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Future energy plans need real community backing

'The people of Arran have spoken and been listened to'

The scrapping of the proposed biomass plant in Lam-lash should not deter any future community-driven and owned renewable energy initiatives which would provide real and enduring economic benefit for the island's population.

That is the view of Councillor John Bruce who represents Arran on North Ayrshire Council.

As exclusively revealed in The Banner last week, the company behind the proposed biomass plant at Dyemill has abandoned all its plans for the island.

It marked the end of an often bitter two-year fight after Northern Energy Development Ltd (NEDL) first submitted its application for the wood-fired power plant in June 2012.

Councillor Bruce said: 'It became obvious early on in the planning process that NEDL had singularly failed to establish broad community support for its biomass application.'

'I believe NEDL realised that to gain the support of the Arran community, it would have to demonstrate an accruing community benefit for the proposed scheme.'

'However, no economic

REPORT
by HUGH BOAG
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

gains to the island either in terms of electricity generation - producing our own and selling surpluses to the grid - lowering tariffs or indeed creating significant employment numbers were transparently on offer.

'The plan quickly became recognised as a commercial enterprise by as yet unknown developers and the Forestry Commission.'

'The many articulated and sometimes exaggerated disadvantages concerning the project - the environmental impact, the perceived affects on tourism and, not forgetting straightforward 'NIMBYism' all stemmed from the failure of the design to appeal to and accommodate the needs of the community.'

'As objections to the application piled up in hard copy and online, I had to explain to constituents via press and email that I could voice no public support or otherwise for the application as a member of the NAC planning committee, as to do so would have prejudiced my deliberation on the committee, and my vote,' he added.

Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'I am delighted that common sense has prevailed and NEDL is no longer holding over Arran the spectre of another application.'

'It is clear that their proposal had little support on the island, with many folk fearing the adverse environmental impact.'

'The people of Arran have spoken and been listened to.'

West of Scotland Conservative MSP Jackson Carlaw said: 'This is a victory for the people of Arran, the overwhelming majority of whom were opposed to this plant.'

Genuine concern
'My public consultation had more than 1,600 responses, which shows the strength of feeling among residents and there was a genuine concern that this proposal would rear its ugly head for a third time, putting the isle under another period of uncertainty over the future of the site.'

'I'm sure the residents of Arran will be delighted by this news, and I hope North Ayrshire Council takes note when considering future developments.'

Going forward, Councillor Bruce believes Arran can learn from the Danish renewable energy island of Samsø,



Police officers arrive for the summer

Arran's police force has almost doubled in size with the arrival of the usual summer staff. PC Joanne Graham was based on the island last summer but for PCs Ben Legge, Gemma Muir and Amanda Hainie (pictured) it is their first taste of island policing. They join PCs Jennifer Sneddon, Colin Haddow, Philip Adams and Iain Thomson, and special constable Andy Perry, under the command of Sergeant Allen Dodds. 20_b22pol01

highlighted in The Banner earlier this year, which he has visited.

Obvious
'What became obvious from my visit and subsequent reading was that the Samsø community had been encouraged to create and develop over

several years a vision for their island based on sustainable and renewable energy. The island is now 100 per cent RE. Arran should note that renewable energy tourism has developed significantly as a consequence.

'Today the Samsø Energy

Academy is the acknowledged hub of a world-wide network, sharing expertise and good practise in developing various projects utilising renewable energy.'

'I am delighted to note that Arran Community Energy is now part of that network.'

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Mystery holes repaired on foreshore

Two mystery holes which appeared on the foreshore at Lamplash have been repaired by workmen.

The holes appeared on the grassy area opposite the Glenisle Hotel in the centre of the village.

And while there were only small holes visible from the surface, there was extensive erosion underneath which council bosses are blaming on a damaged drain.

When the first hole appeared two weeks ago it was immediately coned off and a second appeared days later.

This week workmen from North Ayrshire Council excavated the two holes before filling them in with new material. They still await finishing turf.

At the Glenisle Hotel owner Geoffrey Dallamore said the holes were a complete mystery but had not caused them any problems. 'We have only had guests asking when they were going to be repaired,' he said.

One suggestion is that the holes were caused by a horse, but that does not explain why this should have led to such extensive damage.

However, a spokesman for North Ayrshire Council said: 'The issue at Lamplash was caused by a damaged drain. This has now been repaired and the issue resolved.'

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Arran cheese goes down a treat in Taiwan

An award winning Arran cheese is now available to buy in Taiwan.

It is the latest market to be cracked by First Milk which produces the cheese at the Torrylinn Creamery on the island.

It follows a visit to the creamery by Asian supermarket buyers last week.

Developing added value export sales is a key plank of the business strategy for First Milk, and the farmer-owned food business reckons international demand has never been stronger.

The company does around £50 million of export sales per annum and it is currently

focused on developing new sales leads with customers in Europe, Middle East, Asia and South America.

The most recent export market is Taiwan where First Milk has commenced exports of Isle of Arran along with Mull of Kintyre and Lake District cheddars.

Additional orders

The feedback so far from the Taiwanese is that they like the quality, taste and provenance of these award winning cheeses. This has resulted in additional orders into an expanded range of stores in Taiwan.

This success is due in part to First Milk developing new

formats and pack sizes, which were tailored to the different consumer buying and eating habits that exist in South East Asia.

Fraser Brown, First Milk's export sales director, said: 'Taiwan has more than 23 million people with a growing taste for western foods. We have been delighted with the growth in sales of our cheddars in the capital Taipei and now around the country.'

'Last week we hosted a second successful tour of our Arran creamery, by Asian supermarket buyers.'

'Isle of Arran Extra Mature was rated the world's best cheddar at the World Cheese



Asian supermarket buyers are given a translation of the cheesemaking process as they are shown round Torrylinn Creamery.

Awards last October, and the buyers got to sample the cheese and the stunning scenery on the island.'



Campaigners for Better Together North Ayrshire gathered in Brodick on Saturday. 20_b22bet01

Better Together campaign on Arran

With just four months left until the Scottish independence referendum on September 18, the Better Together campaign has increased its presence on the island.

Representatives from Better Together North Ayrshire that included Arran's former councillor, Richard Wilkinson, and Donald Reid, Labour councillor, joined campaigners based on Arran last Saturday to visit homes in Brodick.

Better Together is a cross party campaign that promotes the view that Scotland is a better and stronger country as

part of the United Kingdom.

Donald Reid, Better Together co-ordinator, said: 'We had a very successful day on Arran.'

'We visited a lot of people and spoke to many in the streets of Brodick too. We feel that our campaign is going very well.'

Last weekend there were a number of complaints about 'YES' posters which had been placed at the entrance to many of Arran's villages.

Last month Labour, Conservative and Independent councillors joined forces to push through a ban on cam-

paigned posters on North Ayrshire lampposts ahead of the European Election and Independence Referendum.

The matter was decided at the last meeting of the council before the Easter break, when Conservative Councillor Tom Marshall argued for minor changes to the rules around political campaign posters, with his own amendment to completely ban them from council property.

In practise, this means political campaigners will not be allowed to pin their posters to lampposts, railings and other 'street furniture'.

This effectively puts an end to a decades-long tradition in North Ayrshire, bringing it into line with other local authorities like East and South Ayrshire, where bans are already in place.

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Success at the polls for the SNP

The SNP topped the polls in North Ayrshire after the European Election last Thursday.

The party came first with 10,736 votes; in second place were Labour with 9,558 and third were the Conservative Party with 5,627.

The total number of votes cast in the region was 33,184.

The total number of rejected ballot papers was 48.

The percentage turnout for this election was 30.6 per cent. This compares to 26.8 per cent in the last European parliamentary elections held in 2009.

The Electoral Region of Scotland will return six Members of the European Parliament (MEPs).

Kenneth Gibson, SNP MSP for North Ayrshire, said:

'The SNP is delighted to have topped the poll in both North Ayrshire and Scotland. 'Indeed, we achieved a higher share of the vote than any party managed south of the border.

'It is a remarkable result after seven years in power at Holyrood during a time of great financial challenge.

'We now look forward to the referendum ballot on 18 September with renewed optimism.'

Bethany to take big drop to raise trip of a lifetime cash

A teenager is planning to swap her fiddle for a rope in a sponsored abseil to raise cash for the trip of a lifetime.

Bethany Walsh will next month take part in The Big Drop which will see her abseil 80-feet down Burns House, the headquarters of South Ayrshire Council in Ayr.

The 14-year-old from Whiting Bay is doing it to help raise the money for the Ayrshire Fiddle Orchestra to undertake a concert tour in South Africa next year.

The orchestra is holding a number of fund raising efforts in a bid to raise more than £120,000 to allow the trip to go ahead. Bethany, and other individual members, need to personally raise £250.

The Big Drop will take place on Sunday 22 June.

Opportunity

Orchestra secretary Kathleen Terras said: 'By holding the event at a very public venue it gives the orchestra a fantastic opportunity to raise a substantial sum, not only from individual sponsorship but from business support and wide-eyed passers by watching the activities.' Bethany will be among about 100 orchestra members or family and friends taking part.

The two-week tour, titled 'Aforica 2015', will take place in July next year and see the orchestra perform across South Africa, including concerts in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban.



Bethany raising money for South Africa trip. 20_b22fiddle01

They will also visit a game reserve at Port Elizabeth and perform in towns along The Garden Route.

Bethany, who is also a member of Arran Fiddle Club said: 'My mum was born in Cape Town so it really will be the trip of a lifetime.'

Anyone wishing to sponsor Bethany can do so on her Just-Giving page on www.justgiving.com/Bethany-Walsh1

Abandoned rucksack sparks search

An abandoned rucksack sparked a mountain rescue search last week after it was discovered in the A'Chir ridge area of the island's mountains.

There were fears a walker had fallen or been taken ill but after investigation by members of Arran Mountain Rescue Team the owner was discovered alive and well.

The team was called out again early on Monday evening to assist a young male who had injured his ankle coming off Goatfell.

The team Argo cat was used to reach the casualty quickly and take him off the hill to safety.

Waverley fundraising ceilidh postponed

Due to unforeseen circumstances the Waverley Ceilidh has been postponed until September.

A fundraising ceilidh to raise money for the world's last ocean going paddle steamer was due to take place in Lochranza Village Hall on 6 June.

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Arran craft beer part of festival

The Arran Brewery is helping Aldi kick off the summer by showcasing its craft beer in the retailer's annual summer beer festival.

The festival, which has been running for the past two years, will see one of the largest selections of micro brewed beers available to any retailer. Taking place throughout Scotland for the next five weeks, the festival will showcase some of the country's best ales including Arran Sunset.

Complemented

Arran Sunset is a mid-amber summer ale, complemented by a light perfumed hop aroma, with a good balance of malt, fruity and hops with a pleasant dry finish.

Expected to be worth more

than £200,000 to participating breweries, the summer festival is set to build on the success of Aldi's three previous festivals which generated substantial sales for small Scottish breweries and raised the profile of the industry as a whole.

Arran Brewery managing director Gerald Michaluk said: 'As a trustee and Director of SIBA, the Society of Independent Brewers, I am delighted to see Aldi supporting so many small independent breweries through its beer festival promotion. This showcase event provides a great opportunity for Aldi customers to try some fantastic beers from independent brewers the length and breadth of Scotland.'

New steering oar for Viking longship

Arran's very own Viking longship has a brand new steering oar.



The new steering oar for the longship.

Standing nearly eight feet high and built using 75 layers of birch, laminated together, it bears more than a passing resemblance to a cricket bat.

It has been built in Corrie by Neil Bulger, under the guidance of sculptor Marvin Elliot, for the longship 'Svarte Orn' The Black Eagle.

The longship was recently involved in the second series of Vikings, a multi million production filmed by the same company which produced Game of Thrones.

It was during the filming of an episode of a series called Black Ops, that the original oar was damaged beyond repair.



The Black Eagle as it appears in Vikings.

Environmental lawyers visit

Arran played host to the UK Environmental Law Association's (UKELA) annual 'Wild Law Weekend' on Saturday and Sunday.

The purpose of UKELA is to improve understanding and awareness of environmental law, as well as attempting to make the law work towards a better environment.

The weekend focussed on wildlife, marine and land protection on and around Arran.

Twenty-four lawyers with an interest in environmental law joined in activities including a RiB boat trip to the Scotland's first No Take Zone in Lamlash Bay and a visit

to the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST). The group also visited Roots of Arran Community Woodland and Arran beekeepers.

On Sunday evening, Tom Appleby, COAST trustee and senior lecturer in law at the University of the West of England, gave a presentation on the legal fight for the public right to fish and explained how the Lamlash Bay No

Take Zone was established.

Ian Cowan, co-ordinator of the Wild Law Weekend on Arran, said: 'Local community groups are doing such a lot to enhance Arran's marine and land biodiversity.'

'It is interesting to learn that groups like COAST have had to fight for the public's legal right to have our waters managed for everyone's benefit.'



Lawyers with an interest in the environment came to the island for a 'Wild Law Weekend'.

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Paterson Arran chief gets second outstanding contribution award

The boss of an Arran-based firm has received an award for his outstanding contribution to the Scottish food and drink industry

Alan Hardie, managing director of Paterson Arran Ltd, received the surprise at last week's Scotland Food and Drink Excellence Awards held in Edinburgh.

With 22 award categories celebrating excellence across Scottish food and drink, the awards showcase a broad spectrum of food and drink companies from across the country.

The size of the event has doubled over the last two years and attracted an audi-

ence of 700 to the Edinburgh International Conference Centre, where a meal showcasing the best of Scotland's larder was served. Scottish television presenter Kaye Adams hosted the event.

Mr Hardie's surprise award was presented at the end of the evening by the cabinet secretary for rural affairs and environment Richard Lochhead. Sponsored by the Scottish Government, this is only the second year that an outstanding contribution award has been presented.

It is not an open category where entries or nominations can be received. Instead, a panel of independent

judges select an individual who is making an outstanding contribution within their own company and across the industry. Mr Hardie said: 'I was surprised, but delighted and truly honoured to have been given this award. It is such an exciting time for Scottish food businesses and Scotland Food and Drink.'

Mr Hardie led a management buy-out of Paterson Arran in 1995 and prior to that spent 18 years with RJR Nabisco starting and turning around businesses in Tunisia, Canada, Colombia, Venezuela, Russia, Kazakhstan and Mexico. He is a board member of Scotland

Food and Drink and a founding member of the Industry Strategy Group for the Scottish Food Industry. He was educated at University of Edinburgh and IMD Switzerland.

Paterson Arran Ltd produces a range of shortbread and oatcake products under the Paterson's brand, premium biscuits under the Cafe Brontë and Brontë brands in Livingston, West Lothian and a range of mustard, chutney and jam under the Arran brand at its Old Mill factory in Lamlash.

At the awards, Arran Blue cheese was flying the flag for Taste of Arran and was short-



Cabinet secretary Richard Lochhead hands over the award to Alan Hardie.

listed in the Foodservice Product of the Year Category but narrowly missed out on

the top prize, being pipped by Iain Burnett, the Highland Chocolatier from Pitlochry.

Arran appeal for volunteers to help stroke support service

Health charity Chest Heart and Stroke Scotland (CHSS) is setting up a new communication support service for people living on Arran who have had a stroke.

The service will depend entirely on volunteers and CHSS is holding an open day at the Arran Community and Voluntary Service, Park Terrace, Lamlash, on Tuesday 10 June from 11am to 1pm.

This is an opportunity for islanders to find out more about the new service and find out the real difference they could make to people's lives as a communication support volunteer.

Anyone interested in joining the friendly volunteer team, should go along to the open day to find out more or contact Brian Corrigan, Regional Manager for South West, on 01505 872 512 or email brian.corrigan@chss.org.uk

An evening of Arran voices in Lamlash



Storyteller Jacqueline Harris has spent six months talking to local people.

Arran's rich cultural history is to be explored at an evening of storytelling later next month.

'Arran Voices' is a live performance event to be held at the Altachorvie Island Retreat in Lamlash on Sunday 8 June.

Storyteller Jacqueline Harris has spent the last six months talking to local people about what Arran means to them, and sharing old and new tales; some fantastic, some true.

With the help of Sheila Gilmore, David Napier, Rory Morrison and Shannon Galbraith, Jacqueline has woven together an evening of stories, both live and recorded.

Joni Keen will be singing and John Boyd will be serving up delicious taster dishes, all in the beautiful and relaxing atmosphere of the newly refurbished Altachorvie.

'Everyone I have spoken to for this project has been wonderfully inspiring and so generous with their time,' Jacqueline told *The Banner*.

'Bringing the old local tales into the present and combin-

ing them with new stories has been exciting.

'You can catch a glimpse of the huge part that stories, both real and imagined, play in our everyday lives and how they reflect the landscape in which we live.'

As the poet Muriel Rukeyser said: 'The world is made of stories, not of atoms.'

It should be an evening to remember.

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SSE profits rise leads to calls for price freeze to be extended

The company responsible for the supply of electricity to Arran has reported a bigger than expected rise in profits.

SSE, one of the big six energy suppliers, has reported a 9.6 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £1.55bn for the year to 31 March compared with £1.4bn a year earlier.

The firm said it had been boosted by a strong performance in its electricity transmission operations.

But the results come during what it said was a 'very challenging' time for the energy sector.

In March SSE, the second biggest supplier in the country, said it was freezing its energy tariffs until January 2016 and the profits rise has led to calls for this to be extended.

The UK's big six energy suppliers, which control around 95 per cent of the retail market, have come under fire in recent years for steadily increasing tariffs.

SSE also said it had lost 370,000 customers over the

course of the year but it said most of the decline in customer accounts came before it announced its two-year price freeze.

It said increased switching between suppliers by customers during the year had meant the number of electricity and gas customer accounts in Great Britain and Ireland had fallen from 9.47 million to 9.10 million.

Meanwhile, SSE's operating profits from its retail operations fell by 28.6 per cent to £292m.

Pass on

The Labour Party said the figures showed that energy companies could afford to freeze their prices much longer while consumer group Which? also called on SSE to pass on more of its gains to customers.

Jonathan Reynolds, Labour's shadow energy and climate change minister, said: 'SSE has already said it will freeze prices until 2016. The profits show it can afford to freeze them until 2017 - and

if SSE can do it, so can the other energy companies.'

But Alistair Phillips-Davies, SSE chief executive, put the £1.55bn group profits down to significant investment in gas production and electricity networks and said it was doing all it could to hold retail prices.

'We introduced our price freeze right at the end of the last financial year and it has been hugely popular. It remains the only such commitment available to all customers and will mean we take a hit on retail profits over the next couple of years.'

He added that the company's commitment to freeze energy tariffs until 2016 would reduce profits by £100m.

He also said SSE faced intense competition in the market from smaller suppliers.

He added: 'I think there is a lot SSE can offer, but people have switched.'

'However, I think we have lots of customers satisfied because they are staying with us.'



Arran Bridge Club results

The results of the tournament on Monday 26 May were as follows: N/S 1 Tricia Martin and David Campbell, 2 Jan Beattie and Margaret McGill, 3 Janette McBride and John Baraclough.

E/W 1 Margaret and Douglas Bruce, 2 Linda Trickett and Elizabeth McKellar, 3 Elsie Jones and Liz Robertson.

John Dick will be teaching Bridge this winter in Arran High School.

Phone 700386 for more details.

Highland dancers fling their way to success

Seven of Arran's young Highland dancers travelled to the mainland earlier this month to take their dance exams.

Their teacher, Anne-Marie McGarry, runs her own dance school in Kilmarnock, as well as coming to Arran to teach the youngsters.

The girls were doing various exams, at different levels, and all seven passed with flying colours.

For anyone interested in taking part, Highland dance lessons are held fortnightly at Arran High School on a Saturday morning.

Independence Referendum Debate

Friday June 6th 2014 7.30pm

Arran High School Theatre

Lamlash Isle of Arran

Speakers:

For the Better Together Campaign promoting a NO vote:

- David O'Neill (NAC Labour Councillor & COSLA President)
- Gerald Michaluk (Scottish Conservatives & local businessman)

For the YES Scotland Campaign promoting a YES vote:

- Dr Malcolm Kerr (Arran GP and SNP activist)
- Speaker from Women for Independence

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SAT 21st JUNE Midsummer Frolics 9.00 - 11.00pm
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Using what comes naturally helps island firm expansion

Water flowing from the hills gives an island product its unique characteristics, but we are not talking whisky.

We are talking cosmetics.

For Arran Aromatics is going back to its grass roots to find a way forward for the future as it embarks on ambitious expansion plans.

And it was no marketing ploy when chief executive Alan Wade told The Banner. 'All of our wash products contain water which comes off the hills of Arran.'

And for emphasis he points out the small pumping station just across the road from the Home Farm factory in Brodick where all the products are made.

'It is not tap water or bought in but pure stream water that is rich in minerals and that makes it something special.'

'All our formulations are designed around the consistent quality of the water and we couldn't make the products anywhere else - it just wouldn't work.'

And that makes a unique selling point for Arran Aromatic products and is helping the island perfumers find their position in the market place.

Mr Wade, who has been with the company for two years but took over as chief executive in December, has vowed to triple turnover in the next three to five years.

In doing so he wants to turn a £5 million family business into a £15m brand.

It is a remarkable turnaround for a firm that was on the brink of collapse five years ago.

He said the company was

trying to position itself at the high end - but not the top - of the market, but said: 'If we are going ask people to pay £12 for one of our products we have to ask ourselves: What is different about us?'

He said: 'We are a fragranced business where others may be design-led, packaged or brand-led but because of our location we are never going to be able to compete on price. But the fragrance of our products is as good as anything out there.'

And he praised the production process. 'While we, of course, use machinery all of our products have an element of hand finishing by the artisans who are our people based on Arran.'

'We are not chemical free, but we go back to nature when we can.'

While Arran is an important selling point for the products in Scotland the challenge lies in selling the product to the rest of the UK and worldwide and that is where Mr Wade believes they can tap into 'brand Scotland' which has been so successful for tartan and whisky.

'The heritage, the story behind the brand is incredibly important in the export of whisky and it is no different for us.'

The company currently exports its products to around 20 countries and is the biggest Scottish exporter to Saudi Arabia. Now it plans to target new markets such as those emerging in China, Japan, the Middle East and even India.

At any one time the company,



Chief executive Alan Wade outside Arran Aromatics.01_b22aroma01

which is 25 years old this year, has between 600 and 700 products available in its standard range and is consistently trying to introduce new products and limited editions.

Indeed in its birthday year it is reproducing some of its old favourites which are no longer in production.

The company employs 120 people with nearly 60 on Arran and the rest at their distribution centre in Dundonald, their sales and marketing office in East Kilbride and at their nine shops.

It also sells through concessions in several department stores.

All but one of its shops are in Scotland - the other being in Devon, where one of its perfumers lives, and has plans to expand to 'around 12' but it is not a major strategy for growth.

One area which is vital, however, is online sales.

The company launched a new website at the end of September last year where the full product range is on sale and the company has seen some impressive returns

both in sales across the UK and internationally.

Mr Wade said: 'We have seen significant growth in visitors, growth in sales and also a growth in enquiries from potential partner retailers and hoteliers.'

The website also has links to the social media sites Facebook, Twitter and Pinterest and with 18,500 Facebook friends it is clear it is increasingly important marketing tool.

The company is using the £2.8 million it received from the Business Growth Fund to modernise many of the firm's systems and, as well as the new website, the company has upgraded its IT systems and installed a new enterprise resource planning system to streamline all production work.

But Mr Wade said the 'family ethos' of the firm remained and said a vital cog was the Home Farm visitor centre.

He said: 'If I had a tardis I would make it everyone's introduction to the company.'

'Here people can touch, feel and smell everything about the products and see at first hand how they are made. It is a great way to showcase our products.'



Mr Wade meets one of the company's newest employees Megan McGill in the Brodick shop. 01_b22aroma02



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THE ARRAN BANNER

Arran takes its products into new markets across the world

With the world watching with some trepidation the future of Europe, it is good to see businesses on Arran taking their international trade beyond traditional boundaries.

Take Arran Aromatics which, as we reveal this week, is going back to basics in a major expansion plan which will see turnover triple.

But they have not just set their sights on the Scottish or even the UK markets.

They aim to go global.

The company currently exports its products to around 20 countries and, outside Europe, this includes the US, the Middle East, New Zealand, Canada and South Korea.

Indeed the firm is the biggest Scottish exporter to Saudi Arabia, although this is a little by default as the Islamic country doesn't import whisky and doesn't need Scotland's oil. But impressively Arran Aromatics products are available in 350 stores across the huge Arabian country.

Over the years the company has exported to more than 40 different countries but now plans, according to bosses, to be 'a bit more targeted' in its approach to certain markets including those emerging in China, Japan and even India.

And its not just Arran Aromatics which is looking further afield. Even Arran cheese has found a whole new market in Taiwan.

The cheese produced by First Milk at the Torrylinn Creamery, includes the award winning Isle Arran Extra Mature cheddar. With a delegation of Asian supermarket buyers visiting the island last week, it is hoped other markets in the region can be tapped into.

This success is because, in part, the firm has developed new formats and pack sizes, which have been tailored to the different consumer buying and eating habits that exist in South East Asia.

So the firm is not focused just on the product, but interestingly on how it can be best marketed in these countries - a wise approach when doing business in a part of the world which is new and unique.

Away from exports it's been a good week for Arran business all round, with the boss of Paterson Arran, Alan Hardie, picking up a well-deserved outstanding achievement award at the Scotland Food and Drink Excellence Awards.

At the same event Arran Blue cheese from the Bellevue Creamery was shortlisted for a top award and, while it lost out on the night, to have another Arran product highlighted at a national event can only be another positive sign that businesses on the island can have a bright future at home and abroad.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'There is nothing in all creation that can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.' (Romans 8:39)

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This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

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your letters

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Letters to the Editor



Garden vandalism

Sir,
Having returned to Brodick for a brief visit after a lapse of 32 years I was dismayed beyond belief and horrified to read your recently published report regarding the National Trust's plans to create a contemporary design in the historic 18th century walled garden at Brodick Castle.

A garden of such antiquity has layers of history dating back 300 years. The historical layer that greets today's visitor belongs to the most significant period in the history of gardening at Brodick Castle, namely when the Duchess of Montrose, a visionary of her time, created these now internationally renowned gardens held in the highest esteem by gardeners and botanists throughout the world.

During the latter part of 1970s, in consultation with Lady Jean Fforde and the trust's garden adviser, the late Eric Robson, we undertook to reinstate garden features that had vanished from the walled garden over time since their creation by Lady Jean's mother.

Having worked in these gardens, under the supervision of a truly great and internationally respected head gardener John Basford during the period 1976 to 1983, I firmly believe that creating a contemporary designed garden within this historic space will be looked upon as an act of vandalism, having total disregard and disrespect for garden history, the distinguished family who created and cherished this garden and finally to the garden staff of today who strive to maintain the genii loci of Brodick Castle Gardens.

Shame on the National Trust for Scotland.

Yours,
Steve Benham
New Zealand Government
botanist
Auckland
New Zealand

Visual pollution

Sir,
I was most disappointed, as I travelled to Brodick, to see several Yes posters erected at

the roadside, just beyond the viewpoint car park.

While I expect there to be referendum posters and banners in the days before the referendum, to start erecting them (Yes or No) almost five months before the referendum is a totally unacceptable visual pollution of our lovely island, especially early in the tourist season, when visitors are coming to enjoy our scenery, not political slogans.

I may say that I had a similar reaction, while driving through the Peak District National Park, on a road which I considered to have a grossly excessive number of speed limit reminders and other warnings, and I feel that excessive use of signs, whether road signs, advertisements or political slogans greatly detracts from the appeal of what should be an unspoilt landscape. I may also add that the fairly unobtrusive roadside signs that appear a couple of days before the event they advertise, and then are removed quickly seems to me perfectly acceptable.

The idea of littering our roadsides with 'Yes' or 'No' signs for the next five months is definitely not.

Douglas Hamilton
Glenburn
Lamlash

Ideas and enthusiasm needed!

Sir,
On June 16, at a public meeting in Shiskine Hall, it was unanimously agreed that Shiskine Valley Trust and Shiskine Valley Improvements should be amalgamated into one group, Shiskine Valley Improvement SCIO (Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation).

At this same meeting a new constitution was formally approved. The new organisation, in turn, was approved as an SCIO in spring 2014, and a meeting was held, inviting ideas and suggestions for improvements on 8 May.

However, the turnout for this meeting was poor and those who attended felt it only appropriate to hold a second meeting a few weeks

hence.

To this end we would like to invite all interested people from the area to another meeting to be held in Shiskine Church Hall on Thursday 5 June.

At this meeting we hope to discuss the new organisation and how it can positively move forward.

Also to be discussed would be Shiskine Valley Sports Day, and any other improvements or development that Shiskine Valley Improvements SCIO might offer support to, within the community.

These things don't just happen - they need commitment from others to make them happen.

Shiskine Valley Sports Day was originally a vehicle to allow community groups to fundraise whilst offering entertainment for locals and visitors alike.

Last year, there were very few groups which took that opportunity, which in turn meant there was less happening on the field. Folk are good at moaning, but not so good at actually doing something about it, it would seem!

Similarly village improvements need support if they are to progress. There may be funding available to help with any developments, but we still need ideas - and a willingness to donate time to such projects.

The previous Shiskine Valley Improvements Committee all worked full-time, so input is definitely needed!

We trust that we see a good turnout on 5 June in Shiskine Church Hall, from local groups and enthusiastic individuals alike.

Yours,
Sheila Gilmore
Secretary
Shiskine Valley SCIO

Dutch courage

Sir,
Having failed to learn our lesson last year, I again travelled from the Netherlands with friends to participate in the 2014 Goatfell Race. Following a heated debate, the official conclusion is that the weather was actually even

worse this year.

Many thanks to everyone who helped make it such a good event, especially the Mountain Rescue Team who braved ferocious gusts of wind and rain on the mountain to marshal the event.

Thanks also to the lady who supplied the cakes, allowing us to consume our own bodyweight in scones, and to the pipe band for the atmosphere at the start.

Some small suggestions to improve the experience: 1, The lone piper on the road would add much more by playing at the summit. Go on, you know you want to. 2, Prizes are awarded in several categories, but surely there should be one for 'first runner who lives in a flat country' (e.g. Holland). 3, Runners from Lochaber, who couldn't find a flat patch of ground to run on if they tried, should be handicapped in some way, e.g. by being forced to carry runners from Holland up the steepest section. 4, Could The Banner please stop referring to this as an 'eight-mile' race. That was 2007 only. From Ormidale Park it is almost 10 miles.

Yours,
Colin L Robertson
Van Hall-Laan 17
1412CS Naarden
The Netherlands

Dr Graham's thank you

Sir,
What a magnificent turnout for the Koffee for Kalimpong morning in support of Dr Graham's Homes.

Right until closing people were arriving to enjoy the magnificent home baking, coffee, bric a brac and raffle.

The Reverend John Webster conducted the raffle in his usual exuberant style and the excellent sum of £800 was raised.

Thank you to all the dedicated helpers and of course to you, our loyal supporters, who help to keep DGH functioning in these difficult times.

Yours,
Janice Small
Brodick

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New benevolent fund started

A long-established Arran charity has changed its name.

The Kilbride Parish Nurse Fund which was started in 1947, a year before the National Health Service began, will now be called The Kilbride Benevolent Fund.

Originally created to provide a nurse for both Lamlash and Whiting Bay, the charity will now consider making one-off grants to people of all ages who are 'in-need' or unable to obtain funding from statutory sources.

A spokesman for the renamed benevolent fund said: 'We have limited funds available for distribution on a quarterly basis and these funds will be available to people in need living within the villages of Lamlash and Whiting Bay.'

'The trustees, five of whom come from Lamlash and five from Whiting Bay, will meet once a quarter to consider applications for assistance.'

Applications to the fund must be made using an application form, which should be completed as fully as possible.

If an application is made on behalf of a child, then details of the whole family should be included.

Grants awarded will be paid by cheque and are unlikely to exceed £200.

An AGM will be held in the coming weeks to elect trustees and explain in more detail how the fund will work.

Christian Aid collection success

The impressive sum of £1,248 has been raised from the door to door collection in Whiting Bay and Kildonan villages as part of Christian Aid - around £120 more than last year. Organisers would like to say a big 'thank you' to all those who collected and to those who gave so generously.

Feis Arainn reminder

Registration forms for this year's Feis Arainn festival were due to be returned by today (Friday 30 May) either to the schools or to organiser Aileen McLaughlin.

Anyone who has forgotten should send them in as soon as possible. Extra forms can be obtained from the schools or from Aileen on 700209 - but hurry!

Anniversary surprise for Shiskine couple

When Ted and Margaret Godfrey of Shiskine attended a North Ayrshire and Arran Conservative Party lunch in Fairlie last Friday, little did they know what lay in store for them.

Quietly celebrating their 55th wedding anniversary, Ted and Margaret were taken by surprise to be presented with a bouquet of flowers from the Conservatives presented by the guest speaker, Dr Liam Fox MP, former secretary of state for defence.

Margaret said later that it was a complete surprise and a lovely one to make their day.

Association chairman, Richard Wilkinson said: 'When I heard that it was their 55th wedding anniversary no less, we were keen to mark the occasion and who better to present the bouquet to Ted and Margaret but our guest speaker, Dr Liam Fox, MP for North Somerset.'

'He was delighted to present it when I asked him and congratulated the happy couple on their joint achievement.'



Former secretary of state for defence, Dr Liam Fox, centre, presented Ted and Margaret Godfrey with a bouquet to mark their 55th wedding anniversary.

Good day at the trials for Geoff and his dog Shona

The 126th Dougarie Sheep Dog Trials were held at Glenloig last Friday (May 23) in ideal conditions.

A record 53 dogs took part on the day, a new record, and 10 were run by Arran handlers.

The open winner was John Seton of Darvel, Ayrshire but the winner confined to Arran was Geoff Brookes of Southbank, Shannochie with his dog Shona.

Confined

Niall McMaster of Springfield, Shannochie and his dog Liz were second in the confined class with Liz Robertson and Joe from Machrie third, and Jack Murchie and Meg fourth.

Second in the Open class were Roddy McDiarmid and Jim, third Alec McCuish and Moss, fourth Jock Welsh and Jock, fifth Fraser Shen-

nan and Mia and sixth Stuart Davidson and Queen.

As a result Geoff Brookes took home the Learig cup for the confined winner as well as the Baldy Craig rose bowl for the best outrun/lift/pen confined.

John Murchie won the Harbour View cup for best drive, confined.

Liz Robertson won the Machrie Farmer's cup for best fetch/shed confined and Jack Murchie with Meg won the Glaister shield for the highest pointed Arran bred dog.

The judge for the day was Jimmy Barr of Kintyre and the prizes were presented by Jean Lammie, the wife of the honorary president.

The next trial, the Dougarie Confined will take place on Saturday 23 August at Druid, Auchencar.

Spectators are welcome.

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whisky day and night to make single malts that range from a 10-year-old to a delectable new 17-year-old, speciality cask bottlings, as well as Arran Gold whisky liqueur. The distillery has also forged close ties with other food producers on the island to develop mustard, ice cream and chocolates all flavoured with this wonderful whisky.

Creelers

The emphasis at Creelers of Arran has always been on the provision of top quality, locally caught seafood from the beginning to the end of the whole eating experience. Tim James is a fisherman, who still works creels on the MFV Julie-Ann, and all the fish used at Creelers in Arran is bought directly from boats operating in and around Loch Fyne and Arran. The smoked products come fresh from the smokehouse at Home Farm, where the smoking process uses old whisky barrels from the Isle of Arran Distillery. Salmon used for smoking is mainly sourced from the award-winning, sustainable salmon company Loch Duart. Likewise the halibut used is farmed on Gigha using organic feed and all wild fish used is landed in Campbeltown as a by-catch of the langoustine boats. So Creelers is truly a local product. You can find Creelers Restaurant and Smokehouse and Shop at

Brodick Home Farm, where you can enjoy a delicious meal or buy fresh smoked fish, shell salmon home with you. Or buy online at www.creelers.co.uk

The Island Cheese Company

Producing award winning cheeses is not an easy task, but at Home Farm in Brodick that is exactly what The Island Cheese Company has been doing for nearly 20 years. Arran Blue cheese was flying the flag for the island last week when it was nominated at The Scotland Food and Drink Excellence Awards and last year it won silver at the World Cheese Awards. A commitment to quality is the principal motivation of the company where all cheese is made in the traditional way, and you will find no artificial flavours, colours or preservatives. As well as their own Arran Blue, Camembert and Brie made in Blackwaterfoot, they produce soft cheeses and a range of flavoured cheddars that are available at the Home Farm shop and at various outlets on Arran and throughout Scotland.

Arran Chocolate Factory

The Arran Chocolate Factory and its mouth-watering array of handmade truffles, fudges and chocolates has become one of the island's great food experiences. James McChlery first began making chocolates about 12 years ago and since then he has continued

The view is not the only thing to savour

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Today Arran can boast one of the finest ranges of malt whiskies in the world. Using only traditional methods of distilling with wooden washbacks and copper stills designed to an exact specification, the distillery produces whisky which is now distributed all over the globe. Arran Distillery uses no peat in the production process and no caramel for artificial colouring - unlike most other distilleries - and as a result the malt produced can rightly be described as 'the true spirit of nature'. Today the distillery is producing

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The Arran Butcher

The Arran Butcher in Blackwaterfoot has an extensive selection of quality meats that include traditional cuts of naturally reared local Scotch beef, lamb, venison and pork - all bought from local farms where possible. Their speciality is supplying customers with meat that is so tender and delicious that you will always come back for more. As well as the meats there is an extensive range of fresh fish and an ever growing range of home-made produce.

The sausages, burgers, haggis, black pudding, cooked meats, a selection of pies and sausage rolls are all made on the premises and the new Scotch eggs are flying out the door.

The shop at Blackwaterfoot is now open six days a week and the Lochranza shop is open for the summer on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday mornings each week with the mobile shop visiting the northend on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Arran Butcher products can also

be bought from the Co-operative stores in Brodick and Lamlash, Wooleys of Brodick and Bay Stores and The Village Shop in Whiting Bay. Home delivery is also available.

Arran Fine Foods

Originally a family business producing a range of mustards for local gift shops and businesses, Arran Fine Foods is now part of the Paterson family and prides itself on the use of great ingredients to make delicious condiments. Today around 20 employees make

a selection of preserves, mustards, chutneys and salad dressings at the 'mustard factory' - as it's locally known - in Lamlash. In another fantastic example of the island's food producers developing a close relationship, with both the Isle of Arran Distillery and Arran Brewery, they have created an Arran provenance range. These delicious, award-winning products include Apple and Arran Ale Chutney, Vintage Marmalade with Arran Malt Whisky and elephant garlic and beetroot chutney, locally grown by Robin Gray to create the true taste of the island in a jar!

Arran Dairies

Rich grasslands in the south of the island are the perfect grazing ground for the dairy cattle that produce milk for Arran Dairies. By modern standards this is a small dairy operation, which has been pasteurising and bottling the

island's milk and cream for 30 years on site in Brodick. But unlike most processed milk from large dairy plants, this milk has not been homogenised. It still has an old-fashioned 'cream line' so the milk retains its creamy taste. It's this special Arran milk churned in batches of 200 litres into ice cream, which makes the Italian-type ice cream, refreshingly cold with a satisfying creaminess. The tasty flavours range from pistachio and praline, chocolate chip mint, Arran Gold and toffee to classic vanilla and strawberry made with real crushed fruit.

Ormidale Food and Craft Market

When you're looking for the freshest Arran produce, look no further than the Ormidale Food and Craft Market.

Held most Tuesdays throughout the summer in the Ormidale Pavilion in the centre of Brodick, this market brings together some of the island's finest food producers, artists and craft makers.

The various stallholders proudly sell lamb, beef, goat and pork all reared on the island as well as fresh fruit and vegetables, fresh free range eggs, jams, chutneys, beautiful plants

and homebaking. There are also ceramics and books, jewellery, and interesting clothing that catch your eyes as soon as you enter the pavilion. For a true taste of Arran and it's smaller food producers, this is the place to be!

The Scottish Salmon Company

The Scottish Salmon Company, which has a farm in Lamlash Bay, produces around 1,400 tonnes of fish each year in Arran's waters, and more than 20,000 tonnes nationwide.

There are six members of staff working in Lamlash Bay overseeing all the elements of fish husbandry that take the salmon from small hatchlings through to full-growth during a three-year cycle. In recent months SSC has seen overseas exports increase with more than 40 per cent of its sales going to high-end retailers and restaurateurs in France and the US and also the emerging markets of Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Japan, Taiwan and China.

The quality of Scottish salmon is internationally recognised and is the number one choice amongst discerning customers who demand the finest quality fish.

Raised in the clear waters of Arran, the salmon have inimitable qualities; deep pink flesh and a firm succulent texture - hallmarks of a premium quality product.

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JUNE 3rd, 10th, 24th
JULY 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd
AUGUST 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th
SEPTEMBER 2nd, 16th

The Ormidale Pavilion
11.00 - 3.00



Isle of Arran Cheese Shop

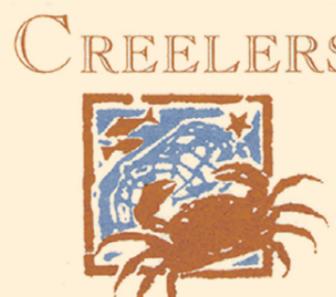
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Blue : Camembert : Brie : Flavoured Cheddars

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Sample the produce

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WIN M&S VOUCHERS

Exclusive Reader Shopping Survey

THE ARRAN BANNER

As a valued reader, we would like to invite you to take part in this short survey on your supermarket shopping habits. We are keen to find out where you shop, and the reasons why you choose specific supermarkets. You are simply required to tick (or click if answering online) the box(es) that refers to your answer. The survey should take no more than 5 minutes of your time. All completed surveys will be entered into a prize draw to win one of five £25 Marks & Spencer Vouchers. All information will be treated in the strictest confidence and used for analysis purposes only.

You can either complete the survey here, or alternatively you can go online and complete the survey at www.tinyurl.com/scotloc The closing date for entries is midnight, 13th June 2014.

Q1 Which of the following most closely describes the extent to which you are involved in the grocery shopping in your household?
 I do all or most of the shopping I have little or no involvement
 I share the responsibility for the shopping with someone else in the household

Q2 In which of the following supermarkets do you a) do your MAIN grocery shopping, and b) any top up shopping during the week? (please tick all that apply)

	MAIN grocery shopping	Top Up Shopping
Aldi	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Asda	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budgens	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Co-Operative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Costcutter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farmfoods	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Iceland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lidl	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marks & Spencer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Morrisons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sainsburys	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Spar	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tesco	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Waitrose	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q3 Please indicate which other shop (s) you use for your MAIN grocery shopping?

Q4 And which other shop(s) do you use for your top up shopping?

Q5 If you were to choose just ONE supermarket, which would you say is your favourite?

<input type="checkbox"/> Aldi	<input type="checkbox"/> Costcutter	<input type="checkbox"/> Marks & Spencer	<input type="checkbox"/> Tesco
<input type="checkbox"/> Asda	<input type="checkbox"/> Farmfoods	<input type="checkbox"/> Morrisons	<input type="checkbox"/> Waitrose
<input type="checkbox"/> Budgens	<input type="checkbox"/> Iceland	<input type="checkbox"/> Sainsburys	<input type="checkbox"/> The Co-Operative
<input type="checkbox"/> Lidl	<input type="checkbox"/> Spar		

Other (please state) _____

Q6 Which of the following factors are most likely to influence your choice of supermarket? (please tick all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Advertising	<input type="checkbox"/> Location	<input type="checkbox"/> Car Parking	<input type="checkbox"/> Quality of products
<input type="checkbox"/> Environmentally friendly	<input type="checkbox"/> Loyalty scheme	<input type="checkbox"/> Past Experience	<input type="checkbox"/> Range of products
<input type="checkbox"/> Fresh food counters	<input type="checkbox"/> Online delivery service	<input type="checkbox"/> Habit	<input type="checkbox"/> Other local shops nearby
<input type="checkbox"/> Helpfulness of staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Opening Hours	<input type="checkbox"/> Low prices	

Other (please specify) _____

Q7 And which ONE of the following factors would you say is THE most important in deciding which supermarket to shop at? (please tick ONE only)

<input type="checkbox"/> Advertising	<input type="checkbox"/> Past Experience
<input type="checkbox"/> Stock ethically sourced products	<input type="checkbox"/> Habit
<input type="checkbox"/> Fresh food counters	<input type="checkbox"/> Low prices
<input type="checkbox"/> Helpfulness of staff	<input type="checkbox"/> Quality of products
<input type="checkbox"/> Location	<input type="checkbox"/> Locally sourced products
<input type="checkbox"/> Loyalty scheme	<input type="checkbox"/> Range of products
<input type="checkbox"/> Online delivery service	<input type="checkbox"/> Ability to use money off coupons
<input type="checkbox"/> Opening Hours	<input type="checkbox"/> Other local shops nearby
<input type="checkbox"/> Car Parking	

Other (please specify) _____

Q8 In addition to your main grocery shopping, which of the following do you also shop at?

<input type="checkbox"/> A local independent grocer	<input type="checkbox"/> Fishmonger	<input type="checkbox"/> Butcher
<input type="checkbox"/> Farmers Market	<input type="checkbox"/> Greengrocer	<input type="checkbox"/> Local Market
<input type="checkbox"/> Baker		

Q9 Would you say that you do the majority of your shopping?
 Online In-Store

We would now like to understand your attitudes towards how your local newspaper(s) influence your decision on where to shop, and any purchasing decisions you make?

Q10 To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?

	Agree Strongly	Agree Slightly	No opinion	Disagree Slightly	Disagree Strongly
I rely on my local newspaper to keep me up to date with the latest offers from local shops	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I trust what I read in my local newspaper	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I know that if something is advertised in my local newspaper, then it will be available in my area	<input type="checkbox"/>				
I enjoy shopping for groceries	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Online shopping makes my life easier	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Supermarket's own brands are as good as major brands	<input type="checkbox"/>				

Q11 Which of the following have you personally done (when shopping for groceries) as a result of seeing something advertised in your local newspaper? (tick all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Decided which supermarket/store to shop at	<input type="checkbox"/> Redeemed a coupon/voucher
<input type="checkbox"/> Made a note of a special offer or promotion	<input type="checkbox"/> Talked about something you have seen with friends and family

About you. In order for us to analyse the information, please tell us a little bit about yourself?

Q12 Are you
 Male Female

Q13 And which of the following age groups do you fall into?

<input type="checkbox"/> Under 18	<input type="checkbox"/> 19 - 24	<input type="checkbox"/> 25 - 34	<input type="checkbox"/> 35 - 44
<input type="checkbox"/> 45 - 54	<input type="checkbox"/> 55 - 64	<input type="checkbox"/> 65+	

If you would like to enter our competition to WIN ONE OF FIVE £25 MARKS & SPENCERS VOUCHERS, please provide us with your details below

Q14 Please provide us with the following details:

Title _____
 Given name _____
 Surname _____
 Address _____

 Postcode _____
 Email address _____
 Telephone Number _____
 Mobile Number _____

Q15 Would you like to receive emails with breaking news from Wyvex Media and other products, offers and competitions from Wyvex Media? We will never pass your email details onto any other company and you can unsubscribe at any time.
 If you'd like to receive our emails, please tick here

Thank you for your time. We value your comments.
 All postal surveys should be sent to the following address:
The Wyvex Media Reader Shopping Survey
FREEPOST, RRHK-JJR-B-ULTR,
PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4HB

*The prize draw is also open to readers completing the survey in other Wyvex Media Publications.

Outdoor art installation launched

Despite torrential rain, thunder and lightning, a captivating outdoor art installation was launched in a woodland glade on Sunday at the National Trust for Scotland's (NTS) Brodick Castle and Country Park.

Karen Rann's unique piece was unveiled in front of a large crowd who also gathered to hear a new site-specific story written and read by author Sara Maitland.

The pair have been working together on 'Nature of Change', a project for the conservation charity made possible through Creative

Scotland's artist-in-residence programme.

During an eight-week residency on the island, Karen became increasingly interested in the unique natural history of Arran, in particular the Sorbus Arranensis tree - Arran's native cross between Whitebeam and Rowan.

Karen was intrigued by the subtle difference in leaf shapes that have emerged as these trees have evolved.

In response she has transcribed her own trees in the Cnocan Glade.

She has cut leaves in a section of Rhododendron magnificum trees, carefully following the major veins.

Some leaves have been left uncut as her aim was to show the difference as well as how 'natural' the new shape looks.

She brought nothing into the site and has taken nothing away, and in time the artwork will change and diminish and it will take around three years for the cut leaves to grow out.

Karen told The Banner that she hopes her subtle interventions in the glade will inspire others to see the environment with 'fresh eyes'.

Sara Maitland's story about a love-affair between the plants captivated the audience as she read it aloud underneath the natural tree canopy.

The author, who is based near Newton Stewart, told The Banner that at the be-



During an eight-week residency on the island, Karen became increasingly interested in the unique natural history of Arran. 20_b22ran02

ginning of this year she had compiled a list of things to do in 2014.

On the list was 'go to Arran' and 'write a site-specific story'. She said that when Karen rang with her proposition she couldn't believe her ears.

'It was clearly meant to be!' Claire McDade, head of learning services for the NTS, said that she felt the event had a profound effect on all present.

'Despite the rain and the midges I think everyone would agree that this has changed us. It has been uplifting, what a wonderful experience,' she said.

Special service to take place at Preaching Cave

An unusual open air service will be taking place on Sunday 8 June in the Preaching Cave at Kilpatrick, a mile south of Blackwaterfoot.

The meeting is an opportunity to commemorate the 200th anniversary of meetings beginning in the cave.

The service, which begins at 3.30pm, is being arranged as part of the 125th anniversary of St Molios Church in Shiskine.

'This will be a good way to celebrate Pentecost Sunday which is the birthday of the church,' said the Reverend Angus Adamson who will lead the meeting.

'We will have a mixture of the old and the new and while the style will be very different from how it was 200 years ago, we'll be coming with the same sense of expectancy that this cave will be a place of encounter and spiritual refreshment.'

In 1814 the Rev Neil McBride, the minister at Kilmory Church who had been a leading figure in the Arran revivals, died.

The congregation wanted Angus Macmillan, a lively preacher from Lochranza, as their new minister but the Duke of Hamilton appointed the moderate Dugald Crawford as the new incumbent.

After hearing one sermon from Crawford, the majority of the congregation under the leadership of a farmer preacher William McKinnon decided to separate and meet in Uamh Mhor which in due course was called the Preaching Cave.

This action was something of a foretaste of what would become known as the Great



Those few years of regular worship in the cave obviously created some special memories.

Disruption in 1843, when many people left the Church of Scotland and formed the Free Church of Scotland over the same issue.

The congregation at the Preaching Cave was in effect a Free Church a quarter of a century earlier.

In 1821, the Rev Dugald Crawford was drowned a mile off Pladda island and the following year Angus Macmillan was appointed the new minister at Kilmory and his lively evangelical preaching soon brought the separatists back from the cave.

However those few years of regular worship in the cave

obviously created some special memories, so meetings continued to take place there from time to time.

It was also used as the local school until 1843 - apparently it is warmer and less draughty than other buildings.

There is limited car parking at Kilpatrick itself, so on the day those who would like to follow in the footsteps of the original worshippers are invited to meet at the car park at the Kinloch Hotel by 2.30pm to walk the mile along the coastal path to the cave.

For more information please contact John Kerr on 860498.



Acclaimed author Sara Maitland had the audience captivated with her story of the trees. 20_b22ran01

VOLUNTEER OPEN DAY
 Tuesday 10th June, 11am - 1pm
 Arran Community and Voluntary Service
 Park Terrace, Lamlash

Come learn about the rewarding volunteer roles in our new Communication Support Service for people in Arran living with the effects of stroke

For more information contact Brian on 01505 872 512

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20th **ARRAN FOLK festival** 6th - 8th June
 A weekend of Sessions, Concerts & Workshops

Fri 6th June:
 Welcome Session The Douglas Hotel 12-5pm FREE
 Concert Brodick Village Hall 7:30pm £17
 Lorne MacDougall Band, Mary Ann Kennedy Trio, Gillian Frame & Findlay Napier

Sat 7th June:
 Open Session The Douglas Hotel 12-5pm FREE
 Singing Workshop Brodick Church Hall 2-3.30pm £5
 Informal singing workshop for all ages & abilities with Gillian Frame
 Concert Brodick Village Hall 7:30pm £17
 Tim Edey Band, Jenn Butterworth & Laura-Beth Salter, Scott MacDonald

Sun 8th June:
 Survivors' Session The Douglas Hotel 12-5pm FREE
 Open Mic Night The Douglas Hotel 8 - 11pm FREE
 Contact info@arranevents.com to take part in the Open Mic Night

Brochures and further info available from local shops. Tickets now available on-line and at Brodick Post Office.
www.arranevents.com

BRODICK PRIMARY SCHOOL
 Summer BBQ
 Thursday 5th June 6.00 - 7.30pm
 Raffle - Family fun - Tombola - Homebaking Games - Dancing Dogs
 ALL WELCOME

PLANT & TABLE TOP SALE
 IN KILMORY HALL
 on Sunday 1st June from 2pm
 Bargains - Burgers - Tea/Coffee
 1934 Club Open 2pm - 10pm

Summer Events in Kilmory Hall:
 Summer Ball - 21st June Tickets £10
 Casino Night - 26th July Tickets £15 with JAV's Curry
 Please book your tickets in advance.
 Show Dance - 6th August
 Fete & Barn Dance - 27th September

Charity run for tragic fiancée

A member of Arran Runners has raised more than £1000 by running a marathon in memory of his fiancée who died of secondary breast cancer.

David Allsop lost his fiancée Deborah Hanlon in November 2012 at the age of just 36.

Last year, David, who is originally from Arran, but who now lives in Glasgow, ran the Edinburgh Marathon in her memory.

He raised money for Marie Curie and this year he is supporting Breast Cancer Care.

David, who builds hillside footpaths and recently ran the Goatfell Race, had a charity

collection for fellow runners on the day.

He also has a Just Giving page on which he states: 'Debs was incredibly brave till the end and is terribly missed by all that knew her as she touched our hearts in her own special way. She was truly beautiful and will always hold a special place in my heart.'

'Every penny you donate will help ensure Breast Cancer Care continue to be there for those affected by breast cancer.'

Anyone still wishing to help can donate at justgiving.com/David-Allsop2

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The garden warbler

At this time of year in the spring and early summer, the island is enhanced by the sound of the aptly named warblers, many of which have wintered far to the south of us in Africa.

The most widespread of these species on Arran is the Willow Warbler.

The appropriately named Blackcap and Whitethroat are also familiar.

As the foliage increases in woods and hedgerows one of the most reliable ways of identifying warblers is by their unique song.

Another of these warblers is the Garden Warbler. It is a common and widespread small bird that breeds in most of Europe and in western Asia including Arran. Despite its name, it is not really a garden bird, except in mature gardens next to woods.

It prefers scrub, young woodland and woodland



Bird notes
by Jim Cassels
MAY

The Garden Warbler is one of Arran's overlooked birds. Picture by Dennis Morrison

edge. It is a long range migrant wintering in Africa.

A wide range of habitats are used in Africa, but closed forest and treeless Sahel are both shunned.

Insects are the main food in the breeding season, although fruit predominates when birds are fattening prior to migration. These warblers have a mixed diet of insects and fruit in their African wintering grounds.

The Garden Warbler is a very plain warbler with no distinguishing features which is almost a feature!

It is long-winged and long-tailed with brown upperparts and dull white underparts. The sexes are similar and juveniles resemble the adults.

Due to its lack of distinguishing features, this species can be confused with a number of other unstreaked warblers.

To further add to the challenge of identifying Garden Warbler, its rich melodic song is similar to that of the Blackcap, its closest relative, which competes with it for territory when nesting in the same woodland.

Both the Garden Warbler and Blackcap songs are very melodic and quite beautiful. The Garden Warbler song, although confusingly similar to the Blackcap, lacks some of the separate phrases of Blackcap, is less varied and lasts longer. It goes on and it is sometimes harshly called the garbled warbler.

This link, the RSPB: Garden warbler <http://www.rspb.org.uk/wildlife/birdguide/name/g/gardenwarbler/index.aspx> has an audio link to its song.

Garden Warbler usually sings from a well concealed perch, which adds to the frustration of identifying the bird. No wonder it is one of Arran's overlooked birds.

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at james.cassels@virgin.net. I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the 'Arran Bird Report 2013' and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk

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Save the Children branch overwhelmed by support

The committee of the Arran branch of the charity Save the Children would like to thank all the many supporters from all over the island who, during Save the Children Week, attended events in Lamlash, Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Shiskine and Kildonan. The total raised so far is a magnificent £1,731.37.

Everyone was thanked for their generosity.

- Do you have a story for **The Arran Banner?** Call our reporters on **01770 302142**

THE ARRAN

BANNER

TWENTY
YEARS AGO

Saturday 26 May, 1994

Toot and you're out

If you live in Corrie, or anywhere on the island for that matter, and you want to buy something from one of the shop vans, you'd better keep a sharp eye open.

Because you will no longer hear it coming as they are not allowed to toot their horns anymore.

The reason why they can no longer alert people to their presence? A Corrie resident has complained that it is 'noise pollution'.

A revered fellow

The Reverend Douglas Fulton of Lamlash has died at the age of 66.

Brought up in Govanhill, Glasgow, his family were not regular churchgoers and he never planned to become a minister.

He was the minister in Lamlash for 34 years; a gentlemanly person with a quiet sense of humour who wanted to help where he could.

Sadly two weeks ago he suffered a cerebral haemorrhage and never regained consciousness.

Ban Turner remembered

Mrs Ban Turner of Lamlash died on Sunday morning after a long illness.

Born Isobel McNeish her family ran the post office in Lamlash and she went on to work there too.

But Mrs Turner will be remembered as one of the founders of the Commando Reunion on Arran, an annual gathering in memory of her husband John Turner who was posted to the island as part of the 11th Scottish Commando during the Second World War.



Alison Kelly of Kildonan has been doing an audio diary broadcast for Radio1 all about the stresses and worries of being a teenager. b22twe03



More than 100 runners fill the road out of Brodick on Saturday as they take part in the Goatfell Race. b22twe02

Co-op gets go ahead

Planning permission was granted last Tuesday for the new Co-op supermarket in Brodick on the site of the Island Hotel.

A Co-op spokesman said that demolition work on the existing building will begin in the next three weeks.

Arran film search

Casting directors of a Mel Gibson film on the life of William Wallace visited Arran High School on Monday looking for a boy to play the young Wallace.

Three pupils were chosen as possibilities - Neville Broadis, James Primrose and David Hamilton.

After the high school they visited a couple of the primary schools before continuing their search on Mull.

Swimming champions

Lindsay Wheeler of Corrie and John Thomson of Lamlash became the girls and boys swimming champions at the annual gala on Thursday night.

Amid screams of excitement and splashes on parents watching from the sidelines of the Kinloch pool, the heats proceeded at a galloping pace.



Seonaid Frame and Craig Hendry, the girl and boy winners of the Brodick Castle Junior Race. b22twe01

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Every day

Trout Fly Fishing
Brodick Castle, Garden Open
Arran Brewery
Arran Brewery
Arran Brewery tour
Arran Heritage Museum

Loch Garbad, boat & bank fishing
9am-Dusk
Open Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat 10 - 5pm
Open Tue, Thu & Sun 12.30pm - 5pm
2pm
Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am - 4.30pm

Junior Hockey
Streetly Dance pre-school
Garden walk
RunArran Beginners
Arran Food & Craft market

Ormidale Pavilion, 6-7pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.45-2.30pm
Brodick Castle 2pm-3pm
Drift Inn car park, Lamlash, 5.15pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 11am - 3pm

Saturday 31st May

Army Cadets
Over 21s Disco
Family Games
Fun in the pool
RNLI Shop
Brodick Bowling Club Rink game
Whiting Bay Bowling Club
Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie Spa pool, 4-5pm
Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Brodick Bowling Green, 2pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Green, 2pm
Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.45pm

Wednesday 4th June

Rock & Pop Bingo
Tae Kwondo
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Yogalates
Aquafizz
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service
RunArran mixed ability
Running Coaching
Yoga-Arran
Drift Inn Quiz
Beavers
Back to the Bronze age
Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game
Mixed Hockey
Coffee Morning

Ormidale Hotel 9.30pm
Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm
Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30
Auchrannie car park, 5.30pm
Auchrannie car Park, 5pm
Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm
Lamlash, 9pm
KA Campus, Lamlash High School, 6.15 - 7.15pm
Brodick Castle, 2-4pm
Brodick Bowling Green, 6.45pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall 7.30-8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall 10.15 - 12noon

Sunday 1st June

Family Games
Fun in the pool
Cocaine Anonymous (& all other drugs)
AA Meeting
Mackerel Lottery
RNLI Shop
Open music session
Plant & Table top sale

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
Ormidale sports pavilion, 2-3.30pm
Brodick church Hall, 4pm - 6pm
Kinloch Bar, 5pm
Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 2pm-5pm
Kilmory hall, 2pm

Thursday 5th June

Quiz
Morning Fitness
General Knowledge Quiz
Lochranza Craft Club
Weight Watchers
Yoga
Bridge Club
QuiltArran
Garden Club
Open Music session
Ladies Hockey
Cubs
Pilates
Paintings tour
Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game
Schickine Valley SCIO village meeting
Summer BBQ

Eden Lodge, 9pm
Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Lochranza Hall, 2pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 5.30pm
Corrie Village Hall, 6pm - 7pm
Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7pm
Fire Station, Lamlash, 2-4pm
Brodick Ranger Centre, 7.30pm
Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30-8.30pm
KA Campus, Arran High School, 6.15pm - 8pm
Auchrannie gym, 6-7pm
Brodick Castle, 2-3.30pm
Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 6.45pm
St Molios Church Hall, 7.30pm
Brodick Primary school, 6-7.30pm

Monday 2nd June

Quiz
Over 50s Badminton
Badminton
Citizens Advice
Morning Fitness
Table Tennis
Aerobics (low impact)
Badminton
Arran Junior Football Club
Yoga
Summer Bridge
Lamlash Bowling Club Rink Game
Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game
Circuit Training

Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 9pm
Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30-1.30pm
Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
Shiskine Hall 6pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm
Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm
Corrie Village Hall, 11am - 12 noon
Arran High School, 6.30pm
Lamlash Bowling Green, 7pm
Brodick Bowling Green, 6.45pm
Auchrannie Gym, 6-7pm

Friday 6th June

Aqua Fizz
Yogalates
Arran Youth Foundations
Lochranza Kids Badminton
Lochranza Adults Badminton
Castle Secrets Tour
Family fun night
Coffee Afternoon
Independence debate

Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm
Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm
Lochranza Hall, 8pm
Brodick Castle, 11.30 - 1pm
Brodick Golf Club 4.45pm
Corrie Primary School, 1.30-3pm
Arran High School, 7.30pm

Tuesday 3rd June

Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Youth Club
Rotary club
Healthy Outdoors
Scottish Country Dancing
Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game
SFA Mini Kickers
SFA Early Touch Football
Jnr Badminton
Metafit

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Kildonan Hall, 7pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm
10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre
Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.45pm
KA Campus, Arran High School, 5pm - 5.45pm
KA Campus, Arran High School, 6pm - 7pm
KA Campus, Arran High School, 7pm - 8pm
KA Campus, Arran High School, 6pm

www.arranbrewery.com



Arran Select (in red) took on Glasgow United in a friendly on Saturday. 20_b22ba01

Arran Select fall to Glasgow United

Despite a promising start to the game, an Arran Select football team lost 5-3 to Glasgow United in a friendly match on Saturday morning.

The Arran Select brings together the best players from all of the island's five teams.

Saturday's game was played in Lamlash and the three Arran goals came from Peter

Gilson, Donald Park and Todd Jameson.

On Monday night Southend took on Shiskine in the second semi-final of the cup.

Shiskine were no match for Southend, who beat them 10-2.

Donald Park scored an impressive five goals and Ryan Armstrong got three.

Sandy Kelso and Scott also scored.

The cup final was due to be played today between Southend and Brodick in Lamlash but a decision was still to be made as The Arran Banner went to press.

Brodick defeated Lamlash in the preliminary round and Northend in the semi-final to

reach the final.

Come along and support your team!

Brodick's Lyle Bunyan in blue tussles with Danny Currie of Lamlash for the ball during the preliminary cup match two weeks ago.

20_b20ba02



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For more details phone **01770 840227** or to apply please forward your CV to **lorna@oldbyre.co.uk**

Public Notices

KILBRIDE PARISH NURSE FUND

Update Meeting
Thursday 12th June
Whiting Bay Church Hall
7.30 pm

Residents of Lamlash and Whiting Bay most welcome

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL TOWN CENTRE PARKING STRATEGY CONSULTATION

North Ayrshire Council has developed a draft Town Centre Parking Strategy. The draft strategy, along with feedback forms, may be inspected free of charge at all public libraries within the North Ayrshire Council area, local offices or at the North Ayrshire Council Headquarters, Development Planning Services, 1st Floor, Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE during normal opening hours until Friday 20 June 2014.

Copies and feedback forms can also be viewed on the North Ayrshire Council website at: www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/TownCentreParkingStrategy

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



Shiskine Valley SCIO
Village Meeting
St Molios Church Hall
Thursday 5th June at 7.30pm
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As new three tier glass TV stand with 4 chrome legs 24" wide, 15" high, 16" deep £15 Tel: 303912

Singing, dancing Postman Pat toy (new) 16inc tall plays 3 songs £20, Burger flip out game with litter buggies new £20, Small electric rotavator never used £30, Chicco high chair new £30, Chicco lunch booster seat new £20, Chicco talking kitchen toy new £20, small collection of die cast model vans, including prince William 21st birthday and part post office collection £20 Tel: 302530 or 07786192015

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John Deere 342 conventional small bail bailer - well looked after - always barn sorted £1000 proceeds to charity Tel: 700284

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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(in full communion with the Church of England)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday, 1st June
Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
Mr John Roberts.
Coffee after service.
Wednesday, 4th June
Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
ALL WELCOME

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER
There will be Taizé worship on **THURSDAY, 5th June** at 7.30 pm in St Molios' Church, Shiskine. 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 1st June
Brodick Church, 10.30am, Morning Worship.
Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer Meeting, 11.50am Tea & Coffee & Fellowship, 12noon Morning Worship.
A Service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.
Lochranza Church, 9.30am Morning Worship.
Pirnmill Church, 10.45am, Morning Worship.
Shiskine Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 1st June
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30 am
Both Churches:
Rev Dr Ian MacLeod
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(Charity Number: SC014005)
Sunday 1st June 2014
Worship will be led by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am. Tea and coffee

will be served after the service. All most welcome. There will be service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm to which all friends are invited.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Vigil Mass 7.30pm
Sunday morning masses 11am

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 1st June
11am Morning worship in the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick
Tea & 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
(continuing)
Sunday 1st June
Morning Service, 11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6-30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
Prayer Meeting
Wednesday 4th June
7pm
5 Glen Road,
All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 1st June
Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)
Rev Ronnie Christie

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS
Quakers meet every Sunday at 11am. For meeting venue ring - 830622, 820223

SALVATION ARMY
House group/Bible study.
Mondays 2.30pm.
If you are interested in joining us please ring 810251 for more information.

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
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Brodick Golf Club
Wednesday 21 May, Summer Cup, 37 played, CSS 65. 1 B Jenkins (6)63 acb, 2 R McCrae (7)63, 3 G McCrae (5)64. Scratch E McKinnon 64.

Club Championship McCarfrae Trophy, Thursday 22 May Round 2, 17 played, CSS 65. 1 M Keir (6)64, 2 G Hendry (5)65acb, 3 T Raeside (9)65. Scratch E McKinnon 65. Sunday 25 May, Round 3, 1 I Macdonald (8)62 acb, 2 M Dobson (8)62, 3 T Raeside (9)63. Scratch I Macdonald 70 acb.

Winner of McCarfrae Trophy (best two round scratch aggregate) Ewan McKinnon 65, 72=137. Runner up Matthew Keir 70, 71=141.

Ladies 2nd May Medal, 12 played, CSS 68. 1st Division winner, Isobel Macdonald 86 (17) 69, 2nd Division winner, Gege Kroner 92 (22) 70. Nine hole Stableford, six played. 1 Trish Martin 19pts.

Fixtures: Tuesday 3 June, Medal finals, Tuesday 10 June, Centenary Quaich.

Lamlash Golf Club
Ladies: Wednesday 21 May, Ladies Section Stroke 2, 10 played, CSS 65, SSS 64. 1 C McAdam 84(20)64, 2 S Murchie 78(13)65. Scratch S Murchie 78. Friday 23 May, Grace Cannon Trophy (Two Ball Foursomes), 1 J Richardson and J Hastings 68, 2 R Wren and E Sinclair 68.5.
Gents: Thursday 22 May, Summer Cup and Scratch Cup, CSS 64. 1 Neil Young 65-5=60, 2 Jon Smith 73-12=61, 3 Scott Campbell 78-

15=63 BIH, 4 Iain Murchie 68-5=63. Best Scratch Neil Young 65 BIH. Magic twos Neil Young at the 16th, Jon Smith at the 13th, Iain Murchie at the 13th.

Yellow Medal, CSS 61. 1 Roger Garratt 72-15=57. There were no magic twos.

Sunday 25 May, Summer Stableford, CSS 65, 35 points to Stableford. 1 Sam Handley 36pts, 2 Ian Bremner 36pts. Best Scratch Ian Bremner 30pts to Stableford. Magic twos Sam Handley at the 2nd, Iain Murchie at the 10th, Scott Campbell at the 16th.

Fixtures: Sunday 1 June, Hamilton Bowl (bogey) 9.30am and 12.30pm start. Thursday 5 June, Summer Cup, make up own groups.

Shiskine Golf Club
Sunday 25 May, Sunday Stableford, 17 played. 1 Ed Pollock 29pts, 2 Jim Reside 25pts BIH, 3 Brian Sherwood 25pts. Nearest the pins at the 4th Ed Pollock, at the 10th Angus Pollock. Magic twos Ed Pollock at the 3rd, Angus Pollock at the 3rd and 4th, and Brian Sherwood at the 10th.

Fixtures: Saturday 31 May and Sunday 1 June, Gents Club Championship Qualifying Gents). Tuesday 3 June: First round of the gents Club Championship. Wednesday 4 June, quarter finals of the Club Championship and Dusk Cup. Thursday 5 June, Ladies 12 Hole Medal. Friday 6 June, semi-final of the Gents Club Championship and Dusk Cup (Ladies/Gents). Saturday 7 June, Ladies Bronze Championship Final. Sunday 8 June, Ladies Finals Day (Ladies/Gents).

Thursday 22 May, Ladies Club Championship Qualifying Round 3, 16 played. Silver, 1 and Scratch Kema Genda 79-12=67, 2 Jenni Turnbull 84-16=68. Bronze



Scott Macfarlane with the AGA Junior Matchplay trophy with beaten finalist Mathew Macdonald.

1 Sally Brookes 100-24=76, 2 Esther Henderson 105-27=78.

Machrie Bay Golf Club
Tuesday 20 May, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary.

1 Ron Woods 67, 2 Brian Sherwood 69, 3 Hamish Bannatyne 70. Scratch Hamish Bannatyne 75. Magic two Brian Sherwood.

Fixtures: Tuesday 3 June, Ladies 2nd Round of Club Championship and Gents Peter Sutton tee off 12.30pm and 5.30pm. Saturday 7 June, Duncan Sillers and 2nd Round of Gents Club Championship tee off 1pm.

Arran Golfers Association
This year's Junior Matchplay final was between Mathew Macdonald and Scott Macfarlane held at Brodick Golf Club on Monday night.

The course was in great condition and weather was superb with a light breeze to stifle the midgies, sadly there were no spectators, which was a shame for the two finalists, but secretary Dougie Macfarlane refereed the game which was played in great spirits.

Scott got off to a flyer with steady golf along with early mistakes from mathew to go three up after three, the next six were up and down with Scott being three up at the turn, Mathew dug in and won the 10th and 11th to cut the deficit to just one hole but Scott stepped up a gear and won two of the next three and finished off majestically with a superb birdie 3 at the 16th to take the tie and the trophy

for the second time in three years and the double of the Junior Shield and Matchplay for the year.

The boys haven't much time to relax as they play each other again this week to qualify for the Senior Island Thomson Cup semi-finals, quite a feat for such young golfers and possibly future Hope Cup and Championship contenders.

Fixtures: Kelso Cup at Shiskine Golf Club, semi-final Friday 30 May, sadly Whiting Bay can't field a team so Brodick have a bye to the final.

Lamlash take on Shiskine at 4.45pm to join them there. Final on Friday 13 June, 4.30pm at Shiskine.

Thomson Matchplay at Brodick, second round by Sunday 1 June, semi and final on Saturday 14 June, 1pm and 6pm.

Corrie Golf Club
Wednesday 21 May, Medal, 21 played, CSS 62. 1 P Moran 78-20=58, 2 M McDonald 81-21=60, 3 R Logan 66-6=60 BIH over J Adams. Best scratch R Logan 66. There were twos from Matthew McDonald and A Napier.

Saturday 24 May, second round of the Summer Cup, 16 played. 1 A Smith 71-10=61, 2 M McDonald 82-19=63, 3 R Logan 69-6=63. Best scratch R Logan 69. Magic twos from DK Henderson and HB McKinnon.

Fixtures: Saturday 31 May, first round of the Club Championship at 8.30am and 1pm. Saturday 7 June, second round of the Club Championship at 8.30am and 1pm.

WEDDING



Faye Sheila Jane Black and David Waterlow

married in St Brides Parish Church Lochranza on Saturday 17th May 2014 followed by a memorable reception with family and close friends at Isle of Arran Distillery Visitor Centre.

PERSONAL

This just in...

This is a heart felt apology to a lovely Arran man, who will know who he is! I took a joke way too far and went over a line into hurtville! I promise to never hurt you again! Love always from a remorseful women who cares x

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The competitors and judges who took part in the second Arran Taekwondo Championships.

Honour as duo get call up for Scotland Taekwondo squad

Two members of the Arran Taekwondo Club have been picked to train with Scotland. Darius Gwizdowski and Adrian Cannon have been invited to train with a view to being part of the national team for the World Championships being held in Italy in June next year. The two men were chosen following the second Arran Taekwondo Championships held at Arran High School. Thirty-two competitors from Arran, as well as from

Midlothian, Edinburgh and Fife, competed individually and against each other for medals and trophies on the day. They ranged in age from six to 40 years.

Picking Darius, 29, and 40-year-old Adrian for Scotland training is a big honour for the club.

Organiser John Divine said: 'To have two of our members chosen for a Scotland squad which will only number around 20 is a great achievement and a real honour.'

The two men will train with Scotland from next January on the mainland in Midlothian and Ayrshire.

Mr Divine said the club championships, which were being held for just the second time, had been a great success. He said: 'I think everyone involved enjoyed them. The kids for the fun element, while the adults take it a bit more seriously.'

The club, which has between 40 and 50 members,

meets on a Wednesday for children from 6.30pm to 7.30pm and for adults from 7.30pm to 8.30pm at Arran High School.

There is also a second adults' class from 7pm to 8.30pm on Friday at the same venue.



Some of the young medal winners at the competition.



Darius Gwizdowski who has been picked for Scotland.



Jake Young who took the title of junior club champion after winning two golds.



Stuart Dutton and Stuart Blaike make some shapes in the patterns competition.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

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Published by Wyvex Media, Brodick, Isle of Arran
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The Arran Banner's circulation is independently audited by the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC Ltd) - www.abc.org.uk. The total average weekly net circulation for the 52 issues between 5th January 2013 and 28th December 2013 for combined print and digital editions was 3,180.

The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.