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## New £30 million terminal is at your service

SEE PAGES 13-16 FOR MORE  
DETAILS AND PHOTOGRAPHS



# Open for business

## Public get use of ferry terminal at last

The new £30 million Brodick ferry terminal has finally opened its doors with the first passengers docking at the new pier on Tuesday morning.

It was a low-key affair, with owners Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) keen to keep its opening under the radar given the recent lengthy delays.

The first scheduled sailing of the MV Caledonian Isles arrived at the pier from Ardrossan on time at 10.40am and berthed without any hitches sounding her horn as she did so. The 11.05am left just a few minutes late and the sailings for the rest of the day were on time.

A number of CMAL and Caledonian MacBrayne officials had

been anxiously hanging around the terminal and pier ahead of it going live and a small welcome party greeted the passengers off the inaugural ferry to dock, with Morag Pettigrew from Lamlash, the first to disembark, receiving a small gift from Moira Small of CalMac.

The original date for opening of the new terminal was last August and two attempts to have an official opening in October and November were abandoned.

The main contractor for the project, George Leslie Ltd, started work on site in January 2016 with the majority work completed on time last August.

CMAL say that completion of the project was unexpectedly delayed by an issue relating to the automated door closure on the passenger access system (PAS). The project was substantially complete in summer last year, but the PAS failed to receive its CE mark certification and could not be used. The issue has now been resolved and CE mark certification is in place.

The redevelopment project has

Continued on page two



Morag Pettigrew is the first passenger to arrive at the new terminal assisted by port manager Colin McCort. 01\_B12first03

## Arran High among best in Scotland

Arran High School has been named among the top 50 state schools in Scotland.

The percentage of pupils who sat five or more Highers was 52 per cent, the benchmark is 36 per cent, putting it 31st in the league table, compiled annually by *The Herald* newspaper

Arran High finished one place higher than its North Ayrshire neighbour Largs Academy and performed better than other well known Ayrshire schools including Marr College and Kyle Academy.

Head teacher Barry Smith said: 'We are committed to the highest standards of achievement for each and every young person in our care and it is always pleasing to receive recognition for work well done. We are cautious in reading too much into a single year of statistics and we would look to the improving trend in attainment in Arran High School over the past four years as confirmation of the improvements we have made.'

'Our staff, students, par-

Continued on page two



The first ferry prepares to leave the new pier.

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# The new ferry terminal at Brodick finally opens

Continued from page one completely transformed the terminal, delivering a new pier, an increased marshalling area through reclaimed

land and a modern terminal building, with bus stances and parking facilities. It is the single biggest port infrastructure construction project delivered by CMAL.

tion project delivered by CMAL.

Ramsay Muirhead, head of civil engineering, CMAL explained: 'We are delighted that the new terminal is finally open to the public. We thank the local community for their patience and understanding over the past few months while we resolved the issue with the PAS.'

'Ferry passengers now have access to a modern terminal that will provide an improved travel experience and a more resilient ferry service.'

No date has yet been set for when an official opening ceremony will take place.



Passengers waiting to board take a keen interest in the arriving ferry.



First passenger Moira Pettigrew gets her gift from Moira Small of CalMac.

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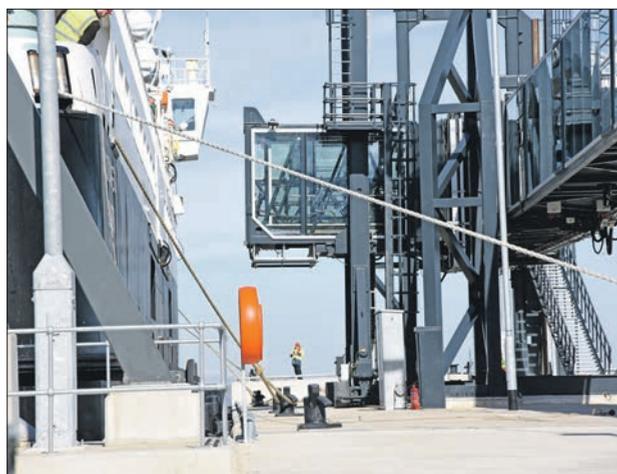
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The automated door system on this part of the passenger access system caused the delay.



Some of the first passengers disembark along the new passenger access system.

## Arran High among best in Scotland

Continued from page one ents, cluster primary schools and our wider community all work in partnership to make the school such a special place.

'Our school is so much more than our examination statistics, although these are a very important part of who we are and what we do, as they 'lay the foundations' for our young people's next steps in life. Our approaches to improvement have focused upon creating leadership opportunities and skills for both young people and staff, as

well as improving Health and Wellbeing for all. We have made significant progress in recent years and I believe there is still much we can do to improve even further.

'I feel very grateful to lead such a caring, committed and motivated group of staff and young people, and to work in partnership with such a supportive community. Our collective drive, energy, enthusiasm and positive attitude will continue to take our school forward in the coming years and ensure that our young

people have access to all of the opportunities they need to make a successful transition into further learning, university, apprenticeships or employment.'

Eight of the top 10 secondaries based on their performance in Higher exams are from Glasgow and surrounding council regions. Jordanhill School, in the city's west end, recorded the highest proportion of pupils achieving five or more Highers by the time they left school with 81 per cent achieving the benchmark.

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# The pride of the provost

Young sports leaders at Arran High School lifted the top award last Friday night at the Provost's Civic Pride Awards 2018 in Irvine.

Disappointment turned to joy for the Arran pupils after they initially lost out on the sports award they were nominated for, losing out to North Ayrshire Athletics Club. But all that was forgotten when they picked up the final prize of the night chosen by Provost Ian Clarkson himself.

The annual event – held for the first time ever in the Portal, Irvine – was a celebration of the outstanding talent and generous community spirit which exists throughout North Ayrshire.

After weeks of public voting – with 10,000 votes being cast – Provost Clarkson had the honour of revealing the winners of each category before ending the night by announcing the winner of his own special Provost's Award to the guests.

The provost said: 'It's

been a fantastic night to celebrate our amazing finalists and a wonderful tribute to their hard work and dedication.

'Sometimes, the work of those who enrich our communities can go unnoticed so it is a pleasure to be able to shine a light on their efforts and honour their work.

'We are fortunate to have so many wonderful people whose dedication and enthusiasm have had a positive impact on the lives of local people. Everyone who has been involved in the civic pride awards – including the winners, finalists and nominees – should be very proud of their achievements.'

Arran High students Megan McNicol and Ellie Wood picked up the trophy for the Active Schools young leaders. Megan said: 'We were quite shocked that we won because we didn't win our section but it's so nice that we've been recognised by the provost for what we do.

'It was a big surprise and we would like to thank our ex-coordinator Archie McNicol who did a lot of work with us over the last few years and our new sports co-ordinator Andrew Brisco is helping to carry it on, and all the other young sports leaders as well.'

This year's charity dinner also helped to raise more than £17,000 for two worthy charities - Cash for Kids and The Ayrshire Hospice. Since the awards first launched eight years ago, the fundraising total has now smashed through the £150,000 barrier for great causes.

Among the other winners on the night, the North Ayrshire citizen of the year award was won by Ryan Moir of the Largs Youth Theatre, who also picked up the arts and culture award. The young Citizen of the year was Ellie Hannah who is a young ambassador at Irvine's Greenwood Academy.



Provost Ian Clarkson presents the trophy to Megan McNicol and Ellie Wood of Arran Active Schools young leaders.



The provost chats the Ellie and Megan as head teacher Barry Smith looks on.



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# Arran are winner

## Visit Arran

VisitArran has been crowned the best in Scotland for its work in promoting the island as a must-visit destination at the 25th Scottish Thistle Awards national final – Scottish tourism's equivalent of the Oscars.

The destination marketing organisation picked up the Working Together for Tourism award at a ceremony which took place at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre last Thursday. In all 16 individuals, businesses and events were honoured for their innovation, excellence and success in the hospitality and tourism sector.

### Extra mile

The 2017/2018 Scottish Thistle Awards national final, in association with Fishers, celebrated its 25th anniversary this year. The awards recognise innovation, excellence and success in the hospitality and tourism industry – rewarding hotels, restaurants, B&Bs, visitor attractions, events and individuals who go that extra mile to provide customers with exceptional service.

Thistle judges commended VisitArran on its 'strong working ethos' and creative partnership working. They were particularly impressed by the organisation's innovative collaboration in launching the Arran Card in 2017 that visitors can use in 50 businesses across the island.

Chief executive Sheila Gilmore said: 'VisitArran is honoured and absolutely delighted to receive this national Scottish Thistle Award for Working Together for Tourism. VisitArran is committed to partnership working across



Sheila Gilmore and Kenny Bone of VisitArran collect their award from host Sanjeev Kohli, left, and host Jennifer Reoch. Photo Chris Watt

all sectors – public, private and community. On Arran, tourism really is everyone's business, and VisitArran gratefully receives this award for our island as a whole - huge thanks to all involved with the Thistles for this incredible accolade.'

Rebecca Brooks, chairwoman of the awards industry panel and VisitScotland board member, said: 'The Scottish Thistle Awards are Scotland's premier awards for the tourism industry and for 25 wonderful years they have been shining a spotlight on success, innovation and excellence.'

'Congratulations to all of our national winners of the 2017/18 awards. We are delighted to celebrate with them during this milestone year. They represent the best of Scottish tourism and epitomise the strength and depth of the sector which continues to innovate and excel in giving visitors a high quality ex-

perience. Tourism is more than a holiday experience – it creates jobs and sustains communities. The Scottish Thistle Awards lets us recognise the unsung heroes of our industry who show real dedication and enthusiasm for Scotland's tourism industry.'

This year saw a record-breaking 750 entries to the competition. Still Game and River City star Sanjeev Kohli co-hosted the evening with STV presenter and former Miss Scotland, Jennifer Reoch.

Entertainment was provided by ventriloquist and comedian Paul Zerdin, winner of America's Got Talent 2015, and Hannah Rarity, BBC Radio Scotland young traditional musician of the year 2018.

## Arran Youth Foundations

Local charity Arran Youth Foundations has won another accolade for work its

work around mental health.

Having won awards at YouthLink Scotland's annual awards night in 2017, AYF's youth workers Graeme Johnston and Hollie Watkins again saw their work recognised by the judging panel who said it was 'proof that living on an island doesn't equal isolation'.

The award, a new category to mark the Year of Young People, is sponsored by Mental Health Foundation Scotland and NHS Health Scotland and the Arran charity made it down to the final shortlist of three after being nominated by one of the group's young people.

They received their award at a ceremony held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Glasgow last Thursday.

Trustee and secretary of the AYF Helen Kerr said the charity was 'delighted' with the award for Mental Health and Wellbeing and praised the efforts of Graeme and Hollie.

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Stephen Leckie, chief executive of

'It is a well-deserved award for our two amazing employees who were also awarded youth worker and part-time youth worker of the year award in 2017 and have such a heart for working with the young people on Arran to help them develop into happy and healthy young people,' she said.

'Over the past two years, rising to the perceived needs of the young people themselves they have developed several weekly sessions working towards better health and wellbeing including a running club, LGBT+ club, guitar les-

sons and art therapy sessions. They have both been on counselling courses and are such a blessing for the young people on Arran,' she added.

Graeme said: 'We're absolutely delighted to win in such an important category, for something that means so much to us.

'We really want to help Arran's young people become more resilient and do everything we can to support them to reach their full potential.

### Benefit

'If any youngster feels they could benefit from some support, even if it's just having someone to talk to confidentially, please come and see us.

'Our groups are open to anyone and everything is free of charge.'

Deputy first minister John Swinney, who hosted the YouthLink Scotland awards said: 'It is vital that all of Scotland's children and young people have a fair chance to flourish.

'Youth work makes a significant contribution to this: put simply, it helps change lives.

'I am always humbled by stories from young people and practitioners which demonstrate the real life impact of youth work.'

CEO of YouthLink Scotland Jim Sweeney MBE said: 'This is Year of Young People and the

Awards are all about celebrating Scotland's 80,000 youth workers who support, nurture and inspire more than 400,000 Scottish young people every year. Arran Youth Foundations is an incredible illustration of youth work that literally changes lives. In every part of Scotland, every day, thousands of youth workers, many of them volunteers, are supporting young people to follow their dreams and realise their potential.'

It has been a successful year for the organisation, which also scooped trophies at the Arran Community Voluntary Services volunteer awards - with founder Helen Kerr winning Community Champion 2017 and young volunteer Abbie Jackson lifting Young Volunteer of the Year.

This latest award win is recognition of the work that AYF's youth work team do to help youngsters around the island with their mental health and wellbeing - supporting LGBT+ youths through weekly activities and counselling many other young people to help combat depression, self-harm, grief, stress and a wide range of other issues. The youth workers often make referrals to other services such as CAMHS, GPs, Penumbra and school counselling.



Leaders Hollie Watkins and Graeme Johnston and AYF committee member Jackie Stewart who helped nominate them, with their trophy for their mental health work.

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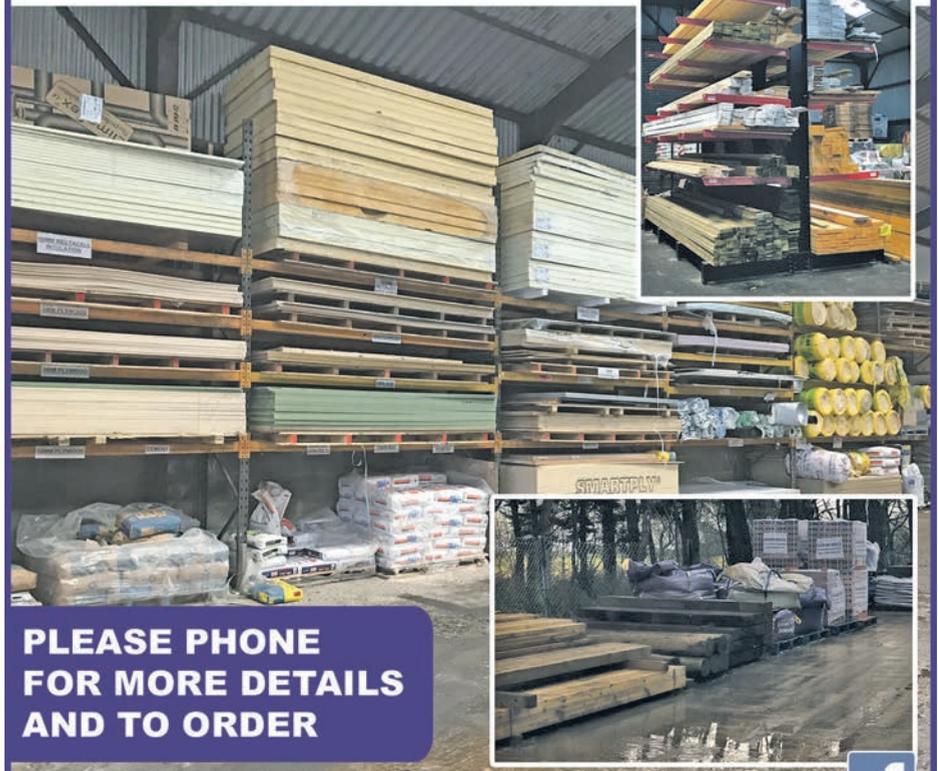


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## Boguillie remains shut for roadwork

The Boguillie will remain closed next week due to the roadworks not being completed on time.

The main A841 Lochranza road has been closed for two months to allow for carriageway improvements at the Witches Bridge

However a roads official at North Ayrshire Council said: 'Unfortunately we have been notified by our contractor that due to the current bad weather and restrictions with the space allowed for material lorries on the ferry, the A841 resurfacing works will now not be completed until next week.

'I will therefore have to extend the existing road closure until 4.30pm on Thursday March 29. However the road will be completely opened for Easter.'

The road has been closed between the Ballarie Bridge and North Sannox Bridge between 9.15am and 4.30pm since January 29 to allow for the road improvements at the Witches Bridge which is an accident blackspot.

# Stomping start to the music festival

The 89th Isle of Arran Music Festival started off on the right foot on Wednesday with a healthy turnout for the Scottish country dancing category.

The festival which returned to Whiting Bay Hall this year continued throughout the week and culminated in a concert yesterday (Friday) which

included the musical categories and performances of individuals as well as ensembles.

Adjudicated by Eric Findlay in the Scottish country dancing categories, Arran's own Heather Gough adjudicated the speech and drama categories while Lesley Wilson oversaw the vocal and in-



Mixed age Brodick Primary pupils dance to the Edinburgh Toy Shop which earned them the Jean Marriott Trophy.



Shiskine Primary School P1 to P3 pupils receive the first trophy of the festival from adjudicator Eric Findlay in the junior Scottish country dancing category.

strumental categories. And as a usual fixture, Lorna Buchanan-Hollingworth was the official accompanist.

Certificates were award-

ed to all participants in the festival and a host of trophies were presented for each category.

Cash awards are also awarded to first place and

runner up positions for the junior categories.

For a full report of the Isle of Arran Music Festival see next week's edition of the *Banner*.

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# Young folk duo award hopefuls play Lamlash

An up-and-coming band, who have been nominated in the BBC Radio 2 folk awards, are playing on Arran next month.

Young folk duo The Drystones are bringing their unexpectedly big sound to Lamlash on the Scottish leg of their We Happy Few album tour.

Ford Collier and Alex Garden, both 21, will set off on tour immediately after attending the BBC Radio 2 folk awards 2018 in Belfast on April 4, where they are one of just four UK acts nominated for the prestigious young folk award.

After an initial round of gigs in the south of England they head north and

will play at the Pierhead Tavern in Lamlash on Sunday April 15 at 4pm.

Ford said: 'We're looking forward hugely to playing on the beautiful Isle of Arran. It's The Drystones' first Scottish trip and I'm having to keep a lid on Alex's excitement - his family are from Scotland and he heads north of the border every summer but we've never performed there. We Happy Few was featured on BBC Radio nan Gaidheal as an album of the week and now we can't wait to play live on Scottish soil.'

With Alex on fiddle and Ford on whistle and guitar the duo are able to navigate different traditions, intro-



Ford Collier, left, and Alex Garden are The Drystones who will be playing in Lamlash next month.

2017 and the track, My Son John, went on to become part of British Airways' in-flight entertainment.

Based in the Somerset village of Priddy, The Drystones have been performing since they were 15 and have played at major festivals across the country. At the 2013 Glastonbury Festival they were Steve Lamacq's 'recommendation of the day', they won the 2015 Larmer Tree breakthrough music award and have supported folk legends such as Steeleye Span and Seth Lakeman.

They face competition from Jack Warnock, Josiah & Ludwig and Mera Royle to lift the young folk award.

duce instantaneous changes of pace and stitch together tunes and songs into an eclectic live set. The Drystones' seemingly telepathic communication has always kept audiences on their toes.

The Drystones' tour is promoting their latest album, We Happy Few, which was a Songlines magazine top of the world album selection in October

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## Editorial

### Winning ways

For a small island there can be no doubt that Arran punches above its weight.

This week no fewer than three groups proved they are winners all the way – and for a diverse range of achievements.

Firstly we must congratulate the young sports coaches at Arran High School who impressed Provost Ian Clarkson so much when he visited the Active Schools project last month that he gave them the top award at the North Ayrshire wide Civic Pride Awards.

The Arran Youth Foundations has also been back among the awards this time for their dedicated work around mental health. The AYF do a great job organising events and activities for youngsters on the island.

Then there is VisitArran. They have won so many accolades that there could easily be a complacency that if they turn up they will win, but that could not be further from the truth.

For as other destination organisations get their house in order VisitArran have to try ever harder every year to get people to come here – and they are doing a fine job.

So a good week then for Arran and, oh, the ferry terminal is open. Hooray!

#### Thought for the Week

'My son, do not let wisdom and understanding out of your sight, preserve sound judgment and discretion; they will be life for you, an ornament to grace your neck. Then you will go on your way in safety, and your foot will not stumble.' Proverbs 3:21

### Harbour suitability

Sir  
I was neither surprised nor shocked to read in last week's Banner that in simulated trials the Glen Sannox will be more likely to be cancelled due to bad weather than the Caledonian Isles is at present unless the entrance to Ardrossan harbour is changed.

During the long discussions last year I wrote several times to my MSP urging him to be extremely firm with Peel Ports in order to get a guarantee that they would improve the Ardrossan harbour approach to a state that it could take large ferries in bad weather. He told me not to worry. The new vessel would have so much power and thrust that it could overcome all the problems.

Now I hear that a chunk of the hull of Glen Sannox will have to be re-designed and even then the new boat, as a result of the unsuitability of Ardrossan, will not be able to dock in bad weather.

I have no axes to grind other than the fact that I am an Arran resident who depends on a reliable service as do 5,000 others, but I must say that the Save Our Ferry campaign was really a Save Ardrossan campaign. The relative merits of harbours did not come into the argument as far as our politicians were concerned. The decision for Ardrossan was a political one.

I would just say to all politicians, local and national – we in Arran expect a reliable ferry service. If this requires a very expensive upgrade of Ardrossan harbour, we expect this to be done. If it cannot be done because it will bankrupt Peel Ports, then we must

revisit the possibility of changing the mainland harbour.

Yours,  
**John Cruickshank**  
Whiting Bay

### Banner appreciation

Sir,  
The *Arran Banner* is simply the best. Factually the respected ABC – Audit Bureau of Circulation awarded the *Banner* a top accolade of increasing the circulation of the island's dedicated newspaper in a world where newsprint media regularly see 10 per cent annual readership falls. Not so the *Banner*: it goes from strength to stronger.

But more than that, the *Arran Banner* is the best because it keeps islanders at home, and ex-pats abroad, up-to-date with genuine local news. As a lifelong reader, whenever it is *Arran Banner* day, a pulse of enjoyment beats this way. No matter where in the world, or at home, it is an unfailing treat to make a cup of tea and settle down with the latest *Arran Banner*. A big thank you to the team who have kept this brilliant island treasure going for so many decades.

Yours,  
**Russ McLean**  
Dundee

### Arran Skinnymalinks

Sir,  
Through your letters pages, I'd like to thank all of the Arran Skinnymalinks participating in our 'Roll away for Easter' 2018 campaign.

Over the past nine weeks the Skinnymalinks have been faithfully weighing in at Lamlash, Brodick and Shiskine churches with several silver and even one gold star awarded. Well

done! The wonderful news is that £630 has been donated to Mary's Meals which is enough to feed 45 children for a whole school year.

Happy Easter!  
Yours,  
**Alison Page**  
Mary's Meals  
Ambassador

### Whisky and waste

Sir,  
In the *Arran Banner* of February 24 the front page headlines read: 'Early chance to bag first taste of Lagg. Arran Distillery Ltd hopes to raise £4.2million boost from whisky sale' and residents of Arran are encouraged to purchase casks at £6,000 each of heavily malted malt whisky from the new distillery.

At the very same time the distillery is going ahead with the construction of a pipe into Kilbrannan Sound, north of Thunderguy and Lennimore, so it can empty all its untreated effluent twice daily into this pristine marine environment. No pollution control, no resource recovery.

This is a National Scenic Area, so who thought this was a good idea? The distillery is annexing Arran's natural beauty in pursuit of greater profit, their gain is everyone on Arran's loss and sums up the powers of those who allowed this to happen at all levels from SEPA, North Ayrshire Council to Arran Community Council and others who did not object to the planning application or licence application. Their environmental policy, can be summed up in two words, FOR SALE.

Scotland's natural environment is now a commodity to be sold to the highest bidder, it is the beginning

of the 'Enclosures' all over again and this loss that will not be reversed. The commons of the sea are for sale. Next will be more applications for increased biomass in older and new salmon farms. This sets a precedent.

So next time you drink Isle of Arran whisky, take a short time to remember the untreated waste being spread in the inshore marine sea around the beautiful island in a National Scenic area and you are ultimately responsible for it as it is you it is being done for. Try not to choke on it.

If you want to see a better alternative take a trip down the coast to Girvan and visit Grant's.

Yours,  
**Sally Campbell**  
Lamlash

### Fundraiser Corey

Sir,  
I would like to thank everyone who supported my son Corey Bunyan on raising money for Brodick Nursery. Corey raised £400 which will be used for the nursery trip this year. Well done to Donna Brown who was the winner of the nursery competition.

Yours,  
**Nicole Bunyan**  
Brodick



**Corey Bunyan presents Donna Brown with her prize from his fundraising competition.**

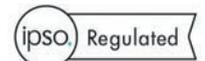
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## Press policy

At The Arran Banner, we endeavour to ensure all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO).

However, we realise 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; telephoning the chief reporter on 01770 302142 or write to the Group Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB. We will try to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter.

You can call IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body that deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

THE EDITOR welcomes letters for publication on this page. The Editor reserves the right to shorten, amend or to refuse to print them. Names and addresses MUST be supplied to indicate good faith, although these details can be withheld from publication. Telephone numbers, if available, should also be included. Anonymous letters will not be considered. Please write to: Letters, The Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ. Fax: (01770) 302021. Email editor@arranbanner.co.uk  
Emailed letters can only be considered if they have a name, full address and phone number.

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# Funds help elderly enjoy learning and laughter

Residents of the Glen Estate sheltered housing in Brodick are reaping the benefits of a full programme of activities after a funding boost of £10,000 from the National Lottery Awards for All.

The 15 residents and visitors have been taking full advantage of the learning and laughter programme which has already seen a host of guest speakers, performers and island characters visiting the housing complex.

The programme includes a host of classes as well as one-off talks which have so far included the Arran Mountain Rescue Team and a horticultural talk with gardener Colin Totty.

## Concert

Scheduled for Wednesdays, which are lectures and concert days, Fiona Laing of the Arran Defibrillator Project will be visiting on Wednesday March

28. Future visits include the RNLI, musicians such as the Arran Jazz Band and Mike Bailey and a host of other local figures.

## Technology

Tuesdays are technology days where, already in full swing in its eighth week, Duan Bruce has been teaching a group of residents computer skills which they have been putting to good use by using email, social media and, for some, learning new language skills – and for at least one resident, playing computer games.

Fridays at 11.30am are reserved for Tai Chi while Thursdays are the popular Lingo Flamingo classes which teach residents Spanish in a programme that tackles dementia through language.

Taking advance of the new sensory garden created in the memory of past



Glen Estate residents and visitors learn computer and internet skills from tutor Duan Bruce who visits once a week.

residents, Betty Cover and Jenifer Faulkner, residents are also able to get out into the garden and enjoy the pleasant surrounds while also taking part in gardening activities.

All of the events, talks and shows are open to the elderly living in Glen Estate and in the surrounding community.

## Easter pharmacy opening times

With GP practices closed for an extra day on Monday April 2, Arran residents are being urged to make sure that they have sufficient medication and to be prepared to cope with any common health concerns.

## Normal

On Friday March 30, Good Friday, all Arran pharmacies will be open as normal.

On Saturday March 31, Arran Pharmacy in Whiting Bay will be closed but Brodick will remain open from 9am to 1pm.

On Monday April 2, the pharmacy in Lamlash will be open from 9am to 4pm, the Whiting Bay pharmacy will be open from 11am to 3pm and Brodick Pharmacy from 9am to 4pm.

## Arran Art Trail

Following a successful first year the Arran Art Trail, the 2018-19 guide brochure will be available from Easter at various outlets throughout the island.

With 17 studios including textiles, painting, ceramics, wood turning, jewellery, furniture making and photography, the trail allows visitors and local people the opportunity to visit artists and crafts people in their studios.

The guide will be available throughout the island, including on the ferry, at the library and the iCentre at Brodick Pier.

## Council meets

The next meeting of the Arran community council will take place on Tuesday March 27, at 6pm at the Lamlash Golf Club.

The change of venue is owing to the Ormidale Pavilion being booked for another event. The meetings are open to the public who can have a voice through the chair, but cannot vote.

## Important new information on Government support for Central Heating Systems:

### UPDATE NOV 2017

#### FACT 1

If you have electric storage heaters, an oil, electric or LPG boiler the Government will pay you up to £11680\* to change over to an air source heat pump system which is more efficient, can be less costly to run and is kinder to the environment.

#### FACT 2

The Scheme called The Renewable Heat Incentive is available for home owners, landlords and businesses.

#### FACT 3

The Scottish Government in their Climate Plan 2017 have identified air source heat pumps as one of their favoured ways to reduce our carbon footprint.

Want to find out more and see how much you could reduce your energy costs by?

Simply give us a ring today and speak to one of our friendly, fully qualified Domestic Energy Assessors. We are an award winning specialised installer of the Mitsubishi Ecodan range of air source heat pumps throughout Scotland.

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\*The amount of assistance you will get is calculated from the figures shown in an Energy Performance Certificate for your property and based on 10.13p per kilowatt of heat produced by the heat pump



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Looking for people proficient in either Spanish, French, Italian or German to help set up and teach an award winning LingoFlamingo programme on Arran working with older people to help prevent dementia and just plain have a good time.

Training in the system is on-line via the Open University, free of charge  
More information phone Glen Estate 01770 302716  
or email Lynn Ross: lynn@lynngrayross.co.uk

# Brodick Co-op unveils

The Co-op is set to serve-up its new-look store in Brodick, following a landmark £1 million overhaul.

Launching today (Friday) the revamped Co-operative Food store will offer a wide range of fresh, healthy foods, hot food, meal ideas, award winning wines and essentials along with an in-store bakery and self-service tills to improve service times.

The two-month makeover, much of which was carried out overnight to avoid disruption to shoppers, has also seen the

installation of five long-belt checkouts, walls of efficient chillers and coolers and a brand new heating system. There is also a new community room.

Members of the emergency services will cut the ribbon to mark the completion to works at the reopening ceremony which will also have lots of other attractions.

The new store will also bring a funding boost to local good causes – including Arran Mountain Rescue Team, Feis Arainn and Riding for Disabled Arran group – through

the Co-op's Membership scheme. Members receive a five per cent reward when buying own-branded products, and the Co-op donates a further one per cent to local good causes.

Further local good causes, charities and community groups can now apply to benefit from the Co-op's Community Fund. Applications are invited from the area up until April 8.

Liz McLean, store manager, said: 'We are delighted to be

**McCain**  
The Home Chip  
STRAIGHT

£1.95

**co op**  
Baked Beans

32p

45p

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**For 100s of everyday low prices,**

**co op**

**Brodick Co-op, 2 Shore Street, Brodick KA27 8AG.**  
**Opening times: Monday - Sunday 6am - 10pm**

McCain Straight Cut Home Chips 900g. Equivalent to £2.17 per kg. Co-op Baked Beans in Tomato Sauce 410g. Equivalent to 78.0p per kg. Co-op Whole Cucumber, 45.0p each. See participating stores for details. Subject to availability. Varieties as stocked. Prices correct at time of going to print 19/03/18.



The new sign outside the Brodick Co-op store.



Store manager Liz McLean and staff are ready to welcome customers.

# £1 million overhaul

undertaking such a significant investment in Brodick and we're confident that the improvements will help us to better serve the community. It's an exciting time for the whole team.'

Alan Campbell, regional manager, said: 'The Co-op is moving forward with a clear purpose and momentum. Our ambition is to ensure the store is a local hub, a real asset for the community.'

'We also want shoppers to know that they can become a

co-owner and member of their Co-op. Our members make a difference locally and simply by swiping their membership card when they shop with us they are raising much-needed funding for organisations in their area which contribute to improving local life.'

There are offers and promotions in and around the store to mark its launch and the community retailer also offers a 10 per cent discount to students on the Isle of Arran holding a Young Scot card.

The Co-op – which won the title of convenience retailer of the year at last year's Retail Industry Awards – last month unveiled a £50million price investment programme to cut the cost of everyday essentials including fruit, vegetables, bread, fresh meat and ready meals, as well as household brand names.

Further information about the benefits of Co-op membership and, its Local Community Fund, is available by visiting: <http://www.coop.co.uk/membership/>



ers to the new look store.

56p

£1.05

£2.09

**EVERYDAY LOW PRICES**

pop into your new look  
**Brodick Co-op**

**co op**

Brodick Co-op, 2 Shore Street, Brodick KA27 8AG.  
Opening times: Monday - Sunday 6am - 10pm

Co-op Spaghetti 500g. Equivalent to £1.12 per kg. Warburtons Toastie White Bread 800g. Equivalent to 13.1p per 100g. Co-op Unsmoked Rindless Back Bacon 300g. Equivalent to £6.97 per kg. See participating stores for details. Subject to availability. Varieties as stocked. Prices correct at time of going to print 19/03/18.

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Paul poses for a photograph with Kate in the snug at The Douglas Hotel. Photo Hugh Boag

# Paul pottering on the island

You never know who you might bump into on Arran and last week was no exception.

Opera singer Paul Potts was an unexpected arrival at The Douglas Hotel last week. He arrived with a group of friends who have been coming to the island

for 20 years. The group from Ambleside in the Lake District, led by Mike Durkin, make an annual pilgrimage to Arran and invited Paul along at the last minute when someone dropped out. He has a holiday home in Ambleside.

The hotel's Kate Russell

said: 'Mike didn't tell us who the replacement was so it was a huge surprise when Paul walked in the door, but he was a delightful man.'

For the *Britain's Got Talent* winner it was his first visit to the island. It is 10 years since Paul won the

first series of the ITV talent show. He recently released *On Stage*, his fifth studio album, which is a collection of songs that have either inspired or been performed by Paul in leading roles – from Broadway to the West End. He leaves shortly to tour Australia.

## Auchrannie to pay staff the real living wage

Auchrannie Resort has announced that it will become a real living wage accredited employer in a move which will see it becoming one of only two hotels in Scotland to make this commitment.

From the start of April, Auchrannie will pay all un-promoted staff, aged 18 or over, the real living wage of £8.75 per hour which exceeds the national living wage of £7.83, which applies only to those aged 25 and over.

The Auchrannie has introduced this change after setting efficiency targets and as a result of the collective efforts of the whole team, they have been able to significantly improve profitability through decreasing costs and wages.

Although the savings do not pay for the wage increases entirely, the

company is confident it will see additional benefits and joins the 93 per cent of living wage employers who have seen benefits. These include improved employee retention, improved reputation and better working relationships between management and the rest of the team.

### Foundation for success

Auchrannie believes that the team on the shop floor are the foundation for success and has therefore made this commitment to ensure that everyone takes home a fair pay for a fair days work. The other hotel which has signed up is the Scalloway Hotel in Shetland.

Managing director Linda Johnston said: 'We are delighted to be able to make this commitment. When combined with Auchrannie's recent initiative in becoming Scotland's first

employee owned hotel, this places Auchrannie in a very strong position to encourage young people to make a career in the hospitality industry and helps us to attract the best people.

'In addition, we are confident that the collective efforts of our fantastic team will continue to strengthen Auchrannie's customer care and community focus as well as improving the sustainability of the business going forward.'

The Living Wage Foundation which has been campaigning since 2004 for a wage rate based on living costs, is entirely voluntary and is calculated according to the cost of living based on household goods and services. Other living wage employers on Arran include North Ayrshire Council run organisations, Arranshand, Arran Active, VisitArran and CalMac.

# New £30 million terminal is at your service

The exterior of the new 'green' ferry terminal. 01\_B12feature01



First passengers gather in the spacious waiting room.

01\_B12feature02



A ferry berthing at the new pier. 01\_B12feature08

The new £30 million Brodick ferry terminal and pier is open for business ready to serve the island and the thousands of visitors who will visit in the months and years ahead.

The new building, which took more than two years to build, has serious green credentials and has been designed and constructed to be as energy efficient as possible during day to day operations.

Built by main contractor George Leslie Ltd for owners Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL), it is operated by Caledonian MacBrayne. The spacious new airport-like terminal building is a far cry from the present ticket office and link-span. Downstairs is a spacious ticket and information desk, public toilets and specially adapted disabled toilets as well as the CalMac staff facilities.

Up a flight for stairs or using one of the two 13 person lifts is the bright and spacious passenger lounge with fine views across Brodick Bay. The total length of passenger access system (PAS) from the new terminal building exit point to ferry boarding point is 148.5 metres, including the final cabin connection to the vessel.

Built on reclaimed land the new facilities at the terminal include a new larger marshalling area, an extended car park, with a dedicated drop-off area, and an enlarged bus terminus.

Leading the energy efficiency is a biomass boiler, which is fuelled from a local source, providing a low carbon heating and water supply, with electricity consumption being off-set by a system of rooftop photovoltaic panels. The Building Management System (BMS) enables real time analysis of energy and water consumption, along with logging historical data to allow continual monitoring and adjustment of the building performance.

Natural ventilation is the predominant

means of providing fresh air and cooling to the building. To further minimise energy consumption, energy efficient fittings and automatic lighting control are used throughout, together with water efficient fittings to reduce the overall building's carbon footprint.

Overall the development has also been certified to a BREEAM, (Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method) standard, achieving a rating of 'very good'.

The redevelopment project at Brodick Ferry Terminal was led by CMAL, with support from Transport Scotland, North Ayrshire Council, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and Coastal Communities Fund.



Visitors to Arran will now arrive at the island's new £30 million Brodick Ferry Terminal.

Ferry operator CalMac has taken over operations from owner Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited (CMAL) and the first passengers have now experienced the new state of the art facility.

The redevelopment project has completely transformed the terminal, delivering a new pier, an increased marshalling area through reclaimed land and a modern terminal building, with bus stances and parking facilities.

CalMac's Brodick port manager, Colin

McCort said: 'Arran is one of our most popular destinations with nearly 850,000 people making the trip last year. This new facility will make their experience of travelling with CalMac

even more enjoyable with greatly enhanced retail and catering facilities to help

people make the most of their time when leaving or arriving on the island.' 'We are all really looking forward to welcoming visitors over the coming months.'

The redevelopment project at Brodick Ferry Terminal was led by CMAL, with support from Transport Scotland, North Ayrshire Council, Strathclyde Partnership for Transport and Coastal Communities Fund.



## George Leslie Ltd brings Brodick Ferry Terminal to Arran community

GEORGE LESLIE LTD had a number of challenges to overcome when it won the tender in November 2015 to redevelop Brodick Ferry Terminal.

Apart from being one of the highest value public contracts for an island in Scotland at around £30 million and the biggest single-handed project George Leslie had undertaken, the work had to be undertaken in one of the busiest passenger ferry ports in Scotland.

'A lot of thought, before we even started on site, went into how we were going to manage it,' said Neil Doherty, contracts director in charge of projects.

'Ferry operations had to go on unhindered throughout the construction – and they did.'

This was achieved by breaking the project down into five phases, with each one being completed before moving on to the next.

A large amount of dredging was required for the terminal, port and shore works and rather than shipping off and dumping tonnes of material, it was re-engineered to be used as general fill.

Mr Doherty said: 'Because of the constraints in disposing of material we thought, "how can we do it better?" Some work had to be done to make it suitable to be re-used but it is a lesson learned for future projects.'

While Arran's John Thomson Construction Ltd supplied the majority of aggregate and all the concrete, the final layer of rock armour along the

shore front had to be brought in by vessel from Bonawe Quarry, near Oban, because the Arran rock was not dense enough for requirements.

Around 22,000 tonnes had to be shipped in 1,000-tonne loads.

'In order to get it on to the island we had to build a temporary pier. There was nowhere on the island suitable for offloading,' explained Mr Doherty.

At peak construction there was around 100 staff on site, 60 directly employed by George Leslie and 40 sub-contractors from local sources, with around 60 per cent of all staff staying on the island, providing welcome business for island accommodation providers.

Other island businesses have benefited by providing goods and services including carpentry, temporary lighting, haulage, carpets and smaller items like screws, nuts, bolts etc.

'We have had a huge amount of feedback from islanders, from people chatting to workmen day-to-day through the fence to local organisations visiting,' said Mr Doherty.

These included site visits from Brodick Primary School and Arran High School pupils, Visit Arran, Arran community groups and Arran Ferry Committee.

The company also offered placements to civil engineering students from the island during the summers and one graduate is now working full time for George Leslie.

'We have most certainly enjoyed our time on Arran,' said Mr Doherty, 'and I would like to thank the islanders for their co-operation and hospitality and help in building the ferry terminal.'

'We hope that we have given something back as we aim to make a positive contribution in the communities where we work.'



The frame of the new ferry terminal under construction 01\_B12feature04



Land is reclaimed for the new ferry terminal. 01\_B12feature06

## Arran joinery firm adds finishing touches to ferry terminal

### Neil Young Joinery and Building Contractors

WITH a reputation for high quality joinery and building work around Arran, Neil Young Joinery and Building Contractors was a natural choice for the finishing touches on the new Brodick Ferry Terminal.

Run by husband and wife team Neil and Sarah Jane, the company, which employs five staff, is experienced in all aspects of joinery and building projects having worked on a range of contracts across the Island.

The business was approached in the summer by George Leslie Ltd to do the joinery snagging work and ironmongery around the terminal.

This included ensuring doors were fitted correctly, finishes were properly done and tidying up any loose ends.

During the fitting of the passenger access bridge,

the Arran building firm also hired out its telescopic handler machinery and an operator to contractors ADELTE.

While more used to constructing homes and conservatories, replacing windows and fitting kitchens and other building work around the Island, the contract on the ferry terminal was a welcome change for the company, which was on site with four employees from August of 2017 until completion in March 2018.

'George Leslie Ltd and ADELTE were excellent contractors to work for,' said Neil. 'We appreciated the opportunity to be involved in the building of Brodick Ferry Terminal.'





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www.georgeleslie.co.uk



George Leslie Ltd ...working on Arran



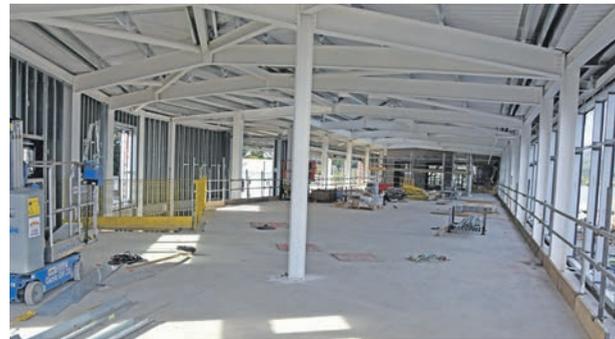


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**Piling work goes on as the new pier takes shape.**

01\_B12feature09



**The first look inside the new passenger lounge.**

01\_B12feature10



**The terminal building taking shape.** 01\_A41terminal10



**The foundations for the new pier are built.** 01\_B12feature05

## Ferry terminal built using Arran stone

**John Thomson Construction Ltd, Arran**

JOHN Thomson Construction Ltd of Arran has been involved with the redevelopment of Brodict Ferry Terminal from the start, in January 2016.

As a construction, engineering and quarrying company with more than 60 years' experience on the Island, John Thomson Construction was an obvious fit with the project, supplying more than 35,000 tonnes of quarry materials to main contractor George Leslie Ltd.

Hardcore material quarried from the company's Dereneeach Quarry on the String Road, near Shiskine, meant there was no need to ferry in thousands of tonnes of aggregate by sea at

huge extra cost to Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL), the over-all client.

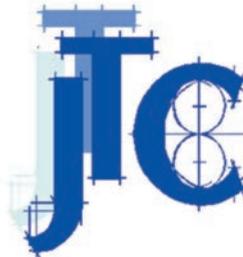
The ability to produce materials and different grades to order ensured flexibility during the different stages of the project.

John Thomson Construction's concrete plant in Market Road, Brodict allowed an efficient and local supply of 11,000 cubic metres of concrete to the new ferry terminal.

The contract provided a boost to the Island's economy and allowed John Thomson Construction to take on more island employees to add to its usual complement of 30-40 staff.

Managing director Iain Thomson said: 'The contract was a very welcome boost to the Island and created a lot of extra employment for Islanders.'

'George Leslie Ltd were an excellent company to work with and we'd welcome the opportunity to work with them again.'



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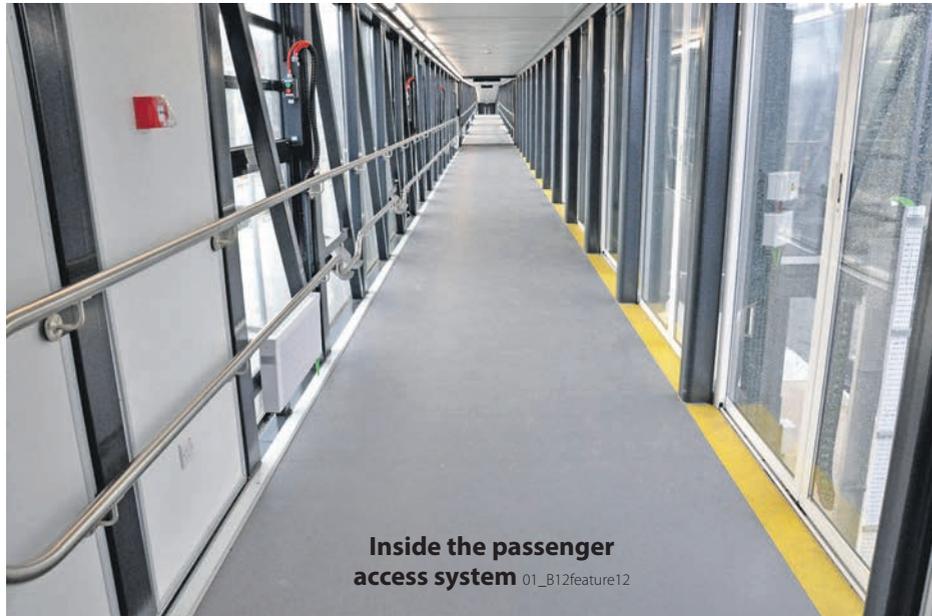
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Inside the passenger access system 01\_B12feature12

Below: The moveable passenger access system which links the terminal to the ferry. 01\_B12feature14



The automated passenger access system moves with the tide to attach to the side of the ferry. 01\_B12feature13

## ADELTE reaches out to island ferries

### ADELTE – The Boarding Company

BARCELONA-based ADELTE is no stranger to Scotland, having worked on two previous projects in the Highlands.

Indeed, the company which built and installed the new Brodick Ferry Terminal's passenger access bridge has a global reputation and outlook.

ADELTE worked in 2014 with Caledonian MacBrayne Assets Limited (CMAL) on a passenger access bridge in Ullapool – and on another

vessel access bridge in Stornoway with a private contractor.

While the company has constructed passenger access bridges at ports and airports across Europe, America, the Middle East and Far East, constructing such bridges in the remote Highlands and islands presented some initial challenges.

But with two contracts already completed, ADELTE was well-prepared for the Arran project – even down to living with the inclement weather.

The bridge and enclosed elevated walkway took around a year and a half to complete; it was designed in ADELTE's Barcelona office, manufactured in Monzòn, Spain, before being transported in sections by road to Bilbao and by sea

to Brodick, where it took a team of six people a total of 12 weeks to install.

ADELTE relied on local companies for support in the installation processes.

The design of the bridge is such that any size of ferry or other passenger ship can be accommodated. Four sections extend from the main ferry terminal building, with the final two sections moveable to allow for the height of the vessel and the rise and fall of the tides.

However, there was one major change between the previous two Scottish projects tackled by ADELTE and the Arran tender.

Seaport product manager Jorge Granados explained: 'The difference between Ullapool and Stornoway and Brodick is the fact that the envi-

ronmental requirements of this project have been very specific. The other two have normal heating and ventilation. This has no extra energy requirements for heating and cooling.'

In keeping with the low energy consumption and green credentials of the main terminal building, the passenger access bridge is passively heated with a series of vents along the bridge for cooling.

Also, the majority of the structure is built with steel and glass, both of which are recyclable materials.

'We worked well with CMAL and George Leslie Ltd,' said Mr Granados, 'and would be happy to work with them again in the future. We would love to do more work in Scotland.'

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# What's on

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## Everyday

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

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

## Saturday 24th March

Flow Yoga  
Arran Vets surgery  
Arran Vets reception  
Army Cadets  
Blackwaterfoot bowls  
Annual Spring Flower and Bulb Show  
St Bride's Church Spring Fayre  
Family games  
Fun in the pool  
Live Music - Michael Clark  
Smokey Valley Band - 'funky folk' with a huge selection of songs  
Over 21s disco

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 9am  
9.30am - 11am  
9.30am - noon  
Auchrannie Road 11am - 1 pm  
Bowling Club, 1.30pm  
Brodict Hall, 2pm  
Brodict Church Hall 2pm-4pm  
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm  
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm  
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodict, 7.30pm  
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm  
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

## Sunday 25th March

Arran Eco Savvy, Price-Less Event  
Tea in the Garden (indoors if bad weather) in aid of RNLI  
Live Music - Michael Clark  
Family games  
Live Music - Smokey Valley Band  
Arran Eco Savvy Film Night, All Welcome  
AA meeting

Lamlash Community Theatre, 10am -2pm  
The Hirsell, Lamlash 1pm - 5 pm  
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodict, 2pm  
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm  
The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm  
Lamlash Community Theatre, 6pm  
Brodict Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm

## Monday 26th March

Morning fitness  
Arran Vets Surgery  
Arran Vets Reception  
Over 50s badminton  
JogScotland mixed ability running group  
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  
Whiting Bay 5.30pm  
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  
Brodict Church Hall, Adults and over 10s, 7.00pm - 8.30pm

## Tuesday 27th March

Arran Vets surgery  
Arran Vets reception  
Healthy Outdoors  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Blackwaterfoot Bowls  
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)  
Metafit Class  
Flow Yoga,  
Arran Community Council Meeting, all welcome  
Lamlash Junior Drama Club  
Auchrannie Winter Bowls  
Youth club  
Fiona's FitSteps  
Arran Rotary Club  
Scottish Country Dancing  
Live Music - Tim Pomeroy  
Pop quiz

9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm  
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm  
NTS Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm  
Brodict Church Hall, 2pm  
Bowling Club, 1.30pm  
Brodict Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm  
Arran High School, 6pm  
Corrie Hall, 6pm  
Lamlash Golf Club, 6pm  
Arran High School, 6.30pm - 9pm  
Brodict, 7pm  
Kildonan Hall, 7pm  
Arran High School, 7pm  
Douglas Hotel Snug, Brodict, 7pm for 7.15pm  
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30pm  
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodict, 7.30pm  
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm

## Wednesday 28th March

Arran Vets surgery  
Arran Vets reception  
Yoga  
Coffee Morning  
Hydrofit  
Chair Yoga Exercise Class  
Bus Pass Club Free Soup  
Arran Heritage Museum archives and genealogy service  
Knittery and Natterry  
Zumba Gold  
Just Jhoom (Bollywood dance fitness)  
RUNclub mixed ability, qualified coaches  
Flow Yoga  
Tae Kwon Do  
Yoga-Arran  
Mixed hockey  
Burger and quiz night  
Tae Kwon Do  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Family Friendly Pub Quiz  
Rock and Pop Bingo

9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm  
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 5pm  
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am - 10.30am  
St Bride's Church, Brodict 10.30am - 12 noon  
Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am  
St Molios Hall, Shiskine, 11am  
The PHT, Lamlash, 12noon - 2.30pm  
Kilmory Hall, 2pm - 4pm  
Brodict Church Hall, 4.30pm - 5.30pm  
Brodict Church Hall, 5.45pm - 6.45pm  
Invercloy Co-op car park 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  
PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm  
Ormidale Hotel, 9.30pm

## Thursday 29th March

Arran Vets surgery  
Arran Vets reception  
Morning fitness, Auchrannie Gym  
Chair Yoga, Exercise Class  
Quilt Arran  
Adult Tennis  
10th Ayrshire Shiskine Cub Scouts and Beavers  
Arran Ladies Netball  
Ladies' Hockey  
Badminton  
Arran Soul Choir  
Arran Bridge Club  
Brodict Embroidery Group  
General knowledge quiz

9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm  
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm  
9.30am - 10.30am  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 10.30am  
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  
Shiskine Hall, Shiskine, 7pm  
Arran High School, Lamlash, 7pm - 8.30pm  
Brodict Golf Clubhouse, 7.15pm  
Brodict Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm

## Friday 30th March

Arran Vets  
Arran Vets  
Yoga  
Hydrofit  
Smart Recovery Meeting, all welcome  
Steak night - build your own steak from £9.99 for Rump!  
Lochranza Children's Badminton  
AA meeting  
Arran Youth Foundations  
Tae Kwon Do  
Live Music - Cams Campbell  
Lochranza Adults' Badminton  
Friday Night Quiz  
Poker, Pool and Darts

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  
Lamlash High School, Lamlash, 6.00pm  
The PHT, Lamlash, from 5pm  
Lochranza Hall, 6pm - 8pm  
Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm  
Church Hall, Brodict 7pm - 9pm  
Arran High School, Lamlash, adults, 7pm - 9pm  
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodict, 7.30pm  
Lochranza Hall, 8pm  
Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm  
The PHT, Lamlash

## Saturday 31st March

Flow Yoga  
Arran Vets surgery  
Arran Vets reception  
Army Cadets  
Blackwaterfoot bowls  
Family games  
Fun in the pool  
Live Music - Shindig  
Skaledonia - eight-piece Ska band who put on an energetic and fun show. The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm  
Over 21s disco

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 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, Brodict, 7.30pm  
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

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# Working together will bring a Clyde islands renaissance

Arran Economic Group has just produced its second annual report. Last week the *Banner* looked at future developments at the harbour. This week we look at working with our island neighbours, bringing affordable housing and the connectivity challenge.

A Clyde islands renaissance is the goal of a new inter-island initiative aimed at helping Arran, Bute and Cumbrae work together for the benefit of all.

And one of the first tangible steps towards a joint working goal is the creation of a Clyde inter-island ferry making it easier for visitors to island hop.

The proposal is just one which is being considered by the Clyde Islands Initiative and already one commercial operator is looking at options to start a service by the spring of 2019.

The initiative which is made up of representatives of organisations on the three

islands along with officials from North Ayrshire Council, Argyll and Bute Council and tourism co-operatives and Highlands and Islands Enterprise.

## Collective identity

They have met three times. Apart from sharing geography, a declining population and a lack of collective identity, it would appear they share little else. They are managing population decline, more or less effectively.

Closer examination reveals they share untapped assets. The objective is to collectively utilise these assets and reverse the decline.

Clyde islands have a col-

lective identity that is recognised as a model for creating sustainable growth on islands and the coastal communities around them.

Among the ideas being considered is to develop and integrate marine tourism. The Clyde has the highest concentration of leisure craft outside the south coast but a lack of facilities means the islands take little benefit. Currently, Bute is best placed to take advantage, but an island network is required.

They also want to create a Clyde islands experience highlighting the best each island has to offer; connecting heritage, archeology and

the outdoor island experience.

Other ambitious plans include:

- A centre of excellence in marine and outdoor education by connecting the Cumbrae national water sport centre to the estab-

lished centres in Lamlash and Lochranza.

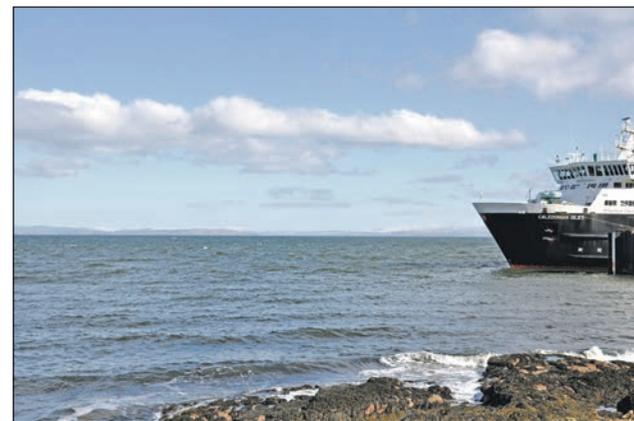
- A centre of excellence for marine research by connecting Cumbrae Marine Biology Centre with COAST and the Marine Centre in Lamlash, Arran.

- A digital centre of ex-

cellence, starting on Arran and using infrastructure already created and planned, combined with existing collaboration with SFT, UWS, service providers, local health, education and business demonstrating how new infrastructure and technology delivers practical benefits.

## Potential

As the AEG annual report states: 'Islands have always been a place people wanted to be, economics dictated otherwise. Existing and planned changes in digital and physical connectivity and the focused use of the assets as outlined, create the potential for a Clyde islands renaissance, built on tourism, new technology, new industries and new working practises.'



Arran wants to have closer ties with Bute and Cumbrae as seen from Arran.

## Helping to deliver

The supply of affordable homes is the major unfunded infrastructure improvement which could significantly reduce economic development and community viability and is now being addressed as a matter of urgency.

A chronic lack of affordable housing is impacting and will continue to impact on Arran's ability to sustain or grow its current level of economic and social activity. The AEG commissioned four feasibility studies on sites suitable for the construction of affordable homes; two sites in Brodick and two sites in Lamlash. Combined, these sites could provide up to 191 affordable two and three bed units including self-build plots.

There is a requirement for 200 affordable homes now. The current NAC Housing Waiting List is 309. NAC has agreed to build 26 units at Brathwic Terrace, Brodick and Trust Housing Association has agreed to build a further 20 at Springbank, Brodick.

Construction work is due to commence towards the end of summer 2018 at Brathwic Terrace.

A total of 22 per cent of homes on Arran are second homes and a further 59 empty homes have been identified.

In a bid to expedite community led solutions the AEG has set up the Arran Development Trust, with OSCR registration lodged. Ten directors have been identified, based on specific skills and experience, and have agreed to serve. This will allow the trust to access appropriate funds. For example, The Scottish Land Fund and The Rural Housing and Islands Fund. The ADT is now an associate member of The Development Trusts Association Scotland.

Its aim is to ensure that the local commu-

nity is fully engaged and supportive of the need for affordable housing to sustain the economy and the community, prevent further decline in working age population and improve the overall quality of life on the Island. The trust has been incorporated and will work closely with the community to ensure its views are considered. Membership of the ADT will be promoted extending voting rights to members.

The trust focus is on affordable accommodations for workers which support the Arran economy and infrastructure. AEG working with NAC Housing Department and the allocations team at Trust Housing Association are lobbying for a local lettings policy within which priority should be given to workers on Arran specifically within the health and social care, education and tourism sectors. Quantum Solutions and Denholm Benn have designed affordable units incorporating renewable technology and a 'home for lifetime' concept.

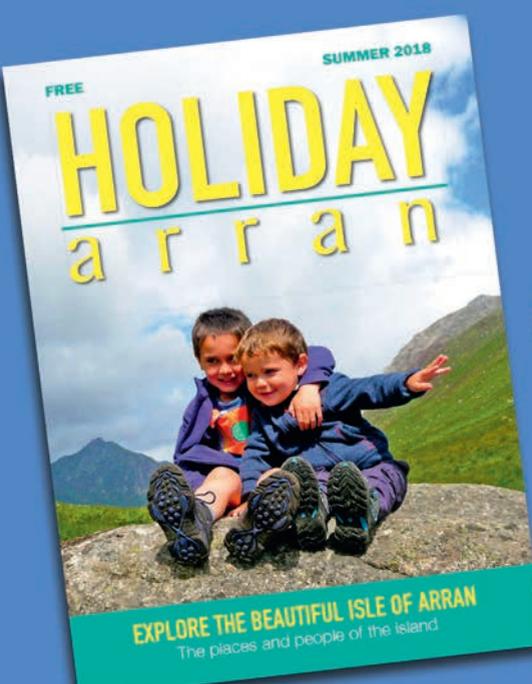
These designs are targeted at tackling fuel poverty, lessening the requirement to move home due to lack of space and current/future allocation of affordable housing for workers.

Engagement to encourage the 59 empty homes' owners, identified to bring vacant properties back into use as affordable homes, will utilise financial incentives available through the NAC empty homes fund. The AEG have engaged with the community on several occasions to identify specific properties and are now working with NAC Housing Department on the potential of introducing a 'buy-back' scheme allowing the AEG/ADT to purchase, renovate and bring back into use some of these properties for affordable rent

# HOLIDAY

## a r r a n

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# Broadband bringing connectivity to the whole island

The lack of availability of superfast broadband and the lack of fast or any mobile coverage has been a major constraint to the economic growth of Arran.

Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) estimates, based on cabinet installations, that more than 90 per cent of households and businesses on Arran now have access to superfast broadband.

BT Openreach/HIE report there are currently 21 cabinets live on Arran. Areas with live service include: Blackwaterfoot, Brodick, Corrie, Kilmory, Lam-lash, Lochranza, Pirnmill, Shiskine and Sliderry – there are two cabinets still to go live in 2018 at Whiting Bay and Kildonan.

The take-up in North Ayrshire ie Arran and Cumbrae is 41.5 per cent against an average across the Highlands and Islands of 40.7 per cent. HIE has no take-up figure for Arran alone

but no reason to think it is widely different from that on Cumbrae. To check if a property can access fibre the following checker can be used log on to: [www.hie.co.uk/hector](http://www.hie.co.uk/hector).

Arran is better connected than ever before, with mainstream fibre available from multiple providers for the first time.

The Machrie area of Arran was not targeted in the original plan for BT fibre roll out however an independent solution was identified by the local pressure group; ConnectArran. The Machrie whitespace solution provided by Broadway Partners and Arran Broadband is now well underway with 42 installations in operation and a further 80 in the pipeline.

Broadway Partners have now surveyed the Brodick and Lam-lash areas and in the process of new installations. Superfast download speeds of more than 80

mbps are realised by users with local businesses finding daily operations faster and easier than ever before.

As a natural conclusion to this initial independent solution, a new Arran business was set up as a subsidiary of Broadway Partners – Arran Broadband – managed and operated by local people and importantly offering flexible terms on comparable contract rates with BT Open Reach. Arran Broadband has continued to make steady progress through 2017 and a growing number of residents, visitors and businesses around the south-west and south of the island are now enjoying the benefits of high speed, reliable broadband service.

Arran Broadband was the first commercial user in Europe of the new TV WhiteSpace technology, allowing it to guarantee that, regardless of geography, hills and trees, fully 100 per cent of premises in an area



BT engineer Jon Smith connects another customer to superfast broadband.

can be connected.

The AEG annual report states: 'We appreciate that access to superfast does not mean connected to it. The work of 2018 will be to identify barriers in connection, technical issues and a lack of knowledge on the benefits that superfast broadband brings. Howev-

er, we should acknowledge the major step forward in digital connectivity in the last year with two suppliers on the island offering alternative technical solutions to match customer needs and locations.

'Broadway Partners, the company behind Arran Broadband, has ambitious plans for 2018, and expects to begin connecting customers in Lam-lash, Whiting Bay and Brodick by the summer and to complete coverage of the island by the end of the year. Arran Broadband has created new employment on the island and now employs modern apprentices to support their new customer base.'

Meanwhile mobile connectivity also remains a challenge on Arran, but agreements/community commitment regarding masts etc. is now in place and waiting on finalisation of independent mobile provider commitments being

agreed with Scottish Futures Trust (SFT).

Communication and agreement has been reached with the Scottish Futures Trust for the implementation of 4G on Arran with monthly updates to check progress. The community council and AEG is working closely with SFT to ensure the pace is kept up. 4G is now available in Brodick with further finalisation work being carried out which will provide a 4G service in the Lam-lash and Kilmory areas.

An upgrade to emergency services network around the island is being undertaken by EE. Confirmation has been requested that these sites will include commercial capacity and not limited solely to emergency services connection.

SFT are following up to identify 'not spots' with a view to developing plans for future roll out of this critical resource.

## affordable housing

or future sale for island workers.

Strategic expansion of affordable housing in Brodick, Lam-lash and Shiskine will continue to be a priority and the AEG have also identified a further three affordable home development sites on the west coast which are strategically placed and would be appropriate given the potential of new job creation identified in the foreseeable future.

They are also looking to incorporate small Forestry/NTS sites to increase the supply of

available land for development. The AEG identified one site in the ownership of The Forestry Commission and included this as one of the feasibility studies. Discussions are now underway to acquire this site for self-build affordable homes. The AEG have also identified a small site in private ownership and are currently working with NAC Housing Department and The Scottish Futures Trust to purchase and pilot a 'rent to buy' scheme for six units in Brodick.



Yvonne Balk and Joe Cullinane of North Ayrshire Council at the Brathwic Terrace affordable homes site with Tom Tracy and Sheena Borthwick of the Arran Economic Group.

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Children create sea animals out of recycled materials.

# Young journa on Big Green

Primary 6 and 7 pupils at Lamlash Primary school have, as part of their study of journalism and newspaper writing, tried their hand at reporting on the Big Green Show which recently took place at their school.

Taking part in a day full of fun and unusual activities, pupils reported on what they learned and what the highlights were for them. Here are just a few of the reports which tell the story as well as provide an insight into how each writer experienced the event.

**By Emma Jane Girbow**

On Thursday 8th of March, the Big Green Show came to Lamlash Primary. The whole primary got two hours to try out all six workshops.

The workshops were run by lots of different and wonderful people such as the Coast group, Arran Dairies, The Bee Keepers, The Woodland Trust, Flags, Eco Savvy and Arran Community Land initiative.

Coast brought in a variety of recyclable materials so the children could make sea ani-

mals out of the rubbish. The end result was amazing. The pupils said: 'The fish looked amazing and funny.'

Arran Dairies let the children watch a movie with ice cream, the movie talked to the children about the food we eat and how long it travels for, they call it 'food miles' then they reused the ice cream tubs and grew a plant in it.

Bee Keepers talked to us about all the different types of bees and how they live and they even let pupils try

on one of their suits. The pupils thought the suits 'look silly' but they still had lots of fun.

The Woodland Trust got the children to cut out paper and put lots of glue on to the paper and stuck it to the plates so the children can't wait to see the end result.

Eco Savvy let the children do some sewing and the children collected lots of flowers and leaves and stuck them to a big piece of fabric.

Finally, The Arran Community made the children

shocking, urgent, thought-provoking, this movie is a must watch"  
-eco savvy member

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refreshments    free event    everyone welcome

LAMLASH COMMUNITY THEATRE  
SUNDAY 25TH MARCH AT 6PM

Helping to make Arran a greener and more sustainable island

Any questions contact Jude: [ecoprojectmanager@gmail.com](mailto:ecoprojectmanager@gmail.com)

electronics    kids stuff    household items

clothing    fabric

## ARRAN ECO SAVVY "PRICE LESS" EVENT

books    craft items

furniture

Eco Savvy's current CCF Project "Reuse and Reduce" is coming to an end as of the 31st of March. Over the course of the project we have accumulated a large amount of items that still have a use. Our project's aim is to reduce our carbon footprint as an island and we would rather these items were re-homed for free than end up in landfill. Everything will be FREE and any donations to help us grow our charity further will be most welcome.

The cost of reducing our carbon footprint? PRICE LESS

**SUNDAY 25TH MARCH**

LAMLASH COMMUNITY THEATRE  
10AM-2PM

everyone welcome

any questions please contact Jude: [ecoprojectmanager@gmail.com](mailto:ecoprojectmanager@gmail.com)



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# lists report Show

flags to decorate with promises to help the environment. The children left the hall knowing how to help the world and knowing that they could share their good ideas.

**By Oscar Inglis**

On the 8th March, Lam-lash Primary school had visitors; they were part of the Big Green Show. The whole school took part in workshops through the morning. They were here to tell the pupils about the environment.

The children made promises on flags to help the environment in their own ways. Beekeepers told the children about bees. The children learned how to sew and made plates with the wood-

land Trust. They got ice cream and watched a short movie about food miles with Arran Dairies.

Coast told them about sea grass and how it is important. They recycled plastic to make fish.

Some pupils said that the ice cream was 'absolutely delicious'. The children left the Big Green Show with a lot of ideas on how to save the environment.

**By Blazej Orkisz**

On the 8th of March at Lam-lash Primary school there where visitors of a special event called the Big Green Show, the whole school took part in the show. There where about six different activities,

it took the children two hours to go through all of the different activities.

Some of the different groups were; the Beekeepers, Arran Dairies, Arran Community Land Initiative, Eco Savvy, Coast and others.

Most, if not all, the children enjoyed the two hours that it took them to do all of the activities, all of which were very fun to take part in. They also got to eat ice cream, which also was delicious. One of the children said: 'This is my favourite part of all the day!'

Everybody learned something about where their food comes from and some important things on how to help the environment.



A highlight for many of the pupils was the ice cream which they enjoyed while watching a film presentation.



Pupils draw an outline of their hand on a piece of material which is used to make a banner.

**SCOTTISH FIELD**

**Alexander McCall Smith**  
Read his superb new column

**MARY BERRY**  
Her Caledonian connection  
Profile: The real Ruth Davidson

**20** Pages of fashion & interiors

**THE NORTH EAST 250**  
Wildlife Test the new trail to the North Coast 500 through Aberdeen, Inverness, Speyside and Skye

**HAVE YOU SEEN THE NEW-LOOK SCOTTISH FIELD**

**SCOTTISH FIELD HAS A FRESH NEW LOOK - APRIL ISSUE ON SALE NOW**

**New writers and features- Enjoy Alexander McCall Smith's new column... Mary Berry's Caledonian connection... Take a trip along the North East 250... Faces of Eigg**

## OFFERS & competitions

To enter, send separate entries (in the same envelope) with your name, address, telephone number and email address to **Scottish Field Competitions, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL** or enter at [www.scottishfield.co.uk](http://www.scottishfield.co.uk). Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is 31 March 2018. **Winners drawn from all competitions also enter a prize draw to win a bottle of Berry Bros. & Rudd Islay Reserve whisky.**

### WIN

**A LUXURIOUS ONE NIGHT STAY FOR TWO AT RUFFLETS, ST ANDREWS INCLUDING DINNER AT THEIR EXCITING NEW RESTAURANT – SEASONS**



Located in the heart of the family-owned hotel and overlooking acres of beautifully manicured gardens, you are guaranteed an unforgettable dining experience. Taking inspiration from the ever-changing seasons the menus feature freshly picked produce grown in the



kitchen garden or sourced from a rich larder of Scottish produce and trusted local suppliers.

One lucky reader will win a prize that includes dinner for two at Seasons restaurant, overnight accommodation and full Scottish breakfast.

**FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question: What is the name of the new restaurant at Rufflets? a) Roots b.) Forresters c.) Seasons**

Package includes dinner for two at Seasons Restaurant (excluding drinks), overnight accommodation in a double or twin feature room and breakfast for two. Prize must be taken between 1 April and 31 May 2018. The prize is subject to availability and non-transferable or refundable and no cash alternative will be offered.

Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Scottish Field, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Promoter reserves the right to request post publicity. Indicate if you do not wish to receive further information from promoter. Usual Scottish Field rules apply. Information will be shared with promoters and sponsors.

# Annual bird report hits the shops

With a great team effort, the Arran Natural History Society has got the annual bird report in outlets throughout the island ahead of the Easter weekend.

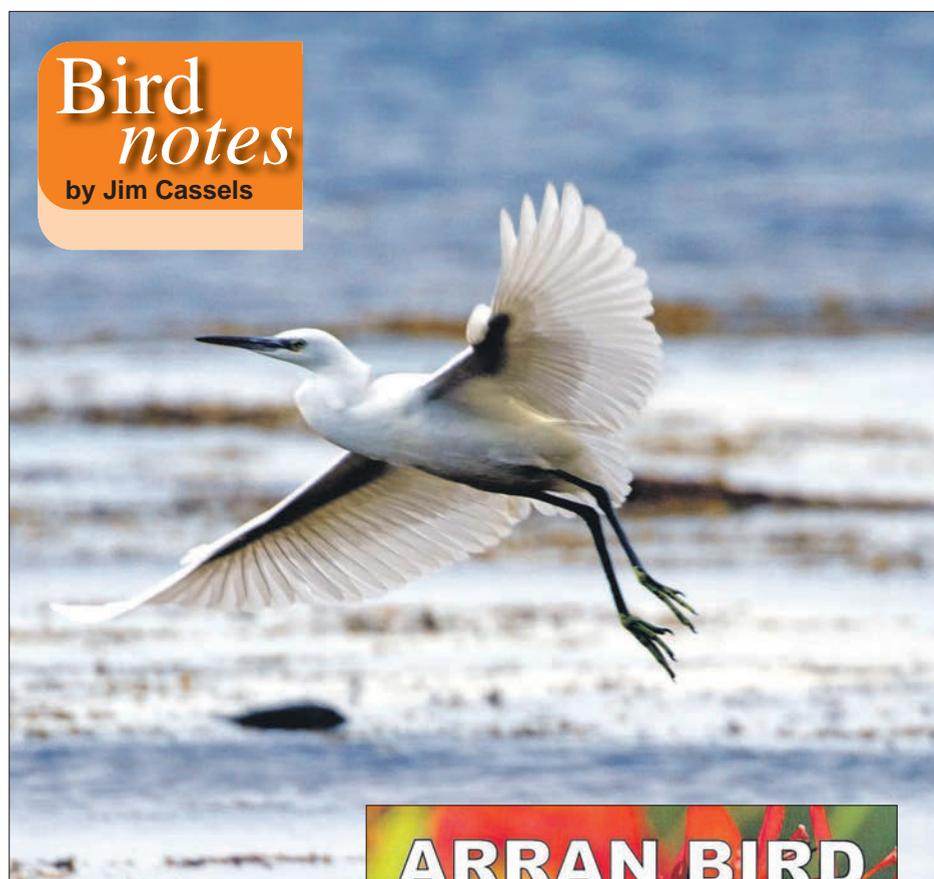
With a stunning photograph of a whitethroat by Brian Couper on the front cover, it is yet another eye-catching annual report. The Arran Bird Report 2017 is a 'must' for anyone

interested in the birds of Arran. It includes information on all species seen on Arran, a month by month summary of what was around last year, the impact of weather on birds, information on ringed birds, reports on some of Arran's bird projects plus some wonderful photographs. The uniqueness of Arran is reflected throughout the report, including the number of UK protected birds that share our island with us, as well as the differences between here and the adjacent mainland.

More than 300 contributors sent in over 21,000 records on 158 species, one of which had only been



The cuckoo is featured in the bird report. Photo Chris Southall.



Little egret only recorded for the second time.

Photo Nick Giles

recorded for the second time on Arran, namely little egret. This is the 12th annual report that I have compiled. The first one was compiled by Maggie H Dunn in 1980. There have been many changes over the years. For example the first report was five pages long, cost 25p and had contributions from 45 people who recorded 141 species, including king eider and roseate tern, neither of which appear in the latest annual report. There has been a bird report every year since then. The complete collection of annual reports is available for access from the archivists at the Arran Heritage Museum.

Who knows what changes to the annual report lie ahead in this digital age. Bird guides are being published with QR codes for each bird and by using a QR app on your smart phone or tablet you can hold your device over the code and get additional text, photographs as well as bird songs and calls. Some of the earlier Arran bird reports are already available as an electronic download from the website <http://www.arranbirding.co.uk/>



The striking front cover of the 2017 Arran Bird Report.

annual\_bird\_reports.html At present there seems to be a demand for the printed form of the annual report, but I wonder for how much longer.

This year make sure you get your copy as only a limited number have been produced. It is now available from shops and other outlets throughout the island for the bargain price of £5 or through the Arran Natural History Society by contacting Lindsey and Robert Marr of Lamlash [\[uralhistorysociety@gmail.com\]\(mailto:uralhistorysociety@gmail.com\)](mailto:arrannat-</a></p>
</div>
<div data-bbox=)

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 2017 and visit this website [www.arranbirding.co.uk](http://www.arranbirding.co.uk)

The perfect gift for friends and family ... or your kitchen!



Our beautifully illustrated maps of the towns, regions and islands of the west of Scotland have been transformed into keepsake, gift-quality tea-towels.

At just £6.95, these make the perfect souvenir gift or special memento of beautiful Arran  
**AVAILABLE NOW!**

**In Person:** The Isle of Arran Tea-Towel is available to purchase from the Arran Banner office in Brodick, KA27 8AJ

Order online at [www.krispcards.co.uk](http://www.krispcards.co.uk)

\*P&P charges may apply

**THE ARRAN  
BANNER**

# THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday March 21, 1998

## Missed the boat

Some people on Arran will be hoping for improved weather this weekend as their gas supplier, the Arran Gas Co, are likely to run out of gas.

Their supplier, Alastair Gold, lays the blame squarely on CalMac which in return say they have bent over backwards to oblige but he has not taken them up on their offer. Dangerous goods cannot travel on normal scheduled ferry runs, thus a special run is put on either weekly or fortnightly.

Two weeks ago the Ardrossan port manager Frank Shackle phoned round the gas suppliers to see who required to bring a trailer across. Mr Gold declined but then had a run on gas and found he needed to get supplies over to the island.

CalMac said that they would have to charge him £1,600 to charter the ferry, this was later reduced to £500, but said they would not send a ferry over for just one vehicle.

Mr Gold said they had done so with the bulk tanker numerous times. Mr Shackle said that the cost of fuel for one run is £400 and so his quote of £500 was just covering costs and besides, 'It's not my money, it is the public's money.'

The situation remains unresolved so a few customers might get cold this weekend but the good news is that there will be a freight run on Monday.

## Dress code

Last week Arran High School pupils took part in a dress code consultation which included a questionnaire. Deciding on a uniform – supported by some, despised by others – made it difficult for many to agree upon and answer the questions. The questions involved having to decide on what colour was to be used for the new school uniforms. What items were to be banned, such as football colours, tobacco advertising and Doc Martens and denim. The school council representatives have collated this information and it will be distributed later this year.

Adding to all of the indecision students are scrambling about collating their English folios. The folios, comprising the previous year's work, are collated and presented for grading and are worth a third of the final grade.

## Church thefts

When the charity box was stolen in Lamash Church a couple of weeks ago the elders were naturally displeased. The money was to go towards the restoration, but the idea of it being stolen from the church, possibly by a local person, was abhorrent. So they replaced it with care and made sure it was secure, bolting it to a table. Sadly that presented a challenge to the miscreants and this week both have disappeared, charity box and table.



Last Friday Stagecoach handed over four brand new buses to its Arran fleet to mark the gaining of a five-year contract to operate the school routes for the SPT. A number of invited guests met at the castle where administrator Veronica Woodman and Stagecoach Western managing director Graeme Torrance were the hosts at the event.



Over the last weekend all of the seats at the Brodick Pier waiting room were reupholstered. Bobby and Jill Shand of Sandbraes tested them out for comfort.



Mrs Evelyn Sillars hands over medical equipment to Dr Malcolm Kerr which was purchased by the funds raised at an Arran Red Cross whist drive.



Drillmen Lee Berry and Tony Walker have been drilling for water at Shiskine. The drilling is only exploratory and was being done on behalf of West of Scotland Water.



Mhairi Holmer of Whiting Bay has just returned from the Ayrshire Music Festival and come away top of her class in the advanced horn.

# Trade Classifieds

## PAINTER AND DECORATOR



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## PORTACABINS

### for sale

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- 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 advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
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- 7 The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.
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- 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

# Drive Times

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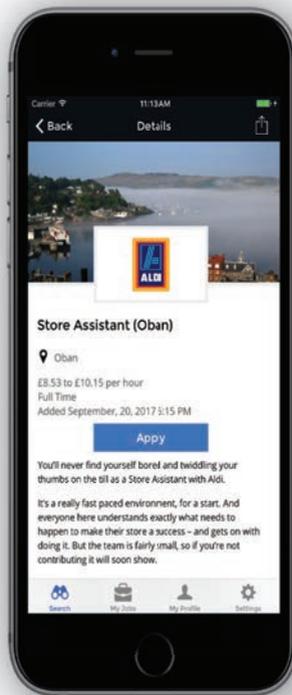
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**THE ARRAN BANNER**

Tel: 01770 302142  
[www.arranbanner.co.uk](http://www.arranbanner.co.uk)

# Classifieds

## OVER £50 SALES

For Sale: 2 x 10ft field gates; 2 x 12ft field gates, 1 half mesh; 1 x 12ft feed barrier; 1 x 10ft feed barrier; 1 x 6ft gate; 2 x rylock fence wire; 2 x rolls barbed wire; £200 ono. The buyer collects. Also quantity of profiled aluminium cladding with flashings - offers please. Tel: 01770 860375 E: ipmccarran@gmail.com

Original Le Cruset Pots: Set of 5 increasing sizes, orange, with stand - wall fixable or free standing. Excellent condition. £80. Tel: 01770 820368.

## UNDER £50 SALES

Naturediet Chicken with Vegetables and Rice Dog Food Trays - (16 Trays x 390 grams) - Complete Wet Dog Food, Completely Natural, Gluten Free, Freshly Prepared Meat, Highly Digestible, Balanced Nutrition. Suitable for puppy or adult dogs. BB 01/2019. £7.50 for all 16 trays. Call 700405.

Wafcol Puppy Small and Medium, Complete Dry Dog Food - Salmon and Potato, Naturally Hypoallergenic, Good for sensitive digestion, Specifically developed for puppy optimum growth. Seaweed and Omega 3 and 6 oils for skin and coat care. Formulated by leading Vets and Nutritionists. 2 x 2.5kg bags. £5 per bag. Call 700405

Brecknell Scales: Retail Scales 5gr - 15 kilos. Checked by weights and measures. Very good condition. £45 o.n.o. Tel: 01770 820617

Cut Glass Crystal: Cut glass and /or crystal decanters. Different designs and quality. £15 each or negotiable for collection. Tel: 01770 820368

HUDL tablet HT753: Used only one week. very good condition. Android version 4.2.2. Kernal version 3.0. 36+ in Corrie. £17 Tel: 01770 810650 or M: 07415 454098

## ARRAN BANNER CLASSIFIEDS

### TURN YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS INTO CASH!



Simply complete the form and return to the  
**Arran Banner office**

**PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE TUESDAY 4.00pm**  
NO MORE THAN 25 WORDS PLEASE

ITEM.....

DESCRIPTION.....

.....

.....

.....

PRICE.....TELEPHONE.....

**ONLY ONE ITEM PER COUPON**

The Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8AJ  
Tel: 01770 302142 Fax: 01770 302021  
Email [adverts@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:adverts@arranbanner.co.uk) [www.arranbanner.co.uk](http://www.arranbanner.co.uk)

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## Public Notices

## Property

### THE ARRAN CHOCOLATE FACTORY

We are looking for an enthusiastic, reliable person to help in our busy shop. Must enjoy chocolate and be able to offer exceptional customer service. The position is part time and occasional weekends will be required.

Please apply to: **James McChlery**  
**The Arran Chocolate Factory Ltd,**  
Brodict, KA27 8AJ  
**01770 302 873**  
Email: [james@jamesofarran.com](mailto:james@jamesofarran.com)

#### 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 (4.30 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 13 April 18. Any representations received will be open to public view.

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

**18/00201/PP;** Ocean Breeze, Kildonan, Brodict, Isle Of Arran; Change of use of former shop and guest house to form two dwelling houses.

**18/00203/PP;** Site To South West Of Ardlui, Kings Cross, Brodict, Isle Of Arran; Erection of 2 semi detached dwelling houses.

**18/00164/PP;** Site To West Of Creagraineach, Kildonan, Brodict, Isle Of Arran; Formation of a surface car park and picnic site (in part retrospect) Note that development under the previous approved application was not initiated.

Elma Murray  
Chief Executive  
Cunninghame House  
IRVINE KA12 8EE



### Thinking of renting your property?

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### ARRAN HAULAGE VACANCY



We are looking for a **Mechanic/Fitter** to start early April.

Experience in repairs, fabrication, painting & Plant maintenance preferred.

All enquiries in writing please to Home Farm, Brodict, Isle of Arran KA27 8DD



### Harvesting of Trees - Dun Fionn

Harvesting of trees has started around Dun Fionn between Brodict and Lamlash and may take until December 2018 to complete. During this time paths will be closed for varying lengths of time and we ask if the public can obey the instructions on any signs or notices.

The following paths will be affected:

- Prospect Hill to Corriegills
- Clauchlands Hill Path
- Paths leading from end of Clauchlands and Corriegills forest roads.

### Long Let - Lochranza

4-bedroom house, unfurnished  
£620 pcm + Council tax + utilities  
No smokers  
Phone 01235-833298

Semi-retired joiner/handyman seeks short or long term accomodation on Arran  
Tel 07783 812840  
or reply to Box No 23

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# THE ARRAN BANNER

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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**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 25th March**

Lochransa Church, 9.30am

Morning Worship.

Pirnmill Church, 10.45am

Morning Worship.

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.

**Thursday 29th March**

7.00pm. Maundy Thursday

Communion service in

Corrie Church.

**Friday 30th March**

2pm. Good Friday Walk of

witness from Holy Cross

Church to Brodick Church.

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

**Sunday 25th March**

Palm Sunday

Holy Communion 11am

with dramatized reading of

Passion story.

Rev Adrian Fallows

Coffee after service.

Services in Holy Week:

**Maundy Thursday,**

**9th March**

6.30 pm, Holy Communion

**Good Friday, 30th March**

10.00 am, Devotional Hour,

followed at 2.00 pm by Walk

of Witness, leaving from Holy

Cross Catholic

Church, Brodick

**Easter Sunday, 1st April**

11.00 am, Holy Communion

Please note times.

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(continuing)

**Sunday 25th March**

Morning Service 11am

Trust Housing Lounge,

Glen Estate, Brodick

Evening Service 6.30pm

5 Glen Road, Brodick

**ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER**

**GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS**

30th March: Meet at Holy

Cross Catholic Church,

Brodick, at 2.00 pm.

Walk ends with service at

Brodick Church of Scotland,

2.45 - 3.00 pm.

You are welcome to join

whole or any part of the event

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)**

Sunday Worship @ 11am

Brodick Library

Telephone 700346

Everyone Warmly Invited

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Kilmory linked with Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim ~ a

fellowship to share"

**Sunday 25th March**

Palm Sunday

Rev. Lily McKinnon

Kilmory - 10am,

Lamlash - 11.30am.

In Lamlash: prayer time

10.45am Praise Service

All welcome, including

families; children's area

Scottish Charity SC015072

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Whiting Bay and Kildonan

Church of Scotland, Charity

Number: SC014005

**Sunday 25th March**

Worship for Palm Sunday will

be conducted by

Rev Elizabeth Watson,

at 10.30am.

Tea and coffee will be served

in the transept after the

service.

**Holy Week 2018:**

**Wednesday 28th March**

at 7pm there will be a

service to mark the last week

of Christ's earthly life.

**Thursday 29th March**

at 7pm there will be a service

of commemoration of the

Last Supper.

**Good Friday 30th March**

at 7pm there will be a short

service of quiet reflection led

by the Prayer Group.

Tea and Coffee will be served

after the services..

**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings

**Sunday 25th March**

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

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**Sunday 25th March**

Palm Sunday Mass 11am

Holy Thursday Mass 7pm

Good Friday Witness Walk

2pm to Brodick Church

for 2.45pm

Liturgy of the Passion 7pm

Holy Saturday

Polish Blessing of Food 11am

Easter Vigil 9pm

Easter Morning Masses

9.30am and 11am



**Lamlash Golf Club**

Sunday March 18, Lamlash

v Whiting Bay at Lamlash.

The final game of the winter

was played in glorious

sunshine and a balmy five

degrees although the wind

made it feel much colder.

The result for the individual

Stableford were: 1 Serge

El Adm 37pts, 2 Ian Bremner

33pts, 3 Douglas Auld

32pts. Scratch Ian Bremner

26pts. Magic twos Jamie

MacPherson @16th, John

Pennycott @16th, David

Brookens @13th.

For the shield, the result

for the final game was

Lamlash 3, Whiting Bay

1. The overall result was a

draw: Lamlash 5, Whiting

Bay 5. Whiting Bay retain

the shield for another year.

Congratulations to both

teams. Auld Cronies' Tro-

phy (best two scores). Con-

gratulations to the winner,

Ian Bremner 32+33=65.

Runner up, John Pennycott

33+28=61. Finally, thanks

to Maureen Smith for the

excellent food provided.

Fixtures: Sunday March

25, Winter Stableford final

day, 9.30am and noon.

Thursday March 29, Yellow

Medal, 11am. Easter

Saturday, Glenisle mixed

fours, make up own fours,

see starter for times. Easter

Sunday, Texas Scramble,

noon.

**Whiting Bay Golf Club**

Sunday March 18, Whiting

Bay v Lamlash. We got a

dry but bitterly cold morning

for the last of the win-



John Milesi presents Lochranza Castle Golf Club winner Brian Sherwood with the Alistair MacVicar Memorial Trophy.

**Brodick Golf Club**

Sunday March 18, Winter

Cup, Stableford, NC,

10 played. 1 Douglas Robert-

son 18, 36pts, 2 Alistair

Hume 11, 34pts, 3 David

Hendry 14, 33pts.

Fixtures: Sunday March

25, Winter Cup, final round,

9am and noon. Wednesday

March 28, Summer Cup,

first round, arrange own

games.

**Machrie Bay Golf Club**

Tuesday March 13, Winter

Cup, 1 R Woods 80-17=63,

2 P Betley 70-5=65, 3 C

Laing 84-18=66.

Tuesday March 20,

Lochransa Hotel Cup, CSS

61. 1 P Betley 38pts BIH, 2

B Sherwood 38pts, 3 J Pen-

nycott 37pts BIH. Winner

of the Lochranza Hotel Cup

for 2017/18 is Phil Betley

with 180pts. Runner up is

John Pennycott with 176pts

Fixtures: Tuesday March

27, Winter Cup final round.

**Lochransa Castle Golf Club**

Saturday March 17,

Lochransa v Shiskine. The

match ended in an honour-

**Lochransa Castle Golf Club**

Sunday 25, Winter

Cup final round, one

draw at 10am. Cards for

any games played outwith

the draw to be in by 3pm.

**Arran Bridge Club results**

The results of the Arran Bridge Club aggregate

competition played at Brodick on Thursday March 15

were: N/S 1 John Dick and Gege Kroner, 2 Margaret

and Douglas Bruce, 3 Maureen Cumming and Alison

Bilsland. E/W 1 Jan Beattie and Margaret MacGill, 2

Jean Barclay and Elizabeth McKellar, 3 Brenda Liv-

ingstone and Pat Adamson.

The results of the aggregate competition played at

Lamlash on Monday March 19 were: N/S 1 Douglas

and Margaret Bruce, 2 John Baraclough and Jim Pea-

cock, 3 Janie Maclure and Anne McKelvie. E/W 1 Jan

and John Beattie, 2 Jean Barclay and Jennifer McAr-

thur, 3 Pat Adamson and Brenda Livingstone.



Phil Betley of the Machrie Bay Golf Club with the Lochranza Hotel Cup

able draw. Also played for was the Alistair MacVicar Trophy in memory of a much loved Lochranza golf supporter. The trophy this year was won by Brian Sherwood.

**Corrie Golf Club**

Fixture: Saturday March

24, sweep, ballots at 9am

and 1pm.



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# First riders of the season at Velo Café

The cycling cafe at Lagg built up quite a reputation as a pit stop for round the island events, club visits and local riders when it opened last year.

Now after a winter hibernation and some upgrade work Velo Café reopened last weekend and has already had a host of visitors; including the local Velo Club IOA, the Arran Belles, tandem riders Jan and Paul Emsley from Whiting Bay and early season riders from Edinburgh.

Velo Café is open six days a week 9.30am to 3pm for home baking, vegan soup, good coffee and never ending banter. They are closed on Fridays. Follow the cafe community on Facebook and Instagram @velocafelagg

This year will see the café supporting many sportive, triathlons and Ginduro on the island, as well as a British Cycling Cyclocross event on the mainland.

*Photos by Christopher Hogge*



The local Velo Club IOA.



Jan and Paul Emsley have visited on their tandem.



The Arran Belles outside the café this week.



Early café visitors from Edinburgh.

## Ladies take victory in blizzard conditions

**Stepps Ladies 2s** 0  
**Arran Ladies** 2

A full team of 11 players, with two subs in reserve, earned a well-deserved victory last Saturday against Stepps Ladies 2s at the National Hockey Centre at Glasgow Green with temperatures barely above freezing and occasional white-out conditions.

The match got underway with captain Annie Watts winning the coin toss and choosing the first push back. Play ensued and the first of many strong presses toward the Stepps goal began. Stepps, despite being a player short, had a strong defensive and midfield line and the ball was won and lost by both teams as they settled into the match.

Arran's defence line of Jenny Stark as sweeper, replacing Cat Galbraith who became unwell on the ferry and returned home, played superbly in what was for her, unfamiliar territory. She was well supported by Elyse Aitken, Freya McNicol, Ellie Wood and Mia

Walker who moved seamlessly to cover each other during the flow of play.

Alison 'Ninja' McKie's hardest job on the pitch as goalkeeper was keeping warm as her usual acrobatic ninja style skills were only prevailed upon occasionally. And it was hardly surprising that she was so cold, as the National Hockey Centre's bright blue water based pitch became as white as snow as hail pelted down with the strong easterly wind bringing blizzard conditions. This made it difficult for the players to see.

As the ball disappeared once again behind the Stepps goal, Arran umpire Pauline Reid replaced the white hockey ball with an orange one as the previous ball kept on blending into its surroundings. However, confusion on the pitch again loomed as players ceased play after hearing what they thought was the Stepps umpire blowing his whistle. When he explained that it had not been him, but an umpire on the second

stadium pitch, Stepps were keen to claim a free hit, asserting that an Arran player had stepped on the ball therefore incurring a foul. Arran's umpire was quick to determine that the player had stopped because she had heard the other whistle and awarded a bully off as the fairest way to restart the match, this was endorsed by the Stepps umpire.



Ellie Wood pictured at a previous match was awarded dame of the game.

Arran won the ball and quickly pushed into the shooting 'D' where they were able to secure a short corner from a Stepps foul. The first strike from captain Annie Watts at goal was saved by the Stepps goalkeeper. However, the rebound was picked up by young Mia Walker who, swooping low, executed her signature reverse stick sweep, firing the ball into

the goal taking Arran to a one-nil lead at the half time whistle.

As the players returned to the pitch in the second half the sun came out from behind the clouds and the snow melted. As the second half progressed the Stepps team strengthened their defensive line making it more difficult for the attacking forwards Lorraine Hewie, Captain Anne Watts and Helen Thomson to penetrate. Frustratingly, Arran were unable to capitalise on the many short corners they were awarded and unable to convert shots into goals. However, the Arran mid-field line were quick to return balls into the opposition's shooting 'D' with some excellent switch plays from Susie Murchie, Hazel Malakoty, Megan McNicol and Hannah McCartney, moving the ball from one side of the pitch to the other making it very difficult for the host team to cover the area of play. During play young Freya McNicol sustained an injury when a deflected ball hit

her face, she was escorted off the pitch to receive first aid - but in true Amazonian warrior style, was back on the pitch in no time.

Towards the end of what had been a very frustrating half, vice captain Lorraine Hewie finally managed to break through the Stepps defence executing an accurate sweeping shot into goal putting Arran ladies two up. At the final whistle the score was Stepps 0, Arran Ladies 2. Stepps awarded Ellie Wood with dame of the game for her excellent ball control skills and quality gamesmanship.

The Arran Ladies are playing their final game of the season tomorrow (Sunday) at GHK 3s home ground at Glasgow High Kelvinside Sports Club at Old Annesland with pass back at 1.30pm. The team would like to thank Pauline for umpiring throughout season and are looking forward to getting her back on the pitch on Sunday. All supporters will be very much appreciated and warmly welcomed.

# SPORT



**INSIDE THIS WEEK:**  
First riders of the season  
at Velo Café

# Nara takes top spot in her maiden triathlon

Nara Wood got her triathlon career off to a flying start by finishing in top place for Tri Start Girls on her maiden race.

It was the first outing of the season for the Arran Junior Triathlon Club at the aquathlon at the Allander Leisure Centre in Bearsden last weekend, which went ahead despite the snow.

Ben McCarthy also attained a podium finish, coming third in the Tri Star 1 age group, while the Arran club as a whole had its best overall results in its short history with many finishing in the top 10 in their respective age groups.

The encouraging results were warmly welcomed

by the 16 strong team at the Allander Leisure Centre who had been training throughout the winter and who endured very wintry conditions during the event. Before the event started Glasgow Triathlon Club committee members had to clear snow off the course before it could go ahead.

The club is actively seeking members, in particular boys and girls aged 6 to 8. The only requirement, other than age, is that children must be able to swim one length of the pool.

Anyone interested should can get in touch with Craig Wood at: [craig.wood10@yahoo.com](mailto:craig.wood10@yahoo.com)



All 16 Arran Junior Triathlon Club members who competed at the Allander Leisure Centre.



Ben McCarthy, left, receives his medal for third place in the Tri Star 1 age group.



Nara Wood came in first place in the Tri Start Girls in her maiden race.



Competitors dressed for the cold prepare for their race.

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