and stored?
2. Is it done in the most cost effective way?
3. What are the margins taken by the suppliers and retailers?
4. Why didn't we see a drop of 5ppl when it was applied?

I agree with Mr Inglis, someone is taking too much out of the kitty.

If this problem is not resolved, we will lose our petrol stations on the island because they are now facing the full competition of the supermarkets with the low ferry costs.

It's about time the political rhetoric stopped and answers were provided.

Yours,
Christine Lyle
Chrsalis
Whiting Bay

Comments welcomed

Sir,
I'd like to thank the editor and all the lovely folk we met on Arran last week for the warm reception and supportive comments regarding The Pierhead Tavern in Lamlash.

We have a lot of hard work to do on the building now but would welcome your feedback and suggestions via our website: thept.co.uk

Yours,
Jane Howe
The Pierhead Tavern
Lamlash

A small matter...

Sir,
I have searched my thesaurus and my dictionary, and I can find no mention of the word 'horsepersonship'. The letter from Dr G Avison makes me so sad that this sort of politically-correct nonsense is deemed even worthy of printing. If such a small thing can ruin his/her/its holiday, then perhaps he/she/it should try somewhere else. PS. I still use the terms 'black' and 'white', where appropriate, and even, shock and horror - red, blue and green!

Yours,
Dr John Rankin
Clyde View
Whiting Bay

Civilised travel

Sir,
We spend a lot of time on Arran as we are lucky enough to have a cottage on the island which we let out to holiday makers and use whenever we can.

We have loved the island for many years, and have travelled between London and Arran in many ways. Last week I was on the new Caledonian Sleeper train and you may have seen the front page headline in The Scotsman on Wednesday last week mentioned the new Arran Aromatics sleeper spray.

Leaving London Euston in the evening, having a drink and a good sleep, arriving in Glasgow in time for a shower in shiny new showers, a relaxed breakfast, and the train to Ardrossan makes the sleeper a civilized way to get to Arran. It is time travel as the advertisements say.

The Scotsman story mentioned that the passengers on the train would sleep better because of a pillow spray from Arran Aromatics. You can spray your pillow with a compound that helps you sleep on a train which has been developed by sleep experts and Arran Aromatics.

The pillow spray isn't the only reason for travelling on the sleeper. Those of a certain age who know and love the James Bond films will remember many sleeper scenes. Its difficult not to think that

you become James Bond when are sitting in the train bar. Most people will arrive at the train after dinner as it leaves London at 11.50pm so the atmosphere is relaxed and friendly.

The bar attracts all, including journalists and politicians so the news of the day, with the benefit of a little lubrication, is a popular topic. The staff, in their new Glasgow designer uniforms clearly enjoy their jobs - running a small bar, with friendly and enthusiastic regulars must help.

People speak to each other in the bar. There is something special when strangers travel together. They talk, they have something in common, there are stories to tell about journeys past and plans for the future. The wifi is intermittent. A bar with intermittent wifi encourages conversation, and as the drinks flow and the signal fails the phones are put away.

The bar food is much better than it was, the wine is good, there is a whisky menu (although an obvious omission is the absence of Isle of Arran Malt) The linen is more luxurious and the prices have not gone up. The breakfasts offered are varied, showers at Glasgow are new, so you are on the 9.40 Arran ferry from Ardrossan in no time.

The new Caledonian Sleeper really is a very civilized way to travel north or south, it feels as though you have gone back in time, but in fact, it is more efficient than the most alternatives and anyone lucky enough to travel on the sleeper will sleep better thanks to Arran Aromatics.

Yours,
David Freeman
Woking
Surrey



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Volunteers give 19th century museum cottage a makeover

Painstaking task to make record of all the artefacts

The 19th century cottage at Arran's heritage museum has been given a major makeover by volunteers in time for the new season, as it opened last week.

Ten volunteers have been involved in the renovation work and chairman John Sil-lars said: 'How wonderful it

is to have such a team working together for the benefit of the museum, and therefore the island community.'

Every item of furniture, artefact, bedding as well as curtains have been taken out and cleaned and, where necessary, treated.

The walls in the parlour

have been stripped down, primed and given a new coat of paint. The stone and the ironwork in the fireplaces has been restored and the wood-work cleaned. The rooms upstairs have also been given a thorough going-over.

New carpeting has been laid where necessary and in the kitchen the fireplace has been restored to its original appearance.

The transformation extends to the wash house where the walls and ceilings have been painted. Repair work has been undertaken to the roof of the washhouse, a time consuming and extremely cold job.

Many of the artefacts had to be given new code numbers, and some early pieces have been numbered for the first time.

This has been a painstaking and time-consuming task which also involves the archivists noting and recording every change in the records.

The first steps have also been taken to expand the story of the Brodick beach from that presently displayed in the bathing hut. Rowing boat hirers, ice cream sellers, pony rides, regattas and a putting green will all be featured; much of which will be illustrated in old photographs.

'All the monies we receive are reinvested to maintain and further enhance the museum,' John added.



One of the upstairs rooms has been given a thorough going over. 20_b15museum04



The kitchen fireplace has been restored to its original appearance. 20_b15museum03



The downstairs parlour has been given a makeover. 20_b15museum02



Museum secretary Tom Macleod with some of the volunteers who renovated the cottage. 20_b15museum01

THE ARRAN BANNER COMPETITION

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1 OF 5 PAIRS OF TICKETS TO THE IDEAL HOME SHOW SCOTLAND

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

The award-winning home show brings together more than 400 exhibitors and 8 show sectors under one roof, offering visitors a unique one-stop shopping experience across all areas of the home. From interiors to home improvement, gardens to gadgets, the show will be packed with home solutions, show discounts, entertainment, celebrity guest appearances and fantastic shopping opportunities.

The centre piece of this year's Ideal Home Show Scotland, The Super Theatre, represents each of the 8 sections of the show with talks and demonstrations from the nation's most loved home experts. And the Ideal Home Show wouldn't be iconic without one of our stunning full size Show Homes for you to explore!

Join our celebrity ambassadors: TV Interiors guru John Amabile, architect and presenter George Clarke, award-winning gardens expert Diarmuid Gavin, foodie favourite Gregg Wallace, and popular television presenter Amanda Lamb - who will be on hand for useful tips and advice on their area of expertise.

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.

QUESTION: At which venue is this year's Ideal Home Show Scotland taking place?

Answer

Name

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Email

Terms and conditions: The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entries will not be accepted. The winner may be asked to take part in publicity and may appear in a Wyvex Media publication and website. This competition is not open to Wyvex Media and associated company employees and their families. The prize is not transferable or redeemable for cash equivalent. Tickets will be posted to the winners nearer the date of the event.



Children pick their Easter eggs after completing the trail. 20_b15egg05



The younger category at the Easter bonnet parade. 20_b15egg10



The older category of Easter bonnets. 20_b15egg12

Amazing day enjoy Easter Trails so popular they r

Brodick Castle had its busiest ever Easter when hundreds flocked to the gardens at the weekend.

More than 1,500 visitors poured through the gates on Sunday for the traditional Easter at the castle - more than twice the number last year.

National Trust staff struggled to find spaces for the huge number of cars that turned up all day at the country park with many parked on a grass around the car park and the castle drive. The Cadbury Easter egg trails were so popular that staff nearly ran out of eggs.

Despite a mist-shrouded start, the day turned into a scorcher with people making the most of the fine weather.

Enjoyed

Throughout the day, kids enjoyed the trails which saw them having to collect clues around the castle and grounds



Young winner Iris Pettigrew from Glasgow. 20_b15egg11



Kate Murray and her dog Teddie f grandparents in Brodick, were bo

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The adult Easter bonnets, from left: Lesley McFadzean, Elizabeth Ross, Kate Lemon and Kelly Price with daughter Hazel. 20_b15egg14



Kids turn their hand to painting eggs. 20_b15egg01



Visitors study the castle for trail clues. 20_b15egg04

as hundreds at the Castle nearly ran out of eggs

and solve a puzzle to win an Easter egg.

There was also egg painting organised by the Countryside Rangers and races for the kids.

Many of the friends of Brodick Castle also helped running events.

There were lots of homemade

hats on show at the Easter bonnet parade making the judges decisions difficult ones.

The fun was rounded off with the duck derby when ping pong balls were thrown down the steps of the castle winning one lucky visitor £50.

Property manager David

Cameron said: 'To have more than 1,500 people through the castle and gardens on one day was amazing. Thanks to everyone who came along and can I say that all my team and all those who volunteered did an excellent job, especially given the huge number of visitors.'



from Leeds, visiting her with dressed for Easter 20_b15egg08



James Lees from Dunfermline has as much paint on his hands as on his finished egg which is on the table behind him. 20_b15egg03



Egg painting winner Kirsty Mitchell from Falkirk with Ranger Corinna Goeckeritz. 20_b15egg15

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Corrie and Sannox SWI

The AGM and final meeting of the season was held in Corrie and Sannox Village Hall on Thursday 12 March.

The retiring President Elma Stevenson welcomed all to the meeting, and gave her report of the year's activities. Two letters which had been sent to HQ regarding the change of name and the new logo were read. The treasurers report was given, and the conclusion is that the subscription will need to rise next year.

Elma then introduced demonstrator Peter Milne who produced some wonderfully orange marzipan from which an amazing array of Garfield cats was produced – with much good humour.

After a very good tea provided by the committee, the voting papers were counted by Peter Milne and Elma Stevenson.

The new committee was selected and a meeting will be held shortly to arrange the office bearers and the syllabus for the new session.

Ideas were put forward regarding the two trays for the show and volunteers for stewarding at the show put their names down. Next year sees the institute entering its 91st year and members hope they can make it 100.

Young scholars get a helping hand from Arran Rotary Club

Spare a copper next time you pass the wishing well

When going to the mainland for the day, a high percentage of Banner readers park their cars on the Brodick front and walk along the promenade over the footbridge to the ferry terminal, *writes Jim Lees, of Arran Rotary Club.*

I wonder how many of us pause at the Rotary club wishing well and wonder what happens to the money that is collected there. The superb young speaker at the meeting of the Isle of Arran Rotary Club on Tuesday 31 March gave members a classic example of how that money is invested. Fraser Blain from Sannox, a sixth year student at Arran High School, has just returned from a week

visiting the European Parliament in Strasbourg under the Rotary Euroscola programme in which he and scholars from all over Scotland represented the UK in a parliamentary study for young people from throughout the EU.

The week included splitting the students into multinational groups who were dispatched onto the streets of Strasbourg to conduct interviews, in French, with the citizens on various subjects. This, in itself, is a task well beyond the abilities of this writer.

The programme also involved proposing and debating motions in the Parliament itself, using the MEP's ros-

trums with all the multilingual technology. Fraser said that he thoroughly enjoyed the week and is sure the experience will stand him in good stead in the years to come. His only mild criticism was that the French were reluctant to leave after the ceilidh the Scots contingent put on for fellow scholars. But there again the French, unlike the rest, did not have a plane to catch early the next morning.

Also at the meeting members heard of the success of another Arran High scholar at the Rotary Young Musician competition. Iain Clarke won the Scotland and North East regional final in Glasgow and will now represent the region in the national finals at Darwen Vale High School, Lancashire on 16 May.

It has to be said the young folk of Arran do the island credit and next time you pass the wishing well spare a copper or two there by helping Rotary to encourage and fund those opportunities.



Fraser Blain pictured on his trip to Strasbourg.



Iain Clarke with his certificate and trophy after winning the Rotary regional final in Glasgow. 20_b15rotary01

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Childhood memories were the inspiration for new book



Johanna has used her childhood memories of Arran for her new book.

A leading Scots illustrator has told how her new book was inspired by her childhood memories on Arran.

Johanna Basford is the granddaughter of former Brodick Castle head gardener John Basford and spent many summers playing in the gardens and woods around their home at Cladach.

She has used these memories as the inspiration for her new colouring book, *Enchanted Forest: An Inky Quest and Colouring Book*, which has just been published.

Johanna, who lives and works in Aberdeenshire, told the Banner: 'Enchanted Forest takes its inspiration from the woodlands that surrounded my grandparents' house on Arran. The woodlands were wild, unpredictable and scary. I love the playful way children see the world, as if through a wonderful lens that turns the mundane magical. 'In *Enchanted Forest*, tree stumps become curious little dwellings, rivers flow into treasure-laden caves and at

the heart of every forest lies an enchanted castle.'

She added: 'The rose garden, the Bavarian summer house, the lily ponds and the rhododendrons of the castle gardens are all the inspiration behind the book.'

'I remember how wonderful it was to be running about outside the woodland and forest all the way up to Goatfell and the Glenrosa Burn was a great place to play and be imaginative.'

Johanna, who has to juggle work with bringing up nine-month-old daughter Evie, has already written the internationally-best-selling title, *Secret Garden: An Inky Treasure Hunt and Colouring Book*. In this eagerly anticipated follow-up, Johanna takes readers on a new adventure, through a spell-binding labyrinth of more than 60 illustrations, to find the secrets hidden the depths of the *Enchanted Forest*.

Johanna still makes regular trips to the island and will be coming in the sum-

mer with her husband and Evie to Lochranza.

'While the Brodick gardens are a very special to me, Lochranza is a beautiful place as well,' she said.

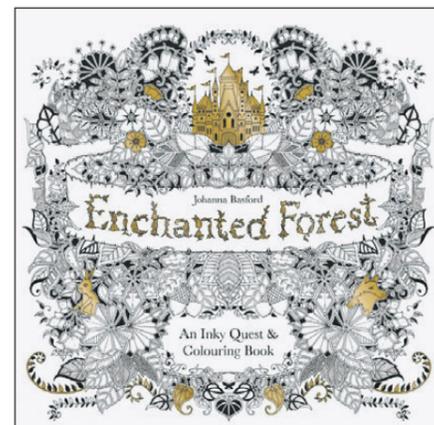
In 2013, Johanna spearheaded the trend for colouring-in as a popular form of relaxation, with celebrities such as Andrew Marr advocating the practice. Last year, Johanna gained media attention when *Secret Garden* outsold the best-selling cookery book in France. Her debut title has now sold more than one million copies in 14 languages worldwide.

Award-winning Johanna is one of the UK's premier names in illustration and design. Her signature style has adorned the products of some of the world's leading household brands, in-

cluding Absolut Vodka, Sony, Nike, Smart Car and Tate Modern.

She is a firm advocate of hand-drawing over computer-generated graphics, preferring pen and pencils to pixels. All her artwork begins as a humble pencil sketch before being delicately inked by hand.

Enchanted Forest: An Inky Quest and Colouring Book, retails at £9.95 and is available on the island at Friday's Child.



The front cover of *Enchanted Forest*.

School library gets new books

Lamlash Primary school book club chose 63 new books to add to the library as part of events at the school to celebrate World Book Day.

The books are for all ages from primary one to seven. Some of the titles include: *Tom Gates - Genius Ideas*, *Winnie the Witch* (series of six books) and *The Girl Who Walked On Air*. They have also bought a series of *Artemis Fowl* graphic novels by Eoin Colfer and *Anthony Horowitz* graphic novels.

The book club also came up with a com-

petition. They asked the pupils to recreate their favourite book front cover. There were around 40 entrants and one winner from each class. There were a lot of great entries but the club had to choose three pupils to win.

The winner of the primary one and two class was Beth McNeice, age six, the primary three to five winner was Ruaridh Lindsay-Smith, age nine, and the primary six and seven class winner was Jack Ross, age 10.

The winners get to choose a new book from the *Scholastic Book* magazine as their prize.



The winners of the World Book Day competition at Lamlash Primary.

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Ice cream and Oaties to fly the flag for food producers

Two Arran food and drink businesses have been selected for the ultimate industry hotlist, as the shortlist for the coveted Scotland Food and Drink Excellence Awards is announced.

Showcasing the strength of the region's food and drink,

the finalists are: Arran Dairies, for its Arran Gold dairy ice cream in the dairy category, and Wooleys of Arran for its Oaties in the bakery and cereal-based category.

With 19 categories celebrating excellence across Scottish food and drink, the



Kaye Adams who will announce the winners of the food and drink award winners.

awards are considered by many to be the food-lovers' event of the year. The awards

include nine product categories judged mainly by taste plus a wide range of business awards.

A record-breaking 239 entries were received for the awards, up from 153 in 2014. In the course of their assessment of the award applications, the retail and foodservice judging panel tasted 161 product entries during a two day tasting session, examining submissions from 116 businesses across Scotland.

Broadcaster Kaye Adams will announce the winners of the awards at Edinburgh's National Museum of Scotland on 27 May. Dubbed the Scottish food and drink 'Oscars', the ceremony sold out in record time and will be bigger than ever before with more than 800 guests attend-

ing on the night. Attendees will be treated to a drinks reception and delicious dinner, showcasing the very best of Scotland's larder.

The awards are organised by Scotland Food and Drink in partnership with The Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland (RHASS). The title sponsor is Asda and the awards are supported by Think Local.

Chief Executive of Scotland Food and Drink, James Withers, said: 'The Excellence Awards recognises the incredible quality that Scotland's food and drink industry has to offer, the outstanding achievements of individuals and businesses as well as the high standard of our products and the level of innovation we're seeing across the sec-

tor. Across our Land of Food and Drink, the shortlist recognises big businesses to smaller, artisan producers ranging from new to long-established.

'Our expert panel of judges have remarked on the impressive quality of products and the high standard of business entries.

'During the Year of Food and Drink it is appropriate that this year's awards have been record-breaking with the largest number of entries and an increase in attendees to the award ceremony and dinner. This is in response to the tremendous demand for places at the awards. 'This is testament to the profile, success and sentiment of the industry.

'We look forward to a stellar celebration in May.'

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Arran heritage needs your help

New trustees are being sought on Arran to help the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) retain the island's heritage.

The charity, which owns and cares for Brodick Castle and Country Park, is looking for NTS members to put themselves forward for spots on its board, with five trustees' terms of office up in September. New trustees are selected via a vote by the conservation charity's 330,000 members conducted later this year.

Exciting time

It is an exciting time for the Trust as the senior team is changing. Chairman elect Sir Moir Lockhead takes over

from Sir Kenneth Calman in May and the search for a new chief executive is also underway as Kate Mavor moves on after six years.

As announced last December, Sir Kenneth, who has a house on Arran, is to step down after five years to make way for Sir Moir so that the new chairman can make an early start on planning for the conservation charity's long-term future.

Serving board member Veronica Morris says she has found the role to be very positive and enjoyable. She said: 'It is a remarkable time to be a trustee. If you too are

committed to the work of the National Trust for Scotland and have relevant skills or knowledge in whatever capacity, I heartily recommend this role.'

Commitment

The charity is keen to draw applications from a wide spectrum of members – especially those with a commitment to the strategic direction of the trust.

Anyone interested should visit: www.nts.org.uk/elections or contact Nicola Whyte 0844 493 2285 for more information.

The closing date for applications is 22 April.

THE ARRAN

BANNER

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Saturday 15 April, 1994

Plant Hunters Walk

A new themed walk has been created in the gardens at Brodick Castle.

The Plant Hunters Walk is, as the name suggests, a tribute to the intrepid explorers from the last century who travelled all over the world, including the Himalayas, China and South America and brought back exotic plants. The new walk is below the summer house and almost at the sea. Head gardener, Nigel Price, said: 'I think this is probably my favourite path in the garden, even without the flowers.'

The walk, which takes around 15 minutes, was officially opened this week by Martin Gardener of the Botanic Gardens in Edinburgh. It is the fifth themed walk to be created in the gardens. The others are; trees, history, treasure and ferns.

Private place

A new relatives room has been created at the Arran War Memorial Hospital in Lamlash.

It was formally handed over on Monday by Celia Urquhart in her role as patron of Arran Cancer Support.

The room, which was a two bed ward, has over the past few months been converted into a small, but comfortable, sitting room-come-bedroom. It has a calm green carpet, given by County Carpets, an attractive armchair and matching sofa bed and bookshelves, which are already partly filled.

The room will be used by relatives who have to wait for some time while a family members goes through an operation or where bad news can be broken to relatives.

Shore ticketing

Shore ticketing is now officially in place at the Brodick ferry terminal and all passengers should now be in possession of a ticket before boarding the boat.

However, in a softly-softly approach to what has been a slightly contentious matter, Andrew Horne of CalMac told The Banner that it will be possible to buy tickets on the ferry for some time yet, probably about three months.

One reason for shore ticketing is to prevent fraud and asked if the new measures were helping Mr Horne replied: 'It's probably too early to say but there is no doubt that revenue security is one of our concerns. Elsewhere our returns are getting better.'

Public consultation

A public consultation is to take place on Tuesday evening in Brodick Library on two areas which are the subjects of special studies by the North Ayrshire Council planning department.

One is Brodick Village Centre and the other is The Whitehouse in Lamlash. The seminar will be chaired by councillor Tom Knox and planning officers will be present to clarify any points raised about special studies.

Anyone interested is invited to attend and a questionnaire has been prepared for each study to assist members of the public to express their views effectively.

After consultation, reports on the public seminar will be prepared and a study finalised as a statement of council policy on these areas.



The Arran Ladies Hockey team who had a narrow home defeat to Cumbernauld at the weekend losing a league game 1-0. b15twe01



Sandra Nicol is seen being intercepted by three of her opponents. b25twe02



A total of 32 entrants took part in the Arran Allcomers Triathlon last weekend. Competitors had to swim 20 lengths of the Auchrannie Pool, cycle to the Corrie Hotel and back and run four miles to the castle and back.



Nigel Price negotiates a new bridge on the Plant Hunters Walk. b15twe05



Bob a Job week is alive and well and cubs are still doing little tasks at this time to raise money for pack funds. No longer do they expect a bob, or 5p. Here we see Christopher Nicholson and Stewart Gillies washing cars in Lamlash at £2 a time. b15twe03



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What's on

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Every day

Trout Fly Fishing
 Brodick Castle, Garden Open
 Arran Brewery
 Arran Brewery tour
 Lamash Tennis Courts/Putting Green
 Arran Heritage Museum, Rosaburn

Saturday 11th April

Army Cadets
 Over 21s Disco
 Family Games
 Fun in the pool
 Live music
 Brodick Market
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game
 Family Ceilidh
 Young naturalists Club

Sunday 12th April

Family Games
 Fun in the pool
 AA Meeting
 Open Session - All musicians and Singers welcome

Monday 13th April

Over 50s Badminton
 Badminton
 Morning Fitness
 Table Tennis
 Badminton
 Arran Junior Football Club
 Yoga
 Circuit Training
 10/10 Total Body workout
 Coffee Morning
 Citizens advice
 Lunch club

Tuesday 14th April

Pop Quiz
 Auchrannie Winter Bowls
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Youth Club
 Rotary club
 Healthy Outdoors
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game
 RunArran
 Bridge for beginners
 Scottish Country Dancing
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club AGM

Loch Garbad, bank and boat fishing
 9am-Dusk
 Monday - Sunday, 12.30 - 5pm
 2pm (limited spaces call for availability)
 Open all day
 Brodick, 10.30am to 4.30pm

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1 pm.
 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
 Brodick church Hall, 7.30pm - 11pm
 Rangers Centre, Brodick, 10.30 - 12.15pm

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
 Brodick church Hall, 5pm-6.30pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick 2.30pm

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, Lamash, 6.45pm
 WBay & Kildonan church, 10.30am - 12noon
 Ormidale Pavilion, 11.30am - 3.30pm
 Brodick sheltered housing, 12.30pm

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, Lamash, 5.30pm
 Learning Centre, Lamash 7-9pm
 All Stages, Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
 Clubhouse, Whiting Bay, 7.30pm

Wednesday 15th April

Rock and 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 and Crochet drop in group
 Arran Elderly Forum
 Lamash Guild spring coffee morning
 Red Squirrel Walk
 Roundhouse Open
 Vile Victorians

Thursday 16th April

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

Friday 17th 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

Ormidale Hotel 9.30pm
 Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm
 Lamash 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, Lamash, 7-8.30pm
 Lamash, 9pm
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7.30-9pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 1pm
 Brodick Library, 4pm - 6pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 11am
 Lamash Church Hall 10.15am to 12noon
 Brodick Castle, 9.30am - 11.30am
 Brodick Castle, 11am - 3pm
 Brodick Castle, 1pm - 3.30pm

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
 Lamash Fire Station, 2-4.30pm
 Auchrannie, 7pm
 Lamash Church Hall, 4pm - 4.30pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 5.15pm - 5.45pm
 Rangers Centre, Brodick, 10.30am - 12.15pm
 Ranger Centre, Brodick, 1pm - 4pm

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, Lamash Adults, 7pm - 8.30pm



www.arranbrewery.com



Recruitment

auchrannie resort **auchrannie job vacancies**

Aspa Receptionist
We are looking for a receptionist to join the Aspa team. Admin skills and customer service experience is required.

Housekeeping Attendants
We are looking for part time positions to mainly work at the weekend across the resort. You will have team work experience and a passion for quality.

Country Club Reception
We are looking for a part time candidate to join the Country Club reception. Admin skills and customer service experience is required.

Food & Beverage Assistants
We are looking for full time and part time positions within our 3 award winning restaurants. Customer service experience is required.

Full descriptions can be found at www.auchranniejobs.co.uk or contact hr@auchrannie.co.uk

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ARRAN AROMATICS

Job Vacancy
Customer Services Administrator

We have an opportunity for a full time administrator to join the customer services team at our Head Office in Brodick. This role requires you to be a complete all-rounder, working with customers both in the UK and overseas. Reporting to the Customer Services Manager, this role forms part of a small team.

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

HOUSEKEEPER REQUIRED
For a family holiday property in Lamlash

Duties would include general cleaning, changing beds, laundering bed linen, taking bins out etc. after our visits.

The house is used only by friends and family. The job would suit someone who is willing to take on irregular, occasional work throughout the year.

Please contact me for more details if interested: 07736670940

HOUSE/GENERAL ASSISTANT

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Contact Caroline on 01770 302211 or email cjl393@aol.com

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Arran Fine Foods, part of Paterson Arran Limited, is a long established and progressive Food Manufacturing Company producing a range of premium branded food products for both domestic and international markets and is based on the Isle of Arran, off the west coast of Scotland.

We currently have a vacancy for a Production Engineer. The ideal candidate will be a dual skilled engineer with electro-mechanical expertise. They will become a hands-on member of a small, but highly motivated team, whose main duties will include efficient line set-ups, breakdown recovery, participation in a range of engineering projects, relevant operative training, and the execution of planned maintenance.

Applicants should be self-motivated, self-reliant and possess a commitment to team training. A flexible approach to hours of work and willingness to adapt to change are essential.

Email applications to Ljameson@paterson-arran.com or, apply in writing, including current salary details, to:

Lesley Jameson, Administration Manager,
Paterson Arran Limited, The Old Mill
Lamlash, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AR

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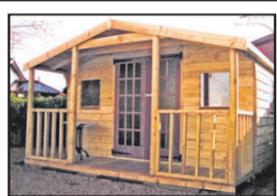
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Public Notices

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

Whiting Bay Bowling Club AGM
Tuesday 14th April at 7.30pm
in Clubhouse
ALL WELCOME

Whiting Bay Club of Music & Drama
The AGM of the above club will take place on Wednesday 22nd April at 7.30pm in Whiting Bay Lesser Hall.
The meeting is open to everyone, so please come along and help to keep the club going.

Arran Youth Foundations AGM
in Broddick Church Hall
Friday 24th April 2015 at 4.30pm



General Election
HUSTINGS
29th April 2015
Broddick Hall, 7.30 pm

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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: 810541
Housesafe with 2 keys £99, Dyson Hoover £50, Large Strimmer as new £90, folding bicycles x2 excellent £90 for the pair, double glazed windows £60 for lot Tel: 07980671267
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Adorable kittens ready at the end of April book now Tel: 302964
SAS Supaclamp four caravan insurance approved £20, SunCamp awning inner tent unused £10, Set of Millenco towing Mirrors £15, Set Fiamma levelling blocks unused £15, 2 sets stackpads for caravan steadies £10, Set of 4 caravan chocks £5 Tel: 07468512346
Microwave as new £30, us mail box new £25, mountain bike gents £30 Tel: 07980671267
2 cintique armchairs soft green draylon £30 the pair, 2 sherborne armchairs very good condition £30 each, 1 solid oak writing desk - 4 drawers 28inch x 40inch £15 Tel: 600954 between 11am - 3pm sat
Cream coloured bed settee offers Tel: 303910

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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 12th April
Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
Rev Canon Simon Mackenzie,
Priest-in-Charge
Coffee after service.
Wednesday, 15th April
Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
ALL WELCOME.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran
Brodict, 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 fol-
lowing times to
which all are invited.
Sunday 12th April
Lochranza Church, 9.30am
Morning Worship.
Pirnmill Church, 10.45am
Morning Worship.
Shiskine Church, 12noon
Morning Worship.
Brodict Church, 10.30am
Morning Worship.
Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer
Meeting, 12noon Morning
Worship.
There will also be a Service of
Worship in Montrose House
at 1.30pm.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a
fellowship to share"
Sunday 12th April
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30 am
Mrs Liz Clarke
All welcome, including
families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 12th April
Morning Service, 11am
Trust Housing Lounge,
Glen Estate, Brodict
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodict
Prayer Meeting
Wednesday 15th April
at 7pm
5 Glen Road
All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 12th April
Shiskine 11am (Church on road
between Blackwaterfoot and
Machrie)
Brodict 7pm (Church behind
post office)
Rev Charles Douglas

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(Charity Number SC014005)
Sunday 12th April
Worship will be conducted by
the minister,
Rev Elizabeth Watson
at 10.30am.
All welcome.
Tea and coffee will be served
in the Transept after the service
and everyone is invited to stay
and enjoy more fellowship
afterwards.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Vigil Mass: Saturday 7.30pm
Sunday Morning Mass 11am

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 12th April
11am Morning worship
in the Ormidale Sports
Pavilion, Brodict
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

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS

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

DEATHS

DALGLEISH - Kathleen (nee Armit). Peacefully at home on Monday, 6th April 2015. Kathleen, aged 68 years, beloved wife of Graham, mum, grandmother and great grandmother of the family. Funeral service at Brodict new cemetery on Thursday, 16th April at 11.30am to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited.

KAY - Isobel Mary. Very peacefully after a short stay in Arran War Memorial Hospital, Lamlash. Sincere thanks to the medical and nursing staff for their exceptional care. Isobel, aged 95 years, formerly of Braeriach, Pirnmill, beloved wife of the late Tommy, dear mother of Douglas and Malcolm Kerr, grandmother of Alasdair, Euan, Ailis and Iona. Funeral service in Lochranza Church on Tuesday, 14th April at 12 noon, followed by interment to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, Retiring Collection in aid of Prinmill Church Fabric Fund.

PAIRMAN - Marie. Peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital on Tuesday, 7th April 2015, Marie, beloved wife of Stewart. Funeral private, no flowers please.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MACLAREN - Marion, Linzi, Fiona and family would like to thank the staff at Arran War Memorial Hospital and Crosshouse Hospital for their care of Sandy, and Dr Liz Guthrie for her excellent care during his illness over the years. Thanks also to David and Clair Hendry for funeral arrangements and Jean Hunter for the church service. A big thanks to all at the Ormidale for their hospitality and to all who joined us for Sandy's 'send off'. We have been overwhelmed by all the cards and support from family and friends. The amount raised for the Arran Hospital Supports League was £451.29.



Golf

A fun filled introduction to ladies golf

A total of 15 women came as guests of the ladies section to Brodict Golf Club last Tuesday evening.

The idea was from lady captain Margaret Bryce and the event was organised by Jackie (half of the Brodict pro-shop husband and wife team). It began with a stroll along the first, where those who wished, hit a few balls, and the accompanying members proved that fresh air shots are not a beginners preserve! Back along the 18th and attempts to hit some balls across the river caused much hilarity.

Then it was over to Brodict professional James for a short pitch and putt competi-



The ladies enjoyed a warm welcome in the clubhouse.

tion, and thus into the warm clubhouse to be welcomed by the lady captain.

Thanks to Jackie, the clubhouse was decked out in bunting and balloons, with sweeties and drinks, and plenty of special offers. Some carpet putting was followed by a fashion show, hosted by Jackie with her excellent team of cheerleaders as models.

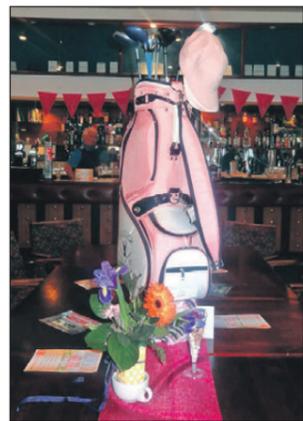
There are some fabulous new clothes in the pro-shop, and not just for golfers, come and have a look round, all

welcome.

The afternoon finished with a preview of the cheerleaders' routine, much enjoyed by all, and members look forward to seeing the full performance.

Thanks to all who participated, the lady captain and her willing helpers, to James and in particular to Jackie for a her professional and enthusiastic input.

Members hope their lady visitors enjoyed their visit and hope to see some of them return to join their happy band.



Some of the golfing equipment on show during the event.

Machrie Golf Club

Tuesday 31 March, Winter Cup. Four intrepid golfers, or should it be another word beginning with i! battled the gales and the hailstones to play in the last round of the Winter Cup at Machrie. 1 Phil Betley 92-11=81 winning on BIH, 2 Brian Sherwood 88-7=81, 3 David Price 89-5 = 84. We lost count of the num-

ber of lost balls.

The overall winner of this winter competition (best 6 scores) was Phil Betley with a net score of 387. The runner was Campbell Laing with a net score of 391.

Fixtures: Summer competitions began on Tuesday 7 April with the Peter Sutton(men) and Lady Mary(ladies) medals every Tuesday from now on. Start times are 12.30pm and 5.30pm.

3 B Smith (12)67. Scratch G Hendry 72. There were three magic twos from Bruce Jenkins, Kenny Macmillan and Brian Smith.

Ladies: Tuesday 7 April, April Medal and CCQ1, 14 played, CSS 70 RO. Division 1: 1 Margaret Roxburgh 86(15)71, 2 Ellie Jones 88(16)72. Division 2: 1 Heather Raeside, 98(26)72, 2 Kay Kitson, 97(23)74.

Fixtures: Sunday 12 April, British Legion 36 hole medal, tee off 8.30am and 1pm. Draw will be made at 12noon on Saturday 11 April.

Shiskine Golf Club

Sunday 4 April, 12 hole medal, 25 played. 1st Class: 1 G Andrew 48-6=42, 2 J Faulkner 48-5=43 BIH, 3 M Ker 45-2=43 BIH. Scratch M Ker 45. 2nd Class: 1 C Rutherford 50-10=40 (medal winner, well done Colin), 2 W McNally 54-13=41 BIH, 3 K Sinclair 51-10=4. Magic twos W Kelso, G Andrew, D Tod, M Ker and J Faulkner.

Fixture: Sunday 12 April, 18 hole medal(gents).

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday 5 April. On a morning that started out with very misty conditions but cleared to glorious sunshine, 30 players contested the first silverware of the summer season, the Roy Ure Tankard.

The early conditions made scoring difficult and the CSS rose to 64 - 35 Stableford points.

The winner was Ronnie Mann on 39 pts, closely fol-

lowed by Stan Rainey and Colin Nisbet each on 38 pts. Stan edged second place on a count back. Fourth place went to David Brookens on 37 pts. There were magic twos from Dave Hackett on the 2nd hole, Alan Foggo on the 2nd and 17th, Stan Rainey on the 14th, Scott Adair on the 17th and David Brookens on the 17th.

Fixtures: Sunday 12 April, Tor-Alvey Greensomes, one draw for partners at 10.30 am. Boyd Quaich Ladies competition, draw at 11 am. Wednesday 15 April, Summer Trophy, played throughout the day with an evening draw at 5.30pm.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday 4 April, sweep, 13 played. 1 M Elliot 40+40=80-15=65, 2 C Pattenden 36+41=77-11=66 BIH, 3 J McGovern 36+41=77-11=66. Best scratch J McConnachie 74. Magic twos J McGovern S Beardsley and C Pattenden. Well done to J McConnachie winning Winter Cup. Well done to R Smith winning the Monday Cup.

Fixtures: Saturday 4 April, 1st round Summer Cup, 8.30am and 1pm starts.

18TH BIRTHDAY

HAPPY 18th BIRTHDAY OLIVIA
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With lots of Love from Mum, Dad, Nick, Di and Nana & Monty

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Carrick make it two in a row and lift new rugby sevens cup

Large crowd enjoy some excellent rugby

Carrick made it two in a row when they lifted the new Arran Malt Rugby Sevens trophy for the second year in a row.

Carrick were joined in the final by one of the home sides, Arran A, but proved too strong for them and ran out comfortable winners by 33-7.

It rounded off an unbeaten day for the Maybole side who looked well trained and well disciplined throughout the tournament.

A second Arran team, Zulu Warriors, also made the semi-finals and in a close-fought match they were just squeezed out 17-14 by Arran A.

However, they had more luck in the Plate final beating Greenock 19-14.

In the other semi-final Carrick had cruised past Greenock scoring 41 points

without reply.

A large crowd had watched some fine, fast flowing sevens rugby on a sunny Easter Saturday at Ormidale Park in Brodick.

The event was sponsored for the first time this year by Isle of Arran Distillers who have donated a new trophy for the competition. The prizes were presented by managing director Euan Mitchell

Carrick lifted both the new trophy and the old Isle of Arran Society Cup and they pledged to return next year to fight to retain the trophy for a third time.

With Irvine and Marr both late call-offs, Arran Rugby Club players had to make up four teams - Arran A, Arran B, Zulu Warriors and Presidents - to take on the opposition from Carrick, Greenock, Queenies and The Douglas Hotel.



The winning Carrick team are presented with the new Arran Malt trophy by Euan Mitchell. 20_b15rugby26



The losing finalists Arran A get their runners-up prize from Euan Mitchell. 20_b15rugby25

Results: Group games: Douglas 12, Zulu Warriors 10; Arran A 46, Queenies 7; Carrick 61, Arran B 0; Greenock 29, Presidents 0; Douglas 0, Carrick 69; Arran A 7, Greenock 0; Queenies 12, Presidents 14; Douglas 7, Arran B 24; Arran A 19, Presidents 5; Zulu Warriors 7, Carrick 46; Queenies 15, Greenock 33.

Group one: 1 Carrick, 2 Zulu Warriors, 3 Arran B, 4 Douglas. Group two: 1 Arran A, 2 Greenock, 3 Presidents, 4 Queenies.

Semi-finals: Carrick 41, Greenock 0; Arran A 17, Zulu Warriors 14. Plate final: Greenock 14, Zulu Warriors 19. Final: Arran A 7, Carrick 33.



Euan Mitchell presents the Plate shield to Zulu Warriors. 20_b15rugby24

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