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# What now for the Fisherman's Walk?

## Residents groups left 'very frustrated' after year long fight

**SPECIAL REPORT**  
by **HUGH BOAG**  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Anxious residents of Brodick were this week asking: 'What now for the Fisherman's Walk?'

It came after a section of the famous walk was washed away by the Boxing Day storms leading to serious concerns that the entire route could be lost.

Over the festive holidays parts of the path were regularly underwater and a whole section of the path has now disappeared. The start of the path behind Brodick Beach has also been lost under a deluge of seaweed and debris and the children's play park has been left unusable.

Also of serious concern is the leeching of the former coup, both at the beach and at the Cloy Burn. There is concern too at the foundations of the Cloy Burn Bridge, which have been damaged by the storms, amid fears it could even be washed away.

Villagers using the path this week expressed dismay at the level of damage caused to the

walk - which is now impassable to all but the fittest of users and unsuitable for buggies and wheelchairs.

There is anger too that North Ayrshire Council has not taken any remedial action over the festive holidays and while they have now said they will investigate what can be done - many fear it will be too little, too late.

There is frustration by Brodick Improvements Committee which has been involved in regular discussions with the council over what can be done for more than a year.

Chairman Harry Davidson said: 'We have said till we are blue in the face that all that was needed was for a storm with an easterly wind to blow and the path would be lost, and that is exactly what has happened. It happened six years ago with the beach and what lessons have been learned? None.'

The walk has been in existence of more than 100 years and Harry said: 'I feel our generation are the custodians of the walk, but I don't know where we go from here.'

**Continued on pages 4 and 5**



## A chilly start to the New Year

Brave dookers splash into the icy waters of Brodick Bay during the fifth annual Douglas Dook which was held on New Year's Day. The picture, left, shows the dookers in the water.

See centre spread for more pictures. 20\_b02dook04



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## MV Hebrides drafted in for ferry refit

The MV Hebrides has been drafted in for the second time to cover on the Ardrossan to Brodick ferry route while the MV Caledonian Isles is away for her annual refit.

The ferry usually operates from Skye on the Uig-Lochmaddy-Tarbert triangle. She began service on the main Arran route on Saturday.

The MV Hebrides was built at the Ferguson Shipbuilders yard at Port Glasgow where, under new ownership, the new Arran ferry is under construction.

Launched in 2000 she entered service in March 2001 and can carry 612 passengers and 100 cars. The present ship revived a traditional name on the Uig triangle and is the third vessel of the name in the CalMac fleet over the years. She carries the bell of the first Hebrides, an 1898 steamer, which also graced the second 'Heb'. This 1964 ship was MacBrayne's first car ferry and very much a favourite, which for 20 years, also sailed from Skye

MV Hebrides is due to be replaced in 2018 with the second of the new vessels under construction. The MV Caledonian Isles is undergoing her annual refit in Leith and the work is expected to take 'a few weeks'.

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# Arran search and rescue now in civilian hands

The Royal Navy's HMS Gannet search and rescue helicopter service in Scotland has been officially replaced by a civilian-run team at Prestwick Airport.

From last Friday, January 1, Bristow Helicopters has been operating the service from a new £7 million base, which now serves Arran, but despite being seen training over the island it has not been involved in any rescue missions so far.

HMS Gannet, which operated the Sea King rescue 177 helicopter, with its distinctive red and grey livery, covered an area from Ben Nevis in the north, the Lake District to the south, east to Edinburgh and the Atlantic to the west of Ireland.

It has been replaced with a brand new red and white Sikorsky S-92, one of the most up-to-date search and rescue aircraft in the world.

Samantha Willenbacher, Bristow Helicopter's director of UK search and rescue services, said some of the key personnel from the Royal Navy operation were part of the new team.

'We've actually got a lot of the crews from Gannet that have been providing the search and rescue service, so, we actually have a lot of that experience that has transferred over to us,' she said.



The Arran HM Coastguard volunteers with the new Sikorsky helicopter and crew in Whiting Bay during a training flight last year. 02\_b01coastguard01

'We've also got a huge amount of experience within the crews that we operate as well.

'While the colours of the helicopter might be different in the local area, the level of service that local citizens in this area receive, there'll be no change at all.'

Bristow Helicopters will eventually operate 10 search and rescue helicopter bases in the UK on behalf of HM Coastguard, a section of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA).

They will allow HM Coastguard to co ordinate search and rescue operations more

effectively than ever before. The UK firm was awarded a 10-year UK contract by the Department for Transport, in March 2013, following the decision to privatise the service.

### Operational

The first of the bases operated by Bristow, including Inverness, became operational last year. The final UK base will be up and running by 2017. This will allow HM Coastguard to co-ordinate search and rescue operations more effectively than ever before.

On Arran, the HM Coastguard service, based in Lam-lash, has a volunteer crew of 14, which are part of the 3,500 trained HM Coast-

guard rescue volunteers on call throughout the UK.

MCA chief executive Sir Alan Massey said he was 'hugely proud' to have been 'entrusted' with the service.

'For us the launch of the Prestwick helicopter base is an extension of the high-quality service that we have been providing in other parts of the UK for the last 30 years,' he said.

'HMS Gannet has set the bar incredibly high, and I would like to thank them for their service and recognise the outstanding work they have done both at sea and inland over many decades.

'We will take their legacy forward with the utmost pride and care.'

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# Lamlash Co-op shuts for 10 week refurbishment

## Free bus service for customers to Brodick store

### REPORT

by COLIN SMEETON  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The Co-operative Food store in Lamlash will close today (Saturday) at 8pm for 10 weeks to complete a major refurbishment which will see the store double in size.

The new look supermarket is expected to reopen before the end of March, if building work goes according to schedule.

During the period that it is closed, the Co-op will provide a free, seven day bus service from Lamlash to the main Brodick Co-operative departing at: 9am, 10.30am, 12noon, 1.30pm, 2.50pm and 4.40pm. The service will return to Lamlash at: 10.20am, 11.50am, 1.20pm, 2.40pm, 4.30pm and 6pm.

There is some concern that many of the customers who use the Lamlash store are elderly and infirm, but bosses at the Brodick store say they will do everything they can to make their shopping as stress free as possible.

There is a wheelchair, public toilets, and small trolleys available and assistance can be provided to help shoppers with their purchases.

Customers can also make use of the free home delivery service which is offered to customers spending more than £25 at the Brodick store. Customers can call ahead and have their shopping delivered or you can shop in-store yourself and have the items delivered to your door at a time that suits you.

The new store will include



Work is already underway at the new Co-operative store which is set to reopen in the spring. 02\_b02coop01

a Post Office, as reported by The Banner last month, an in-store bakery, wider aisles, more product lines and extra cashiers at the non-self-service tills.

The new store has been welcomed by residents, especially those who will make use of the new Post Office, since the previous one stopped trading in September last year. But there has been some opposition to the new store's plan to start selling newspapers.

One Lamlash resident said:

'The new, larger Co-op is a welcome addition to the village but I worry about business being diverted away from the well-established newsagent next door.'

'It will be a sad day if the village newsagent is to succumb to another large multinational company that local businesses can not compete with.'

A spokesman for the Co-operative Group said: 'We are thrilled to be making such a significant investment

in Lamlash and look forward to the opening of our fantastic new food store towards the end of March, which will be bigger and better, offering

more choice, a wider range and greater variety.'

'However, we realise that the store is an important life-line for the Lamlash commu-

nity and so we have arranged the free bus service so customers can shop at our store in Brodick while their store is being completely refitted.'

## Judgement at Nuremberg shows at film club

Corrie Film Club's January performance is a powerful film which sheds a controversial light on one of the darkest eras in modern history. Judgement at Nuremberg, directed by Stanley Kramer, is a tense courtroom drama which was nominated for 11 Oscars including Best Picture, with sterling performances by Spencer Tracy, Burt Lancaster, Marlene Dietrich, Richard Widmark, Montgomery Clift and William Shatner.

Set in 1947, American judge, Daniel Haywood (Spencer Tracy) presides over the trial of four German jurists accused of legalising Nazi atrocities during the Hitler regime. As the accounts of sterilisation and murder unfold in the courtroom, mounting political pressure for leniency forces Judge Haywood into making the most difficult decision of his career. His actions – and those of the other trial participants – make for a fascinating,

poignant and exciting drama.

Although the film takes place largely in the courtroom there is a sequence of archive film of a death camp, used by the prosecution, which is upsetting.

See this interesting and gripping film in Corrie and Sannox Village Hall tomorrow (Sunday) at 8pm. All welcome, with a small donation to Corrie Hall appreciated. Members please note subscriptions for 2016 season are now due.

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The Cloy Burn Bridge almost disappears at the height of the storms. Photo: Save Brodick Beach



The force of the storms has dislodged gambions shoring up the sides of the Cloy Burn. Photo Save Brodick Beach



Kenny Morrison's repair at the bridge. 20\_b02walk14

# Fisherman's Walk wa Boxing Day storms

'Kenny deserves a medal for the amount of work he has put in on that path in the past 20 years'

**Continued from page 1**

'It is one of the most popular tourist footpaths on the island, allowing visitors on foot to easily get to Home Farm and the castle. It is also a well-used route by locals and it is so sad to see a large section of it lost.'

Arran Community Council, which has also been fighting for improvement works, said it was 'very frustrated' at the situation and that the situation with the path is approaching a 'critical stage'.

Members have demanded an urgent meeting with North Ayrshire Council's corporate director for development and environment, Craig Hatton.

The local authority has previously argued that while it leases some of the land, it does not own the beach or the land used by the Fisherman's Walk which belongs to Arran Estates.

Locals trying to use the path last week also expressed their dismay. One said the whole landscape of the area had changed in her lifetime as Brodick and Strabane beach used to form a continuous bay. Other walkers, when The Banner visited the walk, told of their sadness and utter dismay at the destructive damage caused by the storms. Brodick Golf Course was also badly flooded by the deluge.

Another serious concern is the renewed leeching of the former coup. Waste, including glass and other debris, has

started to seep from the site behind the geotextile bags at the Cloy Burn Bridge, which were moved to stop earlier leeching.

Brodick resident Fiona Short, who was down clearing bottles from the area, said: 'This is really dangerous for children and dogs. There is a lot of broken glass and the material from the geotextile bags is deteriorating which could easily cause a trip. It also must be a health hazard.'

'I have a collection of old bottles I have collected from further along the beach but this must be a newer part of the coup from the 1960s and 1970s, judging from the style of the bottles. I did not realise the coup came so close to the beach.'

**Leeching**

'The coup has also been leeching for some time into the Cloy Burn on the other side of the green. The broken glass over there is in small pieces and, as well as being an eyesore, is also dangerous.'

The Save Brodick Beach community Facebook page, which now has more than 2,400 'likes', has been taking comments for days from supporters. One said: 'So sad. Looks like it's only a matter of time before the bridge gets washed away like the beach and path.'

There is also concern for Strabane Beach, which has

lost around 3ft of sand for most of its length, according to another post.

Meanwhile, Kenny Morrison, who has spent more than 20 years carrying out repairs on the walk, has been out with volunteers since Boxing Day shoring up the path at the Cloy Burn bridge which was washed away and trying to effect other short term repairs.

Harry Davidson, of Brodick Improvements Committee, said: 'Kenny deserves a medal for the amount of work he has put in on that path in the past 20 years.'

He said the committee had been given money last year by the Arran Trust for emergency repairs and had twice asked Marine Scotland for permission to carry out the works.

But he added: 'It is all very depressing when you see the path now. The works we had considered are only a drop in the ocean now.'

'North Ayrshire Council have already drawn up plans to re-route the path straight on from the Cloy Burn Bridge leaving Brodick up to the golf course and along the side of the course to join the remainder of the path there. However, despite being considered for more than a year, nothing has yet been done.'

A spokesman for North Ayrshire Council said: 'We are aware that damage has taken place to the Fisherman's Walk due to winter storms.'

Although Fisherman's Walk is not a council asset, we have been working with the Brodick Improvement Committee with a view to addressing the existing erosion issues and improving the path.

'This has included the appointment of a consultant to prepare a design for the protection of the bridge, improvements to the path and applying for funding to carry out the works. A preliminary environmental appraisal and topographic survey have been undertaken to inform the development of the proposals.'

'The consultants' activities have concentrated on the protection of the bridge and adjacent sections of path due to the urgent nature of the works. They have been liaising with Marine Scotland on the proposals to secure the necessary agreements and permissions. The consultants have been made aware of the recent damage and the proposals will be updated to address this. A site visit is planned for the week commencing January 11. The consultants are also identifying potential options to reroute the existing Fisherman's Walk. These options will be required to take account of a number of issues including areas of invasive plant species, poor ground conditions and the potential cost of solutions. Funding opportunities are also being investigated to deliver these proposals.'



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# shed away by



a Short with the bottles she collected at the leeching part of the coup. 20\_b02walk03



The damage to the walk looking towards Brodick. 20\_b02walk09



The former path is barely recognisable. 20\_b02walk10 Inset: The sign for the Fisherman's Walk 20\_b02walk07



t Fisherman's Walk? The start of the path can hardly be seen at Brodick beach. 20\_b02walk01



lost section of the Fisherman's Walk. 20\_b02walk05

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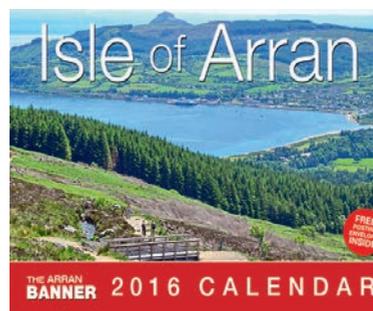


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# Council making progress but faces a challenging year ahead

North Ayrshire Council leader Willie Gibson sends his New Year message to Arran

The year just past has been one of remarkable progress in North Ayrshire.

It has been a year when we have continued to invest in our children, our businesses and our communities, by creating a series of pioneering projects which are leading the way in Scotland.

We started the year by breaking new ground when Angela Constance, the Scottish Government Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, officially opened our wonderful Skills Centre for Excellence at Irvine Royal Academy – the first of its kind in Scotland.

Just a few weeks later, Angela Constance once again joined myself and Provost Joan Sturgeon as she officially opened the new Elderbank Primary School.

These fantastic new facilities capture perfectly what we are trying to achieve here in North Ayrshire – to provide the platform which gives every child, regardless of their family background, a chance to succeed.

Initiatives such as providing free school meals and activities during the holidays have proved to be hugely popular, so much so that other local

authorities are now looking to implement our programme in their own communities.

You can also be assured that our schoolchildren are getting the very best nutrition as North Ayrshire Council's catering staff won the award for Best Service Team of the Year at the APSE Service Awards. This is an amazing achievement and means our children are being served the best food by the best staff.

Indeed, we have enjoyed success on many fronts during 2015, picking up a series of awards as we continue our journey of going from a good local authority to being a great one.

In March, North Ayrshire Council was shortlisted as a finalist in the Local Government Chronicle Awards in the category of Most Improved Council. Although we didn't win, we were the only local authority in Scotland to be shortlisted in this category and this shows how much we have progressed in the last few years.

Our Waste Services team received Gold Award in COSLA Excellence Awards while the Council received a three-star Recognition for Excellence accreditation in

the Quality Scotland Lean Six Sigma Award. We are the only Scottish Council to currently hold this accreditation. We also won Workplace of the Year at the HR Network Awards in November.

On a national level, I hope that I can also help North Ayrshire's voice be heard following my appointment as COSLA's SNP group leader in June. It's a tough role and involves dealing with a number of organisations but I am committed to promoting the position of local government as the legitimate tier of gov-



The council leader Willie Gibson at the Arran Outdoor Centre with young ambassadors from Kilwinning Academy.

ernance closest to the people of Scotland and those of North Ayrshire.

There's no doubt that 2016 will be another challenging year. But we are determined to meet it head on and maintain the momentum we have gathered in the previous 12 months.

There is much to be proud of here in North Ayrshire and I am delighted to be able to make my contribution as we continue to focus on the areas that matter – jobs, investment, education, regeneration, reducing inequality, protecting our environment and developing stronger communities.

I wish each and every one of you a happy, prosperous and peaceful 2016.

## North Ayrshire and Arran MP Patricia Gibson sends her New Year message to Arran

Looking back, 2015 must surely be counted as amongst the most politically eventful in recent history. Early in the year, the UK General Election campaign began in earnest with televised UK leadership debates. For the first time, parties from across the UK were allowed to participate and the general consensus amongst pundits and the public was that Scotland's First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon, was the most convincing, persuading many in Scotland that the SNP is the party to

make Scotland's voice heard and champion our needs at Westminster.

The outcome of the 2015 election was completely unprecedented and, with Labour and the Lib Dems suffering catastrophic losses and leadership changes – and the SNP now third largest party in the UK – the political landscape is quite unrecognisable.

I was honoured to be elected by the people of North Ayrshire and Arran and, along with my colleagues, we have done just that – es-

tablishing constituency offices early to assist constituents, whilst delivering in Westminster on matters ranging from fox hunting and human rights to devolving more powers to Scotland and the proposed Tax Credit cuts.

Regarding 2016, we cannot truly know what is in store. Of course there are some known knowns and there are some known unknowns.

In May, voters (including 16 and 17-year-olds) will go to the polls in the Scottish Parliament Elections. Over the past nine years, the SNP Government has worked hard for Scotland – delivering improved services with ever dwindling resources cut by successive Labour and Tory UK Governments. I believe that Scotland should back Nicola Sturgeon and the SNP to ensure we continue to protect our NHS, keep education free and ensure crime remains low.

With a manifesto commitment to meet, it may be as early as summer 2016 when

David Cameron asks people across the UK to vote in a referendum on our membership of the European Union. The SNP is of the firm opinion that Scotland is best served by remaining, which is crucial to so many Scottish businesses and export markets

Last year may have been a defining year in politics, the effects of which may not yet be fully realised. As things stand, 2016 should be just as fascinating. Regardless, I would like to wish all constituents a very happy, fulfilling and prosperous New Year.



Patricia Gibson MP

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## New support zone for people living with heart conditions

People on Arran who are living with a heart condition now have a new source of vital information and support.

The Heart Zone, which has been developed on Scotland's national health information website, NHS inform, provides a range of information and resources to support the self-management of short and long-term heart disease, as well as a range of inherited and congenital heart conditions.

While users of the Heart Zone will find useful tips on reducing risks associated with heart disease and practical advice on what to do in an emergency, they can also access relevant contacts for support and advice. Additionally, the Heart Zone includes extensive information on tests and treatments, and what to expect when attending a local clinic.

Public health minister Maureen Watt, said: 'The Scottish Government recognises the need to increase the range of advice and support that is available for people in Scotland living with heart conditions, particularly those with congenital heart disease.'

'Robust information is key to support the families of newly diagnosed babies as well as existing patients. Services such as the NHS inform Heart Zone enable people not only to learn about their condition, but how they can continue to live as healthy and well as possible.'

Development of the Heart Zone - [www.nhsinform.co.uk/heart](http://www.nhsinform.co.uk/heart) - has been taken forward by NHS 24's Scottish Centre for Telehealth and Telecare and Health Information Service.

Professor George Crooks, director, Scottish Centre for Telehealth and Telecare, said: 'Heart disease is the second biggest cause of death in Scotland. Although family history can be a major factor, other factors such as diet, weight, cholesterol, blood pressure, smoking and blood sugar also play an important role in risk. The Heart Zone provides a range of supportive information to help people to understand and self-manage their heart condition.'

Patient involvement has driven the content of the zone, which has been created by Chest Heart & Stroke Scotland, in association with each of Scotland's regional Health Boards and the British Heart Foundation.

# Book club enjoys lively discussion with author

The Shiskine Book Club had a special guest for their December meeting.

Arran based author Tony Black met with the club members in St Molio's Church in Shiskine where they were able to ask any questions, discuss the book and provide their opinions on his latest novel, *A Taste of Ashes*.

Started six years ago by Judith and Russell Porter, who are originally from Preston, Lancashire, the club comprises of 12 members who read one book a month and then discuss it at their meetings. The books are provided by the Brodick Library where Russell volunteers as a 'computer buddy', assisting peo-



Russell and Judith Porter meet author Tony Black to discuss his new book. 02\_b51tony02



Tony Black and the Shiskine Book Club members share a joke. 02\_b51tony01

ple with IT training. Author Tony said: 'I am grateful to Judith and Russell and the members for inviting me to discuss my latest book. It is an honour to meet with

some of my readers and to receive feedback on how it is perceived by the audience.' As it was the December meeting, members brought along baked goods and en-

joyed a small buffet during which there was a lively debate on the book and a question and answer session. The club meets on the second Monday of every month.

## Exciting music from the Balkans

For many Banner readers, Chamberlain and Haywood, who are giving a concert in Brodick Hall on Saturday, January 16, will be old friends. They played for free to great acclaim in the Little Rock Café in Brodick to mark National Chamber Music Day on Saturday, September 19 last year, and later on the 3.15pm ferry.

Paul Chamberlain (accordion) and Michael Haywood (sax, violin, clarinet) play a lively and attractive selection of music from around the globe, perhaps most memorably from the Balkans, but they also delve, for example, into the seductive world of

tango, as well as using influences from Russia and Scotland. They take the strength of their various instruments' traditions and blend them into their own unique brand of fusion music. The result of their verve and versatility is pure, foot-tapping entertainment.

Seating will once again be in the popular café-style, at tables and you may bring a bottle. So come along and be swept along by this talented duo. The concert begins at 7.30pm and tickets are available on the door, at Inspirations of Arran in Brodick, or online from [www.arranevents.com](http://www.arranevents.com)

John Roberts



Chamberlain and Haywood who are to play Brodick Hall.

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## THE ARRAN BANNER

### The Fisherman's wake

The recent storms have meant it is a bleak start to the new year down at the Fisherman's Walk.

The popular and well used route is now unrecognisable at the Cloy Burn Bridge and, not without good reason, there are real fears it could be washed away as well.

Last January we had high hopes that the authorities were finally getting their act together and with a union of community groups The Banner asked: 'Is 2015 the year we can save Brodick Beach?'

Given the state of the beach and the Fisherman's Walk today I think we can say that the answer is a resounding 'no'.

The authorities can't say they weren't warned, with one campaigner saying a year ago: 'The authorities have said they want to change the route of the path, but unless urgent action is taken their won't be a path to change.' Sadly that prediction has now come true.

And while there has been a lot of talking over the past 14 months, what has been lacking is any action.

So where do we go from here?

North Ayrshire Council has pledged that consultants, brought in to draw up protection plans, will now revise their proposals in light of the new damage. But what they will have to do is rip up their plans and start all over again given the extent of the damage caused by the festive season storms.

It is not surprising that the Brodick Improvements Committee and Arran Community Council have been left 'very frustrated' by developments. Individuals from both organisations have put in an enormous amount of their own time to try to get not only the council but the other agencies such as Marine Scotland and SEPA to act.

They have been in discussion as well with the landowners, Arran Estates, who continue to insist that their hands are tied, giving the council the opt out that the Fisherman's Walk is 'not a council asset'.

There is also anger that despite the first of the damage taking place on Boxing Day it will be next week before the council even makes a site visit.

Time really is of the essence and if anything of the Fisherman's Walk is to be saved it is time for action rather than words.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Because Jesus has Himself passed through the test of suffering, He is able to help those who are in the midst of their test.' (Hebrews 2:18)

### press policy

WE AT the Arran Banner endeavour to ensure that all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO). We realise, however, that mistakes happen from time to time.

If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing [editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk); telephoning the senior reporter on 01770 302142 or write to the Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

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

### your letters

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

# Fishing proposals would put power in the hands of the people

A Regulating Order has been proposed for the Firth of Clyde by the Sustainable Inshore Fisheries Trust (SIFT). They say the plans for a modern fisheries management regime would put power in the hands of local people, rather than civil servants in Edinburgh, and create more jobs. Here SIFT board member Charles Miller explains the proposals.

Until a few decades ago the Firth of Clyde supported a strong and diverse finfish fleet, catching large volumes of many different species; not just herring and cod but also hake, plaice, whiting and many more.

But finfish catches declined from the 1970s and 1980s onwards, and now 99 per cent of what's landed is shellfish; mostly prawns and scallops. Evidence from elsewhere tells us that fisheries that depend on one or two species are vulnerable – be it to climate change, market changes, or to disease.

To address these issues, the Sustainable Inshore Fisheries Trust (SIFT) lodged plans with the Scottish Government in October for a modern fisheries management regime for the Firth of Clyde, covering its entire 3700km<sup>2</sup>. Unlike the Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), including the South Arran MPA, the plans focus on boosting sustainable jobs rather than on extending protection for conservation reasons.

SIFT believes that better management of the Clyde fisheries could result in a more robust shellfishery and a revival of the finfish fleet, all within a healthier marine ecosystem. But is it possible to get such a 'win-win-win'?

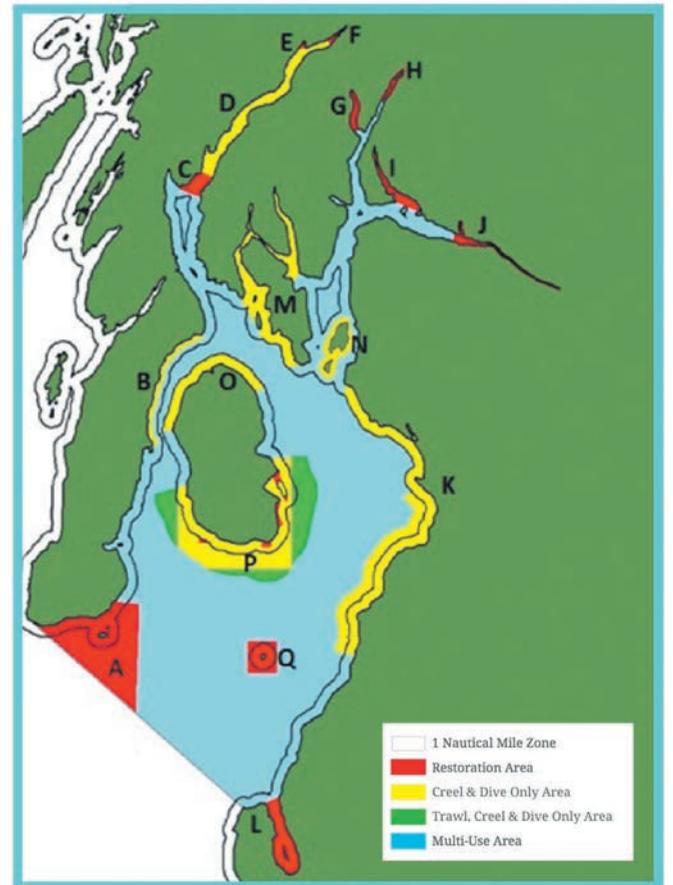
The plans would close eight per cent of the Firth to all commercial prawn and scallop fishing, and roughly a

further 20 per cent to prawn trawling and scallop dredging (but not creeling or diving). These zones would allow stocks and the seabed to recover, bringing 'spill-over' benefits to the fishing areas as well as to the wider ecosystem. The evidence from other countries is that protected areas covering the most sensitive fish nursery grounds can have this effect.

Some people, including some creelers and sea anglers, have called for larger closures including the reinstatement of the old 'three-mile limit'. But SIFT believes such blanket bans don't address the aim of protecting the most sensitive areas of the seabed and ensuring other more robust parts which can support heavy fishing gears are left open to the fisheries.

Economic research suggests SIFT's plan could lead to substantial new economic and employment opportunities around the Clyde. The assessment is that the commercial fishing sector could see around 100 new jobs as a result of the measures. The research shows that's not the only advantage which could come the way of Arran, Argyll and the Ayrshire coast. Around the same number of jobs could also be created around revived recreational sea angling businesses.

The Regulating Order would put power over the fishery in the hands of local



A chart showing the initial management plans for the Clyde.

people, rather than civil servants in Edinburgh. Decisions about management would be made by a board, half of whom would be the representatives of local fishermen, both creelers and the mobile sector, with rest split between other local stakeholders.

This kind of local control has worked in Shetland for almost two decades, where in 2012 they secured Marine Stewardship Council certification for their shellfish, bringing them new markets. Local control also means the fishing industry can prepare for the future with more confidence, minimising the risks to their livelihoods associated with climate change and changes in market preferences. We think the Clyde could benefit from that approach too. The application is now with Scottish Ministers, and

they're asking for your views on it before January 18, less than two weeks away. There's more information about how to respond at: [is.gd/clydefish](http://is.gd/clydefish), or for an information pack go to: [is.gd/clydefishinfo](http://is.gd/clydefishinfo). Please do send the Scottish Government a quick email. We know some people think it goes too far, and for others it doesn't go far enough. The feedback the ministers receive will help shape what's finally proposed next year. Everyone wants to see a more sustainable Clyde fishery - this is your chance to help secure it.

\*Charles Miller is a corporate environmental consultant and a board member of SIFT. He is Chairman of the Association for the Protection of Rural Scotland, and a former member of the Environmental Advisory Council of the British Standards Institution.

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# New community orchard is planted by volunteers

Children from Whiting Bay Primary School, and groups visiting the Arran Outdoor Education Centre, have helped to plant a new community orchard at the community land in Whiting Bay.

The job was made more complicated by the need to construct deer protection cages around each planting space before the trees could go in, to save the young trees from being nibbled, but this was no problem for the industrious volunteers. Thirty cages were constructed and planted with different varieties of apple trees, which will be a source of fruit for the local community for years to come.

The 30 apple trees were purchased after receiving a grant from the Orchard Windfalls Fund which gives grants to schools or community groups for the planting of apple and pear trees on the proviso that children, 16-and-under, are involved with the planting.

The Arran Community Land Initiative (ACLI), started in December 2014, is an ambitious project to transform 80 acres of disused farmland in Whiting Bay, with a view to growing local fresh food us-

ing wildlife-friendly farming methods and creating a wide range of recreational and educational resources and opportunities, including mountain bike trails and walking paths and running land-based skills courses.

The ACLI would like to thank all of the children, supervisors and other volunteers who took part and remind everyone that they are welcome to visit the new orchard on the community land just off Golf Course Road in Whiting Bay.

The ACLI relies solely on grants and donations to fund the work on the community land.

In 2016, the next planting task will be to put in Arran Whitebeam's in a new woodland area and the next volunteer day for working on site is today (Saturday). Everyone is welcome to go along and get stuck in.

The volunteer days are described as: 'great fun, very friendly and there's always snacks on offer to keep volunteers going'.

If you would like more details of the volunteer days and other news on activities at the



**Above: Arran Outdoor Education Centre volunteers pose in front of the orchard.**



**Right: Young Whiting Bay Primary volunteers plant an apple tree**

community land, you can visit the Arran Community Land Initiative's Facebook page, or its website at [www.arranland.org](http://www.arranland.org).



**Two young boys help erect the poles for the deer cages.**



**Volunteers dig the holes for the apple trees.**

## Lamlash SWI give kids a festive treat

The Saturday before Christmas saw the younger residents of Lamlash join together for food, games, dances and, best of all, a jolly Santa with a full sack of toys. Lamlash SWI spent a busy morning preparing the food kindly provided by the local Co-op. The Curtain Shop, Arran Pharmacy, Lamlash Bay Hotel and Jimmy Gordon's generously allowed collecting cans to be left on their counters to help towards paying for presents for all the children. For many years, Jimmy Gordon has helped Santa by ordering, collecting, sorting, storing and delivering presents at a generous discount to help out Santa's elves. The SWI would like to say a special very big thank you to Jimmy, and also to Annie Gillies, Santa, DJs, parent volunteers and anyone who helped or contributed in any way. A Lamlash SWI spokeswoman said: 'Thank you, a happy New Year and hopefully see you all at next year's party.' A final thank you went to the young ladies from primaries 4 and 5 for their much appreciated thanks from the stage, a very nice thing to do.

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The visiting Broons prepare for their fifth dook. L to r: Fraser Grant, Clare Calcott James, Paula Wilson, Scott Russell and Greg Donnelly. 20\_b02dook01



Three-year-old Aiden Henderson gets ready for his first dook. 20\_b02dook03



The dookers get ready to make a splash.



Leading the charge as the dookers head into the water. Photo: John Baraclough

# Dozens take the New Year's Day



The dookers didn't hang around in the water long. 20\_b02dook07



The dookers make quite a splash in Brodick. Photo: John Baraclough

Around 50 dookers braved the icy waters of Brodick Bay on New Year's Day for the now traditional Douglas Dook.

Now in its fifth year, the dook attracts locals and visitors alike - some of whom have taken part every year. There were also a few participants from outside Brodick after the Lamlash Boxing Day Dook was cancelled.

The brave souls who took part in the dook, in aid of the Arran Mountain Rescue Team, met at the ho-



The dookers watch their step as they make their way back up the beach. 20\_b02dook14



A big crowd of supporters gathered for the dook. Photo: John Baraclough



splash. 20\_b02dook05

# plunge for fifth Douglas Dook

tel before making their way to the Brodick Slipway. However, with the slipway too slippery to use, the dookers ran into the water from the small adjacent beach watched by a large crowd.

The Arran Coastal Rowing Club skiff Iolair was on standby in Brodick Bay in case any dookers got into difficulty and there was also onshore emergency medical cover.

Then for the dookers it was back to the Douglas for free soup to warm them up.



The last of the dookers head into the sea. 20\_b02dook13



The dookers and their supporters make their way to the Brodick Slipway. 20\_b02dook02



Some of the younger dookers find out how cold the water is. 20\_b02dook06



Some of the dookers ahead of the plunge. 20\_b02dook12

**This is YOUR paper...**

Send your photos and stories to [editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)

# Lights, camera, action for the island's first cinema

It has been a long time coming but Arran has its first dedicated and fully licensed cinema and micro-theatre.

The new 42-seat venue is the latest addition to the growing list of attractions offered at Balmichael Centre and is designed to provide locals and

visitors alike with a traditional cinema experience.

From new releases to classics, documentaries to foreign titles, Arran Cinema and Mirco Theatre is able to show a virtual cornucopia of films on its massive screen, in full high definition with surround

sound. Owner James L Clark even drove to London to buy real cinema seats to make the experience more authentic.

But James insisted he was not trying to compete with the visits to the island of the Screen Machine or other film clubs on the island.

He said: 'I've been in contact with Regional Screen Scotland, Creative Scotland, and others in an effort to ensure that we don't conflict at all.

'We're not trying to replace the Screen Machine, it's a wonderful project that we fully support. We'll pay very close attention to what they offer and will not replicate it at our cinema.

'It's no different to having multiple pubs and restaurants in close proximity - except we're not going to copy what they do every time they do it. That's our pledge and we'll stick to it.'

James said: 'Coming from California, I grew up with movies. When we moved to Arran, we were disappointed

there wasn't a dedicated venue. Some of my fondest memories growing up revolve around cinema.

'I saw Star Wars on the big screen in 1977. It was amazing! The first date my wife and I went on was to a movie. There's just something very special, very timeless, about watching movies on a big screen that can't quite be replicated at home. I want everyone to have that.

'I want everyone to see the Moons of Naboo, to be taken on Verbal Kint's roller coaster ride about Keyser Söze, to squirm as Freddie Krueger sadistically pins a victim to the ceiling before slashing them apart, and to fill with pride as Rocky Balboa takes an undefeated Apollo Creed 15-rounds. Inspiring biopics, laugh-out-loud comedies, and ageless romances - we want to bring them all here for everyone to enjoy.'

Regular showings are Friday and Saturday evenings, with the Kid's Club showing children's movies every week



James outside the new cinema at Balmichael.

20\_b49cinema02



Real cinema seats were brought up from London for the venue. 20\_b49cinema01

on Saturdays at 12noon. Families are encouraged to take the time out and let kids be kids. Their Silver Screen Club, for the over-55s, also offers a series of weekly movies and includes tea and coffee at the Old Mill Coffee Shop as part of the movie experience.

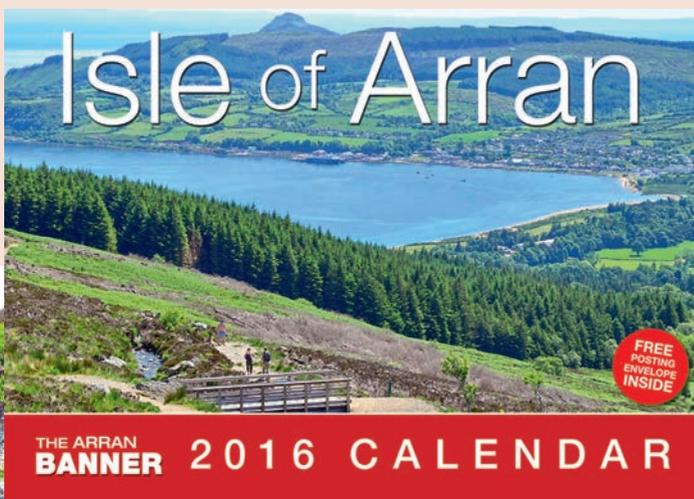
'We want families and individuals to come, unwind, catch up with friends, and be transported to another reality. It's our gift to Arran,' James added.

To learn more, visit: [www.balmichael.com](http://www.balmichael.com), [facebook.com/balmichael](https://www.facebook.com/balmichael) or call 01770 465072.

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# Arran's first geology festival date set in stone

Arran has always been an irresistible draw for geologists. The various geological formations and examples of geological principles that are found on the island bring large groups of students to Arran's coasts and mountains every year.

To celebrate this academic discipline and to explore some of these fine examples, the Scottish Geodiversity Forum has arranged Arran's first geology festival also known as Arran GeoFest 2016.

The two day event, which will be held from Friday March 18 to Sunday March 20, promises something for everyone, with walks, talks, sea kayaking and kids' activities. Billed as 'a billion year journey across the planet', the festival aims to promote Arran's geodiversity and the billions of years of Arran's history by the movement of the earth's tectonic plates, mountain building, volcanism, ice ages, sea level change and the process of erosion and deposition.

In what is to be a packed schedule, participants will visit Blackwaterfoot, Kings

Caves, the Corrie Shore, Newton Shore, Sannox, Slidery and Kildonan, all areas of geological interest and all accompanied by knowledgeable and informative guides. Talks will be given at various locations including one by Dr Neil Clark from the Glasgow University about the Beast of Blackwaterfoot, (Chirotherium) as well as other Scottish dinosaurs and reptiles.

## Variety

A festival spokesman said: 'From the ancient remains of the Caledonian mountains in the north to the desert sandstones of the south, we've got a variety of metamorphic and sedimentary rocks here that record Scotland's journey across the world and the animals that have hitched a ride: you can walk in the footsteps of Triassic reptiles and marvel at 300-million-year-old giant shells that lived at the equator.'

'But that's not all, the granite hills in the north of Arran and the ridges and bumps in the south are the result of much more recent geological activity, when the Atlantic Ocean was forming and the



west of Scotland saw some dramatic volcanic activity. This was 'only' 60 million years ago, when magmas with varied chemistry oozed into the existing bedrock and cooled to form the tough igneous rocks that are responsible for much of the variety of Arran's scenery.'

For more information and the latest updates visit [www.scottishgeology.com/arran/](http://www.scottishgeology.com/arran/)

Visitors will be able to enjoy Arran's geological highlights.

Photo courtesy of scottishgeology.com

## Arran residents urged to act to detect bowel cancer early

People on Arran are being urged to join the growing number of people doing their bowel screening test, as new figures show more than 100,000 tests were returned in Scotland during September and October last year.

The plea coincides with the Scottish Government's new Detect Cancer Early campaign to boost participation in the Scottish bowel screening programme.

### Motivate

The 'bowel movement' campaign, which targeted those who put off taking the test, highlighted the growing number of people in Scotland who are routinely taking part, in a bid to motivate others to do the same.

With statistics showing that the likelihood of surviving bowel cancer is 14 times higher if detected at an early stage compared to a late stage, the bowel screening

test remains the most effective way of finding the disease early.

Everyone aged between 50 and 74 in Scotland is sent a bowel screening test every two years. More people than ever before are doing their test, in the privacy of their own home, around half a million every year, but Detect Cancer Early aims to further drive uptake in a bid to help save more lives.

Dr Carol Davidson, director of public health for NHS Ayrshire and Arran, said: 'More people are surviving cancer than ever before, thanks to advancements in treatment and earlier detection. The little test that drops through your letterbox might not look like much but it is the best, most effective, way to find bowel cancer early when it is more treatable, and can even be cured.'

'Home testing can find bow-

el cancer at an early stage, even if you've had no symptoms. So, don't delay, follow the instructions and return your test straight away.'

Professor Bob Steele, director of the Scottish bowel screening programme, added: 'We know completing the test isn't the nicest thing to do, but it's hugely encouraging to see many more people pressing ahead and returning their kits as it could save their life.'

### Encourage

'I'd encourage everyone who is offered bowel screening to take the opportunity to get checked. It's free, simple, can be done in the privacy of your own home and, as these figures show, you won't be alone.'

For more information on the Scottish Bowel Screening Programme or to request a replacement test, call the helpline on 0800 0121 833.

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# Shiskine SWI enjoy making greeting cards

The December meeting of Shiskine SWI was a fun, entertaining and very enjoyable meeting, writes Susie Thompson.

Our President, Evelyn Hamilton, welcomed everyone and introduced two new members, mother and daughter Fer and Katy Murchie. Now we have three generations of the same family. There is Cathy, who is an honorary member, Fer and granddaughter Katy.

To everyone's delight, the evening's speaker, Jakki McLellan, came and demonstrated the intricacies of making greeting cards. She brought with her a huge selection of all the bits and pieces we would need to make a card.

#### Background papers

It's a world that few of us knew anything about, but we do now. There were background papers in every pattern and colour imaginable, coloured ribbons, bows, ready-printed greetings mes-

sages – not to mention all the embellishments, gems and 'candy'. No, the 'candy' was not for eating, it's the card making word for all the wee gems and sparkly bits we could stick on to add a final touch of bling.

Everybody was given a blank white card to make their own designs. Then we were told to search through all the boxes of 'ingredients' that Jakki had brought with her.

Finding, matching and choosing all the different pieces needed to make our cards was quite a challenge. 'Will this go with that? No, maybe something else', were words often to be overheard.

Jakki watched and helped as we worked. We snipped, glued, arranged and re-arranged. A few minutes later everybody had a card they'd made to take home with them. All our cards turned out to be very different and attractive.

Jakki's card making lesson

brought out the inventiveness and creativity in all of us and any donations made for using her bits and pieces are going to Cancer Research.

Alice Anderson thanked Jakki for such an enjoyable, interesting and creative evening.

#### Best wrapped

The results of the competitions were: for the best wrapped parcel; 1 Susie Thompson, 2 Eunice Williamson, 3 Joan Stewart. The Christmas Candle competition was won by Fiona Scott, followed by Jerry Arthur and Elizabeth Kelso.

Our newest member Katy Murchie drew for the raffle. Her mum, Fer, had the winning ticket. What an introduction for their first visit to Shiskine SWI.

After a welcome cup of tea and a veritable feast of sandwiches and home-made cakes, Evelyn wished us all a safe journey home and a very happy Christmas.



Shiskine SWI members selecting their background patterns. b01swi01

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## Look out for wintering white-winged gulls

Seagulls are familiar birds on Arran and with knowledge of leg colour and wing colour it is relatively straightforward to distinguish between the six adult species of gulls regularly seen on Arran, namely; great black-backed gull, lesser black-backed gull, herring gull, common gull, black-headed gull and kittiwake.

The first three are larger and all have black wing tips even in juvenile plumage.

Bearing this in mind, it is worth checking at this time of year, particularly after storms, any gathering of large gulls, looking for larger gulls that do not have black wing tips.

If you do come across these wintering white-winged gulls

there are liable to be one of two species - the glaucous gull or Iceland gull. Both these species breed in the Arctic region. The glaucous is more widespread while the Iceland is restricted to Canada and Greenland, not Iceland. In the winter some wander south. In the five years of the bird atlas there were three Iceland records and two glaucous records on Arran. The last Iceland record was in 2014 and the last glaucous in 2012. They are uncommon but worth looking out for.

Once you have found a large white-winged gull how can you tell if it is a glaucous or an Iceland? With the bird standing at rest, concentrate on the rear end of the bird, in particular the length of the folded wings in relation to the body. The Iceland gull has long, tapered wings that project well beyond the tail, producing an attenuated look to the rear end. In contrast, the larger glaucous gull has relatively short wings that are proportionately similar in length to the body giving a blunt look to the rear end.

Enjoy your birding

Please send any bird notes

### Bird notes

by Jim Cassels



An Icelandic gull stands at the waters edge.

Photo by Dave Grant



A glaucous gull standing on a sea wall.

Photo by Angus Hogg

with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at [jim@arranbirding.co.uk](mailto:jim@arranbirding.co.uk). I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Atlas 2007-2012 as well as the Arran Bird Report 2014 and visit this website [www.arranbirding.co.uk](http://www.arranbirding.co.uk)

# THE ARRAN

# BANNER

# TWENTY YEARS AGO

Saturday 13 January, 1996

## Arran twinning

HMS Arun called in at Brodick last summer and readers may recall that the skipper suggested a twinning arrangement between Arran and HMS Arun. Although the gesture was originally ignored, the community council later took it up and wrote to the ship. At their meeting last Tuesday they said they have now received a reply from Lt Andy Hancock in which he welcomed the council's response but said that he would have to apply to a higher authority before he could make a decision on any formalised arrangement with Arran.

## New year run

The Arran Runners Club again brought in the new year with a handicap event on January 2. This year the nine mile course, mostly off road, circumnavigated Brodick, with a start and finish at the Ormidale Hotel. Although the big freeze was coming to an end by then there was still enough ice about to cure even the worst of hangovers. By the end of the race everyone was warmed up enough to enjoy an

afternoon of food, beer and reminiscence of feats earlier in the day and throughout 1995. The race itself was won by Dennis Padden, closely followed by Gordon Allsop and guest Jim Stevenson.

## Gangway troubles

The gangway on Brodick Pier has been out of action for almost two weeks and foot passengers have had to board and disembark by the car deck. This inconvenience has been caused by a fault in the gangway motor. However a new motor is expected to arrive from Germany today and the inconvenience should soon be over.

## Stores badly hit

Corrie Stores will stop selling newspapers at the end of January, but it will remain open as a post office every day except Wednesdays and Sundays. It will also sell sweets and you will still be able to buy The Banner there. Corrie Stores, in common with other small village stores, has been badly hit by the opening of the new Co-op supermarket in Brodick.



Kilmory WRI celebrated its 70th birthday on Tuesday night. In a surprise ceremony three ladies were made honorary life members and were presented with certificates and badges in recognition of long membership and continuous service to the rural. Pictured are Jean Cook who joined the rural as long ago as 1935 and Mary Morrison who joined in 1939. Making the presentation were Federation president Edna Picken and Kilmory president Helen Driver. Not pictured is Susan Gibson who joined Kilmory in 1943 and who also received the award. b02twe01



Cora Lynn, the house that Adolph Ribbeck built in the centre of Brodick in 1896, and which became the old Co-op, finally came down early last Sunday on a wet, drizzling morning when nobody was around. Cora Lynn had become a symbol of the controversy which surrounds the proposed Charters Towers Development and its final demise took place one day before the planning meeting which could give it the go ahead. b02twe03



Cora Lynn which was built 1896 was demolished exactly 100 years later. b02twe04



Part of the entertainment at Tuesday nights WRI meeting was a repeat performance of a sketch first performed by the Kilmory ladies at the rural rally in November. Seen here are from left; hula girl Margaret Fitzpatrick, Lady Janet Mulholland, farmer Phyllis Picken, firewoman Angela Chalmers, cook Edna Picken and front: golfer Lillian Tod and doctor Helen Driver. b02twe02

Carol Garrett looks at the replacement collection box at the old Pier Craft Centre in Whiting Bay after the original box contained £38, which was raising funds for the children's Christmas party, was stolen which Carol finds difficult to comprehend, but is something which can happen, even here on Arran. b02twe05



# What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

[www.arranbrewery.com](http://www.arranbrewery.com)



## Every day

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

Loch Garbad, bank fishing  
 9am-dusk  
 Mon, Wed and Sat: 10am - 5pm, Tue and Thu: 12.30-5pm  
 2pm (limited spaces call for availability)  
 Open all day

## Saturday 9th January

Army Cadets  
 Over 21s Disco  
 Family Games  
 Fun in the pool  
 Arran Vets - Surgery Brodick,  
 Live music from Arran Ceilidh Band  
 Arran Physiotherapy & Acupuncture Clinic  
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game  
 Lamlash Bowling Club Rink Game  
 WBay Bowling Club Rink Game  
 Ceilidh Dancing

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1 pm.  
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Auchrannie Spa pool, 4-5pm  
 9.30am - 11am  
 Fiddlers, Brodick from 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
[arranphysiotherapy.co.uk](http://arranphysiotherapy.co.uk) 9-12noon  
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.15pm  
 Lamlash Bowling club, 2pm  
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 2pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

## Sunday 10th January

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

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

## Monday 11th January

Over 50s Badminton  
 Badminton  
 Live music - North Country Winters  
 Morning Fitness  
 Table Tennis  
 Badminton  
 Arran Vets - Surgery  
 Arran Junior Football Club  
 Circuit Training  
 WBay Bowling Club Rink Game  
 Citizens advice  
 Lamlash Aerobix  
 RunArran Jogscotland Beginners  
 RunArran Mixed Ability  
 Bridge Club  
 Scottish Country Dancing for beginners & improvers  
 Yoga  
 Tae Kwondo  
 Skinnymalinks Weigh in for Mary's Meals  
 Skinnymalinks Weigh in for Mary's Meals  
 Skinnymalinks Weigh in for Mary's Meals

Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 7.30pm  
 Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 Corrie Hall, 6.30pm  
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm  
 9am - 10.30am & 3pm - 4pm  
 Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm  
 Auchrannie Gym, 6-7pm  
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 6.30pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30am - 1.30pm  
 Arran High School Dance Studio, 6.30pm  
 Whiting Bay, 5pm  
 Whiting Bay, 5.30pm  
 Lamlash Golf Clubhouse, 7.15pm  
 Corrie Hall, 2-4pm  
 Corrie & Sannox Hall, 6pm - 7pm  
 Brodick Church Hall Adults & over 10s, 7.00pm - 8.30pm  
 Lamlash Church Hall 3:45 - 4:30pm  
 Brèagha Holistic Beauty, Corrie 5pm-5.45pm  
 Brodick Church Kitchen 6:30 - 7:00pm

## Tuesday 12th January

Pop Quiz  
 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Youth Club  
 Arran Vets - Surgery  
 Rotary club

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm  
 Kildonan Hall, 7pm  
 9am - 10.30am  
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 6.30pm

Healthy Outdoors  
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game  
 RunArran Run Coaching  
 Open Cricket Session  
 Non- competitive bridge  
 Lamlash Drama Club  
 Winter Bowls  
 Scottish Country Dancing

NTS Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm  
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.15pm  
 Lamlash, 5.30pm  
 Brodick Astro Turf 7pm-9pm  
 Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7pm - 9pm  
 Arran High School, 6.30pm - 9pm  
 Auchrannie, 7pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm

## Wednesday 13th January

Rock & Pop Bingo  
 Tae Kwondo  
 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Arran Brass Rehearsal  
 Arran Vets - Surgery  
 Yoga  
 Hydrofit  
 Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service  
 RunArran Mixed Ability  
 JogScotland Beginners  
 Yoga-Arran  
 Live music  
 Drift Inn Quiz  
 Mixed Hockey  
 Dog classes  
 Knitting & Crochet drop in group  
 Winter Warmers

Ormidale Hotel 9.30pm  
 Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm  
 Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm  
 Brodick, 9am - 10.30am & 6pm - 7pm  
 Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am-10.30am  
 Auchrannie Hotel leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am  
 10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30  
 Brodick, 5.30pm  
 Auchrannie Car Park, 7pm  
 Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick from 8pm  
 Lamlash, 9pm  
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7.30-9pm  
 Whiting Bay Hall, 1pm  
 Brodick Library, 4pm - 6pm  
 Lochranza Centre, 11am - 2pm

## Thursday 14th January

Morning Fitness  
 General Knowledge Quiz  
 Arran Vets - Surgery  
 Ladies Hockey  
 RunArran Mixed Ability  
 Cardiac Rehab  
 Burger & Quiz nightFelicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm  
 Winter Bowls

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 9am - 10.30am  
 Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30-8.30pm  
 Brodick, 6pm  
 Auchrannie leisure club, 2-3.30pm  
 Auchrannie, 7pm

## Friday 15th January

Yoga  
 Hydrofit  
 Arran Youth Foundations  
 Live music  
 Lochranza Kids Badminton  
 Lochranza Adults Badminton  
 Quiz  
 AA Meeting  
 Live music  
 Tae Kwondo

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am  
 Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am  
 Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 8pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 8pm  
 Whiting Bay Golf Club, 8pm  
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 8pm  
 Arran High School, Lamlash Adults, 7pm - 8.30pm



[www.arranbrewery.com](http://www.arranbrewery.com)

# Public Notices

## NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL: EDUCATION AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT CHILDREN ENTITLED TO START P1 - SESSION 2016/2017

Children who attain the age of 5 years between 1 March 2016 and 28 February 2017 should be registered for education during the week commencing Monday 18 January 2016. As times vary from school to school, parents are asked to check registration arrangements with the appropriate catchment primary school for the area in which they live. The child's birth certificate should be produced at the time of registration. Information on Registration can be found on the Council's web site: [www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk) (Education and Learning pages). If you wish your child to attend a school outwith your catchment area then you must submit a placing request which you will be able to submit online by accessing [www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk) (Education and Learning pages). Placing request assistance can also be obtained by telephoning 01294 310000. Registration at your catchment area school does not guarantee entry to that school.

JOHN BUTCHER  
Executive Director (Education and Youth Employment)

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

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

Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy & Communities) at the above address or emailed to [eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk) by 29.01.16. Any representations received will be open to public view.

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

Format: Application No; Address; Proposed Development

15/00748/PP; Site to East of Margenaish Farm, Kildonan, Brodick, Isle of Arran; Erection of detached dwelling house, garage, outbuilding and private drainage arrangement.

15/00754/PP; Eilann Auchencairn, High Auchencairn Road, Whiting Bay, Brodick; Removal of condition 2 of planning approval N/14/00587/PP to provide a revised site plan to alter the orientation of the dwelling house.

Elma Murray  
Chief Executive  
Cunninghame House  
IRVINE KA12 8EE



North Ayrshire Council  
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

**Arran Ferry Committee**  
invite you to a Public Meeting with  
**Transport Scotland**  
**CMAL**  
**CalMac Ferries**  
in Brodick Hall  
Monday 18th January  
7.30pm  
All Welcome

## NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL: EDUCATION AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT CHILDREN ENTITLED TO START P1 - SESSION 2016/2017

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John Butcher  
Executive Director (Education and Youth Employment)

## CORRIE, HIGH CORRIE AND LAMLASH CONSERVATION AREAS

Article 4 Directions restrict rights to undertake certain classes of development without the need for planning permission. The following lists classes that were restricted by Article 4 Directions in the stated conservation areas. Detailed restrictions to each class are set out within the Town and Country Planning (General Development) (Scotland) Order 1981.

Corrie & Lamlash Conservation Areas

Class I - Development within the curtilage of a dwelling house

Class II - Sundry minor operations

Class XI - Development by Local Authorities

Class XII - Development by Local Highways Authorities

High Corrie Conservation Area

Class I - Development within the curtilage of a dwelling house

Class II - Sundry minor operations

Class VIII - Repairs to private streets and private ways

Class XII - Development by Local Highways Authorities

The Article 4 Directions were cancelled on 2 December 2015. Their cancellation is merited due to the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2011, which substitutes the stated classes with up-to-date classes. Maps of the conservation areas can be viewed on the Council's website at [www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

Elma Murray  
Chief Executive  
Cunninghame House  
IRVINE KA12 8EE



North Ayrshire Council  
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An application for this post can be completed online at [www.jobs.scot.nhs.uk](http://www.jobs.scot.nhs.uk)

Alternatively, to request an application form please contact the Department of O&HRD, University Hospital Crosshouse on 01563 825711 or email: [Allison.robertson@aaaht.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Allison.robertson@aaaht.scot.nhs.uk)

Closing date: 22 January 2016.

Please quote reference number on enquiry.

To find out more about NHS Ayrshire and Arran and services visit [www.nhsaaa.net](http://www.nhsaaa.net)



## ARRAN ANTIQUARIANS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

will be held on

**Monday, 18th January 2016**

**At Brodick Hall, 2pm**

The election of officers and committee will take place and the publishing of the 2015 accounts. This will be followed by a presentation of last years programme and speakers. Subscriptions for 2016 may be paid to the treasurer, Margaret Bruce, either at the meeting or sent to Bowmore, Whiting Bay Tel: 700787. Members will receive their programme for 2016. We also intend to make our visit to Drumlanrig Castle which was postponed in June last year, together with some field trips on the island. The committee looks forward to seeing you once again at our first meeting of 2016. The usual refreshments will follow the meeting.

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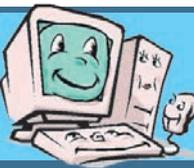


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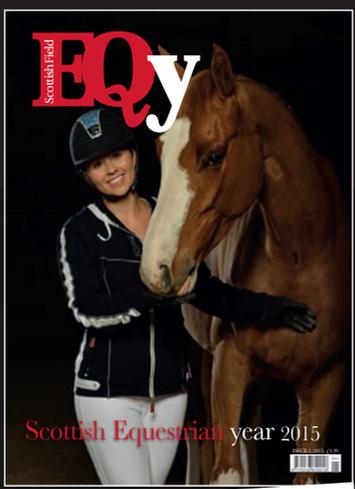
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### CHURCH NOTICES

#### SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
**Sunday, 10th January**

Holy Communion, 11.00 am.  
Rev Canon Simon Mackenzie,  
Priest-in-Charge.  
Coffee after service.  
ALL WELCOME

#### CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill 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 10th January**

Lochranza and Pirmill Churches, 10.15am Morning Worship in Pirmill.

Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship.  
Brodick Church, 10.30am Morning Worship including ordination of a new elder.  
Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer Meeting,

12noon Morning Worship. There will also be a Service of Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

#### CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"

**Sunday 10th January**

Kilmory 10am  
Lamlash 11.30 am  
Rev. Lily McKinnon  
All welcome, including families; children's area  
Scottish Charity SC015072

#### ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)

**Sunday 10th January**

Morning Service 11am  
Trust Housing Lounge,  
Glen Estate, Brodick  
Evening Service 6.30pm  
5 Glen Road, Brodick  
Prayer Meeting

**Wednesday 13th January**

at 7pm

5 Glen Road  
All welcome

#### WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(Charity Number: SC014005)

**Sunday 10th January**

Worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am.

Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service

#### HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Sunday 10th January**  
Morning Mass 11am

#### ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings

**Sunday 10th January**

11am Morning worship in the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick

Tea and Coffee after the service.  
Wednesday at 7.30pm

Home Fellowship Group for Bible Study and Prayer.

Contact phone no 600222

Everyone warmly invited

#### ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

**Sunday 10th January**

Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)

Brodick 6pm (Church behind post office)

Rev Benjamin von Rensberg

#### RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS

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



#### Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday, December 31, Mahogany Trophy, 25 played. 1st Class: 1 G Stewart 48-6=42 BIH, 2 D Tod 45-3=42, 3 W Kelso 48-5=43. Scratch, D Tod 45. 2nd Class: 1 J Clark 50-8=42, 2 I Rae 53-10=43, 3 A Bannatyne 59-13=46. Magic twos B Sherwood, J Clark and G Stewart.

Friday, January 1, Alan Smith Plate, 28 played. Silver: 1 Kema Genda 52-6=46, 2 Liz Kerr 57-9=4, BIH, 3 Elizabeth Kelso 59-11=48. Bronze: 1 Fiona Scott 68-15=53, 2 Elizabeth Ker 71-16=55 BIH, 3 Piet Johnson 68-13=55.

Friday, January 1, Colditz Quaich, 58 played. 1st Class: 1 Alan Stewart 52-7=45, Bih, 2 Joe Faulkner 50-5=45 BIH, 3 Willie Kelso 50-5=45. Scratch David Marshall 48. 2nd Class: 1 John Salton 52-8=44 and winner, 2 Lachlan Jones 56-8=48, 3 Neil Henderson 59-10=49 BIH. Magic twos D Tod, B Kelso, M Abram and K Allan.

Well done to John Salton for Winning Colditz Quaich in very blustery conditions.

Saturday, January 2, D S Bannatyne Shield, 54 played.



**John Salton, winner of the Cloditz Quaich, Gordon Stewart, winner of the Mahogany Trophy, Captain Martyn Ker and Kema Genda, winner of the Alan Smith Plate at Shiskine.**

1 Fiona Scott and Iain Robinson 53-12.5=40.5, 2 Julia Salton and Willie Kelso 56-11.5=44.5, 3 Lesley Culpan and David Marshall 52-7=45. Magic twos D Richie and E Ker, I Robinson and F Scott and J Clark and I Robertson.

Sunday, January 3, Sunday Stableford, 16 played. 1 W McNally, 30pts, handicap getting cut again, 2 D Logan, 24pts, 3 J Faulkner, 23pts. Magic twos I Shaw.

#### Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday, January 3, The Cross Country. After the wet weather of the days leading up to Christmas, a dry morning and brisk easterly winds made for pleasant conditions on the golf course. Fourteen played in the traditional New Year's opener when nine holes, some long, some very short, are concocted from the 18 hole layout. The sweep was hotly contested with the top three all coming in on a net 29.5 leaving positions to be determined by count back. 1 Colin Nisbet, 2 Wolfi Kroner, 3 Sandy Pringle.

In the ladies section, the result was not quite so close with Christine Macleod's blistering no return trumped by Jackie Nisbet's even more blistering 37.5. Well played all, and thanks to John for the nibbles in the clubhouse afterwards. A fine opening to what we all hope will be a fine golfing year.

Fixture: Sunday, January 10, AGA Winter League match v Lamlash at Brodick

#### Machrie Golf Club

Tuesday, December 29. The annual two club competition was played over nine holes, followed by a buffet

tea, 10 played. 1 Brian Sherwood 34.5, 2 Phil Betley 35, 3 Alistair MacDonald 35.5. Mary Wilkinson won the ladies competition.

Prizes for the annual eclectic and twos competitions were presented, as follows: Eclectic-best net scores over 18 holes over the year with a score of 37 was Phil Betley. 2nd was Campbell Laing with a net 41 and 3rd was Ruben Betley with a net 46. Well done to all.

The winner of the magic twos competition, with the most twos points accumulated over the year, was Brian Sherwood with 18 points, beating Phil Betley, also with 18 points, on countback.

The first game of 2016 was played on Saturday, January 2. This was the Lochranza Hotel Cup stableford and played with the new first hole in use due to extensive Storm Frank damage to the normal one. Four played, qualifier, CSS 65. 1 Phil Betley 35pts, 2 Brian Sherwood 33pts, 3 Campbell Laing 31pts.

#### Lamlash Golf Club

Saturday, January 2, the course backwards. 1 Callum Rae 77-16=61, 2 Paul Jameson 74-11=63, 3 Dougie Macfarlane 65-0=65, 4 Norrie MacIntyre 75-8=67. Magic twos Callum Rae @3rd, Paul Jameson @15th, Dougie Macfarlane @14th. Best Scratch Dougie Macfarlane 65.

Sunday, January 3, Glenburn Cup, CSS 67, par 64. 1 Ian Bremner 78-7=71, 2 Allan Winship 85-14=71. Magic two Allan Winship @16th. Best scratch Ian Bremner 78. Fixtures: Sunday, January 10, Winter League team

match Lamlash v Whiting Bay at Brodick. Thursday, January 14, Yellow Medal, 11am start.

Ladies Section; Saturday, January 2, New Year game. The first competition of 2016 attracted only five hardy competitors to play the back nine backwards. While the men tackle the full 18 holes, the ladies find the second nine more than enough. The first hole, driving from the first tee to the 17th green, is perhaps the most difficult of all resulting in many 'no returns' over the years. On this occasion three players were able to complete their cards: 1 Susan Butchard, 2 Kate McAdam, 3 Sheena Murchie.

Happy New Year to all members and friends of LGC.

#### Corrie Golf Club

Friday, January 1, New Year Shield. A total of 18 hardy souls turned up to play for the shield and enjoyed some light refreshments in the hut afterwards. 1 D Jeffrey 68-8=60, 2 R Burke 73-10=63, 3 R Martin 90-26=64. Scratch David Jeffrey 68. Magic twos D Currie, M McDonald and S Beardsley (2). Great day.



**Corrie Golf Club's New Year Shield winner David Jeffrey.**

#### Brodick Golf Club

Friday, January 1, Hirsell Trophy, Jimmy Armit 36pts.

Saturday, January 2, course backwards, joint winners, Bob McCrae and Gordon Hendry.

Sunday, January 3, Brandon, 1 Iain MacDonald 73-7=66 acb and best scratch. 2 David Hendry 81-15=66, 3 Terry Raeside 77-10=67.

Winter Cup, David Hendry 36pts. Iain MacDonald 35pts, Terry Raeside 34pts.

Fixture: Sunday, January 10, AGA Winter League/Duncan Trophy and sweep, 9am and 12noon starts.

#### Arran Golfers Association

Fixture: Sunday, January 10, Winter League 3rd Round at Brodick Golf Club. Draw: Brodick v Corrie, Shiskine v Machrie. Lamlash v Whiting Bay. All games start at 10am, could players be there sharp to get to respective tees please.

### IN MEMORY

In Memory of  
**'Cally'**

Died 4th January 2015  
Miss you, family & friends

### 60TH WEDDING

**7.1.56 - 7.1.16**

**Mum & Dad,  
Happy Diamond Wedding Anniversary**



Lots of love & hugs from Terry & Liz, Frances & Jock, Mark & Carol, Lesley & Sandy and all your grandchildren and great grandchildren

XXXXX

### THANK YOU

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# Arran cyclists ready for new challenges

Three Arran cycling groups joined for a friendly meet up at the newly refurbished Pierhead Tavern in Lamalsh after a post-Christmas cycle taking in various routes around the island.

The Arran Belles completed the Kildonan Loop, while the Arran Road Cyclists tackled the equally-challenging Ross Loop. The Arran Mountain Bikers were in familiar territory, enjoying the trails above Brodick before joining the other two groups for a well deserved lunch.

The events were held on Sunday, December 27. Janice Small of the Arran Belles said: 'It was one of the few stunning days of the winter, a joy to be on the bike, and to work off some of the Christmas pudding.'

It has been a fantastic year for the Belles who completed

the 100 and 150 km cycle at the Ladies Macmillan Cyclette in Perth as well as the 83km, Five Ferry Challenge which runs around north Kintyre and the Firth of Clyde. The Belles also enjoyed their first foreign venture in 2015 with a weeks cycling in Catalonia, Spain.

#### Exciting year

And 2016 promises to be an exciting year for the Belles who, beside the usual weekly cycling and monthly away-days, will be taking on the new 500-mile Scottish route, the North 500. Starting and ending in Inverness, this challenging cycle takes in the west coast of Scotland to the dramatic scenery of the far north of Scotland along the rugged and beautiful coast of Caithness before returning south to the capital of the Highlands.



The Arran Belles looking remarkably refreshed during their cycle near Kildonan.

## New coastal trail is expected to attract hundreds of runners

A challenging new run is to be held on Arran this year.

The Arran Coastal Way is organising a 12km Trail Run, a first for the island, to be held on Saturday, April 30 with the route based around Blackwaterfoot.

The route chosen is totally off-road and follows a figure of eight course. The 12km route is challenging with conditions underfoot ranging from tracks and trails, to stony paths and sandy beaches. They hope the variety and stunning scenery will make for an outstanding and enjoyable trail run.

The event is hoping to attract 300 runners, and their respective supporters, into the area and local runners are welcome to join and will get support and training for the race.

The organisers have teamed up with Laura Aitcheson of RunArran to advise them technically on the route and to ensure it is well organised. RunArran has a range of run groups and coaching for all abilities.

#### Upgrade paths

The coastal way team and their Blackwaterfoot volunteer group have worked really hard to upgrade paths in the area and have said the improved paths give great potential for some fantastic trail running.

Project co-ordinator Rachel Sedman said: 'The race has been accepted as part of the 2016 Challenge Series with JogScotland and Scottish Athletics so a lot of entries will come from elsewhere in Scotland, increasing the visitors who

will come and experience our fantastic island.

'There are several opportunities for businesses to get involved in sponsoring various aspects of the race as well as a chance to add products to the runner goodie bags.'

Entries, which cost £12, will close when the 300 places are filled or on Thursday, March 31. All participants must be 18 or older on the day.

Anyone interested can get in touch with Rachel on 01770 303926 or by e-mail to: [arran@coastalway.co.uk](mailto:arran@coastalway.co.uk) to find out more.

Entries are now open at [www.q-buster.co.uk](http://www.q-buster.co.uk) and more information on the race is available at [www.arrancoastal-trailrun.co.uk](http://www.arrancoastal-trailrun.co.uk)



Some of the cyclists who attended the lunch meet up at the Pierhead Tavern.

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The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.