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As Brodick ferry terminal is officially opened ...

Ardrossan harbour works get go ahead

'The Scottish Government is committed to ensuring that the Arran ferry service is fit for the future'

Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A multi-million-pound upgrade of Ardrossan harbour was given the go ahead this week.

Major works will see the current berth realigned to make it easier for the new Arran ferry to manoeuvre in and out when she comes into service next year.

The proposed works, which have been given the green light by Minister for Transport and the Islands Humza Yousaf, will also see a new linkspan installed, a new terminal building constructed and a number of other enhancements.

The Ardrossan Harbour Taskforce has now chosen its preferred design option for the harbour upgrade,

which, it says, will improve the facility's operations and resilience.

A project management team will now consider a detailed design.

The taskforce members were this week remaining tight-lipped on the project costs – believed to be somewhere around £12 million – and a timescale for the works, but the announcement had been expected, as reported in the *Banner* last month. If the costs are confirmed, it would be a significant improvement on the £5.6 million plan originally proposed by port owners Peel Ports.

Mr Yousaf, who was on Arran on Thursday for the opening of the new Brodick ferry terminal, said: 'This

Continued on page two



The official opening ceremony for the newly upgraded Brodick ferry terminal took place on Thursday in front of a large group of invited guests from local community and those with an interest in ferries and harbours. The ceremony began with a short introduction from Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) chief executive Kevin Hobbs before Scottish Finance Secretary Derek Mackay delivered short speech and unveiled the opening plaque.

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Ardrossan harbour gets multi-million upgrade

Continued from page one

is excellent news and I thank all the organisations that make up the taskforce for their efforts.

The Scottish Government is committed to ensuring that the Arran ferry service is fit for the future. These plans will help bring greater resilience and reliability to the link.

I look forward to continuing this collaboration with the members of the taskforce as we work together to deliver this important project.'

There has been concern, following simulation trials, that the new £48.5 million Arran ferry, the MV

Glen Sannox, due to come into service next year, may struggle to get in and out of Ardrossan harbour as it is eight metres longer than the MV Caledonian Isles.

The realigned berth is expected to address this issue and be able to cope with longer vessels in the future.

North Ayrshire Council leader Joe Cullinane has welcomed the decision, which comes almost exactly one year on from the decision to retain the historic Ardrossan to Brodick ferry route.

He said: 'This is great news and means we can now press forward with the exciting plans for the harbour.

Alongside our partners on the working group, we have been working hard to ensure Ardrossan harbour is of a standard which will allow it to support the life-line ferry services and the new vessel on the Arran route for many years to come.

We fought a long, hard campaign to retain the Ardrossan-Brodick and the Campbeltown ferry routes, so we are delighted that we can move on to the next stage.

We fully expect that once the improvement works have been carried out at harbour, it can be the catalyst for the wider regeneration of the Ardrossan area.



An artist's impression of how the new terminal may look. 01_B17ardrossan01

This also comes on the back of last week's positive news about the Ayrshire Growth Deal, so we are excited about the potential of these projects to completely transform Ayrshire's economic prospects.'

Cunningham North MSP Kenneth Gibson, who is on the taskforce, said: 'Many island constituents have asked about the plans to develop the harbour. So, a year on from the success-

ful campaign to retain Ardrossan as Ayrshire's port of choice to serve Arran, I am delighted that the preferred design option, of three considered, has been agreed.

The harbour upgrade has been deliberated over for some months, taking into account the size of the new vessel, berthing simulations etc; and the design being taken forward is a significant improvement

on the "base" design originally considered.

'We will now look at detailing that design so that work at the harbour can begin at the earliest possible opportunity.'

The taskforce is chaired by the transport minister and made up of representatives from North Ayrshire Council, Transport Scotland, Peel Ports, CalMac, CMAL, the Arran Economic Group and Mr Gibson.

New service to help Arran provide affordable housing

A new service to help Arran tackle its serious housing problems has been launched by Rural Housing Scotland, the national charity which works to deliver affordable housing in rural communities.

A new RHS development officer has been appointed for Arran who will also cover Lochaber and Argyll.

Cameron Anson will help rural communities to take practical action to address local housing needs and to build sustainable rural communities.

The service will provide expert support to help communities secure new affordable housing in their area – helping communities quantify housing need and to develop practical solutions – with Mr An-

son advising communities how to take advantage of the Scottish Government's £30 million Rural and Islands Housing Fund to deliver badly needed affordable housing in the area.

The chronic lack of affordable housing on Arran has been repeatedly highlighted by the Arran Economic Group which says it continues to impact the island's ability to sustain or grow its current level of economic or social activity. It is estimated that 200 affordable homes are presently needed.

Chief executive Derek Logie said: 'We are delighted to be able to launch a dedicated service to help rural communities in the West Highlands tackle the lack of affordable housing. We have over 20 years expe-

rience working with rural communities to deliver affordable housing – helping secure housing in Gigha, Colonsay, Mull and Iona. We look forward to helping more communities develop local housing solutions.'

Mr Anson said: 'That there's not enough affordable housing is an all too common comment heard throughout rural Scotland. It's heard regularly where I live on Mull and in many more communities.'

Mr Anson would like to hear from community groups or individuals on Arran if they have a housing project they think may be suitable for funding ahead of a planned visit.

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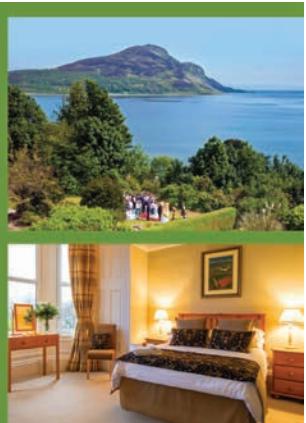
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Milk and honey help see Sal celebrate centenary



Sal Bannatyne celebrated her 100th birthday last week with a large gathering of family and friends and a card from the Queen. 01_B15sal01

Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Arran's newest centenarian, Sal Bannatyne, is a familiar face to many on Arran having served as an island postwoman for more than 31 years. And she celebrated her 100th birthday with a special card from the Queen.

Retiring in 1978 after many years of being the reliable and friendly face delivering mail on her bicycle, through rain, sleet, snow and sunshine, Sal has lived a long and contented life surrounded by friends and family.

Born on Glenkiln Farm on April 7, 1918, she lived with her five siblings and other farming families at

Benister, where her father was a ploughman. Living her entire life on Arran and meeting her husband there, Sal had two children with Jimmy Bannatyne – Sheena and Greta. There was one short period where Sal tried living on the mainland at nearby Lochgilphead but it was only for a few years before she wanted to return to Arran.

Longevity
Attributing her many years of honest, hard work as one of the reasons for her longevity, she also credits a glass of milk and a particular fondness for honey as helping to keep her healthy.

Sal enjoyed a huge gathering of family and friends, some of whom travelled

from the Isle of Skye, to celebrate her birthday last Saturday. Her home at Glen Estate sheltered housing is still adorned with decorations and well over 70 cards wishing her well on her special birthday. Sitting on the mantelpiece, and one that she is particularly fond of, is a card from the Queen offering her best wishes.

While mentioning that much had changed over the years on Arran, such as many of the old buildings which have been knocked down – her favourite being old dance venues and village halls – she maintains her cheery outlook, warm smile and incredible sense of humour.

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New terminal has to be evacuated

Travellers were evacuated from the new Brodick ferry terminal last Friday owing to a fire alarm.

Two fire appliances and a police unit attended the scene of the new terminal shortly after 3pm when a fire alarm was activated after reports of a strong smell of electrical burning towards the rear of the building, which houses the biomass boiler.

Arriving passengers aboard the MV Caledonian Isles waited out in the bay before being given the all-clear to dock by port officials. The boat docked shortly before 4pm with the next scheduled depar-



ture only slightly delayed. A CalMac spokesman said: 'The evacuation of the terminal at Brodick was or-

dered after a strong smell of electrical burning was reported. Although the fire service found no evidence

of burning or fire, electricians were called to investigate as a precaution. These investigations are ongoing.'

CalMac staff direct passengers to the fire evacuation point during the evacuation.
01_Bterminal01



Jamie Greene MSP and Councillor Timothy Billings, pictured outside the new ferry terminal.

Ferry facilities must be fit for purpose, says MSP

Conservative politician Jamie Greene MSP visited the new Brodick ferry terminal, with Arran Councillor Timothy Billings last week while on a surgery visit to the island.

The two politicians welcomed the significant investment in the new terminal and said that ensuring Arran was equipped with modern facilities was essential in attracting tourism

and investment into the island to help stimulate the economy, further develop Arran and provide a better standard of living for the island community.

Lifeline

The west Scotland region MSP said: 'Ferries are a lifeline service for Arran and island communities across Scotland. Islanders require reliable and frequent travel to the main-

land to access key services such as health care so it's necessary that its ferry facilities are up to date and fit for purpose.'

Councillor Billings said: 'The new ferry terminal makes clear that Arran is serious about promoting itself as a major destination for tourism and visitors across the world and it shows us as a modern island community.'

Fundraising success warmly welcomed by RNLI

Arran's RNLI crew will be kept warmer when they are attending call-outs and training after receiving a generous donation from

Caledonian MacBrayne staff. Between July and September last year, the staff at the CalMac office in Brodick undertook the

fundraising drive with all proceeds going to the Arran RNLI. Both CalMac staff and the lifeboat crew collected donations from ferry passengers, including old pound coins which were being taken out of service, raising more than £2,000.

The funds were used to provide all crew members with a full set of thermals and the remainder will be used to purchase training equipment.

Arran RNLI operations manager Bill Barr said: 'We're thrilled to have such excellent links with the

local CalMac team and, through some hard work from both the team at CalMac and our crew, we have been able to buy some fantastic training kit and some new operational kit for the crew.'

'Everyone at Arran RNLI would like to offer a very large thank you to the staff at Brodick CalMac for their efforts and we are all thrilled to have warmer conditions on both call-outs and training to look forward to.'

The Arran RNLI, which is a registered charity, provides 24-hour search and rescue service around Arran and further afield, and relies solely on voluntary donations and legacies to maintain its rescue services.'



Bill Barr of Arran RNLI thanks CalMac's Colin McCort for their fundraising efforts, while the RNLI crew show off their new gear.
Photo: Brian Donlin

Torchlight Challenge brings funding boost



ARRAN MOUNTAIN RESCUE TEAM
EST. 1964

The Goatfell Torchlight Challenge has raised £4,495.13 for the Arran Rangers Service Team and the Arran Mountain Rescue Team.

The funds, which were

raised by sponsorship of the 50 climbers who created a night-time beacon at the summit of the mountain, replicated on Ben Lomond, is shared between the two organisations.

The AMRT received £1,798.05 towards training, equipment and running costs, while the remainder of the funds will go towards repairs on the main Goatfell path.

Improving

This summer a team will be working on improving the route through the boulder field on the shoulder of Goatfell and these funds will go some way to assist these costs.

Upland mountain footpath repairs require skilled workers who can endure long walks in and hard physical work – often in poor weather conditions. As part of the National Trust for Scotland's ethos

of ensuring that the mountain paths fit in with the landscape, the work undertaken will utilise locally-won stone and landscaping techniques sensitive to the fragile mountain flora.

Kate Sampson of the Arran Rangers said: 'A very big thank you to all participants who took part in the 2017 challenge and helped to raise this much appreciated and fantastic sum of money for these worthwhile causes.'

'The challenge will be happening again this year on Saturday September 15, and is guaranteed to be a night to remember. Get your torch batteries charging!'



Participants light a beacon at the summit of Goatfell.

Photo: Jackie Newman



Kate Sampson of the Arran Rangers presents members of the Arran Mountain Rescue Team with a cheque for £1,800 from the Goatfell Torchlight Challenge. Photo Corinna Goeckeritz

Hearing aid support on Arran

The charity Action on Hearing Loss Scotland has announced dates over the next three months when hearing aid users, both existing and new, can drop in for help and support.

The support will be available between 11am and 1pm at Brodick Library on Wednesday April 25, Wednesday May 23, and Wednesday June 27.

On these dates volunteers who have been trained by NHS audiology will provide batteries and replacement tubing for NHS hearing aid users as sharing information on issues relating to hearing loss.

People will be shown how to get the most

out of their hearing aids so they can hear more clearly and follow conversations with family, friends and colleagues.

Action on Hearing Loss Scotland's Fiona Goodwin said: 'We look forward to welcoming existing and new service users at our upcoming drop-ins.'

Vital support

'Hear to Help offers vital support for islanders – including assistive equipment which could make everyday life easier.'

For more information about Action on Hearing Loss Scotland, telephone 01563 533280 or email fiona.goodwin@hearingloss.org.uk.

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Prince Albert II lends his support to MPAs

A leading European monarch, and a good friend of Arran, Prince Albert II of Monaco, was in Scotland this week voicing his support for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), including the one in Lamlash.

The ruling monarch of the Principality of Monaco is

a relative of the late Lady Jean Fforde and spent some of his formative years on Arran during family holidays. His last visit was in October last year on the sad occasion of Lady Jean's funeral.

Launching a conference at the University of Edin-

burgh, he outlined the Monaco Blue Initiative. The prince also met with oceanographers and marine experts to discuss the issues that face the world's oceans and marine life.

Important

In an interview with the BBC, Prince Albert said: 'The recognition that oceans have to be taken into consideration when you consider all issues concerning the environment, with climate change at the forefront of that, I think is extremely important.'

'Half of the air we breathe is produced by the oceans and if you just want to take home that concept then that's reason enough for us to be concerned about our oceans.'

The conference detailed the need for the establish-

ment, protection and scientific study of MPAs and the desire of seeing a wealth of them around the globe.

Prince Albert added: 'The subject of marine protected areas is extremely productive. It provides essential strategies for the broader issues of biodiversity protection, preservation of marine areas and, more importantly, man's harmonious co-existence with his natural environment.'

The Monaco Blue Initiative conference, which took place in Edinburgh last weekend, was attended by the chief executive officer of the oceanographic institute, the French ambassador of the oceans and a number of leading heads of international environmental groups and organisations.



Prince Albert at Lady Jean's funeral on Arran last year.

01_B15albert01

Gail's work on show at Arran library

The current featured artist at Arran Library in Brodick is Gail Wooll-Rivers, whose work will be on display throughout April.

Gail hails from Nottingham, where she studied displays and interiors at college. She also completed a garden design course at York and has worked in the education sector with primary pupils and adults.

Her work is with oils, acrylics and textiles but also involves creations from driftwood which she collects from her local beach.

Gail and her family have holidayed on Arran since 1993 and moved to Arran permanently in 2016. She now runs the Craigview Gallery and Studio in Shannochie, which is part of the Arran Art Trail and Arran Open Studios. The gallery will open on Tuesday May 1 at 10.30am.



An example of Gail's work.

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End of an era as last island class retires

The MV Eigg, the last Island-class ferry in the CalMac fleet, which helped open up new routes to Arran, is retiring from west coast service.

The eight-strong Island-class were introduced from 1972, with the Eigg launched in 1975. At 75ft long and 21ft wide, she is capable of carrying 75 passengers and five cars.

Although her main route was Oban-Lismore, she was occasionally to be found operating out of Lochranza. She also served as Kilchoan-Tobermory ferry from 1996 to 1998 and was latterly relief vessel on a number of shorter routes.

The vessels opened up new routes for CalMac to Arran and Mull and, being virtually interchangeable, they greatly increased the flexibility of the fleet. They also improved services to the communities on Gigha, Iona and Lismore.

Jonathan Davies, CalMac's small vessel technical superintendent, said: 'The MV Eigg is the oldest vessel in our fleet and she is the last of the Island-class.'

'It really is the end of era with her leaving the fleet.'

The MV Eigg has now been handed back to owner Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd, which is expected to announce a buyer for the vessel shortly.



Stuart Craig, left, and Gordon Law of the Clyde River Steamer Club joined CalMac's Jonathan Davies for a last look around the vessel.

Fèis Arainn goes online

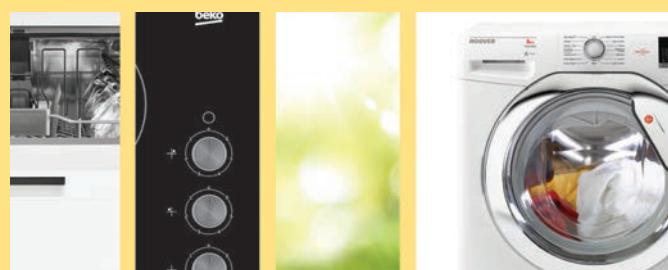
Fèis Arainn will be back this year in July and, for the first time, it can now be found online and on social media.

The organisation, which celebrates Scotland's Gaelic culture, now has a website www.feisarainn.com and a Facebook page Fèis Arainn.

This year's event will take place from Tuesday July 24 to Friday July 27 and participants are now able to register and pay online.

Fèis Arrain will be doing school visits again and will have several of this year's tutors doing taster workshops with the primaries and Arran High School on Thursday April 19 and Friday April 20.

There will also be a ceilidh on Friday April 20 in Brodick church hall at 7.30pm which is open to everyone to come along.



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Editorial

All eyes on Ardrossan

As Brodick's new ferry terminal is officially opened, it is good to see some progress being made at Ardrossan. The mainland harbour owners were quick to make big promises when they were fighting to retain the ferry service, but it has taken a government-led taskforce to get us to this stage – but now all eyes are on Ardrossan.

At least it has now been recognised, well in advance of the arrival of the new ferry, that the main berth needs to be realigned to give her a fighting chance to provide the same, or hopefully better, reliability than the MV Caledonian Isles.

But a lot of work still needs to be done to get to the construction stage and that must press ahead soon.

The creation of a new linkspan and a new terminal building will also take time, given it took two years in Brodick, albeit for a much bigger project.

Arran's new ferry, the MV Glen Sannox, could arrive in time for next summer and it would be great if the new infrastructure is in place in Ardrossan by that date. But that will take serious commitment from all the members of the harbour taskforce, and in particular owners Peel Ports, to make it a reality.

Thought for the Week

'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.' 2 Cor 5:17

Infrastructure woes on Arran

Sir,

So the long-awaited £30m ferry terminal doesn't work properly. No surprises there then. I along with many others had to embark and disembark via the car ramp last week as we've had to before the big investment. A nice introduction to the visitors, who contribute to the local economy, so that they can have their fillings rattled and tyres and suspensions blown by the island's terrible roads. And as for the cyclists they might be lucky enough to get away with a few cuts and bruises as they get pitched into a pothole.

But wait! There is news of the council's £1m proposed investment in the roads. £1m sounds like a lot but it won't go very far at today's prices. Maybe part of the investment will go to supplying a few more team members with shovels and buckets of filler which will get washed away in the first rain. Or maybe we'll be lucky and some proper heavy machinery with skilled operators will arrive. Or maybe not.

The very large hole in the road at Whiting Bay is a good example of 'let's ignore problems and they may go away'. Over two years ago I reported the potential future problems in store by not attending to obvious erosion of the sandstone wall on which the new sea wall had been seated. The council office reply was 'we are aware of the situation'. Obviously they weren't.

Arran is a beautiful island visited by visitors from all over the world. It has some wonderful tourist attractions. Rotten roads and the absence of public toilets are

not two of them. On the latter point, I find it surprising that a house located close to a sewage pipe running underneath a public road still has to use a septic tank.

Arran isn't part of the Third World – come on, let us embrace the 21st century. Still it's comforting to know that the council taxes are being put to good use – for something or other.

Disillusioned and disappointed.

Yours,
David Roberts
Whiting Bay

Warnings ignored

Sir,

I note with great interest the comments of the CalMac interim managing director, Robbie Drummond, in last week's *Banner*, warning that passengers are facing widespread disruption on Scotland's ferry network and attributing the cause to potential breakdowns and delays due to its increasingly ageing fleet.

This problem has not just suddenly arisen; any study of the rate of build of the larger vessels shows an undeniable decline in the vessels per annum entering the fleet in the last 11 years.

For the communities concerned, their economies and their visitors, it is the consequences of an ageing fleet that are the real concern, and they are twofold – it causes both capacity issues and mechanical unreliability. Sufficient capacity to meet demand and reliability are key.

Unreliability for extreme weather is understandable and we live with it. Unreliability and lack of capacity caused by neglect and lack of investment – and even worse, bad investment using public funds – is not acceptable.

Mr Drummond, in his upfront 'new broom' ap-

proach merely forewarns the traveller, but this does nothing to resolve the problems, namely the fleet age and size.

Yours
Neil Arthur
Kilpatrick

Levy charge

Sir,

With the rapid deterioration of the road network on the island and the sharp increase on tourist to the island following RET, coupled with reduced funding of the local authority, it would appear that we could devise a simple but effective tariff to compensate the island and improve it directly for the visitors and residents alike.

CalMac stated in its annual report for 2016 figures: 'The busiest route overall in the network continues to be Ardrossan in North Ayrshire to Brodick on the Isle of Arran, carrying 828,262 people and 202,843 cars in 2016 – a rise of 8.7 per cent and 6.84 per cent respectively'.

It is with TS that the causes of all of the problems lie, not with the operators. But it was CalMac who took on the recently-let eight-year contract knowing the state of the fleet and the increasing demand – it is coming back to bite it already and to that extent it is complicit.

Future ferry projects must learn quickly from the mistakes in concept, management, and scope of the current costly Brodick to Ardrossan and Uig triangle projects with possible final costs in the region of £200m. No part of these projects has run to schedule with the 'state of the art' but totally unnecessary overpriced and untested gas-driven vessels delayed by up to two years. In that time at least three or possibly four conventional vessels could have been in service.

Yours,

John McFaull
Bogarie Kennels

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North Ayrshire Provost Ian Clarkson welcomes the gold winning Senior Concert Band back home after their performance in Manchester.

Arran's young musicians help to bring home gold

Three Arran High School pupils, who are part of the North Ayrshire Senior Concert Band, have helped the musicians win a gold award at the National Concert Band Festival (NCBF) in Manchester.

Alison Provan, Innis Thorborn and Lois Ashley helped secure the second gold award of the weekend for North Ayrshire after the

junior band also earned a gold award for its performance.

Well received

The three performances by the senior band - The Shining Sword by Rob Wiffin; Lux Aurumque by Eric Whitacre and the extremely challenging Blue Shades by Frank Ticheli - were well received by the adjudicators and narrowly

missed out on a platinum award.

The schools' senior band has a long history of success at the national heat of the NCBF - winning platinum in 2015, gold in 2016 and platinum in 2017.

Mae Murray, music service manager, said: 'I can't express how proud I am of our talented groups of young musicians.'

'Each and every one of them has put in a great amount of effort to prepare for this competition and they did not disappoint when they got on stage at the weekend.'

Talents

'Their performances perfectly showcased their talents and coming home with two gold awards is the cherry on top.'

Age Scotland calls for action on council cuts

Scotland's leading charity for older people has warned that cuts to social care budgets and community services are having a devastating impact on the health and wellbeing of those in later life.

Age Scotland is calling on the Scottish Government to work with councils to safeguard services for older people and combat loneliness and isolation.

The latest research by the Accounts

Commission shows that councils are struggling to meet demand for social care in the face of growing demand.

The report highlighted 'significant concerns' about availability and quality of social care in many council areas.

Brian Sloan, Chief executive of Age Scotland, said: 'As council budgets are increasingly squeezed, this is having a devastating impact on older people throughout Scotland.'

We hear from people across Scotland who are struggling to care for older relatives or facing long waits for care packages to be put in place. This can result in their health deteriorating faster with a knock-on impact on hospital admissions.

'At the same time, cuts to community centres, leisure facilities and support services will have a significant impact on physical and mental health of older Scots.'



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The litter collected from Whiting Bay beach.

Litter blitz in Whiting Bay

Whiting Bay and Districts Improvements Association also held a litter pick, beach clean and a general tidy up in Whiting Bay last Sunday.

Treasurer Lesley Wood said: 'A huge thank you to the 38 folk, especially the children, who came along and helped. It

was another brilliant community effort and really helps to free our beaches and hedgerows of lots of plastic and other rubbish, which would otherwise lie there for years and years endangering marine life, birds, other creatures and ultimately ourselves.'

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

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Volunteers raise Brodick beach

Words and pictures by
Colin Smeeton

More than 55 volunteers – ranging in age from toddlers to pensioners – turned out for the Brodick Bay beach clean where, armed with pickers and bags, they scoured Brodick beach and Fishermen's Walk, leaving the area looking much cleaner and tidier.

The event last Saturday was organised by Hilary Paton of Cambuslang with the help of Brodick residents Lenny Hartley and Chris Atkins. Arran businesses also offering their support, included Homestyles, which provid-

ed gloves for the volunteers, and the Brodick Co-op, which provided warm food and drinks for the participants.

North Ayrshire Council provided bags, pickers and a vehicle for rubbish removal, while council employee Euan Rutherford provided his time, knowledge and enthusiasm to the project.

Making a visible difference to the amount of waste and litter on the beach, much of it blown in from the winter's severe easterly winds, volunteers picked up more than 50 bags of refuse and waste that was



Organiser Hilary Paton ensures that volunteers have all of the equipment that they need. 01_B15beach07



A small selection of the volunteer



Volunteers enjoy a cold drink and snack donated by the Co-op while a van loaded with refuse bags can be seen ready to depart. 01_B15beach06

lly for the big h clean-up

then transported to the municipal dump for proper disposal.

Among the plethora of plastic waste and golf balls found, some of the more unusual items found included a purse containing cash, electricity pylon paraphernalia, bags of firewood and a set of false teeth.

Organiser Hilary said: ‘A great big thank you to everyone who turned up for the beach clean. It has been a fantastic success with such a large turnout of volunteers, and their families, who have come to show their support.

'Thank you too must also go to Liz and Carol of the Brodick Co-op and Arran Home-styles. Also North Ayrshire Council and particularly Euan Rutherford who has played a significant part in helping to inspire the volunteers and clear the beach of refuse.'

Hilary, who regularly holidays on Arran and who has been visiting since childhood, decided to arrange the beach clean after seeing the state of the shore and having experience with organising similar events in Cambuslang with the assistance of her local authority, South Lanarkshire Council.



residents who cleaned up Brodick Beach and Fishermen's Walk last weekend. 01_B15beach01



The Popplewell family set to work and make an immediate impact with their excellent team effort.



Volunteers search among the seaweed for litter and plastic that has been brought ashore with the tide.



Leaving no stone unturned, volunteers scour the beach for any discarded or washed up litter. © R15beach03



With such large numbers, volunteers made quick work of the beach and move towards the tidal lagoon behind the beach. 01 B15beach04


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Jennifer MacDonald of Woodside Farm has received a funding boost for the business.

£25,000 funding boost for farm

Woodside Arran, a community-supported organic farm and delivery business, has been awarded a £25,000 grant, which will allow it to hire its first member of staff.

It is the second funding boost for the Kildonan-based social enterprise in the past six months, after director Jennifer MacDonald was voted a young social innovator for 2017 and won £5,000 in the national competition organised by Firstport, Scotland's social enterprise development agency.

The latest grant, from Firstport's Build It programme, was announced to coincide with the launch of the social innovation competition 2018.

This year's competition is celebrating Scotland's Year of Young People by look-

ing for innovative and enterprising new ideas for working with and for Scotland's young people. It offers three £5,000 awards, combined with tailored support from Firstport to refine and develop these ideas. The winners, including one young social innovator aged under 30, will be announced in the autumn.

Firstport chief executive Josiah Lockhart said: 'We are delighted to see the progress of our 2017 social innovation winners, including Woodside Arran, which has just received a £25,000 grant from our Build It programme to expand further.'

'This year we are marking Year of Young People 2018 by asking people to come up with innovative ideas and solutions to social issues or challeng-

es affecting young people aged between eight and 26. This could be through giving them access to new opportunities, helping them to overcome barriers and inequalities, or improving their quality of life.'

Jennifer said: 'Winning the social innovation competition gave us a huge boost of confidence, but also allowed us to support more people to access our services a lot quicker than we would have been able to on our own.'

'It has fast tracked our business by about six months and allowed us to carry out a lot of the activities we didn't think we would be able to do, at a very challenging time for farming.'

'Winning allowed us to look ahead to the 2018 season and prepare for where

we want to be by the end of the year, rather than having to make do with where we are now.'

'Being awarded the Build It grant is incredible news – not only does it guarantee that we will be self-sufficient within one year, but it means we can take on a member of staff straight away to help us with both the busy growing season and getting more people involved with our local food network.'

'This will allow us to build on the momentum we have created so far and reach the many people who live on Arran and who will visit this year.'

For more information on how to enter the social innovation competition details can be found at www.firstport.org.uk/socialinnovation

Market report from Stirling

United Auctions had forward 1,378 store cattle and 2,112 store hoggs at their sale at Stirling on Wednesday April 4.

Leading prices were: store cattle – LimX blks, £870, 305p, Balgowan; CharX blks, £835, 278p, Hawthrone; AAX blks, £705, 285p, Glenkiln; B&W blks, £600, 152p,

Tighnafreoch; LimX hfrs, £770, 260p, Balgowan; CharX hfrs, £820, 276p, Hawthrone; AAX hfrs, £605, 243p, Glenkiln; B&W hfrs, £1010, 155p, Tighnafreoch; B&W cows, £705, 133p, Tighnahreoch.

Sheep – BF hoggs £55.50, North Sannox.

Lochranza and Catacol draw

The winners of the Lochranza and Catacol 200 Club March draw were: first prize Victor Warren, second prize Lorna Hallyburton.

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com

Every day

Trout fly fishing
Brodick Castle
Cafe and Isle be Wild
Soap making and candle-dipping Arran Aromatics
Arran Heritage Museum,
Arran Brewery

Loch Garbad, bank fishing
Garden only open 9am-dusk
Brodick Castle, 10am - 4pm
Brodick, 10am - 4pm
Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am to 4.30pm
Open Mon - Thursday 11.30am - 4.30pm
Friday & Saturday, 10am - 4.30pm, Sun - Closed

Hydrofit

Elderly Forum
Chair yoga exercise class
Bus Pass Club free soup
Arran Heritage Museum archives and genealogy service
Knittery and Nattery
Arran films – Edward O'Donnelly
Zumba Gold
Just Jhoom (Bollywood dance fitness)
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Flow yoga
Tae Kwon Do
Yoga-Arran
Mixed hockey
Burger and quiz night
Tae Kwon Do
Alcoholics Anonymous
Live music – Folk Like Us
Family friendly pub quiz
Rock and pop bingo

Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am for 11am

St Molios Hall, Shiskine, 11am
The PHT, Lamlash, 12noon - 2.30pm
10.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 3.30pm
Kilmory Hall, 2pm - 4pm
Glen Estate Lounge, 2pm
Brodick Church Hall, 4.30pm - 5.30pm
Brodick 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
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8.00pm
PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9.30pm

Saturday 14th April

Flow yoga
Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Army Cadets
Blackwaterfoot bowls
Family games
Fun in the pool
Donald and James memorial darts competition
Live music – Fatman and the Angel
Live music – Hot Love, tribute to T-Rex and the 1970s
Over-21s disco

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
9.30am - 11am
9.30am - noon
Auchrannie Road 11am -1 pm
Bowling Club, 2pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Kilmory Hall, 7.30pm
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8.00pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

Sunday 15th April

Live music – Shenanigans
Family games
Live music – The Drystones, two fine and talented folk musicians
AA meeting

Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 1pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm

Monday 16th April

Morning fitness
Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Over-50s badminton
JogScotland mixed ability running group
Adult tennis
Arran Junior Football Club
Circuit training
Summer bridge, visitors welcome
Lamlash Aerobix
Badminton
Badminton
Tae Kwon Do
Live music – The Buchaneers

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, 6.15pm for 6.30pm start
Arran High School Dance Studio, 6.30pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7pm - 9pm
Brodick Church Hall, Adults and over 10s, 7.00pm - 8.30pm
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8.00pm

Tuesday 17th April

Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Healthy Outdoors
Alcoholics Anonymous
Blackwaterfoot bowls
Beginners and general queries information technology – Duan Bruce
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)
Flow yoga,
Lamlash Junior Drama Club
Auchrannie winter bowls
Youth club
Fiona's FitSteps
Scottish country dancing
Pop quiz

9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
NTS Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm
Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Bowling Club, 2pm
Glen Estate Lounge, 2pm
Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
Corrie Hall, 6pm
Arran High School, 6.30pm - 9pm
Brodick, 7pm
Kildonan Hall, 7pm
Arran High School, 7pm
Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm

Wednesday 18th April

Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Yoga

9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
9am- 2pm and 4pm -5pm
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am -10.30am

Hydrofit

THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday April 4, 1998

Music festival

The 69th Arran Music Festival kicked off last Thursday with the ever-popular Scottish country dancing.

In the run up to the festival much has been made of the bug going round the schools, dramatically reducing the number of entries this year.

Adjudicator Mr Aitkenhead declared himself impressed with the turnout and was constructive in his criticism of any faults. His manner and deportment were so proper that it was no surprise to learn that he had been previously been a major in the Indian Army.

This year the festival is actually in its 75th year although, owing to a break during the war, it has not been held every year. Many of the cups and trophies still bear the date of the first winners from 1923.

Broken promises

The Co-op in Brodick, it was said at the community council on Tuesday, is about to start selling newspapers. This, said Stewart Walls who introduced the topic, makes a complete nonsense of the promise that the Co-op gave before it built its large new supermarket. 'Councillors will remember that there was a verbal promise made by the Co-op that they would not encroach on other businesses.'

The building of the new Co-op was, at the time, a matter of great concern to small shopkeepers. Since then it has gradually expanded the lines it sells with videos and

plants being the ones which most noticeably affected shops.

It was also said by shopkeepers at the meeting that they thought the promises were given at the time to allay concerns, but that there was no intention of keeping them. They asked if the move was a calculated deception or merely just the way that big business works. Councillor John Sillars said: 'Verbal assurances don't stand for anything and it is naive to think that they'd have to be held to that.'

Water worries

Charles Fforde said at last Tuesday's community council meeting that he had been approached by West of Scotland Water about building a pumping station opposite the Book and Card Centre. It seems that this was to be a short-term method of improving the sewage situation, prior to a treatment plant being built later towards the coup area.

Mr Fforde also raised the subject of litter and sewage on the beach. He said that North Ayrshire Council was saying it was the responsibility of West of Scotland Water which, in turn, said it was up to North Ayrshire Council. Without reaching a conclusion, the conversation moved to a new water pipeline that would extend from Lochranza to Pirnmill and whether it could extend to Whitefarland.

A lack of funds by the council meant that to serve a further 16 homes, by travelling another seven miles across a hill, would not be allowed.



Corrie Primary School, winners of the Association Challenge Shield for mixed primaries at the Arran Music Festival.



Simon Horne has just taken delivery of a vintage 1973 Rolls Royce which he will add to his fleet of wedding vehicles used on the island. His first, a 1950s Packard, has until now, been the vehicle of choice for many Arran weddings.



Having a chat with taxi driver Charles Hendry on Thursday was Donald Dewar and Scottish Liberal Democrat leader Jim Wallace. Both politicians were on Arran for the Highlands and Islands Convention.



John Simcock presents the first winner of a new trophy for the music festival to Yvonne Brothers, who won it for her public bible reading.



Winning the John Thomson Memorial Cup for non-school groups at the Arran Music Festival were the Shiskine Guides.

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- 11 Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
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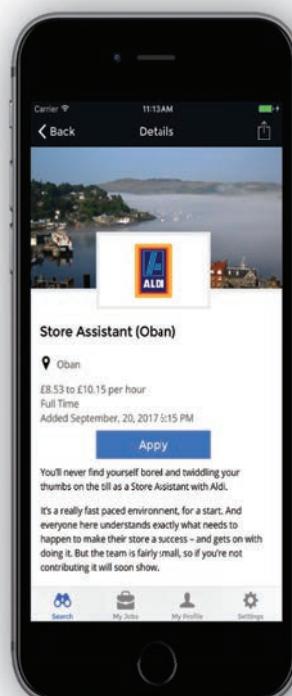
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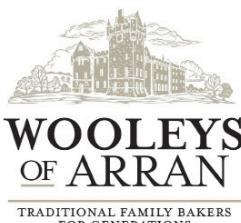
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We deliver the goods, not excuses

ARRAN DELIVERIES VACANCY

We have a position available soon as a member of our 2-man delivery team based on the island.

Duties include loading/unloading vehicles and delivering to our customers. Must have skills needed to succeed include attention to detail, reliability and a friendly nature with customers/fellow staff and a clean driving licence.

Previous experience will be well regarded although on the job training will be given.

The working week is 7am -2pm Tuesday – Saturday. This could be a job share position if 2 suitable candidates were available. If you think you would fit this role, please apply in writing to:

Arran Deliveries, The Parcelpoint,

Harbour Rd, Ardrossan KA22 8BZ

FAO Tony Morrow

email sales@arrandeliveries.co.uk



Administrative assistant/ mobile shop assistant-Permanent
Woodside Arran CIC is a non for profit social enterprise importing and growing the best quality organic produce for the Isle of Arran. We are looking for a new part time member of staff to assist with various roles within the team. You must be computer literate and have great customer service skills and as we are a small organisation there may be other tasks such as gardening and animal husbandry involved. So someone who can learn quickly, be flexible and is willing to muck in would be ideal. The position is for 20 hours per week but could be a job share for the right applicants

Trainee Gardener May-October

We are also looking for a trainee gardener to work with us over the season. We operate a no dig, biointensive organic system and are looking for part time help. All positions within the team are flexible so while gardening will be the main responsibility the ability to adapt to other tasks would be ideal. We welcome application for anyone with an interest in gardening as full training will be given.

The position will be part time – hours to be discussed at interview.

Please send a cv to jenny@woodsidearran.com to apply.
Closing date 22nd April



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Public Notices

**Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc
MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010**

**THE MARINE LICENSING (PRE-APPLICATION CONSULTATION)
(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013**

Notice is hereby given that Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution plc a company registered in Scotland under number SC213460 having its registered office at Inveralmond House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth PH1 3AQ plans to hold a pre-application consultation event regarding a proposed licensable marine activity at the crossing of the existing electricity submarine cable between:

Arran (Balliekine) Easting 186986 Northing 639052 and

Carradale Easting 181402 Northing 639107

The activity consists of the installation of an electricity submarine cable between Arran and Carradale which is critical for a safe and reliable supply of electricity to our customers.

Further information concerning the proposed submarine electricity cable installation between Arran and Carradale can be obtained from:

<http://news.ssen.co.uk/submarinecables/>

The pre-application consultation events will be held at:

| Date | Location | Venue | Time |
|------------|-----------|----------------------------|----------|
| 21/05/2018 | Arran | Auchrannie Hotel, KA27 8BZ | 2pm-6pm |
| 22/05/2018 | Arran | Auchrannie Hotel, KA27 8BZ | 10am-4pm |
| 25/05/2018 | Carradale | Carradale Hall, PA28 6QG | 12pm-3pm |

Persons wishing to provide comments on the proposed submarine electricity cable between Arran and Carradale can do so by writing to the prospective applicant at:

submarinecables@sse.com

Or by post marked for the attention of Submarine Cable Team to:

Inveralmond House, 200 Dunkeld Road, Perth PH1 3AQ, not later than 29/06/2018.

Comments should be dated and should clearly state the name (in block capitals) and full return email or postal address of those making comment. Comments made to the prospective applicant are not representations to the Scottish Ministers. If Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution submits an application for a marine licence to Scottish Ministers, an opportunity will be given for representations to be made to the Scottish Ministers on the application.



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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 15th April

Lochranza Church, 9.30am.
Morning Service.

Pirnmill Church, 10.45am.

Morning Service

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.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday 15th April

Holy Communion, 11.00 am.

Mr John Roberts

Coffee after service.

Wednesday 18th April

Holy Communion, 12.15pm

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)

Sunday 15th April

Morning Service 11am

Trust Housing Lounge,

Glen Estate, Brodick

Evening Service 6.30pm

5 Glen Road, Brodick

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday Worship at 11am

Brodick Library

Telephone 700346

Everyone Warmly Invited

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings

Sunday 15th April

Service 11am, Free Church,

Brodick

Tea and coffee after the service

Wednesday at 7.30pm Home fellowship group for bible study and prayer.

Telephone 600222

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"

Sunday 15th April

Rev. Lily McKinnon
Kilmory - 10am,
Lamlash - 11.30am.

In Lamlash: prayer time
10.45am.

All welcome, including families; children's area

Scottish Charity SC015072

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland, Charity Number: SC014005

Sunday 15th April

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

Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service and everyone is invited to stay and enjoy more fellowship afterwards.

There will be a sale of Traidcraft goods available to buy.

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 15th April**

Sunday Mass 11am

DEATH

BAILLIE: At Crosshouse Hospital, on 9th April 2018, Kerr Baillie, aged 89 years. Beloved husband of Ena. Dear uncle of Fiona, Kirstin and Morven. Sadly missed by John and Greg. For funeral arrangements contact AW Blair & Sons, Funeral Directors, Tel: 01294 468238.

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS**BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS****BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS****BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS****BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS****BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS****BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mountain bikers, enthusiasts and volunteers who took part in the trail maintenance.

Trail repair day

Members of the Arran High School mountain bike club swapped their two wheels for shovels and pickaxes last weekend for day of trail

DEATH

HUNTER: Ethne Margaret Elsie (Peggy). Beloved wife of the late Eric, died peacefully in her sleep on Thursday morning of 5th April. She lived and died with dignity four days before her 102nd birthday and was in her own home in her beloved Lochranza. She will be hugely missed by many people, especially her two daughters, sons-in-law, six grandchildren and fifteen great grandchildren. There will be a cremation on Thursday, 19th April at 1.15pm at Masonhill Crematorium, By Ayr, followed by a happy memorial service in Lochranza Church at 12 noon on Friday, 20th April.

On Arran, the cyclists and volunteers were supported by the Arran Access Trust and the Forestry Commission Scotland. Armed with shovels and pickaxes, the volunteers helped clear the paths that were being overgrown by willow trees. Errant rocks were also re-

moved and paths reshaped and cleared of vegetation.

Ensuring that trails and pathways will not wash away, volunteers also embarked on a water management initiative which directed rain and surface water through channels and gulleys rather than washing

away topsoil and eroding pathways.

Club leader Robert McNeice said: 'We all had great fun and achieved a huge amount on a much-used path. It was great to see the impact of everyone's hard efforts. A huge thank you to all involved.'



Club members clear a waterlogged section of the trail.

IN MEMORIAM

Lorna Craig

In loving memory of
Lorna Craig, 1956 -2017

*Gone from our lives, never
from our hearts*

With great love from
Andy, Bryan, Toni, Liam
and Sean



Bracken and thick bushes which had concealed parts of the path had to be tackled with pickaxes.

Kema Genda wins final Drumadoon contest

Arran Ladies Golf Union

Saturday April 7, Drumadoon. After a long winter of wet weather, the last of the Drumadoon competitions was finally able to be played. 1. Kema Genda 78-12=66, 2. and scratch Susan Butchard 77-10=67.

The Arran Ladies Golf Union thanked Trish for the catering and the Brodick Golf Club for the courtesy of the course.

Fixture: Tuesday April 17, Thursday April 19, Saturday April 21, Kiscadale Competition, Whiting Bay Golf Club. The game on Thursday commences at 4.45pm and at 1.30pm on Saturday.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday April 5, Yellow Medal. 1. Paul Jameson 77-11=66 BIH, 2. Dougie MacFarlane 65+1=66, 3. Serge

El Adm 83-15=68. Scratch Dougie MacFarlane 65. Magic twos, Todd Jameson @16th, Paul Jameson @4th.

Sunday April 8, Carpenter Rose Bowl. 1. Ian Bremner 71-7=64, 2. Derek Harrison 87-21=66, 3. Drew Wales 76-9=67. Best scratch Ian Bremner 71.

Fixtures: Sunday April 15, Hugh Hutchison Greensome, ballot at 11am not 12.30pm as previously intimated. Thursday April 18, Summer Cup, make up own games, see starter for times.

Brodick Golf Club

Thursday April 5, Summer Cup, 19 played, CSS 64. 1. Alistair Hume 72-11=61, 2. Angus Raeburn 73-11=62, 3. Matthew Keir 68-4=64. Scratch M Keir 68.

Sunday April 8, British Legion 36 holes, nine played. 1. Nicol Hume 134, 2.

Douglas Robertson 135, 3. Gordon Hendry 136 ACB. Round one, CSS 65. 1. Matthew Dobson 73-7=66, 2. John May 88-21=67 ACB, 3. Gordon Hendry 73-6=67. Scratch M Dobson 73 ACB. Round two, CSS 65. 1. Douglas Robertson 82-18=64, 2. Nicol Hume 79-14=65, 3. Gordon Hendry 75-6=69. Scratch G Hendry 75.

Sweep, six played, CSS 66. 1. Alastair Dobson 76-10=66, 2. Ian Keen 80-10=70. Scratch A Dobson 76.

Fixture: Saturday April 14, British Legion Cup. Enter before noon or turn up for draws at 8.30am and noon.

Shiskine Golf Club

Sunday April 1, gents 12-hole medal, 21 played, CSS 42. First Class: 1. and scratch G Andrew 46-6=40,

2. P Betley 48-5=43 BIH, 3. A Kerr 50-7=43. 2nd Class: 1. A Bannatyne 54-14=40, 2. R Betley 60-14=46, 3. Q Oliver 60-12=48. Magic twos D Markham, P Betley, A Napier, M Campbell and A Bannatyne. Well done, Para.

Wednesday April 4, Daniel Ferguson Trophy, eight played, CSS 41. 1. and scratch, J Faulkner 46-5=41, 2. W McNally 51-9=42, 3. R Crawford 48-5=43. Magic twos J Faulkner, R Crawford and D Tod. Willie wins the Daniel Ferguson Trophy.

Thursday April 5, ladies 18-hole medal, par 67, SSS 67, CSS 70 R/O. 1. and scratch, Ann May 78-6=72, 2. Pat Adamson 96-21=75, 3. Alice Anderson 91-15=76.

Sunday April 8, The Tor Alvey Greensome, 14



Winner and runner up of the ALGU Drumadoon respectively, Kema Genda, right, and Susan Butchard.

played in this popular early season Greensome which was won with a creditable net 60.6 by Kevin McAleney and Ronnie Mann.

Kevin and Ronnie also bagged the only magic two of the day when Ronnie holed a respectably long putt after Kevin smashed a drive to the heart of the 14th green.

1. Kevin McAleney and Ronnie Mann (12.4)60.6, 2. Douglas Auld and Stuart McGregor (17.2)62.8, 3. John Dick and Ian Andrews (14) 63.

Fixtures: Sunday April 15, medal, draws at 9am and 11am. Cards for games out-with the draws to be in by Sunday evening. Wednesday April 18, Summer Trophy, all day competi-

tion with optional draw at 5.30pm.

Corrie Golf Club

Fixtures: Saturday April 14, The Eddie Rankin Memorial trophy, shotgun start at 1.30pm. Members are reminded that the Wednesday medals have started, which also offer the chance to win big money via the magic twos. Ballot at 5pm.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Fixtures: Tuesday April 17, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary. Ladies Kiscadale Trophy at Whiting Bay, Tuesday April 17, Thursday April 19 at 4.45pm and Saturday April 21 at 1pm. Saturday April 14, Eddie Rankin Trophy, Machrie vs Corrie to be played at Corrie with a shotgun start at 1.30pm.



Captain Wolfi Kroner presents the Tor Alvey trophy to winners Kevin McAleney and Ronnie Mann.



Willie McNally, winner of the Daniel Ferguson Trophy at Shiskine.



Reuben Betley who won the Winter Cup at Shiskine.

Arran Ladies secure fourth place in hockey league

The Arran Ladies are delighted to have finished fourth in division 3 of the West District Women's Hockey League.

Separated by mere points, the final ranking depended on the outcome of a match between Ferguslie Ladies and Dumfries Ladies 2s, which saw Ferguslie defeating their opponents to finish in third place with 37 points, two points above Arran.

Heading the league table is Uddingston Clinetix Ladies 2s who have won 17 of their games, drew one and lost two and earning themselves 52 points. With just two games to play they cannot be overtaken.

Remarkable

The fourth place ranking is a remarkable achievement considering that the Arran Ladies only won the fourth division

last year and were promoted to the third division for the current season. Putting up a determined fight the team have won 11 games, drawn two and lost seven.

Coach and vice captain Lorraine 'Hurricane' Hewie said: 'It is a fantastic achievement from a small club, with limited players, officials and resources. Congratulations and well done

to the whole club for digging deep and competing in another season, let alone a higher division.'

Sportsmanship

'This season proved tough, with far more experienced teams but Arran played with the same gumption, determination and true sportsmanship.'

Here's hoping that the club can continue and join the hock-

ey league again in 2018/2019.'

The final two games of league will take place today (Saturday) between Milne Craig Clydesdale Western Ladies 6s and Ayr Ladies 2s and another match between Hillhead Ladies 4s and Milne Craig Clydesdale Western Ladies 5s. The outcomes of these games are not expected to alter the current league positions.

SPORT



INSIDE THIS WEEK:

Kema wins final
Drumadoon contest

Record online entry for the Ormidale 10k

The 30th anniversary run of the Isle of Arran Ormidale 10k is only a week away, being held next weekend on Sunday April 22.

Organisers are delighted that the race has a record number of online entrants – 59 as the *Banner* went to press – and no doubt, many more locals will enter on the day, at the Ormidale Pavilion from 11am. The race starts at noon.

Tommy Gilmore, of Arran Runners, said: ‘Contenders who have been targeting the race will now be approaching the peak plateau of their training. The rest of us, content to be “also rans”, will be feeling the benefits of having a target to aim for.’

The race started in 1987 but, because it was cancelled one year, this will be the 30th anniversary race.

‘It is a great pleasure, being a runner on Arran. We have so many routes available on our doorstep. From road running, to trail running, to fell running, the variety of terrains and elevations available to runners and joggers of all abilities must surely make urban-based runners envious. The stunning scenery and rich wildlife add to the mix of attractions, wherever you live on the island. Running also gives access to some of the most beautiful, unspoiled, even remote, parts of the island, while still being close to home.’

The course is very flat and takes a flat scenic route out to Merkland Point at the north end of Brodick Bay, and back, with a short diversion up the Knowe road to make the distance exact.

Pre-entry and race information is recommended on the SiEntries website, or enter on the day. The race is restricted to runners 16 years and over. Competitors should note that the race is run under Scottish Athletics and UK Athletics rules, which do not allow, for obvious reasons, wearing of iPods or other music devices during road races.

Anyone wishing to take up this sport, which keeps you fit and healthy, is recommended to join one of



Runners taking part in last year's race. 01_B15run01

the jogscotland groups on the island. One is held on a Monday night at 5.30pm in Whiting Bay, see jogscotland – Isle of Arran on Facebook for details of meeting point. A second group meets in Brodick on

a Wednesday in the small Co-op car park at 5.30pm. See Arran Run Coach Facebook page for details.

Volunteer marshals needed

Being run on public roads, the race needs about a

dozen marshals to alert traffic and assist runners. No experience is necessary. Anyone able to offer their services for an hour and a half on the day, please contact Tommy Gilmore on 01770 302293 or 302246.

Rat racers ready for Ultra Tour

More than 400 runners will descend on Arran this weekend to take part in the Rat Race Ultra Tour of Arran across both the north and south of the island.

The two-day event, covering approximately 27 miles each day, will start at the beach near Fisherman’s Walk on Saturday when around 100 runners will head south towards Kil-donan and back, mostly using forest paths. On Sunday 300 runners will head northwards towards Lochranza and circumnavigate the north-eastern half of Arran.

Registration for the event, which is aimed at experienced runners, will take place at the base camp at Ormidale park in Brodick tonight (Friday) when participants’ essential kit will be inspected and entrants provided with a satellite tracker.

dale park in Brodick tonight (Friday) when participants’ essential kit will be inspected and entrants provided with a satellite tracker.

Base camp – where camping facilities, a restaurant, beer tent and toilets will be provided – will also be the finishing line for both days’ events. Runners can choose to do either a single day or run on both days.

Jim Mee, managing director of Rat Race Adventure Sports, said: ‘It’s been 10 years since Rat Race have operated an event on a west coast Scottish island and we couldn’t be happier to be staging this weekend’s Ultra Tour of Arran.

‘When our participants set sail

from Ardrossan they will be gazing west towards the snow-dusted northern peaks and wondering what lies in store for them.

‘Well, we know already what will greet them: a superb running or trekking experience, coupled with fantastic local hospitality.

‘We hope to be coming back every year and growing the event steadily but, for now, we’re simply grateful to the island for having us and we promise to treat your home with respect.

‘We pledge to leave no litter and we will be approaching this undertaking with a healthy dose of outdoor and mountain awareness too.’



The marquee in Ormidale Park which is the base camp for the event.

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