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Arran's Weekly Newspaper SATURDAY, 30 JANUARY 2016 No 2048 60p

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# Corrie road closure will cause major disruption

Businesses say turnover will be hit during works

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

There will be major disruption to travel with the closure of the main Brodick to Corrie road which starts next week.

For at least nine days, starting on Wednesday, the A841 will be closed twice a day, with a convoy system operating at other times.

Around a dozen businesses at Home Farm and Cladach have concerns how the closures will affect their businesses.

Residents in Corrie and Sannox believe the works will cause them major travel headaches. A revised bus timetable is also being drawn up.

The road is being closed to allow a major reconstruction of the crumbling road between the Glen Rosa Bridge and the main Brodick Castle entrance costing £700,000.

During the nine-day planned programme of roadworks the A841 will be closed from its junction with The String to the main castle entrance from 9.15am to noon and from 12.45pm to 3pm on Wednes-

day, February 3 till Thursday, February 11 or until the works are completed.

During that time there will be three convoys a day from 7.30am till 9am; 12noon to 12.45pm and 3pm to 5pm.

However, the works will start on Monday and for the first two days there will be a convoy working from 7.30am until 5pm. There will be traffic lights on the road overnight.

**Pledge**

Following the closure the roadworks will revert to traffic lights with a pledge by North Ayrshire Council that the whole project will be completed before Easter.

There have been several meetings involving the council and businesses and community representatives. This led to a change to the original plan to carry out the works before Christmas last year which businesses opposed.

Gordon Kinniburgh of the Island Cheese Company at Home Farm said: 'There is no doubt that the road closures will affect our turnover, but the work needs to be done and, while there could have been better consultation, we

have come to an agreement for the work to be done at the time most suitable to us.'

The works will start at Glen Rosa Bridge and head north meaning Home Farm will be open to Brodick a few days before Cladach.

Jim Lees, chairman of the Corrie and Sannox Village Committee said: 'Obviously we would prefer if they were no disruption, but the work needs done, and if people are organised and plan their trips they should be OK. Obviously the works are weather and boat dependent, but that's what comes of living on an island.'

How the closure is affecting the villages will be discussed at the monthly village meeting next week.

As previously reported in *The Banner* the roadworks started in November with drainage and other preparatory work carried out using temporary traffic lights, which will help cut down the time of the road closure.

A council spokesman said: 'This second stage involves major reconstruction which will require the road to be closed.'

## A tasty Tunnock's treat...

Megan Ingham may look good enough to eat - that's because she is wearing a dress made out entirely of Tunnock's caramel wafer and teacake wrappers.

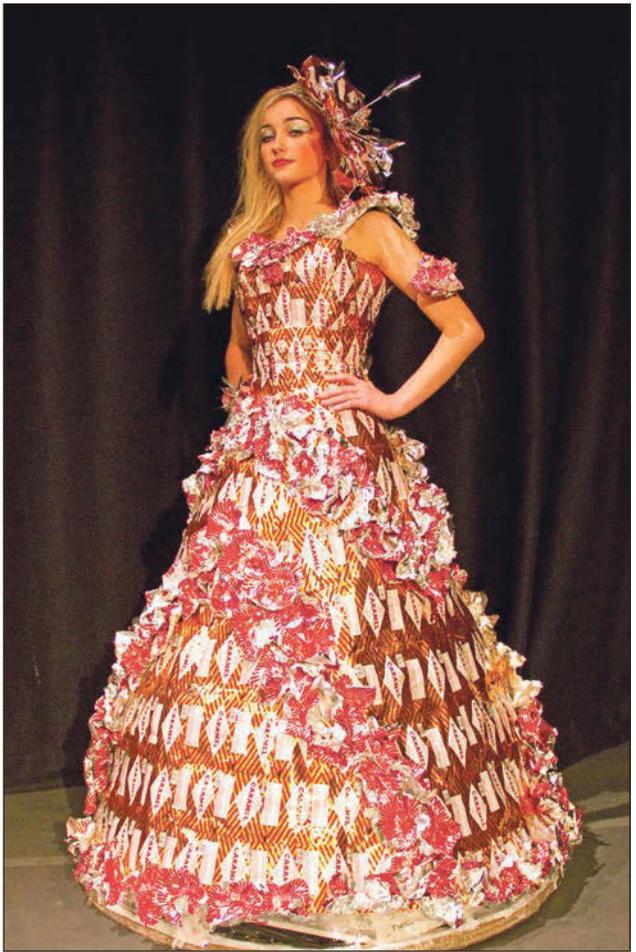
Now the dress 'Sweet Dreams' made by a team from Arran High School has reach the Scottish Final of Junk Kouture, a competition which encourages fashion made from recycled items.

It is the second year running that a team from Arran has made the final.

This year's team of Megan, Katie Morrison and Gabrielle Allison, who are all 17, will be showing their dress at the final to be held in the Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow on Friday 5 February at 7pm.

Last year's team of Fiona Rennie and Charity May also made the final with their 'Voo Do' dress but were unable to make the show due to ferry disruption.

You can vote for this year's Arran entry on the Junk Kouture Facebook page until midnight tonight (Friday).



Megan Ingham in the team's Tunnocks dress.  
Photo by Steve Garraway



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## New owner for old care home

New life is to be breathed into the former Montrose House care home in Brodick.

The site, in Glen Cloy Road, is in the final stages of being bought from North Ayrshire Council by the Auchrannie Spa Resort for staff accommodation

Council chiefs this week confirmed the premises were 'under offer'.

A planning application has been lodged by Auchrannie bosses for a change of use for the premises, which have been empty since the former residents were moved into the new Montrose House premises last year.

A North Ayrshire Council spokesman said: 'Following a period of marketing the sale of Montrose House proceeded to a closing date and the property is now under offer.'

See the Banner next week for a full report.

## Andrew Duncan

In our coverage last week of the public meeting held on Monday, January 18 in Brodick Hall by the Arran Ferry Committee, we stated that Andrew Duncan, director of vessels at CMAL, said a breakwater was being considered for Ardrrossan.

As port infrastructure is not his responsibility we now accept that Mr Duncan did not make these comments, and we would like to apologise to him for any inconvenience caused.

# Move against fishing restrictions in Marine Protected Areas fails

A bid by an MSP to have fishing restrictions scrapped in the new South Arran Marine Protected Area, and 13 other Scottish sites, has been rejected.

Conservative MSP Jamie McGrigor wanted to see planned restrictions on bottom-towed fishing annulled in a motion to the Rural Affairs and Environment Committee on Wednesday.

But it was thrown out by seven votes to two and now means that the MPAs will be awarded their full legal protection next month.

### Demonstrations

There were heated demonstrations outside the Scottish Parliament ahead of the debate where eggs and a smoke flare were thrown.

The Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) joined other conservation groups, marine conservation campaigners, sea anglers and many creel and dive fishermen in opposing the move, which they saw as trying to unravel the legal process.

Creating 30 new MPAs across Scotland has deeply divided the fishing industry and conservation lobby. Along with the South Arran



The COAST delegation at the protests outside the Scottish Parliament.

MP, Mr McGrigor wanted to see the annulment of the fishing orders in 13 other MPA sites, including Upper Loch Fyne and St Kilda.

He is the Clyde Fishermen's Association honorary vice-chairman, who, with the Scottish Fishermen's Federation, stand accused by West Coast community

groups of bullying the public and engaging in scare tactics in a bid to derail the Scottish Government's implementation of the MPAs.

### Support

COAST chairman Howard Wood, who was at the demonstration said: 'It is time that the Clyde and Scotland's seas were sustainably managed.

The Clyde has the potential to be much more than just a prawn fishery and to support far more fishing and marine jobs.

'The CFA's claims that MPAs will impact jobs are wildly overstated. Marine Scotland economists estimate that only 3 per cent of turnover will be affected and even this can be off-set by fishing elsewhere.

'MPAs will also create new jobs in the creel and dive sector, not to mention angling and tourism. Continued delays are at a huge cost to the public purse – and could be at a catastrophic cost to the inshore environment.'

Ian Burret, a spokesman for the Scottish Sea Angling Conservation Network (SSACN) who have pushed

hard for Common Skate MPAs, added: 'With fewer fish and fewer fishermen the status quo is a failed policy. A healthy and productive sea is essential to the economy of coastal communities around Scotland. Too often decisions about the inshore marine environment are made solely according to the needs of one section of the fishing industry and without the involvement, co-operation or input from the recreational and tourism industries.'

The Scottish Government said there had been 'extensive consultation' on MPA management over a number of months.

A spokesperson said: 'That consultation involved individual fishermen and their representatives, and included local engagement.'

'There is a need to balance the interests of protecting Scotland's marine environment with wider interests, particularly those of the fishing industry, but failure to protect coastal areas would result in permanent damage to habitats and the fish stocks they support.'

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# Arran girls in bid for election to Scottish Youth Parliament

Two Arran girls are in the running to become Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament (MSYP).

A by-election in the Cunninghame North constituency gets under way next week with the voting taking place from Monday until Friday. The two candidates with the most votes will then be announced to represent Cun-

ninghame North at the Scottish Youth Parliament until March 2017.

Arran High School pupils Ellie Bonner and Eilidh Macpherson, both 14, from Whiting Bay, will contest the election again five candidates from the mainland. Each candidate has launched their own manifesto, declaring their priorities if elected. To view the manifestos, visit <http://elections.youngscot.org>

From Monday people can then visit the same web address to vote for their preferred candidate.

Councillor Ruth Maguire, North Ayrshire's youth champion, said: 'It is heartening to see passionate young people make a commitment to take part

in this by-election in order to make things better for their peers.

'The Scottish Youth Parliament plays an important role in North Ayrshire providing the Council with a clear way to engage with and listen to young people about what matters most to them.

'The two new MSYPs will feed into our participation and citizenship structure which enables young people's voices to be heard and feel empowered to make positive change in their community. We have a well-established reputation for youth citizenship here in North Ayrshire and I'm sure these young people will maintain that tradition.'



Ellie Bonner



Eilidh Macpherson

## Carer stole £9,000 from pensioner

An Arran carer who admitted stealing £9,000 from an 80-year-old woman she cared for will be sentenced next month.

Anne McConnell, 51, used the pensioner's bank card to steal the money between February and August last year, Kilmarnock Sheriff Court heard on Wednesday.

McConnell, of Montrose Terrace, Whiting Bay was initially charged with stealing £17,900, but the charge was reduced after negotiations with prosecutors.

McConnell spent three years as the pensioner's carer, who suffered from severe arthritis, before going on sick leave in April last year.

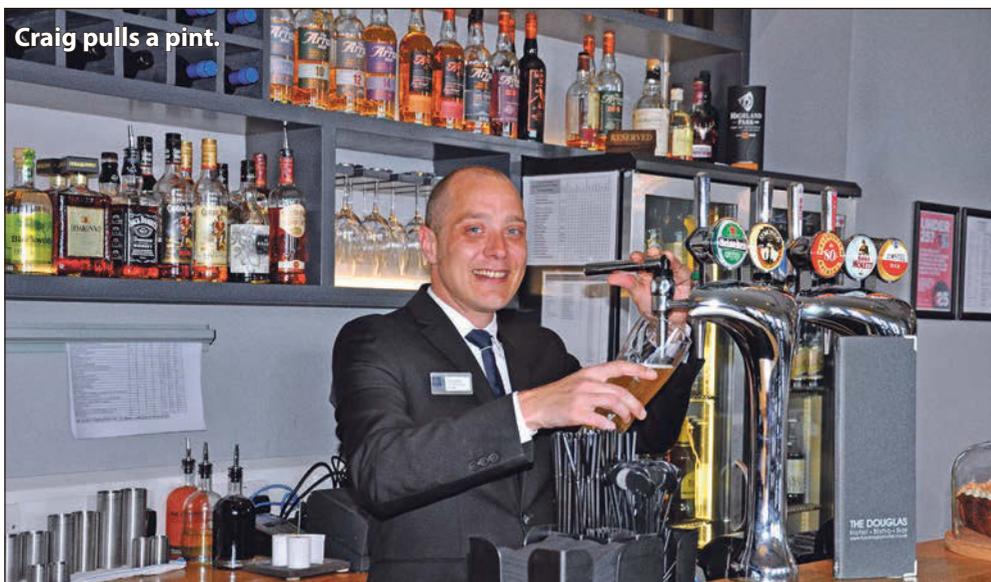
On August 5, 2015, McCon-

nell visited the cash machine at the Bank of Scotland in Brodick and withdrew £200 from the woman's savings account. It later emerged a total of £9,000 had been withdrawn from the same machine over a period of months prior to this by McConnell.

### Discovered

The thefts were discovered after the pensioner noticed money was missing from a bank statement. The woman's new carer cancelled the card and contacted the police.

In court this week, McConnell was given bail and the sheriff called for social work reports. She will be sentenced next month. A proceeds of crime hearing will take place in March.



Craig pulls a pint.



## The long bar look for the Douglas Hotel

There is a brand new look at the fully refurbished Douglas Hotel bar in Brodick.

A new 30ft-long bar gives much more serving space in the shorefront bar which can now accommodate 60 covers.

A complete makeover has seen the removal of the big TV screens to create a more relaxed ambiance for customers, although live football matches will still be screened in the snug.

The Arran Larder menu, introduced late last year, has been extended with daily specials which are now displayed on huge blackboards.

The bar is also now dog friendly, but with a curfew of the last boat in the evening.

Food and beverage manager

Craig Lindsay said: 'The new bar gives us and the customers much more serving space. The refurbishment gives it a

fresh new look and we hope customers will like it and enjoy our Arran Larder menu which uses the extensive lo-

cal produce for which this island is renowned. And Karen Adams' alcohol-inspired cakes are not to be missed.'

Above: Food and beverage manager Craig Lindsay and assistant Heather Wood behind the new bar.



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Sheila Gilmore recites Tam O'Shanter. 20\_b05burns11



John and Emily Devine perform Green Grow the Rashes O'. 20\_b05burns12



Guests at The Douglas enjoy a song from Emily Devine 20\_b05burns10



Ross Dobson entertains guests in The Douglas Hotel lounge accompanied by James O'Neil. 20\_b05burns06



Jock Kelso introduces the top table at the Lamlash Burns Club Supper. 20\_b05burns01

# The memory of is alive and well

Photographs by Hugh Boag and Colin Smeeton

Two Burns Suppers, held to commemorate the life and works of Robert Burns, were held on the island last weekend.

On Friday, the Douglas Hotel held its now annual Burns Supper with more than 40 guests enjoying a meal and some traditional Burns songs and verse.

Chairman Jim Lees gave the Selkirk Grace and addressed the haggis. There was Burns music from the excellent Emily and John Devine and earlier from Arran High School pupils Ross Dobson and Oisean Gold, with the school being involved for the first time.

Burns night favourite Sheila Gilmore had a busy time giving both the Immortal Memory, which, in what must be a Burns Supper first,

included a quiz. She also gave a fine rendition of Tam O'Shanter. Sean Henry gave the vote of thanks before the evening ended with the company singing Auld Lang Syne.

On Saturday night it was the turn of Lamlash Burns Club to honour the Bard. Held in Lamlash Golf Club it was a much more traditional affair. The address to the haggis was given by retiring chairman Jock Kelso. The Immortal Memory was given by Alasdair Hendry, the Toast to the Lassies was by Jock Service, while the Toast to the Club and the reply were given by Johnny Kelso and Gordon Kinniburgh respectively.

There was music and song during the evening from John Divine, Finlay Murchie, Peter Wilson and others with Andrew Earle on the bagpipes. See also page 6

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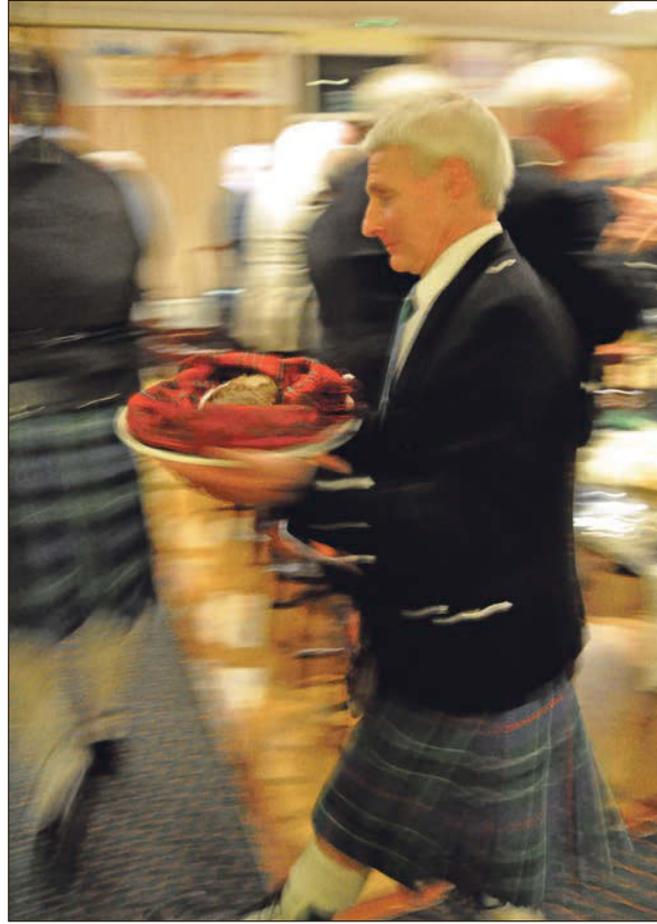
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Allan Nicol carries in the haggis at the Burns Club Supper. 20\_b05burns04



Oisean Gold performs Ae Fond Kiss, accompanied by David Lambert. 20\_b05burns09



The haggis is piped in by Ali Hume and was addressed by Jim Lees. 20\_b05burns07

# Rabbie Burns 1 on Arran



Guests at the Lamlash event. 20\_b05burns03



John Kelso addresses the haggis, piped in by Andrew Earle. 20\_b05burns05



Sean Henry gives the Vote of Thanks. 20\_b05burns13

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# Events for all ages to celebrate the Bard



## Arran Antiquarians prepare for new session

Arran Antiquarians held their annual meeting on Monday, January 18 in Brodick Hall when around 40 members attended.

Due to chairman Harry Davidson being in hospital, his predecessor Tom Macleod kindly stepped in and conducted the meeting.

The committee were all eligible for re-election with the exception of Colin MacKenzie who, in his absence, advised that he wished to step down from his role as secretary but would remain on the committee, and specifically, said he would organise the annual outing of the society. Hugh Brown was confirmed as Secretary for 2016.

Norma Davidson, the society's reporter to the Arran Banner, read out the chairman's remarks, emphasising his plea for a vice chairman and at least two more committee members. She then commented on the speakers and the meetings over the past year to a background of slides taken at each lecture and produced by Tom.

Finally, the programme for 2016 was outlined. This looks full and varied with something for everyone. The meeting closed as usual with tea, biscuits and a chat.

The society excursion to Drumlarnig Castle has been rearranged, provisionally for Friday, June 17 and it is hoped this year the ferry will not succumb to industrial action and the group will get there. The next meeting will be Monday, February 15 in Brodick Hall at 2pm. Four of the members will speak for 15 minutes, telling of their lives before they became Arran Antiquarians. The society subscription is £10 per year and new members and visitors are always welcome.

On the Bard's birthday on Monday there were Burns events including a special supper at Montrose House. Residents were joined by the Friends of Montrose House to celebrate the life and work of Robbie Burns.

Archie Cumming addressed the haggis and there was mu-

sic from John Devine before the guests enjoyed a traditional dinner of haggis, neeps and tatties. Later, in Lamlash, the Pierhead Tavern rounded off their weekend of Burns activities with a Burns Supper with music supplied by leading Ayrshire musician Jamie McGeechan, aka Little



Guests enjoy the Burns Supper at Montrose House. 20\_b05rabbie02

Fire, a regular visitor to Arran who was joined in singing some of the classic songs of Burns, as well as some of his own material, by singer/guitarist James Michael Rodgers and Arran's own Joni Keen.

Jamie performed at the first Burns Supper for 200 years



John Devine entertains at the Montrose House evening. 20\_b05rabbie03



Jamie McGeechan and James Michael Rodgers perform at the PHT. 20\_b05rabbie01

held in the Alloway cottage where he was born last weekend and has recorded an EP in the cottage which will be launched in New York later this month.

The Pierhead Tavern produced a special Burns Week-

end menu which proved a roaring success and there was also poetry, speeches and dancing during the evening.

New owners Alastair and Jane Howe have just launched a new website for the venue: [www.thepht.co.uk](http://www.thepht.co.uk)

## Dog classes

Dog classes will resume in Whiting Bay Hall on Wednesday, February 3 at 1pm and not on Monday, February 1, as stated in last week's Banner.

Organiser Margaret Kay is also having one more try

to run a session of evening classes. If she can get 10 dogs to register for the 10 week course, as it takes that number to cover costs, it will go ahead.

Anyone interested should call her on 600725.

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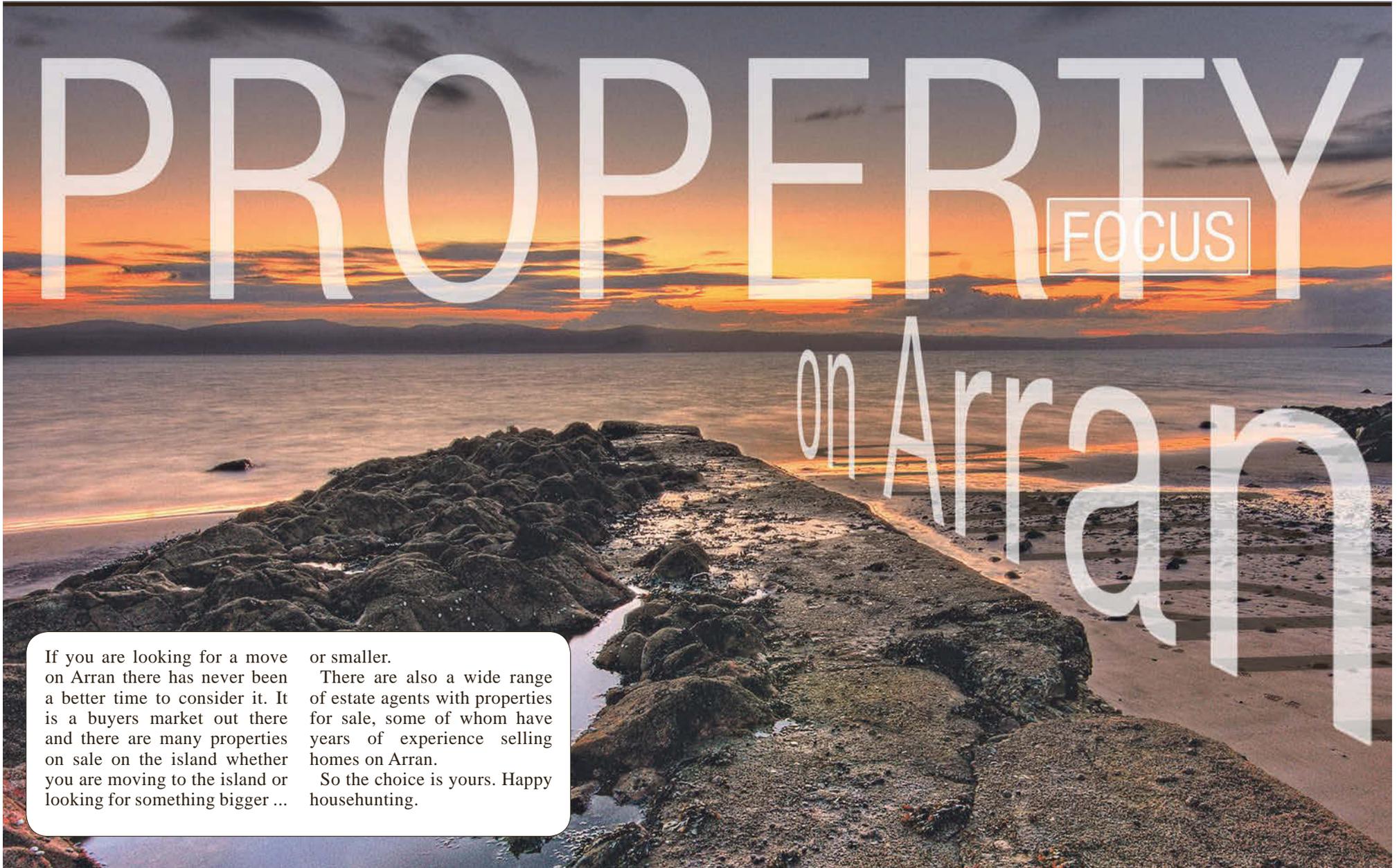


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# Association of Residential Letting Agents and National Association of Estate Agents – 2016 predictions for the housing market

David Cox, managing director, Association of Residential Letting Agents (ARLA) provides an overview of what may be seen in the private rented sector in 2016:

## Rising cost of renting

'UNFORTUNATELY for renters, rent prices are likely to go up in 2016. There are various pieces of legislation coming into play in 2016 which will result in increased compliance costs for landlords, and as a result push up rents for tenants. We urge the Government to re-think its proposals around reducing Mortgage Interest Relief, scrapping the Wear and Tear Allowance and hiking up Stamp Duty by three per cent on buy-to-let properties. Whilst these remain, the Government's goal of increasing the percentage of people in home ownership is getting further out of reach.

'The issue of supply and demand in the rental market will be increasingly pushed to its limit with rising demand outstripping supply.

## Regulation of the sector

'The good news is that regulation in the industry looks like it will be tightening up in 2016. We hope that the provisions of the Housing and Planning Bill – when brought into force – will give enforcing bodies and the courts more teeth in tackling rogue and criminal landlords and agents. This will develop in 2016 to enforce harsher penalties for landlords and unregulated agents that aren't complying with basic laws.

'The Right to Rent checks introduced in the Immigration Act 2014 will be rolled out nationally from February 1 2016 following a successful pilot scheme in the West Midlands. However, we worry that the goodwill established towards the scheme may be tested by the increase in

volume, disenfranchising landlords from the process.

## On Scotland

'We applaud the Scottish Government for its recent bold plans for regulating the lettings industry and look forward to working with them during 2016 on the roll out of the proposals.

'However, we caution against the introduction of rent controls and the withdrawal of 'no-fault' possession route for landlords as this will reduce investment into the Scottish private rented sector at a time when rental housing is needed more than ever before.'

## Home buyers' market

Mark Hayward, managing director, National Association of Estate Agents (NAEA) provides an overview of what may be seen in the housing market in 2016: 'Next year we will see a growing struggle for those trying to get on to the home ownership ladder, with house prices fur-

ther beyond the reach of low to middle earners and rent costs eating away at more of their income.

## First-time-buyers

'It is important that first-time-buyers (FTBs) remain at the top of the Government's agenda in order to help them get a foot on the housing ladder. However, if the supply, specifically of 'affordable housing', doesn't significantly increase in 2016, FTBs will continue to feel driven out of the market.

## Supply and demand

'Supply is a key issue; if we truly want to see FTBs able to buy their first home we absolutely have to address this.

'Osborne's announcement that he'll be building 200,000 new-starter-homes is a good place to start, but it's not enough to solve the worsening crisis. We are at risk of doing too little, too late. We are still waiting to see new homes being built; and whilst we wait, house prices continue to rise.'

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# Moving checklist

Some say that moving is one of the most stressful events of all, so be prepared for the whole process long before you begin.

- Decide on a moving date (usually the completion date) as soon as contracts have been exchanged. Try to avoid Fridays and bank holidays when removal firms are in high demand and may be stretched. For a less stressful move, opt for off-peak times such as mid-week. It's more likely your chosen removal firm will be available for that day.**
- Call in the professionals. Ask friends or relatives who have moved recently to recommend removal firms.**
- Get at least three estimates from different firms and don't automatically accept the cheapest.**
- Establish a written timetable with the removal firm and check the foreman has all the necessary details.**
- Make sure the removal firm has a clear map showing how to find your new home.**
- Ensure your possessions are insured for transit. Most removal firms provide such insurance. Check what it covers and whether there are exclusions. Remember that anything you pack yourself may not be covered by the removal firm's insurance. If you are planning to transport any precious items yourself, check that these are covered when in transit by your contents insurance.**
- Hire professional cleaners to give your new place a thorough going over before you move in. Some removal firms will arrange to do this. This will make the whole move a more comfortable process.**
- Before the big day, have a clear out. Valuable items that are no longer needed can be auctioned or sold to a dealer in second-hand furniture. Other items can be donated to charity shops or recycled.**
- Get someone to look after the children for the day. The same goes for pets – or book them into kennels or a cattery. Make sure they have identity tags with their new address.**
- Compile a fact file for the people who are moving into your property, such as instruction leaflets and service information for the heating system and appliances you're leaving, together with details of rubbish collection etc.**
- Round up all the keys to your home, including those left with neighbours, nannies and relatives, and give them to your solicitor or estate agent.**
- If the move is going to be spread over a couple of days, arrange accommodation and pack a bag for an overnight stop.**
- Make a scale plan of each room in your new home to give to the removal team so, in theory, they know exactly where everything is to go. Colour-code packing cases and furniture in the hope that this will mean it ends up in the right rooms.**
- Make a complete inventory of everything to be moved.**
- Advise the post office to redirect your post.**
- Cancel milk and newspapers.**
- If you are moving to a different area, register with a new GP.**
- Get change of address cards printed**
- Notify Utilities: water, gas and electricity providers; telephone and internet service providers; contact TV licensing in order to transfer your licence to your new address; bank, building society, pension provider and company you have loans or investments with; credit card and store card companies; local council regarding council tax; subscriptions to magazines, charities, etc; employers; the schools your children attend; DVLA - it is a legal requirement to notify DVLA. You will need to renew your driving licence and vehicle registration document; friends, family and colleagues.**
- Upon arrival, read the meters and check that the phone, security alarm, electricity, gas, central heating and water work.**

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Jas Campbell & Co. are committed to providing an outstanding Premium Property Service. We have been providing legal services to the Isle of Arran, including advice on all property matters for over 50 years and have an intimate knowledge of the Island market. As both solicitor and estate agent, we combine marketing, legal and financial expertise to deliver a seamless, effective and comprehensive service from initial valuation to final sale. As estate agents, we have an impressive track record of selling homes. Our experience, together with probably the best property advertising package available, ensures that your home will get maximum exposure and that we will utilise any and every opportunity to find the best buyer for your home.



## Catacol Bay Hotel, Catacol, Isle of Arran

Offers over **£350,000**

Commercial Hotel

- Well established family run hotel
- 6 Bedroom Hotel, 2 bedroom Cottage and 2 bedroom bungalow
- Oil Central Heating in main hotel
- Car park with large beer garden



- Breathtaking sea views
- Internal viewing highly recommended

## Denecroft Lodge, Brodick, Isle of Arran

In the region of **£335,000**

Extended Detached Villa together with attached bungalow, offering versatile family accommodation, situated a short walk to Ferry Terminal and all local amenities.

- 5 Bedroom
- Modern Kitchen
- Double Garage
- Off road parking
- Great location, close to Brodick village



## Cliffdene, Sannox, Isle of Arran

In the region of **£220,000**

Deceptively spacious & versatile Semi Detached Villa, ideal family accommodation with uninterrupted sea views, situated in coastal village with many local amenities nearby.

- 5 bedrooms
- 3 Public rooms
- Large driveway
- Private gardens to the front and rear
- Uninterrupted sea views



## Brantwood Lodge, Brodick, Isle of Arran

Offers IRO of **£280,000**

Delightful Detached Bungalow boasting an elevated position with panoramic sea views, situated close to Ferry Terminal, shops & leisure facilities.

- 3 bedroom
- 1 public room
- Landscaped gardens
- Off road parking
- Attached Garage



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# THE ARRAN BANNER

## Brighter future for the seas

It was heartening to see the attempt by the powerful Scottish fishing industry to dilute the measures of Scotland's new Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) being thrown out by MSPs at Holyrood this week.

It was the Conservative MSP Jamie McGregor, who just happens to be the honorary vice president of the Clyde Fisherman's Association, who made the final move to annul the scrapping of fishing restrictions in 14 of new Scottish MPAs, including South Arran.

Now that the move has been resoundingly defeated by Holyrood's Rural Affairs and Environment Committee, it clears the way for the MPA to be awarded full legal protection, hopefully by early next month.

That will be another justified feather in the cap for the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) which has fought tirelessly, not only to secure the first community-led MPA in Scotland, but also to ensure that the legal measures are in place to fully protect it.

Not satisfied with having squeezed Scotland's MPA network to a mere 3.5 per cent of Scottish waters during five years of consultation, the Clyde-led prawn lobby was this week seeking to have even this modest area annulled.

Opponents saw this as a serious challenge to the democratically elected Scottish Government and feared, if they succeeded, the MPA network would have been in tatters and the seas would be under their de facto management for decades to come.

Environment secretary Richard Lochhead said this week that the introduction of the Scotland's new MPAs had sparked a 'passionate debate', and that is certainly true.

What has not always been evident is whether all parties have been operating on a level playing field. It can only be hoped that with the debate over, the legislation can proceed, and we can get on with trying to protect Scottish waters, while at the same time recognising the legitimate needs of the fishing industry.

Scotland's modest network of MPAs offer the first opportunity in decades to recover our degraded marine environment. It is clear to nearly everyone that marine health supports economic diversity and resilience.

The new MPAs offer a small step forward for a brighter future for the seas and the communities which depend upon them.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Be imitators of God and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up as an offering and sacrifice to God.' (Ephesians 5: 1-2)

### 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)**

## Letters to the Editor



### Terminal concerns

Sir,  
It is essential that islanders are aware of what is planned for them in the new ferry terminal.

The expected final cost of the project has risen from £18 million two years ago to £30 million now, with two years more to run before completion. This is accounted for by the very large new pier, some 40 metres (130 feet) across; a new wide linkspan for loading and unloading vehicles, designed to 'future proof' against changes in ship design; a large area of reclaimed land to the north of the present sea wall to serve as the new vehicle marshalling area and a gigantic terminal building.

Equally worrying is that the terminal has been designed for the benefit primarily of vehicle drivers. A new high level walkway has been provided to enable arriving passengers to cross the stream of arriving vehicles. Departing passengers are not affected since they do not conflict with the departing vehicle flow.

To reach this walkway, which has to be high enough above pier level to enable HGVs to pass underneath (floor at 5.5 metres or 18 feet roughly above ground level), it will be necessary either to climb a long staircase, or to use one of two lifts.

The lifts are likely to cause delays under the crush of passengers, especially if one is broken or out of order. There is no plan to have maintenance crews on the island in the event of breakdown. There is no marked provision for a stand-by generator or attendant fuel supply in the event of a power outage.

The stairs will be taxing or impossible for the elderly and handicapped, especially if they are dragging trolley bags. Younger people will be equally affected if they have bags, golf clubs or buggies and young children. The medical services have expressed alarm at what is proposed.

The walkway will be a hazard in the case of fire or accident. There is no escape

route, once committed to the walkway, since there is no escape stair at the boat end.

The solution is to omit the walkway, which would require foot passengers to remain for up to 10 minutes on the ferry, waiting on incoming vehicles to clear the pier. A disadvantage, but it would be much safer and cheaper. Also, the MyBus, ambulance taxis and mini-buses could drive to the base of the ferry access ramp.

Omitting the walkway would enable the terminal building to be much lower (by about 2 metres or 6.5 feet) and smaller on plan, since there would be no need for lifts or staircases.

The travel distances, both from Shore Road and from the terminal, to the boat will be very long, nearly a quarter of a mile in total. This in itself will tax many and require much more time to be allowed to catch the ferry. At this stage it is impossible to do anything about this, owing to the new pier being located so far to the east of the present one.

Nearly 30 per cent of the island population is over the age of 65 and of these many are handicapped by age or disabled. Some people refuse to use lifts and will therefore be marooned on the island.

A new ferry terminal is to be welcomed, but not when it brings with it such a high price combined with greater hazard and less convenience for foot passengers (the majority) than at present.

If you are worried by these facts, please contact Neil Arthur who is the independent traveller representative on the Ferry Committee, Ramsay Muirhead, Chief Engineer to CMAL at Port Glasgow, or write to Kenneth Gibson MSP at the Scottish Parliament.

Yours,  
**Ian Ferguson  
High Corrie**

### Gender equality

Sir,  
Your photo on the front page of The Banner last week was striking in that not only

was there only one woman amongst the assembly of suits. And this lady did not even belong to the CalMac deputation but was the representative of North Ayrshire Council. Didn't they hear about gender equality yet?

Such a large number of people came over to address what are essentially two simple issues: how to get people and vehicles on and off the boat at Brodick and how to improve Ardrossan so as to make it more reliable in winter as a mainland terminal.

There is surely the case for having an over-arching company with responsibility for the whole ferry issue?

A point which was not raised was that, before this whole terminal project became a serious issue, it was proposed, I forget by whom, that two ferries should run in shuttle.

These ferries would have been smaller, of shallower draught, and able to berth closer to the shore.

More important, the frequency of the service would have doubled and boats could have been scheduled to run earlier and later, thereby increasing the attraction of Arran as a place to visit.

I would also support Ian Ferguson's contention that access to the vessel for the elderly and handicapped will become much more difficult. If the long walking distances are unavoidable, the solution is to install 'travelators', as are found in most airports and many commercial premises.

Finally, I feel that the new ship now being constructed is going to prove a great waste of money at a present envisaged cost of nearly £50 million.

For comparison, the Orkney ferry sailing between Gills Bay and St. Margaret's Hope is a twin-hulled catamaran which, in 2008, cost roughly £8 million. They have ordered even a second one to boost the frequency. That is operated by a local business and receives no subsidy from taxpayers.

Yours,  
**Bruno Baumgärtner  
Corriecraive**

### Crass stupidity

Sir,  
If you Google 'Ardrossan breakwater' one of many interesting things is Mr Kerr's letter to Transport Scotland four years ago. He stated: 'the crossing itself does not present a problem, but the harbour access does'. Or, you could revisit The Banner for 14 April 2012 where CalMac is quoted as saying: 'a significant upgrade of Ardrossan Harbour is necessary'.

At last Transport Scotland agree, but too late – they have already committed us to a terminal that is ugly, impractical and irrelevant. Yes, the berthing needs fixed and dredged, but we have a practical passenger terminal (opened 23 years ago). So we see a rocketing expense from the public purse which fails to address the priorities.

Arran folk need to grit their teeth and thole this crass stupidity, but they can petition the Scottish Government to re-staff Transport Scotland with intelligent public servants, before they do more harm elsewhere.

Yours,  
**Alasdair Stewart Hall  
Whiting Bay**

### Foul call

Sir,  
I am writing to complain and bring it to dog owners' attention that it is an offence to allow your dog to foul the pavement and to leave it.

The path from the village to the school is littered with dog mess and as the children walk to and from school they inevitably tread in it.

Poo bags are free from the council office or nappy sacks are less than £1.

As an owner of two dogs it may be embarrassing to pick it up but it is disgusting to leave it.

Please take responsibility for your dogs and lift their fouling.

Yours,  
**Debbie Jackson  
Brodick**

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# Driving *Force*

Spring 2016

## *Sweet 16 plates*

**Your guide to the  
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••••• ***The Isuzu D-Max***

A pick-up without  
compromise

••••• ***Best year in a  
decade for British  
car manufacturing***

••••• ***Sleek and sporty***  
Peugeot 308 GT Line is a cut  
above your usual hatchback

••••• ***Tips and advice  
for all-round  
maintenance***

THE ARRAN  
**BANNER**



## Renault Kadjar crossover range

**Renault seems to have found a winner with its new mid-sized crossover Kadjar range.**

The Kadjar is available in a range of petrol and diesel engines, including four-wheel-drive options.

Even the entry level Expression+ comes well equipped as standard, including air conditioning in the most basic model. An impressive array of gadgets peaks with the Kadjar Signature Nav, which boasts a Bose stereo, 19 inch alloys and touchscreen satnav.

Curvaceous and bold styling sets this car apart. It simply exudes quality, feeling thoroughly well built.

The cabin is spacious, well laid out and featuring legroom a-plenty, with all the storage space a family could want.

Boot space in the Kadjar is slightly greater than the Nissan Quashqai, on which the Renault model is based. All in all, it just feels better than its long-established Japanese cousin.

The raised driving position gives excellent visibility, with grippy handling on corners and responsive controls. Big tyres mean a little road noise becomes apparent at slow speeds and on rough tarmac, but this does little to detract from the fun experienced driving this car.

And it's well priced too. Peter Semple, of Scotland's most established Renault dealership, WD Semple of Inveraray, said: 'I have been dealing with Renault for many years, but I think the Kadjar is just a really outstanding car. It drives very well, offering great value for money.'

It certainly is well priced, with lots of equipment as standard. The Kadjar is a fantastic option as a family car or for anyone with hobbies needing plenty of gear hauling around. The Renault Kadjar is, simply, a quality car at the right price.



## The new Dacia Duster Commercial



**What you see is what you get with Dacia.**

This Renault-owned manufacturer prides itself in squeezing the maximum bang from owners' hard-earned bucks, and the new Duster Commercial does just that.

In comparison with other commercial vehicles on the market, refinement and fancy equipment are at a premium, but what you do get in spades is value for money.

Dacia vans have been available in Europe since

the 1970s, but this is the company's first venture into the UK commercial market.

The Duster Commercial is effectively a factory conversion of the standard car, which means the rear seats have been replaced with a 1.4 metre cargo deck and the rear doors have been retained, along with the windows.

The range has one engine option - Renault's tried and test 1.5 litre dCi diesel - with 107PS and peak torque of 240Nm. Four-wheel drive costs more, but offers

surprisingly impressive off-roading ability.

The load area is practical, and will take anything up to 1.4 metres in length, while the metre width between the wheel arches allows a euro pallet to be carried sideways.

So much for the plus marks. On the negative side, there is no protection for the windows, the interior can be prone to damage and there's no full-size bulkhead fitted as standard. The rear window also lacks cladding or cover to keep out prying eyes.

The Duster Commercial is a solid, if unsophisticated, workhorse, offering outstanding value and an attractive option to those who need a small van with off-road capability.

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# The Isuzu D-Max – a pick-up without compromise

*The Isuzu D-Max delivers the perfect blend of rugged ability with performance and comfort, making it the ideal work mate for professional tradespeople and recreational users alike.*



Isuzu D-Max Fury

The tough-yet-refined Isuzu D-Max, which went on sale in July 2012, is available as a double cab, single cab and, for the first time in the UK, extended cab body configuration featuring rear-opening side-access panels. The single, extended and entry-level double cab variant form the utility range of models, named Isuzu D-Max. Buyers seeking more sophistication can opt for the pick-up in Eiger, Yukon, Utah and Blade specifications in the 'premium' range.

Powered by a highly fuel-efficient, 2.5-litre twin-turbo common-rail diesel engine, the Isuzu D-Max generates 163 PS and peak torque output of 400 Nm from 1400 rpm, available with purpose-developed six-speed manual or five-speed automatic transmissions. The D-Max achieves impressive fuel economy of 38.7 mpg (combined).

The Isuzu D-Max pick-

up underwent one of the most comprehensive development programmes in the company's history. Succeeding the hugely-popular Rodeo, the D-Max is the most efficient and refined Isuzu pick-up ever produced, while retaining the legendary toughness for which the brand has become renowned the world over. It is also a highly capable load-lugging workhorse with 4x4 models certified to

tow a class-leading 3,500 kg (braked) / 750 kg (unbraked), with payload capacities between 1,058 - 1,136 kg (depending on model).

The D-Max has been recognised for its all-round capabilities with prestigious industry awards: the VansA2Z 'Pick-Up of the Year' in 2013, 2014 and 2015, Fleet Van's 'Pick-Up Truck of the Year 2014' and Trade Van Driver Magazine's 'Best 4x4 Trade Pick-Up 2014'.

The D-Max was awarded a four-star safety rating by independent vehicle assessment organisation, Euro NCAP. The results mark out the new pick-up as one of the safest vehicles in its segment.

In the UK, prices range from £14,999 to £26,999 (Commercial Vehicle on-the-road / CVOTR), allowing a VAT-registered company to reclaim VAT on the purchase of a D-Max.

To ensure the D-Max is built to last, it underwent 4 million kilometres of endurance testing, the equivalent of 100 times around the world. In recognition of its inherent toughness, the Isuzu D-Max was the first pick-up in the UK to be offered with a confidence-inspiring five-year / 125,000-mile warranty.

The wheelbase of the D-Max is 3,095 mm (45 mm more than Rodeo) while the overall length (bumper-to-bumper) has increased by 215 mm to 5,295 mm. The track of both the two-wheel-drive and four-wheel-drive variants has increased by 50 mm (over Rodeo) to 1,510 mm and 1,570 mm respectively. Width between the wheel arches is 1110 mm.

The increased dimensions contribute to a more spacious cabin, improved ride and handling, and greater safety. Despite its longer

and wider body, the D-Max has a usefully tight turning circle of 11.8 metres (4x2) / 12.2 metres (4x4).

Owners and operators will benefit from ultra-low total cost of ownership, thanks to competitive insurance ratings, high residual values, low-cost contract-hire packages and a pioneering, comprehensive warranty package. As a result, the D-Max is one of the most economical pick-ups on the market.

Finally, the D-Max comes with a joint-industry-leading five-year / 125,000-mile warranty, and was the first pick-up in the UK to be offered with such comprehensive peace-of-mind. Running costs are kept down by 12,000-mile or 24-month service intervals, three years recovery and assistance cover, a three-year paint warranty, and a six-year anti-corrosion warranty.

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## Sleek and sporty, the Peugeot 308 GT Line is a cut above your usual hatchback

**Aerodynamic, confident and undeniably good-looking, it sits just above the Allure and snugly behind the GT range from Peugeot.**

The GT Line boasts a range of sports additions, including twin exhausts, black rear diffuser, lowered suspension and 18" Diamant alloys. Attractive LED front and rear lights, including full LED headlamps, complement the special feel, but there's more inside.

The interior features bucket-style seats finished in a plush grey fabric with contrasting red stitching and with a leather edging. The colour theme continues elsewhere in the cabin, including the smaller-than-usual sporty steering wheel.

A large touchscreen digital display offers a digital entertainment centre, climate control, satnav, bluetooth phone, parking sensors and cameras - plus all the performance information you could ever wish for.

Leg and headroom for driver and front passenger is ample, but the rear passengers with longer legs might find themselves a bit cramped.



Peugeot says that its latest powerful range of BlueHDi diesel engines comply with Euro 6 emission standards, provide 'extraordinary fuel economy and CO2 emissions'.

A smooth six-speed transmission linked to the 1.6 litre diesel unit copes with ease in most situations, cruising effortlessly at motorway speeds; equally at home nipping around town. The steering is light and responsive, automatically adjusting to become heavier for the open road to balance greater speed.

Sporty style, with big alloys and lowered suspension mean that is a little compromise on ride comfort, cushioned somewhat by the GT Line's comfy seats.

Points to note include plenty of storage space in the boot, a pleasing Golf-like 'clunk' when doors are closed, and tinted side and tailgate windows.

So, for anyone looking for a car with good looks inside and out, some of those special touches and all the bells and whistles imaginable - yet still offering family practicality - the Peugeot 308 GT Line is well worth a test drive.

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Official fuel consumption for the Volvo V40 T2 R-Design (manual) in MPG (l/100km): Urban 38.7 (7.3), Extra Urban 62.8 (4.5), Combined 51.4 (5.5). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions /km. MPG figures are obtained from laboratory testing intended for comparisons between vehicles and may not reflect real driving results.

Finance subject to status. Retail sales only. \*Subject to availability at participating dealers only on vehicles registered by 31st March 2016. At the end of the agreement there are 3 options: (i) Return, Part exchange the vehicle, (ii) Retain, Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition or mileage of the vehicle. Terms and conditions apply. Applicants must be 18 or over. Guarantee/Indemnity may be required. Volvo Car Credit R+1 15R. You will not own the vehicle until all payments are made. The service offer is only applicable when purchasing on Volvo Advantage Personal Contract Purchase on vehicles ordered between 01/01/2016 and 31/03/2016. Services must be carried out at a Volvo Authorised Repairer. Retail offer only. Excludes fleet operators and business users. See volvocarsperth.co.uk for full terms and conditions. We are a credit broker (not a lender) - we can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers. We may receive a commission from them for the introduction.

## Strathmore gears up for another exciting year with Volvo

As Volvo Car UK celebrates its best sales performance in 21 years and receives yet another safety award for the XC90 at this year's What Car? Awards, Strathmore looks ahead to another exciting year with the Swedish manufacturer.

The V40/V40 Cross Country was the biggest-selling model in the UK, with 17,068 sold, followed by the XC60 (13,920) and the V60 (3,353).

Demand for the all-new XC90 was also strong. A total of 2,981 were sold in 2015, which highlights how well Volvo's new design direction and high-tech connectivity features have been received by customers.

Volvo has announced significant plans for further product launches over the next few years, and the latest model to arrive at Strathmore will be the new Volvo S90, Volvo Cars' entry ticket to the premium saloon club.

The S90 marks a giant step forward for Volvo as the Swedish car maker is better known for its SUVs and estates. However, with the launch of the S90, Volvo is clearly intent on shaking up the premium saloon segment with its distinctive executive class saloon.

Equipped with a host of new technologies, ranging from cutting-edge safety to cloud-based apps and services, the S90 is further

proof of the Swedish brand's continuing transformation.

"With such a strong range of cars to sell and some excellent-value finance deals to offer, at Strathmore we're looking forward to another triumphant year with Volvo", comments Strathmore dealer principal Norman Leishman.

"Given the vast selection of Volvo models available at our showroom, even if you can't make it to the dealership, at Strathmore we're happy to provide a delivery service to customers. We understand that time can be difficult to find sometimes so we offer free collection and delivery for cars being serviced, at home or at work test drives (pre-booking required) and also local drop-offs for customers leaving their vehicles with us.

"As the longest establish Volvo retailer in the UK, whether you are looking for a new Volvo or a Selekt Used Volvo, the loyal and knowledgeable team here at Strathmore are able to offer the very best advice when it comes to you and your Volvo", adds Norman.

For more information on the services available, the full Volvo car range or to arrange a test drive, telephone the dealership, located on Arran Road, on 01738 622156 or visit [www.volvocarsperth.co.uk](http://www.volvocarsperth.co.uk).

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- 73% of Scots are happier with a clean car.
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Model shown is AYGO x-cite 5 door 1.0 VVT-i Manual with optional OUTstyle pack at £12,240. Prices correct at time of going to press. \*4.9% APR Representative only available on new retail orders of AYGO (excluding x grade) between 18th December 2015 and 31st March 2016 and registered and financed through Toyota Financial Services by 30th June 2016 on a 3.5 year AccessToyota (PCP) plan with 0%-35% deposit. †1 year's free comprehensive insurance offer is subject to purchase being made via Toyota Financial Services on a Personal Contract Purchase (PCP) only and is available on AYGO models (excluding x grade) when ordered and financed between 18th December 2015 and 31st March 2016. Vehicles must be registered by 30th June 2016. All drivers must have held a valid full UK licence for a minimum of 1 year and have had no more than 1 fault claim in the last 3 years, or have had no more than 1 minor motoring conviction in the last 3 years. Offer is limited to the insured plus up to four additional drivers. If there are any drivers aged between 18 to 24 inclusive, a telematics box will be fitted to the car and all drivers consent to their driving data being captured and transmitted. The policy may be cancelled for persistently poor driving. Terms & Conditions apply (available on request) - these will be confirmed in the documentation issued when your policy is taken out. Toyota Financial Services (UK) PLC; registered office: Great Burgh, Burgh Heath, Epsom, Surrey, KT18 5UZ. Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority. Indemnities may be required. Finance subject to status over 18s. Other finance offers are available but cannot be used in conjunction with this offer. Excess miles over contracted charged at 8p per mile. Toyota Centres are independent of Toyota Financial Services. Terms and conditions apply. Affordable finance through AccessToyota. 5 year/100,000 mile manufacturer warranty subject to terms and conditions.

AYGO x-cite 5 door 1.0 VVT-i Manual. Official Fuel Consumption Figures in mpg (l/100km): Urban 56.5 (5.0), Extra Urban 78.5 (3.6), Combined 68.9 (4.1). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 95g/km. The mpg & CO<sub>2</sub> figures quoted are sourced from official EU regulated test results. These are provided for comparability purposes and may not reflect your actual driving experience.

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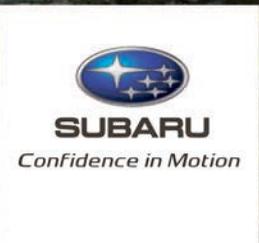
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MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. Official fuel consumption figures for the XV range fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km): Fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km): Urban 31.4-41.5 (9.0-6.8); Extra Urban 48.7-61.4 (5.8-4.6); Combined 40.4-52.3 (7.0-5.4). CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions 160-141 g/km.

†Every vehicle marketed by Subaru (UK) Ltd, excluding WRX STI, is covered by a 5 Year/100,000 mile (whichever comes sooner) Limited Warranty which comprises of a standard 3 Year/60,000 mile (whichever is sooner) Manufacturer's Warranty (bumper to bumper, excluding clutch driven plate) and an Extended Warranty (applies to powertrain only) provided by the importer. \*3 years free servicing covers manufacturers recommended service schedules for 3 years/36,000 miles (whichever occurs first) and includes labour, parts and lubricants. Offers may be varied or withdrawn at any time. Offer ends 31.03.16. OTR price includes VAT, delivery, number plates, 12 months road fund licence and first registration fee. Vehicle shown is an XV 2.0i SE with optional special paint finish OTR price of £22,495.00 Without special paint finish £21,995.00. OTR price correct at time of print.

# Visit Helensburgh for eateries, shopping and superb motoring



The beautiful town of Helensburgh has recently been given a facelift

Helensburgh Motor Sales is an independent, privately owned company having traded for 39 years. It has represented the Toyota brand since inception and is consistently recognised for excellent customer care in Scotland and the UK. In July 2015 it was honoured to represent the Subaru marque. From its two sites in Helensburgh, it covers Argyll & Bute and Dunbartonshire areas with a one-stop shop for new and used car sales, service, parts and Kitemark approved accident repair centre.

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Excellent service, helpful, friendly advice. Now bought five cars from Helensburgh Toyota.

★★★★★ 5 out of 5 stars. 4 months ago  
This is the third Toyota that I have purchased from Helensburgh Toyota. I travel some 40 miles to use this dealership, when I have a Toyota dealership at my doorstep. The reason, the friendly efficient staff - great team from sales, servicing and parts. An ongoing pleasure to deal with.

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## Some Great Cars and Deals

The 2016 Toyota RAV4 now benefits from hybrid technology, combining petrol and battery power with zero road tax and improved economy, whilst the Toyota Aygo gets free insurance for over 18-year-olds with an attractive low-rate finance offer. The Subaru range with its emphasis on all-wheel-drive for great road holding and acclaimed engineering excellence benefits from 0% finance on Forester and XV models plus a 5 year warranty.



The popular Toyota Aygo available with free insurance for over 18's



Subaru XV comes with a 5 year warranty

## Best year in a decade for British car manufacturing as exports reach record high



**British manufacturers made more cars in 2015 than any year since 2005, according to figures released by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT). Production increased 3.9% on 2014, with output at 1,587,677 overtaking pre-recession levels for the first time.**

A record number of cars – representing 77.3% of total production – was for export, with 1,227,881 units leaving the UK, up 2.7% on 2014 levels. Challenges were experienced in some global markets such as China, where demand fell by 37.5%, and Russia, where export volumes declined 69.4%. However, the economic recovery in Europe, the UK's biggest trading partner, boosted demand for UK-built cars considerably by 11.3% in 2015. The region now accounts for 57.5% of all UK car exports.

Appetite for British-built cars grew significantly in other key and emerging regions, demonstrating the strength and diversity of UK manufacturing and product. In the US, demand rose by more than a quarter (26.5%), making it the UK's biggest trading destination outside the EU, ahead of China. Meanwhile, notable growth was also seen in Australia, South Korea, Turkey and Japan with volumes up 53.7%, 55.2%, 41.1% and 35.4% respectively.

British consumer and business demand for British-made cars also contributed to last year's success, with the home car market rising 8.1% on the previous year. One in seven new cars registered in the UK in 2015 was made in Britain.

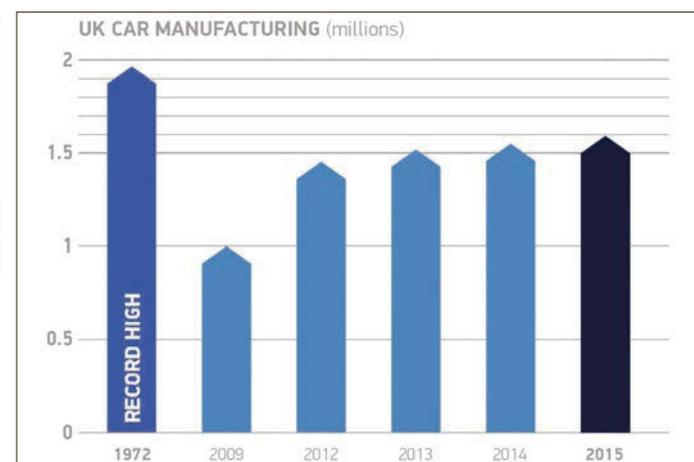
Mike Hawes, SMMT Chief Executive, said: "Despite export challenges in some key markets, foreign demand for British-built cars has been strong, reaching record export levels in the past year. Achieving these results is down to vital investment in

the sector, world class engineering and a committed and skilled UK workforce – one of the most productive in the world.

"Continued growth in an intensely competitive global marketplace is far from guaranteed, however, and depends heavily on global economic conditions and political stability. Europe is our biggest trading partner and the UK's membership of the European Union is vital for the automotive sector in order to secure future growth and jobs."

Chancellor of the Exchequer George Osborne said: "Backing Britain's car industry has been a priority for this government and today we see the industry going from strength to strength."

"I am hugely encouraged that manufacturing is at a 10-year high and exports are at a record level. All this means



jobs and the security of a pay packet for workers and their families.

"Our plans to rebalance the economy mean we have to continue to build on our great manufacturing strengths in the Midlands and the North of England, and work together to ensure that Britain continues to prosper as a global leader in car production." The performance of UK automotive is very different compared with UK manufacturing as a whole, according to Office for National Statistics figures, which show the average manufacturing output to have slowed in recent months. Eight brand new car models were produced in UK plants in 2015, and with £2.5 billion of fresh investment committed to the sector in 2015, more are set to follow in the coming months.

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Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki Vitara range mpg (litres/100km) and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km): Urban 42.1-61.4 (6.7-4.6), Extra Urban 55.4-76.3 (5.1-3.7), Combined 49.5-70.6 (5.7-4.0), CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 131-106 g/km.

The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. Vitara range: \*Vitara SZ4 1.6 Petrol Manual available at £13,999 to Vitara SZ5 1.6 DDiS ALLGRIP TCSS with Rugged Pack available at £23,149. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print. For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. Offer subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 1st January 2016 to 31st March 2016 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. \*\*SZ5 models only. †S2-T and SZ5 models only. Model shown: Vitara 1.6 SZ4 available at £13,999 on the road. (Single-tone metallic paint available at an additional cost of £430, dual-tone paint available at an additional cost of £800.)

### Vitara awarded a best buy at the What Car? awards

Suzuki celebrated good news at the 2016 What Car? Magazine awards as the Vitara was awarded a 'Best Buy at less than £15,000' accolade along with the Swift Sport model. In the Small SUV class and priced at £13,999, the Vitara 1.6-litre SZ4 was comprehensively judged by the editorial team and announced as the best overall model in its price bracket.

Jim Holder, Editorial Director of What Car? comments: "In SZ4 trim the Vitara doesn't just sneak into this price category; it's more than £1,000 beneath it. Even then it comes complete with niceties such as climate control, cruise control, Bluetooth connectivity and a DAB radio.

"The 1.6 litre engine might not have a turbocharger but is smooth and more than capable in the Vitara. It's also economical; our True MPG testers managed to get within 3.9mpg of the official figure. The Vitara drives well, too; the suspension is firm enough to resist roll without ever becoming uncomfortable and the controls inspire plenty of confidence. The five-speed gearbox is enjoyable to use, too. Practicality is a real strong point inside, with plenty of leg room front and back."

He added: "Cargo space is impressive in its size and also accessibility; the boot opening is wide with a low loading lip. The interior is

also solidly put together, with piano black trim to add a little class. To top it all, there are also plenty of customisation options. It really is a complete package for very little outlay."



Standard equipment for all models is comprehensive and also includes seven airbags, alloy wheels and front and rear electric windows. Suzuki's latest ALLGRIP four wheel drive technology is available as an option on SZ5 models and is standard equipment on the recently introduced S model.

The new Vitara S provides a more sporting and dynamic character to the Vitara line up and is the first Suzuki to utilise its new BOOSTERJET technology. The engine is a 140PS 1.4-litre direct injection turbocharged unit. It has compact dimensions and offers 220Nm of torque available from just 1,500rpm through to 4,000rpm. CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are 127g/km and just one gramme higher for the optional six speed automatic transmission.

# The Subaru WRX STI - Performance with style

The muscular proportions of the WRX STI convey a sense of power and stability. For the new-generation model, key design themes found on previous-generation models – notably the bonnet scoop and large rear spoiler – are still there, but have been evolved to give a more sophisticated yet purposeful look.

Subaru's 2.5-litre turbocharged Boxer engine – generating the evocative Subaru 'burble' exhaust note – is complemented by the brand's Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive technology, giving the car unprecedented levels of performance and traction. Agility and driving enjoyment are further enhanced by the car's low centre of gravity, the new hydraulic steering and re-worked short-throw gear shift.

## Design

The new Subaru WRX STI builds on the model's role as the brand's flagship performance saloon. The all-new body further develops the model's iconic appearance, with more distinctive styling. A low, wide body emphasises the car's stability, presence and sporting intent.

## Exterior

The body shell of the new WRX STI incorporates a higher percentage of ultra high-tensile steel. This has resulted in a



body that is 140 per cent stiffer than the previous model, yet with no increase in weight.

The front of the WRX STI displays Subaru's trademark hexagonal grille, now in gloss black, while the newly-designed hawk-eye LED headlamps and lower placement of the front fog lamps highlight the car's wide and low stance.

The WRX STI's sculpted profile sees the base of the A-pillar moved forwards by 200mm, while the C-pillar transitions more smoothly into the prominent belt line. Combined with a lower roofline and a new shark-fin audio antenna, these subtle changes make the car's appearance more coupé-like.

## Interior

The all new cabin of the WRX STI leaves drivers in no doubt as to the car's performance intentions.

The small-diameter D-shaped steering wheel sits in front of an instrument binnacle housing a dual-dial layout with 3.5-inch full-colour LCD and aluminium rings for a sporty look. The red lighting is suitably evocative and is made more noticeable by the contrast with the white needles.

Sports front seats, complete with embossed 'STI' logo on the head restraint, are finished in Alcantara with leather side bolsters and have been shaped to be both supportive but also supremely comfortable. There

are further red highlights on the black seat upholstery, while stainless steel sill plates, additional red lighting elements and carbon fibre-look trim on the centre console enhance the performance car ambience. At the same time, all the controls have been designed to be simple and intuitive to use.

## Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive

The WRX STI retains Subaru's legendary Symmetrical All-Wheel Drive (AWD) system with a centre differential, which allows drivers to safely exploit the car's high levels of traction, stability and agility.

## Engine and transmission

The new Subaru WRX STI is fitted with an evolution of the existing 2.5-litre horizontally-opposed Boxer engine found in the previous model. The revised engine retains the proven benefits of the horizontally-opposed layout while achieving greater mechanical efficiency and a more immediate accelerative response.

Generating 300ps at 6,000rpm and 407Nm torque at 4,000rpm, the engine powers the WRX STI from 0-62mph in 5.2 seconds and on to a 159mph top speed. The WRX STI returns fuel economy of 27.2mpg on a combined cycle and CO2 emissions of 242g/km.

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## Driver advice: Vehicle maintenance

Proper vehicle maintenance is essential to keep yourself and others safe on the road. In 2013, 42 people were killed in crashes caused by vehicle defects, with hundreds seriously injured[i]. If you drive, you are operating a fast-moving piece of heavy machinery that needs to be kept in the safest possible condition.

Good maintenance can save you money as well as avoiding breakdowns or potentially devastating crashes. Badly-inflated tyres can mean you use more petrol, while putting off minor repairs can make them far more costly in the long-run.

You should carry out regular 'walk-round' checks of your vehicle, once a week and before any long journeys, which need only take a few minutes. The main things you should look out for are:

- **tyre tread wear.** Look out for tread wear indicator bars on tyres – small bumps in the main grooves which indicate the minimum tread. Change your tyres well before your tread gets to the legal minimum (1.6mm in the UK). Brake recommends replacing at 3mm, as tyres can be dangerous in wet conditions with less than this. If you drive with tyres worn down to below the legal limit, you could face three penalty points and a £2,500 fine, or it could cause a deadly crash.
- **tyre pressure.** Buy a hand-held tyre pressure gauge and check the pressure

*weekly, when the tyres are cold. The correct pressure will be written in your vehicle's handbook.*

- **general tyre condition.** Check for cracks, bulges or bubbles on the sides of your tyres. These are signs that the tyre is damaged and at risk of blowing out. If you see any of these, get the tyre checked by a professional, and replaced if necessary.
- **lights are working.** Check lights are clean and bulbs aren't blown (reflect against a wall, or ask a friend to help).
- **oil, water and fluids.** Check oil and water levels, and other fluids such as power steering, windscreen washer and brake fluid, are well above minimum levels.
- **wiper blades.** Check they are in full working order and replace if worn.
- **wheel fixings.** Check wheels and wheel fixings for defects, including loose nuts.

If you drive a commercial or specialist vehicle, there may be additional checks you should make. Check with your employer or consult your handbook.

Setting off and while on your journey, look out for:

- **problems with, or noises from, your brakes.** Brakes usually make a noise when



worn, but if you notice any problem with them, get them checked immediately by a professional mechanic. It's a good idea to test brakes weekly and at the start of long journeys, following your walk-round checks, by applying them gently while driving very slowly on a flat, empty stretch;

- **warning lights on your dashboard;**
- **excess noise or smoke from the exhaust;**
- **smoke from under the bonnet;**

- **fluid leaking from under the vehicle;**
- **smell of hot electrics, fuel, or a burning smell;**
- **unusual sounds from the engine;**
- **a pulling sensation from the steering.**

If you have any suspicion at all there's a problem with your vehicle, take it to a garage immediately – putting it off could cost you cash, result in a breakdown, or worse, lead to a serious crash.

Editorial courtesy of  

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### Professional servicing

Don't try to fix safety-critical components yourself. Always use a qualified mechanic to work on your vehicle. Make sure you get your annual MOT and your vehicle is serviced in line with your vehicle handbook.

If you're driving an employer's vehicle, speak to them about who is maintaining it and when it was last checked. Ask your employer to ensure it is maintained in line with the vehicle handbook. Encourage them to make use of Brake's guidance for companies on fleet safety (see [www.brakepro.org](http://www.brakepro.org)).

Just because a vehicle has passed an annual test or been serviced, it doesn't mean it will be safe until the next service. A brake pad (the material that keeps your brakes working) may be only just above legal now, and worn out and dangerous well before your next service. Talk to your garage about the level of wear on brake pads and tyres, and any other problems your vehicle might

experience in the coming months, so you know if you should pay them a visit between services.

Faulty batteries are one of the biggest causes of breakdowns, so get it tested, particularly before cold weather sets in. Many garages offer free checks.

### Choosing the safest vehicle

Buy the safest, most reliable vehicle you can. To find out the safest car models, visit Euro NCAP which tests and rates them. Before buying a second-hand vehicle, get it checked over by an independent, qualified and experienced mechanic. It's better to pay for a mechanic than buy a car that isn't safe. See our factsheet on choosing safer vehicles for more information.

[i] Reported Road Casualties Great Britain: 2013 Annual Report, Department for Transport 2014.

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# Major tree planting operation gets under way in Glen Rosa

**Photos by Kate Samson**

A major tree planting operation is being undertaken by the National Trust for Scotland in Glen Rosa.

The work is being led by the Arran Ranger Service and on Saturday local staff were joined by volunteers from the Lothian CVs who are a National Trust for Scotland volunteer group based in Edinburgh. Anyone can join them and they arrange weekend volunteering at trust properties, including Brodick.

They were planting trees grown by Henry Murdo from seed collected on Arran as part of our project to re-establish native woodland in Glen Rosa and the planted 386 alder, birch, willow and some special Arran whitebeams under the tuition of Henry and Margo McLellan.

Last week pupils from St John Ogilvie Primary School in Irvine braved the winter weather and came across to help the Ranger Service plant 150 aspens in the glen.



Volunteers get their planting instructions from Henry Munro.



The Irvine pupils listen attentively to Henry Munro.



The tree planting was not all serious work as these two volunteers showed.



Volunteer Reiko Inder admires her handiwork.



A young tree is carefully planted.



Andy McNamara helps the youngsters plant a tree.

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Kilmarnock, KA1 5JE

## Birdwatch event in Whiting Bay

Arran Community Land Initiative is holding a Big Garden Birdwatch event in support of the RSPB bird count today (Saturday) from 11am on the community land in Whiting Bay.

Everyone is welcome to come and join in with counting birds for the RSPB annual records.

There will also be kids activities including: making bird cake, making a bird feeder and other fun activities and chatting over the results with cake (not bird cake!)

The RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch has been running for many years and with lots of community support has monitored the numbers of birds in the UK to see how our feathered friends are faring. Added to the bird counting, the RSPB also ask for details of other wildlife seen through the year to create a picture of which wildlife is doing fine and which may need our help.

Everyone can be part of the world's largest wildlife survey and have some fun which also takes place nationally tomorrow (Sunday).

# Music to the ears of Dementia sufferers

A group of volunteers met at Lamlash Church Hall recently and became Dementia Friends, writes Liz Rose.

The idea was sparked by the Rev Lily McKinnon, minister at Lamlash Church.

Lily arranged for the volunteers to be vetted and for the disclosures for the Protection of Vulnerable Groups to be processed. Donna Paterson, Alzheimer Scotland's dementia advisor came to the island to conduct the training.

### Training

With the volunteers all successfully trained, the new drop-in, Music Matters, was launched with the first event held this week.

It will now meet on the last Thursday of the month in Lamlash Church Hall from 2pm till 3pm and is for those all over the island living with dementia, and for their carers.

The afternoon starts with tea and home baking, followed by a time of singing together. From 3pm to 4pm there is an informal drop-in for information and support from Alzheimer



The Dementia Friends proudly displaying their certificates after completing their training.

Scotland representatives and other related agencies.

Lily has run these fun-filled drop-ins successfully for nearly 10 years.

The benefits for all those involved in these groups are

well researched and documented. There is a great need for this kind of support and the Dementia Friends in Lamlash look forward to welcoming many of those across Arran diagnosed with dementia,

and their carers, who can sometimes feel overwhelmed or in need of a listening ear and a bit of fun.

For further information please contact the Rev Lily McKinnon on 600 047

For further information please contact the Rev Lily McKinnon on 600 047

## Minister warns against flu jag complacency

Public Health Minister Maureen Watt has re-issued the call for those eligible to get their flu vaccination, following recent reports of current strains of the flu virus resulting in hospitalisations with severe infection including among pregnant women.

The flu vaccine continues to offer the best defence against the virus and is free to those who are eligible, including people with underlying health conditions, pregnant women, those aged 65 and over and carers.

### Statistics

Seasonal flu vaccine uptake figures are down and statistics show that over the last five years around 500 deaths have occurred each winter which can be attributable, or related to, flu.

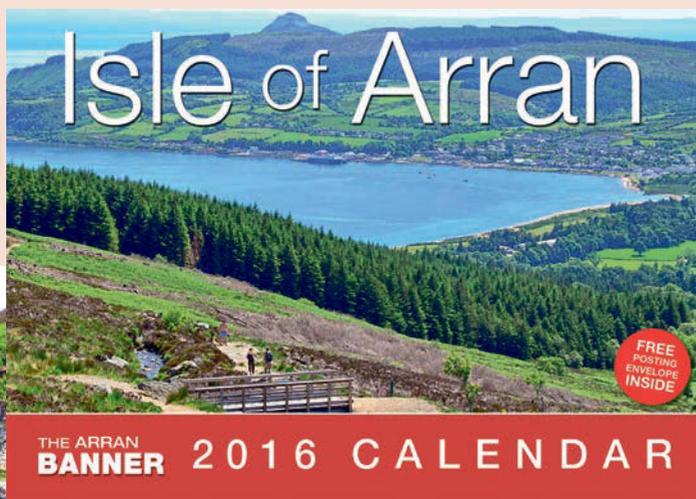
By mid January 73 per cent of over-65's in Ayrshire and Arran had already been vaccinated against flu with 46 per cent of those with underlying conditions in the area also vaccinated against flu.

For further information about the vaccine, contact NHS Inform on 0800 22 44 88 or visit [www.immunisationscotland.org.uk/flu](http://www.immunisationscotland.org.uk/flu)

# Isle of Arran Calendar 2016

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It is more often than not referred to as 'Scotland in miniature' but we like to think of it as being absolutely unique.

We have set out to show some of those unique qualities in our Arran Banner Isle of Arran Calendar 2016 by scouring dozens of images of the island to find the best that represent the light, scenery and places dear to those who also love the island.

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# Manx shearwater found on Arran was 35 years old

During one of their favourite walks on Cleats Shore last October, a Lamash couple came across the body of a dead seabird. It was a Manx shearwater. On closer examination the bird had a ring on its leg. The details were noted and forwarded to the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO).

Recently they received information back from the BTO on the bird. This bird had been ringed by Copeland Bird Observatory, County Down, Northern Ireland, as a nestling on 18 September 1980.

They were astonished that it had been found more than 35 years after it had been ringed. Although it was found only 86 km from the ringing site, Manx shearwaters are ocean travellers, breeding on off-shore islands in the UK and wintering off the coast of South America. Circling the Atlantic each year, how many tens of thousands of kilometres had this bird flown in its lifetime?

Bird ringing in Britain and Ireland is organised by the British Trust for Ornithology

(BTO). Each year more than 900,000 birds are ringed by more than 2,500 highly trained bird ringers, most of whom are volunteers. They follow a careful training process that can take several years to complete to ensure that they have the necessary skills to catch and ring birds. The bird's welfare is always the most important consideration during ringing activities.

Ringing began more than 100 years ago to study the movements of birds. While it continues to generate information about movements, it also allows the BTO to study how many young birds leave the nest and survive to breed as adults, as well as how many adults live from year to year and how many birds disperse to different breeding sites.

Collection of this information helps the BTO to understand why bird populations increase or decrease - vital information for conservation. Details of how many birds have been caught and where and when they have

been found are available on the BTO website at [www.bto.org/ringing-report](http://www.bto.org/ringing-report). Some interesting facts discovered from ringing data are that the oldest bird ever found was a Manx shearwater which was 50 years and 11 months. The farthest travelled was an Arctic Tern from Wales to Australia 18,000 km. The strangest recovery was an osprey ring found in stomach of a crocodile in The Gambia.

If you do come across any dead birds this winter, please check them for rings and pass the information to the BTO. If you would like to find out more about the BTO please check out their website [www.bto.org](http://www.bto.org). Enjoy your birding.

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at [jim@arranbirding.co.uk](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)



**Bird notes**  
by Jim Cassels  
JANUARY

Manx shearwater the ocean traveller. Photo by Jim MacKenzie

## Charity's last call for Arran residents

A campaigning charity is making a final call for Arran residents who use NHS hearing aids to share their experiences of audiology and hearing support services.

Sunday, February 14 is the deadline for people to respond to Action on Hearing Loss Scotland's questionnaire about the types of information and support they have received from NHS audiology and charity-run after-care services.

Arran residents who use NHS audiology services can complete the survey online at [www.hearingloss.org.uk/SCOSurvey](http://www.hearingloss.org.uk/SCOSurvey) or call tele-

phone: 0141 341 5330 or email [Scotland@hearingloss.org.uk](mailto:Scotland@hearingloss.org.uk) to request a paper version.

Delia Henry, director of Action on Hearing Loss Scotland, said: 'We're delighted that more than 500 people across Scotland have already taken the survey but we want to ensure that the views from more NHS hearing aid users in Arran are taken in to account.'

'If you are a NHS audiology patient, please take this last opportunity to tell us about what aspects of services are working well for you and where there could be room for improvement.'



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## THE ARRAN

## BANNER

TWENTY  
YEARS AGO

Saturday 3 February, 1996

## Blowing in the wind

While not absolutely certain to go ahead, the Kilmory windmill is very likely to be erected within the next few weeks. No firm order has yet been placed by Strathclyde Education to purchase the wind turbine, but everything is now in place for Kilmory Primary School to be the first school in Strathclyde to have its heating and lighting generated by wind power. Experimental, at least as far as schools are concerned, planning permission has been granted. Education officials are keen to see if it is to be a model for other schools in windy locations.

## Lagg champions

Lagg became Pool league Champions for the first time when they defeated Corrie by nine games to three in the final match of the season on Thursday night. Lamlash Golf Club took the second division title and will be promoted next season.

## Brodict vice

A cast iron engineer's vice weighing almost 100 weight and standing three feet high was stolen last week from the back garden of a house in Brodict. Although not quite as heavy as the cannon which was stolen from Brodict castle last year it would be almost as difficult to remove and may be destined for a similar market in which antique garden ornaments can find new homes.

## Field on course

The Arran Sports field, already under way insofar as the new section of Brodict Golf Club is almost complete, has been passed by planning. Its only further need for official approval is that the application must also be passed by Strathclyde because it is a devel-



**Amid talk of a need for new houses, the first phase of the development at Glencloy, which comprises of 28 houses including amenity housing is quietly going ahead.** b05twe01

opment 'contrary to the development plan'. Tender documents are still to go out for the construction of the sports field but the new section of golf course will shortly be handed over to Brodict Golf Club and this will release the Ormidale park for work to start.

## Improvements

CDC has decided to proceed as soon as possible with the Blackwaterfoot improvements plan. These were proposals which were put to the village some months ago for consultation and were in three parts; to upgrade the existing car park; to make improvements along the shore edge; to improve the harbour. An estimate from John Thompson construction for £55,594.78 has been accepted for the total work. This being within the budget available work is to commence shortly.



**Nine Beaver Scouts were watched by Cubs and parents last Thursday evening as they were enrolled as Beavers in Lamlash Hall. Certificates were handed out by Allan Little and leader Carol Boon who joined the Cubs in singing round the camp fire.** b05twe03



**Chef Maurice Appleby welcomes in the haggis at a Burns Supper held at Cooriedoon Nursing Home last week.** b05twe02

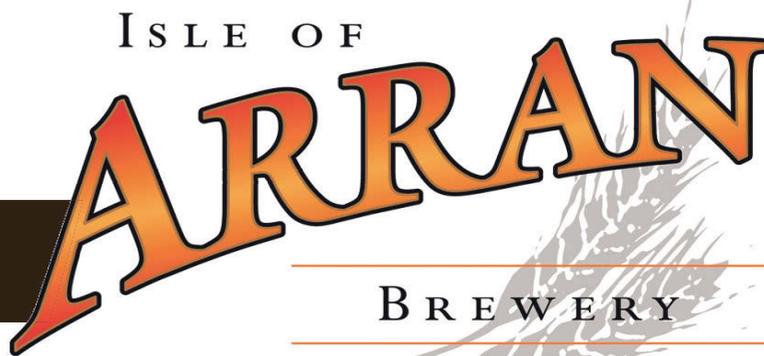


**Outside their new premises Sandy and Lorraine McAlister with receptionist Margaret Mackay. Sandy and Lorraine originally bought a practice in 1991 in a wooden building in Low Glencloy known as The Chestnut before moving to their new building in the Douglas Centre.** b05twe04

# 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, Tue, Wed, Fri: 12.30 - 5pm, Sat 10-5  
 2pm (limited spaces call for availability)  
 Open all day

RunArran Run Coaching  
 Open Cricket Session  
 Non- competitive bridge  
 Lamlash Drama Club  
 Winter Bowls  
 Scottish Country Dancing

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

## Saturday 30th January

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

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  
 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  
 Brodick Church Hall, 9am - 10am  
 Brodick Slipway car park, 1-2pm

## Wednesday 3rd February

Rock & Pop Bingo  
 Tae Kwondo  
 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Arran Brass Rehearsal  
 Arran Vets - Surgery  
 Yoga  
 Hydrofit  
 Auchrannie Hotel leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am  
 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  
 Coffee Morning  
 Parkinson's support group  
 Lamlash SWI

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

## Sunday 31st 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

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  
 Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - 12 noon  
 Lamlash Fire Station, 2pm - 4pm  
 Lamlash Fire Station, 7.30pm

## Monday 1st February

Over 50s Badminton  
 Badminton  
 Morning Fitness  
 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 Brèagha  
 Skinnymalinks Weigh in for Mary's Meals

Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm  
 Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 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

## Thursday 4th February

Morning Fitness  
 General Knowledge Quiz  
 Arran Vets - Surgery  
 Ladies Hockey  
 RunArran Mixed Ability  
 Cardiac Rehab  
 Burger & Quiz night  
 Winter Bowls  
 Embroidery group  
 Live Music

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  
 Felicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm  
 Auchrannie, 7pm  
 Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 7.30pm

## Friday 5th February

Yoga  
 Hydrofit  
 Arran Youth Foundations  
 Live music  
 Lochranza Kids Badminton  
 Lochranza Adults Badminton  
 Quiz  
 Arran Vets - Surgery  
 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, 7.30pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 8pm  
 Whiting Bay Golf Club, 8pm  
 9am - 10.30am and 3pm - 4pm  
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 8pm  
 Arran high School, Lamlash Adults, 7pm - 8.30pm

## Tuesday 2nd February

Pop Quiz  
 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Youth Club  
 Arran Vets - Surgery  
 Rotary club  
 Healthy Outdoors  
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm  
 Kildonan Hall, 7pm  
 9am - 10.30am  
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 6.30pm for 7pm  
 NTS Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm  
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.15pm



# Recruitment

## The Holy Isle Project

Volunteering Opportunities: **Organic Gardeners and Pontoon Attendants**  
Location: **The Centre for World Peace & Health, Holy Isle North**

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We are also looking for local part/time volunteers for this coming season (April – October) to help with Pontoon duties. This role includes assisting with docking, arrivals and departures and ensuring safe practices are followed on the Pontoon for the protection of all visitors, guests, co-workers and equipment.

For more information about these opportunities please contact –

Grant or Rose at: Holy Isle Reception (01770) 601100

or email [volunteering@holysisle.org](mailto:volunteering@holysisle.org),

Further background information also available on our website: [www.holysisle.org](http://www.holysisle.org)

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Arran Outdoor Education Centre, Lamlash,  
Isle of Arran, KA27 8PL

Closing date 8th February 2016

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We are an equal opportunities employer so please inform us of any special needs you may have.

## Job Opportunity with North Ayrshire Council

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Closing date 8th February 2016

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Experience of a busy kitchen is essential and work will involve both daytime and evening shifts.

Current Food Hygiene Certificate is essential as well as experience in Ordering and pricing Menus. Hourly rate is negotiable based on experience and although we do not offer live-in accommodation we can help in finding accommodation nearby.

**If interested please forward a current C.V and photo to Sara;  
Sara19041981@aol.com**

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◊ Also part time eve & weekend bar staff required. Training provided.



## The Arran Team

Holiday Home Letting & Property Management Specialists

### Property Management Assistant – Full Time

Focusing on the management of our properties, the role will include managing bookings for our holiday lets, liaising with housekeepers and general office administration. Customer service experience is essential and weekend work will be required on a rotational basis during the summer season.

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# Public Notices

## EARLY LEARNING & CHILDCARE REGISTRATION WEEK

Parents are advised that registration for the early learning and childcare intake in August 2016 takes place from 1 February 2016 – 5 February 2016.  
Children with dates of birth between 1 March 2012 and 28 February 2014 can be registered with Local Authority Early Years establishments or Partner providers of early learning and childcare in North Ayrshire during this time.  
Registration for all Local Authority Early Years and Partner providers of early learning and childcare in North Ayrshire will take place in the week beginning Monday 1 February 2016. Parents wishing to register their children for early learning and childcare should apply directly to the class/centre of their choice.  
At the class/centre you will be asked to fill in an application form and provide your child's birth certificate. It is not always possible to place all children in the early year's class/centre of their choice. You will be asked to state your second and third choice of establishment.  
Please note:

- there are no 'catchment areas' for early years class/centres and parents can choose to send their child to the most suitable class/centre, if a place is available.
- attending an early years class within a primary school doesn't influence whether your child will be able to transfer to that school in Primary 1.

### Birth certificates should be produced at the time of registration.

Please note that North Ayrshire Council operates an Admissions Policy which clearly describes priorities. Further information on North Ayrshire Council's Admissions Policy and Early Years places can be found on the North Ayrshire website, [www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk)

All Local Authority Early Years provision and Partner providers of early learning and childcare in North Ayrshire are listed below and parents are requested to contact the class/centre of their choice to confirm the most suitable time to register.

### PROVISION FOR 2 YEAR OLDS

The Government has committed to providing 600 hours of free Early Learning and Childcare for eligible 2 year olds whose parents meet certain benefits criteria.

If you think your 2 year old child may be entitled please phone CARIS on 0345 3513000 or 01294 472971.

All Local Authority Early Years provision and current Partner Pre-School Centres in North Ayrshire can be found below.

### LOCAL AUTHORITY EARLY YEARS CLASSES AND EARLY YEARS CENTRES

**Corrie Primary & Early Years Class**, Corrie, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8JP  
Tel: 01770 810244

**Kilmory Primary & Early Years Class**, Kilmory, Isle of Arran KA27 8PQ  
Tel: 01770 870262

**Lamlash Primary & Early Years Class**, MacKelvie Road, Lamlash, Isle of Arran, KA27 8NP  
Tel: 01770 600527

**Pirrmill Primary & Early Years Class**, Pirrmill, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8HP  
Tel: 01770 850226

**Shiskine Primary & Early Years Class**, Shiskine, Isle of Arran KA27 8EP  
Tel: 01770 860207

### Partner Providers of Early Learning and Childcare

**Brodick Nursery**, Brodick Public Hall, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8DL  
Tel: 07903775898

(Brodick Nursery is open from 9am – 12.10pm or can be contacted on the above number for registrations)

## THE NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL A841, BRODICK (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2016

On the 25 January 2016 North Ayrshire Council made the above named Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit any motor vehicle to drive (with the exception of vehicles engaged on resurfacing works) on A841 from its junction with B880 (The String) and the main entrance to Brodick Castle, Brodick, from 9.15am to 12noon and from 12.45pm to 3pm on Wednesday 3 to Thursday 11 February 2016, or until the works are completed whichever is the earlier, by reason of works proposed to be executed on or near that road.

Full details of traffic management for the works are detailed below.

### A841 Roadworks at Brodick Castle: Traffic Management Timings

Mon 1 Feb, Tues 2 Feb Convoy working 7:30am to 5pm

Wed 3 Feb to Thur 11 Feb Convoy working 7:30am to 9:15am

Road Closure 9:15am to 12noon

Convoy working 12noon to 12:45pm

Road Closure 12:45pm to 3pm

Convoy Working 3pm to 5pm

Fri 12 Feb to Mon 15 Feb No road closures (please refer to [www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk) for further updates)

Please can you add the following to bottom section of this advert:

### Diversion Route

Diversion Routes will be signposted

## 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 19.02.16. 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

15/00648/PP; Site to West of Viewbank Farm, Whiting Bay, Brodick, Isle of Arran; Change of use of field to form allotments.

15/00784/PP; Site to West of Drummoyne, Blackwaterfoot, Brodick; Erection of detached storey and a half dwelling with associated parking and drainage arrangements.

Elma Murray  
Chief Executive  
Cunninghame House  
IRVINE KA12 8EE



North Ayrshire Council  
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

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Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

- 1 Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.
- 2 The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
- 3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
- 4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
- 5 Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.
- 6 The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.
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- 9 The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.
- 10 Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
- 11 Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
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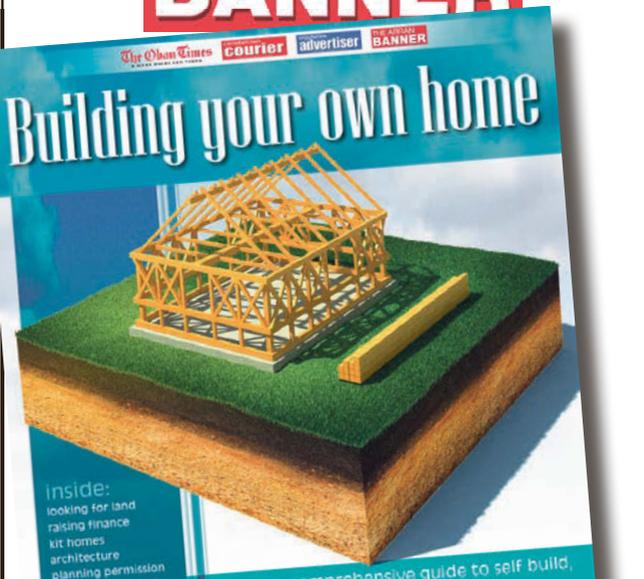
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### OVER £30

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### CHURCH NOTICES

#### SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)  
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
**Sunday, 31st January**  
Holy Communion, 11.00 am.  
Mrs Janis Gallagher. Coffee after service.  
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 31st January**  
Lochranza and Pirnmill Churches, 10.15am Morning Worship in Lochranza Church.  
Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship.  
Brodick Church, 10.30am Morning Worship.  
Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer Meeting  
12noon Morning Worship.  
There will also be a Service of Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

#### CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamdash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"  
**Sunday 31st January**  
Kilmory 10am  
Lamdash 11.30 am  
Rev. Lily McKinnon  
All welcome, including amilies; children's area  
Scottish Charity SC015072

#### ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)  
**Sunday 31st January**  
Morning Service 11am  
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick  
Afternoon Service 1.30pm  
5 Glen Estate, Brodick  
All welcome

#### WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(Charity Number: SC014005)  
**Sunday 31st 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.  
All most welcome

#### HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Sunday 31st January**  
Morning Mass 11am

#### ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings  
**Sunday 31st 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 31st 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

### DEATH

**HAGAN - HUGH Grogan** - Peacefully at home, on Friday, 22nd January 2016. Hugh, aged 78 years, beloved husband of Rosemary, loving father of Lynda, Michael, Vincent, Sharon, and the late David, father-in-law to Jayne, Mandy and Stuart, grandfather to Andrew, Gemma, Alexandra, James, Robert, David, Craig, Jamie, and great granddad to Poppy-May. Funeral service at Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church on Thursday, 4th February at 11:30am and thereafter to Lamdash cemetery, followed by refreshments at Little Rock, to which family and friends are respectfully invited.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**BASON - JOHN ROWLAND THOMAS** - Anne Bason would like to thank all friends for their kind expressions of sympathy and cards following the sad loss of John who passed away on Wednesday 6th January 2016, aged 88. Heartfelt thanks to Cooriedoon Nursing Home who cared for John over the past 3 years. Special thanks to the Revd., Angus Adamson for a lovely service at Brodick Church and to David and Clair Hendry for funeral arrangements. £117.50 was collected at the funeral service which has been donated to Cooriedoon Nursing Home. Thanks to all.



Just to prove it doesn't always rain on the golf course at this time of year here is a scene from last Friday at Shiskine.

#### Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday, January 20. Five started in intermittent rain with only two finishing the round. There were no magic twos so the stake rolls over to next week. The winner was Jim Green, with a better inward half, he finished 89-20=69. Tee off every Wednesday at noon. All welcome.

**Shiskine Golf Club**  
Sunday, January 24, Winter Cup, 16 played, non-counter. 1 Donald McKinnie 39pts, 2 Terry Raeside 36pts, 3 Lindsay Keir 35pts.

On a dry day, for once, still with wet underfoot conditions but with reasonable turnout it almost felt like the old days before Noah arrived some months ago to check out his boat. Donald had an excellent round winning handsomely we only hope he

will replicate this form in the Winter League. Terry played well and scooped the pot by getting the only magic two of the day.

Fixtures: Next week, as we have lost a number of Winter Cups we will have an other inward half, same times, same place and a non counter.

**Whiting Bay Golf Club**

Sunday, January 24, Winter Cup Rd 4. Six played in the Aqua Golf version of this year's Winter Cup. Despite the tricky conditions, Stan Rainey continued his recent run of form to come in first and with the lowest gross score. CSS remained at 63 and there were no magic twos. 1 Stan Rainey (10)64 and lowest gross, 2 Wolfi Kroner (14)66, 3 David Brookens (12)67.

Fixtures: Sunday, January 24, Winter Cup, 16 played, non-counter. 1 Donald McKinnie 39pts, 2 Terry Raeside 36pts, 3 Lindsay Keir 35pts.

the bonus point. Nearest the pins were Willie Robertson @4th, Gator @10th. Fixture: Sunday, January 31, 12 Hole Medal and Winter Cup. 1pm as normal.

#### Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday, January 24, Winter Cup Rd 4. Six played in the Aqua Golf version of this year's Winter Cup. Despite the tricky conditions, Stan Rainey continued his recent run of form to come in first and with the lowest gross score. CSS remained at 63 and there were no magic twos. 1 Stan Rainey (10)64 and lowest gross, 2 Wolfi Kroner (14)66, 3 David Brookens (12)67.

Fixtures: Sunday, January 24, Winter Cup, 16 played, non-counter. 1 Donald McKinnie 39pts, 2 Terry Raeside 36pts, 3 Lindsay Keir 35pts.

31, Stableford, yellow tees, draw at 10am

#### Machrie Golf Club

Tuesday, January 19, Lochranza Hotel Cup, stableford. Three played. 1 John Pennycott 28 pts, 2 Ron Woods 25 pts, 3 Colin Rutherford 20 pts, CSS 65, qualifier, reductions only.

#### Corrie Golf Club

Saturday, January 23, Stableford Sweep. 1 D Currie 39pts, 2 J McConnachie 35pts. There were five magic twos J McConnachie, J Innes, D Currie, R Logan and A Napier.

Fixture: Saturday, January 30, Winter Cup, ballots 8.30am and 12noon.

## Arran Bridge Club results

Here are the latest results from the Arran Bridge Club aggregate competition held at Brodick on Thursday, January 21. N/S 1 Margaret McGill and Jessmay Peacock, 2 Pat Adamson and Brenda Livingstone, 3 Jean Barclay and Elaine Duncan. E/W 1 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton, 2 Fiona and David Henderson, 3 Linda Trickett and Elizabeth McKellar.

Aggregate Competition at Lamdash on Monday, January 25. N/S 1 Linda Trickett and Pat Adamson, 2 Maureen Cumming and Fiona Henderson, 3 Jan and John Beattie. E/W 1 Jennifer McArthur and Jean Barclay, 2 Brenda Livingstone and Morag Gardner, 3 Jim Peacock and John Baraclough.

### THANK YOU

## THANK YOU

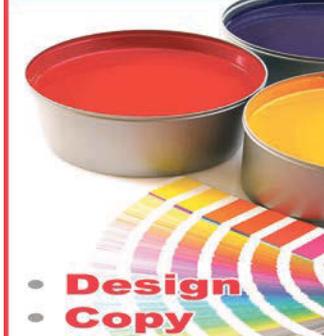
Glenn and Malin wish to say a huge thanks to friends in Shiskine and Blackwaterfoot for all the kindness, love and support received during a very difficult time. It is much appreciated.

## MONTROSE HOUSE

I would like to express my appreciation to the residents, staff, D.N's and chemist for their lovely gifts and especially their kind sentiments

George

Manual worker Grade 3 (Rtd)



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# Rain stops play with some of the worst flooding on record

Sports facilities in Brodick took another hammering this week with some of the worst flooding in living memory.

The tennis courts were completely submerged during the heavy rain and high winds on Tuesday, which was the aftermath of the storm which brought havoc to the eastern US states.

It was impossible to tell

where the Cloy Burn stopped and the surrounded grass and tennis courts began and the beach playpark was under two feet of water. One long time resident said they had never seen the tennis courts so flooded.

Nearby Brodick Golf course resembled a lake as it was again badly flooded, a repeated occurrence this winter.

There was flooding too on the Ormidale Astroturf where Arran Ladies had been due to play today (Saturday).

Arran Rugby Club are due to play a home game against Strathendrick at the adjacent Ormidale Park, in what has been a desperate season for the side, with repeated match cancellations in both home and away fixtures.



It is hard to tell where the golf course ends and the sea starts with the Fishermans Walk taking another battering out of shot. 20\_b05rain04



The flooded tennis courts after the Cloy Burn burst its banks. 20\_b05rain01

## Only an away game went ahead

### Rottenrow Bluesox 1 Arran Ladies 4

Arran Ladies Hockey Team travelled to play at the Glasgow National Hockey Centre on Glasgow Green last Saturday which they described as very exciting. The team travelled with just 11 players, leaving them with no substitutes, but thankfully there were no injuries.

The visitors had most of the possession for the first half and had around 10 shots on target saved, but the Bluesox scored after 30 minutes and at half time Arran were 1-0 down.

But the Arran Ladies didn't give up, playing with sheer determination and calm as eventually the goals came.

Anne Watts scored two, Lorraine Hewie one, and Abbie McKelvie scored the last one, which was a cracker, making the final score 4-1.

Captain Victoria McNicol said: 'We played well as a team and we all tried our best, and showed really fighting spirit.' Anne Watts was voted dame of the game.

Hillhead couldn't get a team together for last Sunday's West District Plate so Arran are now through to the next round.

Today's (Saturday) home game has been cancelled but they are away to Ardrossan on Sunday with pass back at 1pm. All support is most welcomed.



The Ormidale Astroturf is sodden underfoot. 20\_b05rain03

Left: Arran Ladies outside the National Hockey Centre with their new jackets, sponsored by Coast to Coast Travel, Ardrossan.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING



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