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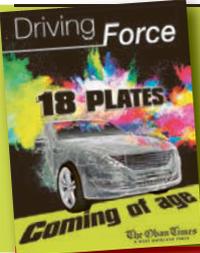
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**FREE
INSIDE**

Arran bids to be first plastic-free island

Schoolchildren to lead the fight for a paper revolution

Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A bold bid is being made to make Arran Scotland's first plastic-free island.

And local schoolchildren, who have the most to benefit from the clean and prosperous environment in the years ahead, will be leading the way with a range of exciting initiatives to achieve that goal.

The campaign was kick-started by a visit from the Sunnyside Ocean Defenders, the primary pupils from Easterhouse who have already had nationwide success with their #NaeStrawAtAw campaign, highlighted in the *Banner* last week.

But the baton has now been

picked up by Arran's seven primary schools, which intend to press businesses and organisations on the island to turn their backs on plastic and help save the marine environment.

The move comes after eight pupils from Sunnyside visited Arran on Monday with their teachers and gave a presentation of their work to Arran pupils, community representatives and businessmen.

They had been invited to Arran by the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST), which already works with the Glasgow school. After the presentation, they gave each of the primary schools a project bag to work with and were



The Sunnyside Ocean Defenders with representatives of all seven primary schools on Arran who are taking up the plastic fight. 01_B06straw01

themselves presented with specially printed Arran #NaeStrawAtAw mugs.

During their visit, the children also met with businessman Alastair Dobson and representatives of COAST and Eco Savvy, as well as Serge and Meg El Adm at the Lamdash Bay Hotel.

Arran head teacher Shirley MacLachlan said: 'We are delighted to be working alongside the Ocean Defenders from Sunnyside Primary School on their #Nae Straw At Aw campaign and thank them for coming to Arran.'

'The children from across the schools are now going

back to share the information from the fabulous presentation to move forward on making Arran a plastic straw-free island – the first in Scotland.

'The children will be contacting local hotels and businesses within their respective villages to share

Advice closure move slammed

A community group has expressed concern after Arran's Citizens' Advice service was forced to close its doors.

Funding cuts led to the immediate closure of the National Ayrshire Citizens' Advice Service (NACAS), which was held every Monday morning at the Ormidale Pavilion, as reported in the *Banner* last month.

It means island residents can now only get consumer advice or help with benefits and debt worries by phone or by travelling to the mainland.

At Arran Community Council last week, members expressed concern at the closure. Shiskine member Marilyn Woods said: 'Not to have a face to face service is a really, really retrograde step.'

Members heard that the changes in the way advice services were funded by the council meant the Citizens' Advice contract had come to an end and that the services would now be put out to competitive tender.

Chairman Bill Calderwood said: 'The withdrawal of this service is just wrong. We need to monitor how these services are funded.'

Continued on pages 2 and 3

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Sunnyside pupils discuss plastic reduction with Meg Al Adm at the Lamlash Bay Hotel.

Arran bids to be first plastic-free

Continued from page 1

information and encourage the use of alternatives to move away from plastic. Our schools in North Ayrshire are plastic straw-free zones as we already drink milk and water from reusable glasses. This has saved the use of more than 500,000 straws each year.

'I am very proud of the enthusiasm shown by everyone involved in the campaign and we are looking forward to the next visit on February 27 when the Ocean Defenders are bringing some children from Ullapool with them.'

'We are making plans to visit some of our beaches and to work alongside COAST.'

Mr Dobson, the managing director of Taste of Arran and Arran Dairies, is passionate about the campaign. He said: 'It is fantastic seeing and hearing what the inspirational pu-

pils and staff from Sunnyside Primary School have achieved with their project and how it has shone the light on the other activities they are involved with.'

'It would be great to encourage the young people of Arran to further develop the ambassadorial lead in how we can work towards "Arran - a sustainable island". It is so refreshing how the younger generations really get the environmental issues that face us. There are also so many unsung heroes within our community who have been involved in clearing plastics from our beaches and paths.'

Sustainable

'There is a real opportunity for all of this great activity to be encouraged and developed for a more sustainable message from Arran. It is all the wee things that count - I have even stopped using coffee pods!'



The Sunnyside pupils with businessman Alastair Dobson and representatives of COAST and Eco Savvy.

Council fully behind straw campaign

All council-owned cafes in North Ayrshire will soon be totally free of plastic drinking straws. The council has made the commitment as the fight after plastic straw campaign gathers pace.

As well as cafes, 500,000 straws from milk cartons and fruit juice cartons have been removed from schools across the region. It's all part of the council's ongoing drive to protect the environment and make North Ayrshire cleaner and greener for residents.

Council chief executive Elma Murray said: 'We are totally committed to reducing waste across North Ayrshire and fully supportive of The Final Straw campaign.'

'We have already taken some huge steps and this year alone have removed 500,000 straws from milk cartons and fruit juice cartons at our schools. By March 31, none of our cafes will be using plastic straws.'

'While we will offer biodegradable alternatives, we hope to create a shift in the culture so that straws should only really be used by people who have to use them. We hope other councils and organisations follow our lead and support this really important campaign.'

The council expects all its cafes and other facilities to stop using plastic straws by March 31 - and hopes local business and organisations will soon follow its lead.

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... Scotland's ... island

'Arran Dairies, as a supply company to all hospitality businesses on Arran, have been working hard to pull together a list of products where we can offer more sustainable options to current packaging and disposable purchases and we would be delighted to develop this further.'

VisitArran chief executive Sheila Gilmore said: 'The presentation from Sunnyside was very inspirational, and it's absolutely fantastic to see the Arran primary schools getting behind this environmental campaign. I don't doubt for a minute that our own young people will do an excellent job and VisitArran and the Arran Trust will be happy to support them in any way we can.'

Now the adults are getting involved to with a group from COAST and Eco Savvy moving to launch a plastic-free island campaign, un-

der the auspices of the Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) Plastic Free Coastlines scheme.

One of the backers is Sue Weaver, who last year took part in the environmental eXXpedition round Britain voyage, who said: 'This would involve setting up a steering group – involving NAC, voluntary groups and island businesses – to co-ordinate volunteer action and reducing single-use plastics, in cafes, pubs, village halls.'

Film

To start things off, COAST is showing the Sky Ocean Rescue film of the voyage, at 7pm tonight (Friday) at the Old Pavilion in Lam-lash.

Sue added: 'I'll be introducing it with fellow crew member Deborah Maw and we will have a panel discussion afterwards, looking at what Arran can now do.'



The Glasgow pupils featured Arran in their presentation, which was filmed by BBC Scotland. 01_B06straw04



The Sunnyside pupils are thrilled with their special mugs. 01_B06straw02

Your Banner

Week in week out your *Arran Banner* is out there reporting the news and sport that is important to you. We believe passionately in our community – the people and what is happening around the island. And it is important to us that you receive the best value for money.

It is with regret, therefore, that we have to announce a small increase in the cover charge which rises this week by 5p. This is due to increased costs for newsprint, fuel and distribution. The company has also invested heavily on the development of the new *Arran Banner* website and more and more people are taking advantage of our on-line subscriptions.

This is the first price increase in two years and we hope you will still consider that the *Banner* to be worth every penny for its comprehensive coverage of all island life.



The hall was packed with children and community representatives for the presentation. 01_B06straw05

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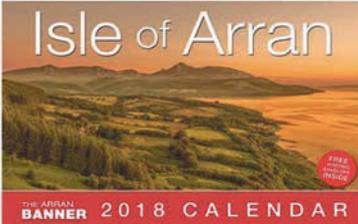
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Six Arran groups to benefit from locality partnership funding

Six groups on Arran, including the newly-established Arran Table Tennis Club, have received a major funding boost from North Ayrshire Council's nurturing excellence in communities fund, which is awarded by the Arran Locality Partnership.

The table tennis club – which has been working closely with North Ayrshire Council's Active Schools team – has received £2,000 to help buy equipment, facilitate training and allow it to become self-running this year.

The 31 Club is another to get support after receiving funding of £1,000. It wants to encourage residents of the Glen Estate sheltered housing complex to participate in a communal garden to provide local produce for the complex and for the wider community.

Community of Arran Seabed Trust also collected £1,000 to allow it to purchase equipment that will help to develop the second phase of the Marine Discovery Centre at the Old Pavilion in Lamlash.

The Corrie and Sannox Village Committee and the village hall committee each received £600 which the group has already used to purchase a new cooker, door ramp and sound system. Kilmory and Kildonan Senior Citizens' Association was the other beneficiary of the fund and received £500.

Councillor Louise McPhater, cabinet member for communities, said: 'Our nurturing excellence in communities fund is fantastic and, as you can see from the awards given out in Arran, looks to support a broad range of groups of



Malcolm Wheeler of the Corrie and Sannox Village Hall Committee shows Councillor Ellen McMaster the new cooker, door ramp and sound system that has been purchased with the funding.

different ages. All of the groups are clearly very important to their local community and offer so much to its members and the people who benefit from it. Whether it's the young kids who are learning a sport and developing their skills, to the 31 Club which was providing help and assistance to the elderly, they all do so much and are invaluable.

'We're delighted to be supporting them and would urge other organisations to apply for funding if they feel it would help.'

Meanwhile, a series of roadshows, organised by the Arran Locality Partnership, will be taking place over the next few months at which Arran residents can have a say on the issues that matter most to them.

The local partnership set out three key priorities for Arran – affordable housing, transport and social

isolation – and the four roadshows will give people a chance to learn how the Arran Economic Group and the Arran Health and Social Care Partnership are working to meet them.

Councillor McPhater said: 'We are really trying to empower our communities and give residents the power to make decisions on the issues that they are most passionate about. We'd love as many people to attend the roadshows and come forward with their thoughts and ideas.'

The roadshows will take place at the following venues: Whiting Bay Hall, Friday February 16, 12.30pm to 2pm. Lochranza Outdoor Centre, Wednesday February 21, 12.30am to 2pm. Arran Outdoor Education Centre, Lamlash, Friday February 23, 12.30pm to 2pm. Brodick Hall, Saturday March 3, noon to 2pm.



Councillor Ellen McMaster, chairwoman of the Arran Locality Partnership, meets Naomi Provan, Massimo Locatelli and Gordon Provan of the Arran Table Tennis Club at the high school.

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Shiskine steps up to the challenge

Two teams from Shiskine Primary School have taken on allcomers from across North Ayrshire to come out on top in a step count challenge.

Shiskine Primary entered two teams in a council employee challenge competing against 67 other teams from across the area.

The Shiskine Shoogly Shanks, captained by Carol Brown, took first place and the school's second team, the Shiskine Shoe Shufflers, captained by Barbara

Crawford, finished third. Every member of staff in the school took part with each team of five recording their steps daily and entering them into a step count website over a period of four weeks.

Million steps

A great number of steps were achieved by all team members with notable mileage being achieved by Jacqui Rankin who clocked up 50,000 in one day and Carol Brown who recorded over a million steps, an

achievement which earned her the second highest individual recording from all participants. The highest individual mileage came from Bert Wason of the No Team Team, who clocked up an impressive 458 miles, just nine more than Carol Brown.

The winning team was presented with a fruit hamper and Carol Brown received a goody bag for her individual effort.

Both Carol and Barbara are in training for the London Marathon, in aid of cancer care charity Maggie's, and recently held a very successful prosecco afternoon tea in the Kinloch Hotel to raise funds.



The Shiskine Shoogly Shanks captained by Carol Brown.



Guests enjoy the prosecco afternoon tea.



Carol Brown, Fiona Black and Kirsty Popplewell receive their prize. Not pictured, Quinton Black and Margo Popplewell.



The Shiskine Shoogly Shanks captained by Carol Brown.

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It's showtime for the Arran drama festival

It's that time of year when the curtains are about to rise on the 2018 One Act Drama Festival.

This year there are a slightly disappointing five entries, but the Isle of Arran Drama Association is confident there will still be a feast of entertainment over the two nights of the festival on Friday February 23 and Saturday February 24 at the community theatre in Lamlash.

Pleased

Although there will be only two adult plays – *Autogeddon Revisited* (Whiting Bay Club of Drama and Music) and *Happy Deathday* (Lamlash Drama) – the association is very pleased that three junior clubs will be performing as well.

Lamlash Junior Drama and Shiskine Drama, with their highly skilled producers Mary Young and Sheila Gilmore, are well known to the Arran audience.



The Shiskine Junior Drama Group performing their winning *Little Foundling* at last year's festival. 01_B06drama01

Shiskine juniors will perform 'Catch As Catch Can' while the juniors from Lamlash will bring *Platform Party*, a piece about a drama festival, to the stage. Under the direction of Allan Little, Whiting Bay Junior Drama will step for the first time into the limelight with a rendition of *Su-*

per-Secret Surprise Casse-rolle.

Association chairwoman Jerry Arthur explained that this year's festival will be slightly shorter than in previous years but said: 'Sometimes, the demands of private life and business life just have to take priority. Nevertheless, the drama association is pretty sure that we will see again more

entries in future years.'

She added: 'We count ourselves indeed very lucky to have so much young talent on the island. We appreciate their input very much, especially when they have exams to face during this time.'

All plays will be judged by this year's adjudicator, Dr Paul Dougall, who will make his deliberations known to the audience at

the end of each festival day.

The chairwoman is convinced that the 2018 festival will again be a very enjoyable event carried by the hard work of the clubs and, last but not least, by the equally hard work behind the stage, namely by Euan Stout and his stage crew and by Colin MacDonald in the sound and lighting box – without whom the curtains wouldn't lift and the stage would stay dark.

Tickets for the festival are available at the Book and Card Centre in Brodick from Monday February 19 until Friday February 23 at noon and also at the door.

Corrie Film Club presents ...

Hell or High Water (USA 2016 Cert 15)

February is a busy month for Corrie Film Club. Today (Saturday) is the annual Day in the Dark, see last week's *Banner* for details, and tomorrow (Sunday) is the regular monthly film, *Hell or High Water* (2016), directed by the fabulous David Mackenzie.

This is a pacey, gritty crime thriller with elements of the modern western genre. It received many awards, among them four Oscar nominations including best supporting actor for Jeff Bridges.

Following their mother's recent death and facing the family's West Texas farmland imminent foreclosure, brothers Toby Howard (Chris Pine), a divorced father, and Tanner (Ben Foster), a hardened ex-con, come up with a recklessly bold plan to raise some cash. As a result, the hard-pressed duo will embark on a crime spree, targeting the Texas Midland Bank's small-town branches, after a meticulously-planned strategy by the gang's mastermind, Toby.

Eventually, as the two opposite couples will soon find themselves in a head-on collision, an inevitable showdown amid the rugged and sun-baked landscape of West Texas, will lead to unforeseen consequences.

See this exciting film in Corrie and Sannox Village Hall on Sunday at 8pm. All welcome.

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Doors Open 7.00pm – Curtain up 7.30pm

Friday 23 Feb

<p>Platform Party Play by Alan Richardson Lamlash Junior Drama Club</p>	<p>Autogeddon Revisited Drama by David Simpkin Whiting Bay Drama Club</p>
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Saturday 24 Feb

<p>Happy Deathday Play by Isabella C. Rae Lamlash Drama Club</p>	<p>Super-Secret Surprise Casserole Comedy by Christine Harvey and Jennifer Waugh Whiting Bay Junior Drama</p>
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Catch As Catch Can
 Play by George Freek
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Budget allocation sparks war of words

The budget allocation for North Ayrshire Council, announced as part of the Scottish Government's draft spending plans, has sparked a war of words.

A revised budget announcement, taking into account an accounting error of approximately £1.4 million, further added to the discussion, which for the council has reduced its individual allocation to a provisional total of around £266 million.

Following an agreement by the SNP and the Greens, the Scottish Parliament voted last week to endorse the budget bill for the year.

While being hailed as an budget that works for Scotland by North Ayrshire

SNP group leader Councillor Marie Burns, North Ayrshire Labour council leader Joe Cullinane said: 'For the second year in a row, the Greens have struck a deal which sells out local government.

'This deal does not stop council cuts, as is being spun. It does not protect local services.

'It does not fund pay increases for council workers.

'What it does is leave a £15m gap in North Ayrshire Council's budget and that puts our local services and jobs under severe threat.

'This is yet another austerity budget being imposed on the communities



Ross Greer MSP of North Ayrshire by the SNP and the Greens.'

Jamie Greene, Conservative and Unionist MSP, said: 'After 11 years of failing to grow the economy, it's now hard-working families in North Ayrshire who are footing the bill for Nicola Sturgeon's mistakes.'

But Councillor Burns saw the budget as a major boost, saying: 'Thanks to the progressive tax decisions made by the SNP government, local government funding will increase by more than inflation and North Ayrshire Council will be allocated an extra £4.278 million to spend on local services. Again the SNP and the Greens have shown that constructive dialogue between parties can

lead to a budget that works for Scotland.'

Green MSP for West Scotland Ross Greer said: 'This budget deal is a big win for North Ayrshire.

'For two years in a row, the Greens have taken over £4 million of proposed cuts to our local services off the table and on top of that, this year we have secured a better pay settlement for hard pressed public sector workers, the opportunity to radically improve local public transport and greater action to tackle fuel poverty.

'Most importantly, this means proposed cuts to librarians and classroom assistants, as well as increases in class sizes, in North Ayrshire can be ditched.'

St Valentine's Day coffee morning

A special St Valentine's Day coffee morning is being held next Wednesday.

Lamash Church hall is the venue for the annual event, which will be held from 10.15am to noon. For many years Lamash Guild has held coffee mornings in support of Erskine care homes, which provide wonderful care for war veterans and their spouses.

Organisers look forward to a good attendance to enjoy tea coffee, home baking, tombola and the usual stalls.

Club draw winners

The winners of the Lochranza and Catacol 200 club January draw were: first prize Eileen McAllister, second prize Wren Gentleman.



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Editorial

A sporting prize

Good to see Arran's young sports leaders getting some well-deserved recognition.

They have made the final three trying to pick up the sports prize in the 2018 Provost's Civic Pride Awards. And the whole of Arran can get behind them by voting, with details on the back page.

Arran High School has always had a good reputation for sport, but these Active Schools Young Leaders have taken it to another level and now offer more than 20 different sports a week for pupils to choose from.

And for as many as 90 per cent of P5 to P7 pupils to be enjoying sports at least once a week is testimony to the amount of work they put in.

Of course, head teacher Barry Smith and his staff must be congratulated too for the continued development of activities which saw them named North Ayrshire's top school for sport for the second year running last November. The school is also striving to be Scotland's first school of sport for triathlon.

Of course, the win is in no way a foregone conclusion for they are up against some tough opposition from the mainland. We hope, however, that everyone on Arran will get behind them and help them win the coveted prize.

Thought for the week

'Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.'

1 Corinthians 13:4-5

Straw compromise

Sir,
First, let me congratulate the children of Sunnyside Primary School in Glasgow school on their efforts to combat unnecessary plastic waste by highlighting plastic straws, featured in last week's *Banner*.

However, it must be remembered that, for some people, using a straw is not a choice but a necessity to be able to drink independently. Many disabled people, including myself, find paper straws unfit for purpose. I have used paper straws many times, mainly on Arran, and always find that half way through my drink, the straw is soggy and unpleasant in my mouth, and too squashed to get any more liquid out, meaning I resort to the emergency supplies of plastic straws I always carry so I can finish the drink. The alternative is using two to three paper straws per drink, which could also be seen as unnecessary waste.

Maybe as part of their campaign, the children could encourage paper straw manufacturers to produce more robust paper straws, which could be used efficiently and effectively by all members of society, something I would certainly support.

In the meantime, a compromise could possibly be Arran cafes routinely serving paper straws, but keeping a box of plastic straws in reserve, for customers who specifically ask for them. If that was the case, the amount of plastic straws used would still reduce dramatically, but those who need them could still drink comfortably.

Yours,
Shona Cormack,
East Yorkshire.

Bad example

Sir,
The letter in last week's *Banner* about Great Ormond Street Hospital returning donations from the President's Club, after reports of misogynistic behaviour at their dinner made the point that there is no such thing as bad money.

One day later, I read that British banks and financial institutions are receiving more than £70 billion laundered by huge international operations involved in drugs and numerous other illegal operations. Good money or bad?

In some ways, he is right. Money is neutral and a means of exchange but surely Great Ormond Street was right to dissociate itself from a club, now defunct, which set such a bad example to children and adults.

Yours,
John Cruickshank,
Whiting Bay.

Family thank-you

Sir,
Heather and Matthew Johnston wish to thank all friends on Arran and beyond who have helped make the past few weeks since Donald's tragic death a little easier to bear. The cards, letters, flowers and expressions of love and comfort have been overwhelming.

Thank you to the ambulance and fire crews and the police who turned up on that terrible afternoon and Dr Graeme Thompson. Thank you to the Hendrys for their comforting and dignified attendance.

Thank you to Euan and Amy Henderson of the Drift Inn for their continuing support and for laying on a party that Donald would certainly have enjoyed.

Special thanks to Lamlash Church, especially Ian Watt and the Rev Lily McKinnon and to Rev Angus Adamson for his words both in the church and at the graveside, a moving and at times amusing tribute to a wonderful husband and father and certainly a true Lamlash character.

Yours,
Heather and Matthew Johnston,
Lamlash.

Poppy pledge

Sir,
There are few of us – young or old – who are not at the very least vaguely familiar with the famous recruitment poster from 1914 in which a demonstrative and glaring Lord Kitchener points right at us and proclaims that: 'Your country needs you.'

It is one of the most iconic and enduring images of the First World War and serves as a reminder that military service back then – and during the second global conflict that followed 21 years later – was all-encompassing rather than the situation today where each and every one of us has a choice as to whether we wish to serve our country in this most important of ways.

It is the unspoken hope that our world will never suffer war on this scale again, but it is a stark fact of modern life that, as I write, there are countless conflicts taking place across the globe, and many of which involving our brave servicemen and servicewomen.

We here at Poppyscotland are committed to providing life-changing support to the armed forces community. Many of your readers will be most familiar with us through the annual Scottish

Poppy Appeal. The money raised from the appeal allows us to provide tailored funding and assistance, and we also fund services in advice, employment, housing, mental health, mobility and respite.

This year, though, as we mark 100 years since the signing of the armistice that heralded the beginning of the end of the First World War, it is Poppyscotland's turn to say: 'Your country needs you!' We have launched the 1918 Poppy Pledge – a fundraising quest that is inspiring groups, schools, businesses, clubs and organisations around the country to take on the challenge of raising £1,918 – or more – in 2018.

The Poppy Pledge – which can take any fundraising form the participants see fit – will be a lasting tribute to those who fell in the First World War, but, importantly, it will also allow us to make a step change in the scale of support Poppyscotland is able to provide those in the armed forces community who rely on our support today. Your brave troops and their families need you. Will you take the pledge?

For more information, please visit: www.poppyscotland.org.uk/popy-pledge.

Yours,
Gordon Michie,
Head of Fundraising
at Poppyscotland.



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Welcome return of the Brodick Quartet

Programme this year contains great music by Schubert and Tchaikovsky

This month sees the return of the aptly-named Brodick Quartet. These talented musicians were hugely popular with the local audience when they gave a concert in Brodick last year. Now they are back again and will play Brodick Hall at 7.30pm on Saturday February 17.

The line-up is the same, with Ben Norris and Katrina Lee on violin, Liam Brolly on viola and Alice Allen on cello. Three of them come from different parts of Scotland and one from Yorkshire, but, as we learned last year, they chose the name Brodick Quartet because of their

love of the island, all of them having spent time here on trips from family holidays to hillwalking and geology expeditions. They await their return as eagerly as their audience will wait to hear them.

Young though they are, they have all studied at distinguished colleges, including the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Glasgow, Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester and Royal College of Music in London.

All of them also play with distinguished groups such as the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the BBC Scottish Sympho-

ny Orchestra and Scottish Opera.

Their programme this year contains great music by Schubert (*Death and the Maiden*) and Tchaikovsky (*String Quartet No 1 in D major*), both of which are delightful and popular pieces. Seating at the concert will be in café style, and you can bring a bottle if you like. Please note that children are admitted free, together with one accompanying adult.

Tickets will be available on the door on the night, in advance from Inspirations of Arran in Brodick, or online from www.arranevents.com.



The Brodick Quartet who are back on Arran this month.

Bands strike gold

Three pupils from Arran helped the North Ayrshire Schools' senior concert band to gold success on their home turf.

North Ayrshire welcomed some of Scotland's best young musicians at the weekend when it played host to the National Concert Band Festival (NCBF).

Bands from across Scotland – including North Ayrshire Schools' senior and junior concert bands – headed to Garnock Community Campus for the regional heats of the UK's largest wind and big band festival. There are three Arran High pupils in the senior band: Lois Ashley, Alison Provan and Innis Thorborn. There are no pupils from Arran in the junior band.

It was double success for North Ayrshire's bands as both the senior and junior groups scooped up a gold award – securing their place at the national stage of the competition.

Jazz rock fusion at the PHT

The Glasgow-based Oscar Cordoba Band (OCB) are playing at the Pierhead Tavern in Lamlash on Saturday February 17.

They play a special blend of duelling lead guitar and synths, held down tight and sometimes cut loose by busy bass and drums. A cocktail of rock, jazz, funk, blues and improvisation, OCB make grown-ups weep with joy as they never thought they would hear music as good as this in their own town. Albeit not played by the legends

who originally played it. Or in the original key. But, seriously, if you crave more than the standard pub rock/hipster/autotuned pixie Muzak-lite, come and grab some OCB.

The band consists of Sam McCulloch on guitar, Kenneth Clark on keyboards, Nelson McFarlane on bass and George Falconer on drums who play epic tunes others are afraid to try. A heady mix of covers by Focus, Colosseum II, Tommy Bolin, Simon Phillip's Protocol, Herbie Hancock, Jeff

Beck and more. They are expanding their set list all the time, and for 2018 will incorporate some thrills of the saxophone variety.

And they perform original material as well. Guitarist Sam McCulloch's New Scotland Yard was recently nominated for the prestigious You're Nicked, Get Yer Clothes On award. They also recently supported the Andy Timmons Band in Glasgow and Fat Suit on their Scottish tour and plan to hit the studio shortly to record a CD.



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Army Cadets sign at open day



Innis Thorborn cooks outdoors on a stove. 01_B06cadet04



Ciara Wood demonstrates CPR on a dummy. 01_B06cadet02

There were lots of enthusiasm and interest being shown at the Arran Army Cadets open day last Saturday. The cadets threw the doors of their meeting hall in Old Auchrannie Road open to parents and children looking to join the group.

During the event, Ted Godfrey of the Arran Royal British Legion branch, presented a medal to the cadet of the year, Lance Corporal Finlay Elliott. This was in recognition of his dedication and commitment to Arran detachment.

The cadets were also overwhelmed to receive a display of regimental cap badges, gifted by Peter

Randell, who had collected them in the 1950s.

Cadets giving the demonstrations and talks were Rory Currie, Innis Thorborn, Finlay Elliott, Ciara Wood, Liam Green and Sophie Andrew; cadet Catherine Bloy did an amazing job providing refreshments in the pop-up café.

Staff Sergeant Karen Ward said: 'The event was a huge success with both children and adults keen to join the organisation.'

'My cadets did a wonderful job on their individual stances, talking about and demonstrating some of the subjects we teach within the cadet force. It takes

great courage to stand in front of so many people and give a talk. I was immensely proud of their confidence and delivery.'

Staff Sergeant Ward and probationary instructor Nathan Carey will be delighted to welcome any new recruits to the detachment on a Saturday between 11am and 1pm.

The cadet organisation provides an alternative vehicle by which young people (aged 12-18) can develop a wide range of skills, such as confidence, resilience, self-esteem, wellbeing, respect, teamwork and leadership. The aim is to inspire them to go further and achieve more.



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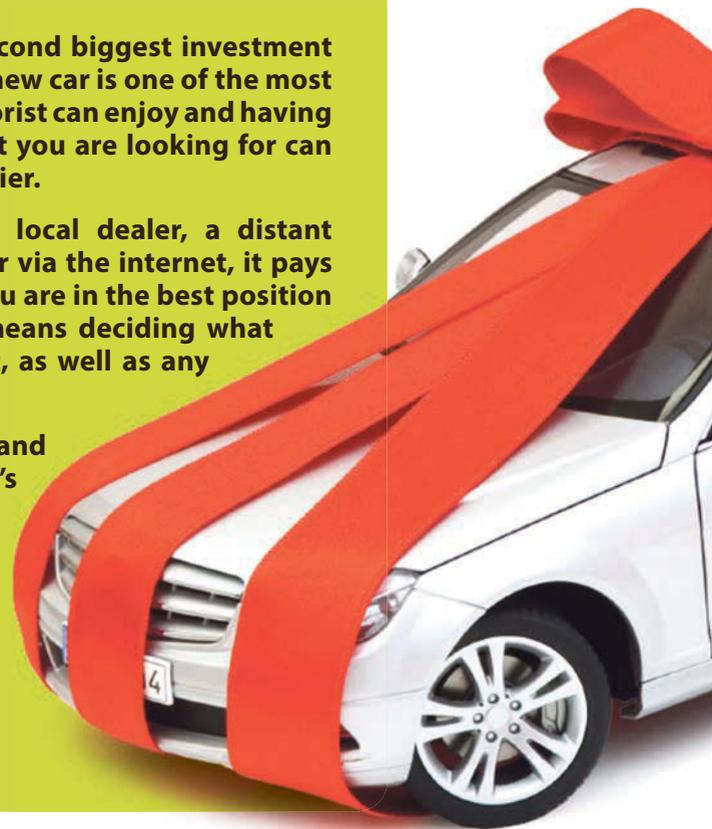
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Driving Force

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All-new Subaru XV receives commendation at 2018 What Car? awards

Subaru UK is pleased to announce that the all-new Subaru XV has been selected as one of the safest cars in the UK, having been highly commended in the Safety category at the 2018 annual What Car? Awards.

The combination of Subaru's bespoke EyeSight safety technology and the recent 2017 Best In Class accolade from Euro NCAP, aided in the commendation for the all-new XV which went on sale in the UK earlier this year.

EyeSight technology uses cameras to detect the car's surroundings, highlighting any potential threats, issues or impending collisions, aiding in a safer drive on and off road. The all-new XV is also praised for its passenger and child safety credentials, topping the findings as the safest car for child occupancy in the 2017 results.

Torbjörn Lillrud, Automotive Development Director Subaru UK, said: "We are delighted the all-new XV has been Highly Commended by What Car?, Our customers buy our cars because of their safety credentials and EyeSight technology is a part of that reason too. We're delighted that the XV has got off to such a good start, especially as it's now in showrooms for customer to test drive.

Subaru EyeSight – Subaru's EyeSight Driver Assistance technology, which is also fitted as standard on the new XV and Impreza, scored highly in the Autonomous Emergency Braking section at



Euro NCAP testing, with both cars and pedestrians. The EyeSight Driver Assist technology is a set of two digital cameras that monitor the traffic movement to warn the driver of a threat ahead and to apply pre-collision braking in emergency situations, in order to avoid or at least to mitigate the collision. Subaru EyeSight also observes the lateral support functions, warning the driver of unintentional lane departure and assisting the driver in keeping the travelling lane.

To find out more about the all-new Subaru XV, please visit www.sandsservices.co.uk or call John Spicer 01292 880080 / 07831 808702



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up new recruits



Lance Corporal Finlay Elliott is congratulated on his cadet of the year medal by Staff Sergeant Karen Ward. 01_B06cadet05



Finlay Elliott demonstrates how to put a patient in the recovery position. 01_B06cadet01



Ciara Wood talks to parents and children about improving co-ordination skills. 01_B06cadet03

MP demands action on mobile phone coverage

Arran MP Patricia Gibson has criticised the lack of mobile phone coverage on Arran and has backed calls from the Federation of Small Businesses (FSB) for the UK government to improve Scotland's poor mobile phone coverage.

Figures released by the UK regulator Ofcom show only 17 per cent of Scotland has 4G mobile coverage, compared to 60 per cent south of the border. In more than a fifth of the country, it remains impossible to make or receive a mobile phone call at all. In a third, people cannot access a mobile data service.

Ms Gibson, who is also the SNP consumer affairs spokeswoman, said: 'Sufficient mobile coverage for the whole of the UK, and particularly island communities such as Arran, should be a top priority. For too long, poor mobile phone coverage has gone unchecked and we need action to address this.'

'The decision to offer mobile coverage is currently a com-

mercial one for mobile network operators, leaving huge swathes of Scotland with either a poor service or none. This impacts on island businesses, it impacts on tourism and it impacts on people's everyday lives.'

'While work is being undertaken to improve access to mobile voice and data services, it remains the case that much of Arran is not covered by a mobile phone signal, with much of Lamlash particularly notorious. It is imperative that these coverage blackspots are plugged, not least to aid the emergency services.'

'Society is changing and mobile services are vital for 21st-century living. It is, therefore, unacceptable that some island communities are being left behind.'

Representatives of the FSB gave evidence to the Scottish Affairs Committee at Westminster and are set to call for Scotland-specific coverage obligations to be attached to future mobile spectrum sales.

Ms Gibson continued: 'Former UK communications minister Ed Vaizey MP promised that coverage of Arran would be rolled out by 2015, yet there is no sign of that happening despite the Emergency Medical Retrieval Service saying that mobile phone coverage for Arran is the number one priority for Scotland.'

'If the UK government cannot ensure delivery of an effective service, it should devolve the responsibility for mobile services to Scotland.'



Patricia Gibson MP.

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Record stock sold at Ayr

The Ayr auction mart of Craig Wilson Ltd have enjoyed another great year of support from Arran farmers with a record number of stock sold and a fantastic quality of stock being produced by island farmers.

A few highlights of 2017 include John Logan, Altgolach Farm, with his fantastic pen of Aberdeen Angus cross bullocks that scaled at 655kg and fetched for £1,485, and John McDonald, Auchenhew Farm, had 12-month-old Charolais bullocks that averaged over £1,000, with Alister Currie, Birchburn, also averaging £1,000. Angus McAlister, Cairnhouse Farm, had a pen of Aberdeen Angus bullocks at 545kg and made £1,240. N & C Cook, Moor Farm, sold 540kg Charolais cross bullocks to make £1,260.

Cast cows peaked at £1,430 for a Simmental cross cow from D Currie, Bellview Farm. Dairy cows peaked at £820 off S Reid, Cloughlands Farm.

In the sheep section, Springfield topped the tups at £620 and averaged £500 for the pen and Altgolach topped at £480 for a Blue Leicester shearing.

The gimmer sale D McKelvie, Seaview Farm, topped the North Country Cheviots at £140 for a pen of 24 gimmers. Jeff Brookes topped the Blackface gimmers at £76 for a pen of 21 then J McKinnon got £102 for a pen of Lleys.

Store lambs peaked at £70 for a pen of Texels off N McMaster, Springfield.

Other Leading Prices. Store cattle. Charolais cross: £1,260, £1,170, £1,150 and £175 Moor, £1,170 and £1,010 x 12 Auchenhew, £1,150 Creagraineach. Aberdeen Angus Cross: £1,485 Altgolach, £1,240 Cairnhouse, £1,230 Altgolach, £1,070 Knowe, £1,030 Birchburn, £990 Creagraineach. Simmental Cross: £1,030 Birchburn. Hereford Cross: £1,120 Altgolach.

Suckled calves. Aberdeen Angus cross: £760 Glenkiln. Limousin cross: £835 and £830 Springfield, £860 and £760 Marge-naish. Simmental cross: £820 Springfield. Charolais Cross: £720 Springfield, £610 and £605 Ceithir Gaoithe.

Store lambs. Texel's: £70, £62 and £61.50 Springfield, £62.50 Bridge, £64.50 Auchenhew, £61 Kilpatrick, £55 Altgolach, £46 Whin. Suffolk cross: £50 Bridge. Charolais cross: £50 Brandon. Cheviot Cross: £53 Glensherrraig. Blackface: £38 Altgolach, £35 South Bank. Beltex: £64 and £55 Seaview.

Tactile textiles



The work of textile artist Lynn Gray Ross is on display as the featured artist in the Brodick Library exhibition space during February.

Lynn has been a textile artist on Arran for decades, funding and managing craft-based community projects on the island. She was born in Kilmarnock and spent her teens and 20s in the USA and Sweden, studying weaving in Stockholm at Handarbetetsvänner.

A familiar face on Arran, she was the director of Silverbirch Spinning and Weaving Workshop

in Whiting Bay for many years, teaching students who came to her from colleges worldwide.

Lynn said: 'The inspiration for my knitting and weaving comes from the island, reflecting the constant changes in the natural surroundings and from the culture and history of the people who have lived here before me.'

'I try to capture reflections of the sea or shapes of the mountains and rocks, or a fleeting glimpse of a figure like the Celtic monk who came to Arran to nurture his spirit or Blind Peggy who dyed wool with plants which she recognised by taste. Through my textiles I can share my experience of colour, texture and the world about me in a way that would otherwise not be possible.'

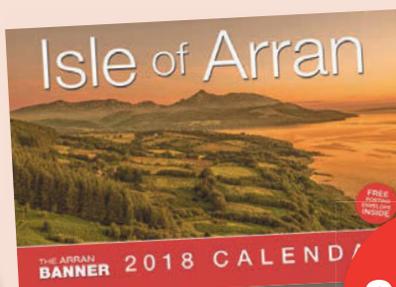
Lynn's exhibition will run until Tuesday February 27.

Lynn Gray Ross with some of her work on display at the Arran Library.

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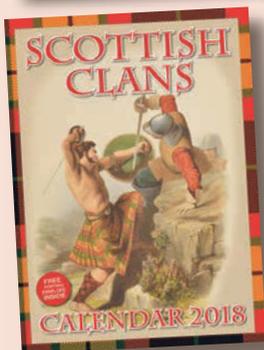
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What's on

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Everyday

Trout fly fishing
 Brodick Castle
 Soap making and candle dipping Arran Aromatics
 Arran Brewery

Loch Garbad, bank fishing
 Garden only open 9am-dusk
 Brodick, 10am - 4pm
 Open Mon - Thursday 11.30am - 4.30pm
 Friday & Saturday, 10am - 4.30pm, Sun - Closed

Saturday 10th February

Flow yoga
 Arran Vets surgery
 Arran Vets reception
 Army Cadets
 Blackwaterfoot bowls
 Six Nations on big screen
 Family games
 Fun in the pool
 Live music – Mike Edwards
 Live music – Tina & The G Man, fea. slide guitar legend Phil Hoolahan
 Over-21s disco

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
 9.30am - 11am
 9.30am – noon
 Auchrannie Road 11am – 1pm
 Bowling Club, 1.30pm
 The PHT, Lamlash, 2.15pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
 Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
 The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

Chair yoga
 Bus Pass Club free soup
 Arran Heritage Museum archives and genealogy service
 Knittery and Natterry
 Zumba Gold
 Arran Skinnymalinks
 Just Jhoom (Bollywood dance fitness)
 RUNclub – mixed ability
 Flow yoga
 Tae Kwon Do
 Yoga-Arran
 Mixed hockey
 Burger and quiz night
 Tae Kwon Do
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Valentines with Shindig
 Valentine treat – wine, dine and music-Heather Macleod.
 Rock and pop bingo

St Molios Hall, Shiskine, 11am
 The PHT, Lamlash, 12noon -2.30pm
 10.30am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-3.30pm
 Kilmory Hall, 2pm - 4pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 4.30pm - 5.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 5pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 5.45pm - 6.45pm
 Dunfion, Brodick, 5.30pm
 Shiskine Hall, 6pm
 Arran High School, Kids-6.30-7.30pm, Adults, 7.30pm-8.30pm
 Kinneil, Lamlash, 7pm - 8.30pm
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7.30pm-9pm
 Felicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm
 Arran High School Kids-6.30-7.30pm, Adults, 7.30pm-8.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
 Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
 PHT, Lamlash Food 5pm, Music 8pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 9.30pm

Sunday 11th February

Live music – Mike Edwards
 Family games
 Six Nations on big screen
 AA meeting

Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 2pm-5pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 The PHT, Lamlash, 3pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm

Monday 12th February

Morning fitness
 Arran Vets surgery
 Arran Vets reception
 Over-50s badminton
 Arran Skinnymalinks
 Arran Skinnymalinks
 Arran Skinnymalinks
 Adult tennis
 Arran Junior Football Club
 Circuit training
 Lamlash Aerobix
 Badminton
 Badminton
 Arran Bridge Club
 Tae Kwon Do

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30am -10.30am
 9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
 9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
 Lochranza Village Hall, 2pm-4pm
 Brèagha Holistic Beauty, Corrie, 5pm
 Shiskine Church Hall, 5.15pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 6pm
 Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club from 5.30pm
 Ormidale Park, 6pm-7.30pm
 Auchrannie Gym, 6pm-7pm
 Arran High School Dance Studio, 6.30pm
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7pm-9pm
 Lamlash Golf Clubhouse, 7.15pm
 Brodick Church Hall, Adults and over 10s, 7.00pm - 8.30pm

Thursday 15th February

Arran Vets surgery
 Arran Vets reception
 Morning fitness, Auchrannie gym
 Chair yoga
 Arran Skinnymalinks
 Whiting Bay Thursday Club
 Quilt Arran
 Adult tennis
 10th Ayrshire Shiskine Cub Scouts and Beavers
 Arran Ladies netball
 Ladies' Hockey
 Arran Soul Choir
 Arran Bridge Club
 Brodick Embroidery Group
 General knowledge quiz
 Coffee morning

9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
 9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
 9.30am -10.30am
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am
 Brodick Church Hall, between 10.30am -12noon
 Lesser Hall, Whiting Bay, 2pm
 Lamlash Fire Station, 2pm - 4.30pm
 Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club from 5.30pm
 Shiskine Hall, 6pm - 7.30pm
 Arran High School, 6 -7pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 6.30pm - 8.00pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 7pm - 8.30pm
 Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7.15pm
 Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 St Brides Church, Brodick 10.30 till noon

Friday 16th February

Arran Vets
 Arran Vets
 Yoga
 Hydrofit
 Smart Recovery meeting
 Build your own steak night
 Lochranza children's badminton
 AA meeting
 Arran Youth Foundations
 Tae Kwon Do
 Douglas Hotel Burns supper
 Live music – Fatman and the Angel
 Lochranza adults' badminton
 Pool, darts and poker

Surgery 9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
 Reception 9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
 Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
 Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 1.30pm - 3pm
 The PHT, Lamlash, 5pm - 9pm
 Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
 Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash, adults, 7pm - 9pm
 Douglas Hotel, 7pm
 Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
 Lochranza Hall, 8pm
 The PHT, Lamlash

Tuesday 13th February

Arran Vets surgery
 Arran Vets reception
 Healthy Outdoors
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Blackwaterfoot bowls
 Bridge class (beginners/improvers)
 Metafit class
 Flow yoga,
 Pilates
 Lamlash Junior Drama Club
 Auchrannie winter bowls
 Youth club
 Fiona's FitSteps
 Arran Rotary Club
 Scottish country dancing
 Live music – Buchaneers
 Pop quiz

9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
 9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
 NTS Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
 Bowling Club, 1.30pm
 Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
 Arran High School, 6pm
 Corrie Hall, 6pm
 Kilmory Hall, 6pm - 7pm
 Arran High School, 6.30pm - 9pm
 Brodick, 7pm
 Kildonan Hall, 7pm
 Arran High School, 7pm
 Douglas Hotel, Brodick, 7pm for 7.30pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
 Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm

Saturday 17th February

Flow yoga
 Arran Vets surgery
 Arran Vets reception
 Army Cadets
 Blackwaterfoot bowls
 Family games
 Fun in the pool
 Live music – Shenanigans
 Live music – The Oscar Cordoba Band, jazz, rock, fusion
 Over-21s disco

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
 9.30am - 11am
 9.30am – noon
 Auchrannie Road 11am – 1pm
 Bowling Club, 1.30pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
 Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
 The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

Wednesday 14th February

Arran Vets surgery
 Arran Vets reception
 Yoga
 Hydrofit

9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
 9am- 2pm and 4pm -5pm
 Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am -10.30am
 Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am



Protecting porpoises in the Clyde

The February meeting of the Arran Natural History Society took place at the Rangers Centre on Thursday February 1 and heard a fascinating presentation from David Nairn of the Clyde Porpoise Group CIC.

The group is focused on the research and conservation of marine species in the Clyde and surrounding seas. They operate a survey vessel to obtain information on marine mammal distribution and abundance. Scientific data is being used to support conservation measures and inform marine management policy.

An adult harbour porpoise *Phocoenaphocoena* grows to around 1.3 metres to 1.5 metres in length

and weighs in around 50-60kg. They are the smallest species of cetacean found in Scottish and European waters. The porpoise looks stocky and has a rotund shape, a small rounded head with no distinct beak, and a small triangular dorsal fin which shows briefly when they surface for air.

They are difficult to spot in choppy water and is rare to see them perform the kind of aerial activity more commonly associated with dolphins.

Harbour porpoises do not usually bow ride or approach boats although some of the resident porpoises in the upper Clyde seem rather curious and have a habit of approaching

vessels and often stay with them for some time.

Harbour porpoises generally live in groups of two or three animals, or singly, but occasionally forming groups of 10 to 20 animals. Larger aggregations of up to several hundred porpoises have also been seen seasonally – February to March and August to October, either associated with food concentrations or long-distance movement.

The basic social unit appears to be the mother and calf, which may sometimes be accompanied by a yearling. Segregation by age and sex may also occur in larger groups. DNA studies indicate that females can form genetically dis-



A porpoise shows its fin above the water.
Photo Clyde Porpoise CIC.

tinct groups, while males are more likely to move away. During late summer, porpoises are more social, and sexual activity can be observed. In calm seas, animals frequently lie in a resting state just below the surface.

When Scottish Natural Heritage began looking at porpoise conservation measures off the West Coast, it ignored the Clyde completely. The Clyde Por-

poise Group CIC was set up to rectify that omission, and its survey work has demonstrated a population of around 4,000 porpoises in the Clyde.

David's talk looked in detail at the sound recordings they have made of Clyde porpoises and what these tell us about their behaviour. Among the science, however, there were many amusing stories, such as the time when his sur-

vey boat got in the way of a nuclear submarine leaving the Clyde. The sub's escort boat became suspicious of the hydrophones David uses to record the porpoises, and even more suspicious when they came alongside and found David had on board with some Syrian refugees from Bute, having a porpoise-watching day out.

David then talked about the many dangers to our porpoise population, from fishing gear to speedboat propellers. The Clyde Porpoise Group CIC is still struggling to get SNH to give appropriate attention and protection to the Clyde's porpoises.

This was a fascinating evening, and more can be found at <http://www.clydeporpoise.org/>. Sightings of marine mammals can also be reported on their website.

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FACT 2
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THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday February 7, 1998

Monastic retreat

Approval was granted on Wednesday at the North Ayrshire planning meeting to build a monastic retreat complex on Holy Isle.

Since the Buddhists came to Holy Isle in 1992, it has become a place of international interest. Now with this large and imaginative plan for a monastery, in a place with so many associations with early Christianity, Holy Isle's fame is set to increase.

It has been a long and torturous journey to gaining this permission. The Buddhists of Samye Ling first had to raise the money and then there was a much publicised architectural competition which attracted almost 200 entries. The eventual winning entry was stark and minimalist and the present plan was made public last autumn.

The monastic retreat will accommodate 110 people and be in two parts, one for monks and one for nuns. The most significant feature is the way it will be partly built into the hillside. Conditions are attached to the plans, particularly for the proposed wind turbines.

School sale

Kildonan School and schoolhouse, which have been empty for some time, are to be sold by North Ayrshire Council. They are described as wholly owned by council, which is interesting since, under Strath-

clyde Regional Council, there appeared to be some lack of clarity over ownership.

However, the council has now set a development brief on the two properties which would be a guideline for any purchaser. This brief includes the council retaining ownership of a portion of the site closest to the road so that, in future, a car park and picnic area might be constructed.

Happy birthday

Celebrating her 100th birthday last month in Campbeltown was Janet Kerr, an Arran woman who spent the first 86 years of her life here.

Born Janet Kelso at Ferry Cottage, Blackwaterfoot, on January 6, 1898, where her father was the ferryman, her family moved to Holy Isle when Nettie, as she is known, was nine. Nettie married Matthew Kerr in 1930 and had two daughters, Irene and Fiona. She now has five grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

Nettie and Matt built a shop with a house above it in Lamplash, now Murchie's Stores. In 1953, they built a tearoom, which was well known for home-baking and home-made ice-cream, and is now the Drift Inn. They retired in 1959 and Matt died in 1983 aged 92. Since his death Nettie has lived with her daughter Fiona in Campbeltown. Nettie has an older sister living in Great Yarmouth who will be 102 in March.



Lagg pool team, winners of the Knockout Trophy held in the Arran Hotel. They are, left to right, John Sweeney, Eddie Picken, Tam Bruce, Ross Fitzpatrick, Dennis Smith and John McKenzie. 01_B05twe04



Above: Arran darts pairs champions, John McKenzie and David Jeffrey pictured in Lagg Hotel with their trophies. The finals were held in the Cameronia Hotel last Tuesday night.

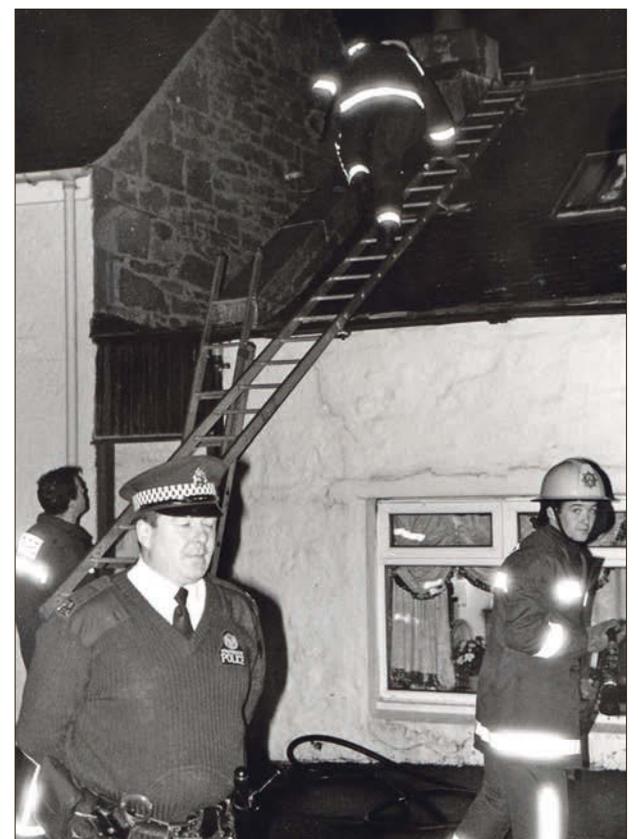
01_B05twe05



Fiona Crawford replied to the toast to the lassies last Friday at a full house Shiskine Burns Supper. 01_B05twe02



Left: Margo Popplewell, Alice Anderson, Morag Murchie and Elma Judge share a laugh at the Shiskine Burns Supper where Sandy Kerr addressed the haggis. 01_B05twe03



Right: Brodick firemen and police in action at a chimney fire at Hunters Cottage in Alma Road last Sunday. 01_B05twe01

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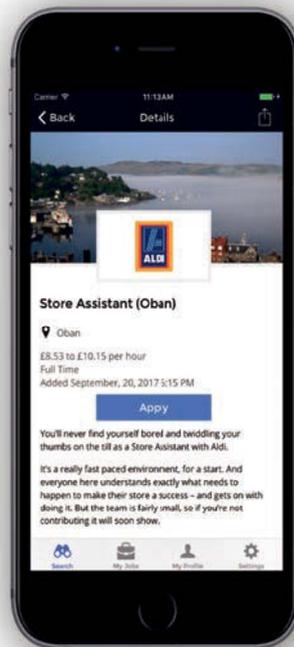
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As Shop manager you will be responsible for the running of the shop and supporting our team of volunteers. Experience in a similar environment and managerial role would be an advantage but is not essential. For the full job description, please see the Arran Eco Savvy website: <http://arranecosavvy.org.uk/>.

If you are interested please email your CV and a covering letter to arran.ecosavvy@gmail.com or call Jude on 07557229191 to chat through the role in a little more detail.

Application closing date has been extended to 24.02.18 due to a delay in our shop re-opening.



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

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

*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash
Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy & Communities) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 02 March 2018. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)
18/00062/PP; Surgery, Newton Road, Lochranza, Brodick; Erection of 8.3m smart metering monopole including antennae and associated ground based equipment.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
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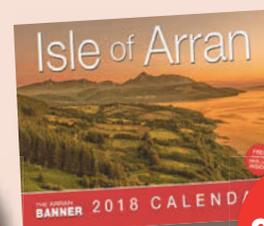
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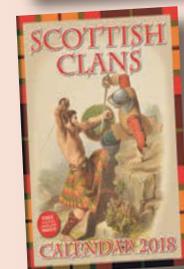
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CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran, Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine Independent but working together
Minister:
Rev Angus Adamson
Parish Assistant:
Mrs Jean Hunter:
Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.
Sunday 11th February
Pirmill, and Lochranza Churches Together - 10.15am,
Morning Worship at Pirmill Church
Shiskine Church - 12 noon
Morning Worship
Brodick Church - 10.30am
Morning Worship, including the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Corrie Church - 11.30am,
Prayer meeting -12noon,
Morning Worship, including the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
There will also be a Service of Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm, including the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 11th February
Holy Communion 11 am.
Rev Canon Simon Mackenzie, Priest-in-Charge.
Coffee after service.
Wednesday 14th February
(Ash Wednesday),
Holy Communion 12.15pm
ALL WELCOME

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS

Sunday worship at 11am in Brodick Library
Telephone 700346
Everyone warmly invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 11th February
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge,
Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
All welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 11th February
Mrs Liz Clarke
Kilmory - 10am
Lamlash - 11.30am
In Lamlash: prayer time 10.45am
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 11th February
Sunday Mass 11am

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland, Charity
Number: SC014005
Sunday 11th February
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 welcome.

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 11th February
Service 11am
Ormidale Pavilion
Tea and coffee after the service
Wednesday at 7.30pm
Home fellowship group for bible study and prayer.
Telephone 600222
Everyone warmly invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Shiskine 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick 6pm
Rev Benjamin Van Rensburg

DEATHS

McHARG: It is with great sadness that the family have to report the death of Johann loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother who sadly passed away peacefully on Monday, 5th February 2018 at Arran War Memorial Hospital, Lamlash.
There will be a service held on Thursday, 15th February 11:30 am at Lamlash Parish Church where all are more than welcome to attend with a reception held afterwards.

Family flowers only please, donations would be gratefully received on the day in aid of Arran War Memorial Hospital who have demonstrated a level of care and attention to Johann for which the family are exceptionally grateful. They would also like to thank all family, friends, neighbours and carers who have been so kind and supportive by looking after Johann's needs over the years. She shall be sadly missed. xx

MOBBS: Elisabeth Mary of Catacol, peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital on Sunday 28th January. Much-loved sister, aunt, great aunt and friend to many.

Short committal at Masonhill Crematorium, by Ayr, KA6 6EN on Friday 16th February at 2:45 pm.

Thanksgiving service at Lochranza Church on Saturday 17th February at 11.30 am. Donations, if desired, for Lochranza Church and the Isle of Arran Hospital Supporters League

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

DEATH

MURCHIE: Catherine McNiven (nee Crawford). Cathie of Tigheanfraoch, Shiskine, passed away peacefully on Sunday the 4th of February 2018, aged 95 years. Beloved wife of the late Nazer, much loved mother to James, John, Donald, Catherine and Archie. A dear mother-in-law, granny and friend. Funeral service, to which all family and friends are respectfully invited, will take place at Shiskine Free Church on Friday the 16th of February at 11.30am, and thereafter to Clachan Cemetery. Family flowers only please.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ALLAN: The family of the late Peter Allan would like to thank all friends for cards and messages of sympathy. Thanks also to everyone who was involved in Peter's care over the past few years. Special thanks to Stronach Day Care, Lamlash and Sliderry Meals on Wheels, District Nurses and GP's.

A very special thank you to Les and Joe for being such caring neighbours to both Peter and Jean over many years.

Thanks also to D & C Hendry for funeral arrangements and to Rev Benjamin van Rensburg for spiritual support.

McFARLANE: Lorna and Ian MacDonald would like to thank everyone who sent cards and expressions of sympathy on the passing of Jessie.

Special thanks to Coorie-doon for their loving care and attention to Jessie in the last 15 months of her life.

She was laid to rest in Tillicoultry on 31st January, beside her son and husband.

REABURN: Mary, Angus, Lynn and family would like to thank everyone for their support during Drew's illness, and all the cards, flowers and support we are still receiving.

Thank you to all the home care team, doctors and nurses and all at Arran war Memorial Hospital and ArCaS, for all their exceptional care given to Drew throughout his illness.

Thanks also to the rev Angus Adamson for the lovely funeral and his words of comfort.

Thank you to Clair and David Hendry for all the funeral arrangements, Peter Bowers for kindly driving the family and to Ali Hume for his wonderful piping.

Thank you also to The Brodick Golf Club for their hospitality.

The amount raised for ArCaS is currently an amazing £1290 thank you all.

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Brodick Golf Club ladies' prize-giving was attended by 26 golfers in the clubhouse last Friday night. They all enjoyed a lovely meal, cooked by Trish, which was appreciated by all who attended. Thanks go to her and her helpers.

A presentation was made to Trish and Douglas, who are both giving up their jobs at the golf club. After a review of the year by the ladies' captain, Heather Raeside, and handover to the new ladies' captain, Ann May, the prize-giving took place, followed by a 'Know Brodick' photo competition which was enjoyed by all.

The prize-winners were as follows: medal winners - silver: Ann May (2), Margaret Roxburgh (2), Susan Butchard and Isobel MacDonald; bronze: Kay Kitson (2), Aileen Latona, Moira Small, Pat Adamson and Heather Raeside.

Trophy winners. The Saturday best net round, Moira Small. The Eclectic, Susan Butchard. The Coronation Foursomes, Susan Butchard and Isobel MacDonald. The Captain's Prize, Pat Adamson. The Thistle Brooch, Ann J May, runner-up, Fiona Henderson. The SGU Silver Medal, Ann J May. The SGU Bronze Medal, Lesley Murray. The Open Day Trophy,

Susan Butchard. The Hendry Trophy, Margaret Roxburgh. The McKechnie Trophy, Sheena Murchie, Lamlash. Winter Trophy, Margaret Roxburgh and Brenda Livingstone. Club Trophy, Ann J May, runner-up, Susan Butchard. St Elmo Cup, Susan Butchard, runner-up, Ann J May. Lad's Trophy, Isobel MacDonald, runner-up, Susan Butchard. Wilkie Trophy, Pat Reid, runner-up, Margaret Roxburgh. Stronach Cup, Isobel MacDonald and Ann J May, runners-up, Susan Butchard and Lesley Murray. Centenary Quach, Moira Small, runner-up, Susan Butchard. Wright Trophy, Susan Butchard, runner-up, Pat Adamson. Helen's Vases, Pat Adamson and Isobel MacDonald, runners-up, Fiona Henderson and Lesley Murray. Anniversary Shield, Vice-Captain Ann J May. Legion Trophy, Ann J May, runner-up, Carole Stewart. Joyce Taylor Trophy, Moira Small. Scratch Cup, Ann J May. Bronze Championship, Aileen Latona, runner-up, Lesley Murray. Club Championship, Ann J May, runner-up, Susan Butchard.

Gents: Sunday February 4, Stableford Sweep, eight played, NC. Brian Smith 13, 38pts, Bob McCrae 8, 35pts, ACB, David Hendry 14, 35pts.

Fixture: Sunday February 11, Brandon Qualifier and Winter Cup, 9am and noon.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday February 4, AGA Winter League vs Machrie Bay at Machrie Bay GC. Any lingering hopes of this year's title for

Whiting Bay were comprehensively extinguished by a decisive 3-1 victory for the home team, leaving a third place finish now best WBGC can hope for. Well played, Machrie. Now it's on to the final round of matches at Brodick where we play Shiskine, and Lamlash battles it out with the home team for the title. Should be quite a match.

Fixture: Sunday February 25, Winter Cup.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday January 30, Winter Cup. 1 K Genda 85-15=70, 2 C Laing 89-18=71, 3 R Woods 92-17=75 BIH.

Saturday February 3, Lochranza Hotel Cup. CSS 65, R/O. 1 P Betley 34pts, 2 R Betley 31pts, 3 B Sherwood 29pts.

Fixture: Tuesday February 13, Winter Cup at noon.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday January 25, yellow medal. 1 Mark Wren 70-9=61, 2 Alan Smith 73-11=62. Scratch Mark Wren 71. Magic twos Mark Wren @16th, Alan Smith @16th.

Fixtures: Sunday February 11, Glenburn Cup, 9.30am and 12.30pm. Thursday February 15, yellow medal at 11am.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday February 3, sweep. 1 Ewan McKinnon 63, 2 G Hendry 64 BIH, 3 G Andrew 64.

Monday February 5, Monday Cup. Only three turned up and as one player had to withdraw injured, the game was a bogey.

Fixtures: Saturday February 10, Sweep, ballots at 9am and 1pm. Monday February 12, Monday Cup, ballot at noon.

Shiskine Golf Club

Sunday January 29, gents 12-hole medal and Winter Cup, 10 Played, CSS 42. 1 Colin Rutherford 52-11=41, 2 and scratch Brian Sherwood 51-7=44 BIH, 3 Quintin Oliver 55-11=44.

Memorial darts

This year marks the 30th anniversary of a memorial darts contest.

The annual Donald and James Mackenzie memorial mixed doubles darts competition will take place in Kilmory Hall on Saturday March 3 at 7.30pm.

Donald passed away on June 6, 1988, and James died in 2004 and players will contest the James Cup for the highest check-out for the sixth year.

As always, all the money raised will go to local charities. Any donations or raffle prizes would be most appreciated by organiser Margaret Mackenzie. The competition is open to over 16s only.

Those wishing to play should telephone Margaret on 870309 or Andrea on 870345 by Friday March 2. For transport, contact Phyllis on 870263.

GOLF AGM

Arran Golf Pass
Annual General Meeting
Tuesday February 20th
Brodick Golf Club. 7.30pm
All welcome

BIRTHDAY

Happy 80th
Birthday Mum
Love from
Helen, Lawrence, Harris and Arran

21ST BIRTHDAY



Happy 21st
Uncle lol
XXXXX

Ladies go one over the eight to defeat Irvine

Irvine Ladies 1s 0
Arran Ladies 9

Arran Ladies enjoyed a weekend of hockey with a double header, a convincing victory at Troon against Irvine Ladies 1s, and a closely fought, but ultimately defeated encounter against Milne Craig Clydesdale Western Ladies at home.

The team travelled, with a squad of 11 players and team umpire Pauline Reid, to Troon last Saturday to face the 10-strong team of Irvine Ladies.

It was a near-perfect day to play hockey and Irvine kick-started the match with an early press into the Arran 'D'. Passing around the Arran defence, Irvine's subsequent strong shot on goal was spectac-

ularly saved by Arran's ninja goalkeeper, Ali McKie, who just managed to get the tip of her stick to connect with the ball and thus deflected it off the back line.

Arran Ladies came back on the attack and, at eight minutes, centre forward and acting captain, Lorraine Hewie, scored the first goal of the game. Spurred on by this, Arran promptly made the score line 2-0, following a solid strike from the top of the 'D' by centre midfield player, Hazel Malakoty.

Play continued with both teams making some lovely passes across every inch of the pitch. Irvine Ladies were soon awarded a penalty corner, but their shot on goal was rebuffed by the strong Arran defence of Cat

Galbraith, Kirstie Barton, Faith McKelvie and Elyse Aitken.

Swiftly back on the attack, Arran's left midfielder, Susie Murchie, ran the ball up the pitch. Her cross was picked up by Hazel who scored Arran's third goal 25 minutes in. Soon after, Arran's right midfielder, Jenny Stark, fired the ball into the 'D' which was stopped on the base line by left wing, Megan McNicol.

Megan's shot was saved by Irvine's keeper, but Lorraine was there to pick up the rebound and, finding the back of the net, she brought the score up to 4-0.

Right before the half-time whistle, Lorraine sneaked in another shot which Irvine managed to block. This failed to deter Arran

and this time it was Susie who successfully picked up the resulting rebound, taking Arran's lead to 5-0 as the half-time whistle blew.

Arran came back into the second half with as much determination as shown in the first. Just two minutes in, Lorraine duped the Irvine keeper to score her hat-trick and Arran's sixth goal.

The following play saw the ball travelling up and down the pitch, with both teams making accurate, swift passes and strong tackles.

Yet again though, Arran Ladies broke through Irvine defence and, finishing a long run up the left wing, Megan fired the ball straight past the keeper, taking the score to 7-0.

Irvine Ladies rallied and

made a break towards the Arran 'D'. A high shot on goal from Irvine unfortunately collided with the head of Arran's sweeper, Cat, so time was paused to allow for assessment and first aid.

As Cat retreated to the sidelines with ice pack in hand, the match resumed, teams now equally matched with 10 players a-piece. Arran relentlessly attacked nonetheless and when Irvine did have chances to break through, Arran's strong defence and fearless keeper proved a match.

Cat bravely returned to the pitch after just five minutes of nursing her head-bump and, encouraged by knowing she was okay, Arran Ladies pressed on up the pitch. A cross from Megan was picked up by

Lorraine, who once again found the back of Irvine's goal.

Not finished yet, Arran's final goal of the match was deflected in by Lorraine following a superb power shot in by left wing Helen Thomson.

Arran were awarded four consecutive penalty corners in the final few minutes of play, but Irvine's defence cleared each one, resulting in a final score of 9-0 to Arran.

The whole team played fantastically well, with Hazel Malakoty being voted dame of the game by Irvine.

Team spirits were understandably high and the ladies returned to the island ready to face their next opponents the following day.

Arran can't break down a resolute opposition defence

Arran Ladies 0
MCCW Ladies 5s 4

Arran Ladies took to the pitch for a second time last weekend, as they faced Milne Craig Clydesdale Western Ladies (MCCW) 5s at home. MCCW began play with a fast attack and, within minutes, were awarded a short corner. The resulting strike was blocked by Arran's centre defence Jenny Stark, but the opposition quickly collected the rebound and found the back

of the goal. Undeterred, the Arran Ladies fought back with midfielders Megan McNicol, Hazel Malakoty and Mia Walker pressing up the pitch, making strong passes to forwards Hannah McCartney, Lorraine Hewie and Helen Thomson.

Arran successfully won a short corner. However, the MCCW defence proved unbeatable.

Back on the attack, MCCW's young players worked in triangle formations to pass the ball

quickly up the pitch. Arran's defence fought strongly against the onslaught and stand-in keeper Rebecca Early saved many shots on goal which were cleared wide by sweeper Freya McNicol, who stood in at the 11th hour for the team despite recovering from tonsillitis. Left defence Elyse Aitken showed great skill, wrong-footing the MCCW forwards and passing the ball fast up the pitch and allowing Arran to regain possession and press another attack.

Executing strong, accurate tackles, MCCW switched play once again, this time managing to find the back of the goal, taking the score to 2-0 with eight minutes left of the half. Responding to the attack, Arran right defence Ellie Wood made a superb arc-run up the pitch until she was deliberately fouled by MCCW's centre forward.

Arran's umpire swiftly dealt with this misconduct and, ignoring the player's disgruntled protestations, issued a green card send-



Dame of the game Ellie Wood outmanoeuvres two MCCW players. 01_B06hockey03

ing her to the sin bin for two minutes – but not before warning her to 'watch her stick and her mouth' or risk the punishment being escalated.

Despite being a player down, MCCW kept up the attack. When their player returned, they quickly found the back of the Arran goal taking the score to 3-0 at half-time.

The Arran Ladies came back out fighting, playing an even more defensive game. Despite many powerful breaks, Arran's forwards just couldn't quite pass through the opposition's final line of defence. Half-way through the half, MCCW's tenacious young players made a run for it yet again and, managing to outpace Arran's defence, wrong-footed the goalie to

score their fourth goal of the match.

As the game was nearing an end, a switch across the back line (putting recent training into practice) from Elyse, to Freya and on to Ellie, saw the play quickly move back into Arran's attacking half. Picking up the ball and approaching the side of the 'D', Helen aimed a fabulous high shot at the top left of the goal. Lorraine successfully got her stick to the ball but MCCW's keeper just managed to get her pad to it to make the save. Arran were awarded a short corner in the final seconds, but sadly MCCW's defence was once again impenetrable and as the final whistle blew the score was 0-4 against Arran.

Despite the final score,

Arran Ladies played a strong, defensive game against MCCW 5s who were, only this year, demoted from the second division. Ellie Wood was awarded dame of the game by MCCW.

The ladies would like to thank all the sideline supporters who cheered them on and also Pauline Reid who forfeits her game-time to umpire every week. A huge thank you is also extended to acting captain, Lorraine, for her invaluable coaching advice and expertise. Finally, the ladies pass on their thanks to the Ormidale Hotel for providing match teas.

Arran Ladies face Stepps 2s at home today (Saturday) with a passback time of 2pm. All support is welcome.



MCCW and Arran player Elyse Aitken tussle for the ball.

SPORT



INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Arran can't break down a resolute opposition defence

The ball's in the air for Civic Pride sports title

Young sports leaders on Arran have been named as finalists in the North Ayrshire Provost's Civic Pride Awards 2018.

The highly-dedicated team of Active Schools Young Leaders deliver more than 20 different sports opportunities a week within Arran High School, giving up their own time to volunteer and actively encourage the students to take part in sport outwith school hours.

Their commendation states: 'Amazingly, up to 90 per cent of the island's p5-p7 pupils enjoy a Monday night sports club.'

But they face competition for the sports award title from the North Ayrshire Athletics Club as well as Kilwinning Academy pupils Abby Crombie and Rachel Gorman, who have also become inspirational leaders in promoting sports at their school.

They are the only Arran entry among the 15 finalists in five categories chosen by Provost Ian Clarkson and his team of judges – Depute Provost Robert Barr and Councillors John Bell, Marie Burns, Scott Davidson, Alex Gallagher and Ellen McMaster – who had the tough task of sifting through an impressive number of entries nominated by the public who will



Young sports leaders on Arran are finalists for the North Ayrshire Provost's Civic Pride Awards.

now have the chance to pick their winners.

Residents can have their say by completing a voting form or by visiting www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/

provostscivicprideawards.com. All votes must be received by Thursday March 8, at noon.

Provost Clarkson said: 'Once again, we have re-

ceived a fantastic number of nominations. The calibre was exceptionally high and the panel had a really tough task to narrow the field down to just three fi-

nalists for each category. Now, it's up to the public to find their winners among all these amazing finalists and I want to wish all of them the very best of luck.'

Each of the shortlisted finalists will join Provost Clarkson at the prestigious awards ceremony at the Portal in Irvine on Friday March 16.

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