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SATURDAY 6 MAY, 2017

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The write stuff

Pupils lift
Rotary essay
prizes



What a hoot

Mark's owls stir
up a storm



Bay of Martyrs

A tale of two
continents

Well-loved name is back in ferry frame

Glen Sannox early favourite
but a public vote will decide

Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

ferry's Scottish roots. All the names are inspired by Arran's history and geography.

The 102-metre dual fuel ferry, which is costing £48.5 million to build, is due to come into service on the Brodick to Ardrossan route next autumn.

The shortlisted names are:

- Glen Sannox, named after the spectacular valley but also the name of the first purpose-built car ferry launched in 1957 that serviced Arran.

- Goatfell, the highest point on Arran.

- Hutton, the name of famous geologist James Hutton, who discovered his theory of unconformity at Lochranza.

- Glen Iorsa, the largest valley on the island which is steeped in history and a great example of landscape shaped by glaciers.

Glen Sannox is one of the four shortlisted names for the new boat, currently known as Hull 801, which is being built at the Ferguson yard on the Clyde. The name evokes fond memories to many older residents on the island who remember it as the name of Arran's first car ferry which was launched 60 years ago.

But while Glen Sannox has emerged as an early favourite, it is not the only name in the frame. In a vote, now open to the public, they could also choose, Goatfell, Glen Iorsa, or Hutton, after the famous geologist.

The shortlist has been selected by the board of Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) and the Scottish government, with help from the Clyde River Steamer Club to reflect the

Continued on page two.

Taxi rank should go at pier

A bid is being made to scrap the existing taxi rank at the pier when the new ferry terminal opens in August.

Arran Community Council wants to see the three bays reclassified to allow them to be used for general parking. The new terminal will, along with a taxi rank, have car parking and drop-off points.

However, the drop-off situation at the present ferry terminal is 'becoming a full-time job,' according to the acting Arran police sergeant Allen Gow.

He told the meeting that indiscriminate parking had led to complaints to police and CalMac. However, he said the problem had increased since the start of the season and was proving 'incredibly difficult' to deal with. He said it was compounded by the fact the police had no jurisdiction over the existing small car park at the tourist information centre as it was owned by Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL).

Community councillors agreed that when the new terminal opened it would help if the taxi rank in front of ArCaS was removed.

Cheque mates hand over cash



Darryl Urquhart-Dixon and Ruby receive a cheque for £3,000 on behalf of Arran Mountain Rescue Team from the winning group of S2 young philanthropists at a competition held at Arran High. Full story and pictures start on page 11. 01_B18YPI15



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Memories of Arran ferry

Ferry name back in frame

From page one
midnight on Monday May 29, when voting closes.

The name with the most public votes will chosen for CMAL's first LNG ferry.

All of those who voted for the winning name will be entered into a prize draw.

One person chosen at random will be invited as a special guest, along with a friend, to the launch of the ferry at the Ferguson ship yard in Port Glasgow. The winner will also receive a £200 gift voucher for the Auchrannie Resort, two bottles of commemorative whisky, bottled by Arran Dis-

tillery to mark this special occasion, and a special goody bag.

The ferry is one of two currently being built by the Clyde shipyard. The vessels will be capable of operating on liquefied natural gas and marine gas oil, reducing emissions to help meet Scottish Government reduction targets across transport. They are being designed to provide a fully flexible, year-round service for Arran and the Skye Triangle routes.

The first ferry is expected to enter service in the second half of 2018, with the second vessel following a few months later.



Ex-seafarers from Shiskine joined the farewell sail of the MV Glen Sannox in 1989. Left to right: Duncan Duff Snr, Jock Kelso, Tom Pringle, Donald Galbraith, Dave Brambles, Angus Cameron, Bryce Walker, George Brown, Duncan Bannatyne, James Murchie and Jack Murchie. B18sannox01

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Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The previous MV Glen Sannox was a Clyde-built car ferry constructed by the Ailsa Shipbuilding Company in Troon and launched in 1957.

It is fondly remembered by many Arran residents as the ferry which they recall from their youth.

It was the first purpose-build car ferry on the route and served on the Arran route for 14 years before continuing her life operating various Clyde and West Highland routes until 1989 when she was sold and taken to serve on the Red Sea.

In 2000 she ran aground south of Jeddah, Saudi Arabia and was subsequently

scrapped. While fondly remembered by some, it was not fully roll on, roll off. Instead cars were taken on and off the car deck by means of a lift, which meant longer loading and unloading times and frequent delays.

MV Glen Sannox was the main ferry on the Ardrossan, Brodick, Fairlie route and on her introduction she increased the service from two daily return trips to four, berthing overnight at Brodick and using Ardrossan as the main port.

On Saturdays, until 1964, she was assisted by the Ayr excursion steamer PS Calcedonia. Because she was never fitted with stabilizers she could be lively in exposed conditions. Forward on the promenade deck, be-

low the bridge, was a spacious observation lounge and the clubhouse containing officers' quarters and an exclusive lounge for Arran landlords. The vessel had a capacity of 1,100 passengers and 55 cars.

On Saturday April 8 1989, 813 people crowded the decks of the MV Glen Sannox as she sailed her farewell cruise from Brodick to Gourock. First in the queue was Ian Parker of Lamlash who said at the time: 'She was always admired as a useful steamer because of her large passenger capacity.'

'She was advanced for her time, being a side-loading ferry, and she was the last ship built for the Caledonian Steam Packet company.'



MV Glen Sannox, with its distinctive large funnel, pictured in the 1980s. B18sannox02

Rotary writing success for high school students

Winners go forward to national finals

Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Two students at Arran High School have written their way to success.

Naomi Provan and Louise Shankland have won prestigious honours in the Rotary District young writer competitions.

The competitions are run by West of Scotland Rotary District through their 49 clubs from Oban to Glasgow, and everywhere to the west of a line south to the Scottish border.

The theme of the article to be submitted was *Reflections* and S2 pupil

Naomi won the intermediate prize with her story, *Purrfection*, while S5 student Louise won the prize

for seniors with her tale entitled *My Abstract Muse*.

Bill Roberts, on behalf of the Rotary Club of Arran,



Louise Shankland receives her trophy from Bill Roberts 01_A18rotary02; as does Naomi Provan, right 01_A18rotary03.

said: 'This is a wonderful win for the students and our small club is delighted to help young people on

the island in these competitions.'

'The two winners will now go forward to the Ro-

tary national finals in May and that competition covers the whole of the UK and the Irish Republic.'

Meanwhile, the Isle of Arran Rotary Club is fighting for survival.

It no longer holds weekly meetings, but has several events planned for the coming months.

Mr Roberts said: 'We would be delighted to receive new members for fellowship and for supporting often forgotten good causes especially on the island.'

'Why not give our secretary Linda MacCallum a ring on 01770 302875.'



Matthew Reid, head of languages, Louise Shankland, Bill Roberts, Naomi Provan and head teacher Barry Smith. 01_A8rotary01

Tea dance for Tanzania trip

A tea dance is being held today (Saturday) to help raise funds for an amazing Tanzania trip.

Next month Arran High School pupils Meagan Bennett and Ben Downing will be joined by geography teacher Brian Donlin on the trip to East Africa with the Vine Trust.

The trip is part of a project that seeks to develop and build residential centres for abandoned children in the Kilimanjaro region.

The tea dance being held in the community theatre from 1.30-6.30pm is one of a series of fundraising events held to raise cash for the adventure.

Last Thursday all pupils could 'dress as they please' for a £1 donation and S1-S3 pupils took part in a film afternoon for a donation with all funds going to the Tanzania trip.

Mr Donlin said: 'This is a fantastic opportunity for both the pupils and my

self to travel to Tanzania and participate in the excellent work being undertaken by the Vine Trust, but also to broaden the horizons of some of the young people of Arran.'

The group is also appealing to businesses in the local community for assistance with prizes or sponsorship and if anyone can help they should contact Mr Donlin at the school.

The trip leaves on Saturday June 3.

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Teenagers go Gung-Ho for deaf charity

Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Two Arran teenagers are raising funds for a charity for the deaf by taking on some of the world's biggest inflatables.

Liam Bremner from Whiting Bay is a deaf teenager who attends Arran High School, and is, along with his friend Finn MacArthur, trying to raise funds for Deaf Action to thank them for all their support.

Next Saturday, May 13, the pair will be taking part in Gung-Ho in Edinburgh, a charity 5k run which includes 10 of the greatest inflatable obstacles on the planet. They have the world's largest inflatable obstacle and the finale is Europe's biggest inflatable slide.

The boys recently held a bingo night at Whiting Bay Golf Club which raised the



fantastic sum of £272.

They would like to thank everyone who contributed to the organising of the night and everyone who attended and gave so gener-

ously. Liam is supported by various charities, including Deaf Action which is an Edinburgh-based charity that supports anyone who is hearing impaired or deaf

Liam and Finn who are taking on the Gung-Ho challenge for charity.
B18liam01NO

blind, and their families.

Deaf Action was formed in 1835 and its vision has always been 'working together for an equal and better future for all deaf people'. This vision is at the heart of everything it does and remains central to all the services it provides today.

Liam and Finn are very grateful for any help to raise funds for this amazing charity and anyone wishing to sponsor them can do so by using the sponsor forms in various shops in Whiting Bay or by donating to www.justgiving.com/fundraising/DeafActionYouth.

Invitation to landlords

Private landlords who are interested in North Ayrshire Council's plan to improve the condition of the private rented sector are invited to a special event.

Experts from within the private sector will be speaking at the event, dealing with subjects from common repairs to universal credit.

The council's dedicated private sector advice team also offers impartial advice on how to get the most out of a property and can help sustain positive tenancies. They are keen for private landlords to attend.

Anyone interested in attending the event at Greenwood Conference Centre, Irvine, on May 11, from 6.30-8.30pm should call 01294 324644 or email at psadvice@north-ayrshire.gov.uk.

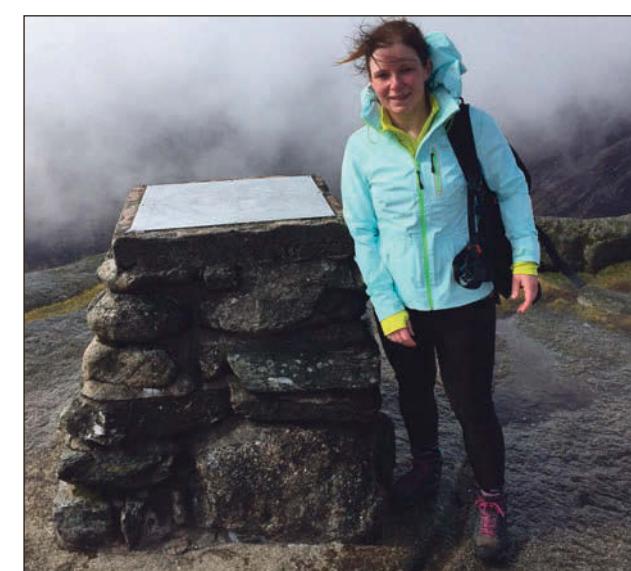
Specsavers' director sets her sights on Arran climb for charity

Specsavers in Rivergate, Irvine, continue to fundraise for Action on Hearing Loss on Arran.

Director Lynsay Dunlop recently completed a sponsored climb of Goatfell raising £200 for the organisation.

Receiving sponsorship from colleagues and friends, Lynsay was joined on the climb by Ruth Lallor the director of Specsavers in Newlands.

Last year after reading in the *Banner* that Action on Hearing Loss was being threatened with closure due to funding issues, store director Gillian Syme of Specsavers Irvine earmarked the Arran charity as the store's nominated charity and encouraged other branch staff to



Lynsay Dunlop raised £200 with a sponsored climb of Goatfell.

get involved. A fundraising event was held at the Little Rock cafe in Brodick earlier this year which featured

live music, raffle prizes, raising £2,000, allowing Action on Hearing Loss to operate for another year.

Wild camping woes spread across island

Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A dog walker from Lochranza has expressed her dismay at discovering an abandoned campsite in Glen Rosa littered with bottles, tent poles, batteries and discarded food.

Faye Anderson, who removed the rubbish from the site and the adjacent burn, said: 'I have no problem with people camping and I am all for people using the countryside, but if they managed to bring all of the items with them, why could they not take them away again? It is such a shame to see so much litter lying around our beautiful island.'

The discovery of the litter comes at a time when concerns about irresponsible wild camping are on the increase across the island.

The action of campers on the Mayish track above Brodick have also recently been received.

A group of teenagers who had been camping there had to be asked by a resident to remove their rubbish bags which were left hanging from a fence after they abandoned them. There have also been reports of Loch Garbad being spoiled with unsightly litter when a bin has been



The abandoned campsite which was surrounded by litter strewn across the area

provided for visitors to use.

While the majority of the thousands of campers who visit Arran and enjoy the unspoilt scenery do act responsibly, it is a small percentage who are causing concern – and the proliferation of no camping signs, as can be found at Fisherman's Walk in Brodick.

The Scottish Outdoor Access Code which provides advice about responsible camping urges wild campers to avoid making fires outwith designated fire spots, never to cut down or damage trees and to remove all rubbish and to even consider picking

up other litter. The code allows for responsible access to most land and inland water for recreation, education and travel but the emphasis is placed on respecting the interests of others, caring for the environment and taking responsibility for the environment.

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 is the legislation for tackling litter, making littering and fly-tipping a criminal offence which can result in a fine or prosecution.

Anyone who drops litter can be issued with an £80 fixed penalty notice and

failure to pay may result in prosecution and the risk of a fine of up to £2,500.

Dates settled for this year's Fèis Arainn

Fèis Arainn will be back this summer and the dates are Monday July 24 to Friday July 28.

For the first time this year the fèis is starting on Monday afternoon so that organisers can register the youngsters in their classes and give them their timetables and other information, before they meet the tutors and start work on the fèis song.

This will allow for maximum teaching time for the rest of the week.

The fèis will take place in Arran High School from 10am to 3.45pm (Monday 2-4pm) each day, finishing as usual with the concert on Friday afternoon.

There will be workshops in Gaelic singing, Gaelic drama and Celtic art as well as seven different traditional instruments – accordion, clarsach (harp), drums, fiddle, guitar, bag-

pipes (or chanter for beginners) and whistle.

Registration forms have now been distributed through the schools and should be returned to school or by post by Friday June 2.

If anyone has any questions or requires more forms please call Maggie on 302623 or Aileen on 700209.

As before, organisers will provide transport, as far as possible, to and from the high school for anyone living outwith Lamlash who requires it.

Organisers hope to see many of last year's participants returning as well as welcoming lots of newcomers.

Participants need to be aged eight by July.

Thasinna' coimhead air adhartr' irfaicinnann! – We are looking forward to seeing you there!

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RNLI enjoys coffee morning success

The Arran branch of the RNLI held a successful coffee morning at the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick last Saturday.

After a slow start the event picked up and at one point it was standing room only. Along with traditional tea and coffee with home baking, the stalls, including a cake

stall and the huge tombola, did a roaring trade.

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea and relies entirely on fundraising from local communities.

Sheila MacNaughton and organiser Elspeth Lang at the baking stall.

01_A18lifeboat02



Alice Lennox and Joyce Buchanan at the busy tombola stall. 01_A18lifeboat01

Women hold vigil

The Arran Women in Black held a vigil near the Brodick ferry terminal last Saturday when they joined a world-wide network of women who are committed to peace and actively oppose war and violence.

They meet in silence to mourn victims of war, soldiers and civilians, near and far and are not affiliated to any political party.

Arran vigils are held on the last Saturday of the month when they meet on the grass opposite the Douglas hotel from 1pm to 2pm and the group invites anyone to attend. While being a women-only vigil they appreciate the invaluable support of men.

Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

With National Ferry Fortnight starting today (Saturday) it's the best time to break free and book a special offer to take friends or family on a ferry break for 2017.

During the two-week period, CalMac and other ferry operators will be running a variety of ticket promotions and competitions.

On the Ardrossan to Brodick route, CalMac will



be running a 'bring a friend for free' promotion which is for travel with a car and a minimum of one adult, subject to availability, on a first-come-first-served basis with a set number of

these promotional tickets available spread across all qualifying routes.

Each year there is an agreed theme, this year it is #Ferrytogether aimed at encouraging people to

travel by ferry to great destinations and enjoy quality time together.

As well as CalMac lots of ferry companies are taking part in the event including Stena Line, DFDS, Irish Ferries and P&O Ferries, to name but a few.

This year the fortnight will run until May 20, promoting the idea of taking a 'carcation' to the islands. There will also be competitions via Facebook and Twitter and a social media campaign.

The ticket promotion will be valid for new bookings made during the NFF period and will be valid for travel from May 6 to October 22 inclusive. All bookings for the promotion must be made via the contact centre team on the freephone number 0800 066 5000 and customers should quote NFF2017 at the time of booking.

For further details and offers and conditions please visit: www.discoverferries.com.

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The woodworker's owl carvings causing a hoot

Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

An Arran woodworker and chainsaw artist is rapidly gathering attention for his sculpted artworks dotted around the island.



Another one of Mark's creations sits high atop a hill between Lamlash and Brodick. 01_B18owl02



These two Easter Island-style heads look out towards vehicles heading to Lamlash. 01_B18owl03

Mark Bunyan's latest work of art - two owls near Brodick primary school - has become an overnight sensation as visitors photograph and discuss the roadside attraction. Mark,

who used to work in forestry and as a tree surgeon, is somewhat of a wood aficionado so when a large larch tree came down during a storm, he recognised the weather resistant wood as ideal for a planned expansion to his garden shed.

He approached the landowner, Charles Fforde, and reached an agreement with him, allowing him to use the wood while he also cleared the area of fallen trees in Stronach Woods and performed remedial work on the remaining trees. As a result, the cleared forest area will provide Brodick primary pupils with a safe place to run forest school sessions. The wood has also provided Mark with the inspiration to carve two large owls that appear to be perched on the woodland floor, peering at passers-by who are stopping in numbers to photograph the carvings.

Mark, from Lamlash, said: 'I did not plan the two owls they are really just what came to mind when I fired up the chainsaw. It is surprising how many people have commented on them; all good thankfully. I suppose it is all a bit of fun and I enjoy it.'

The artworks, described as tongue-in-cheek by Mark, range from a rein-

deer to Easter Island-style heads. Many of his giant colourful mushroom carvings are sold at various outlets on Arran. The various works can be seen across Arran; there are three on the Brodick to Lamlash road, one on the Corrie road and one on the String road and a few more hidden among the forests.

Mark Bunyan with his two owls which have become a talking point and unofficial Brodick landmark.

01_B18owl01



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Editorial**Have your say
on boat vote**

Another day another vote – and we don't mean the general election.

No, for a change this vote is just for fun.

It won't change lives but it will be forever added to the vocabulary of anyone with any connection to Arran.

We are talking, of course, of the naming of the new ferry.

It is good to see that fleet owner Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) now go to the public as a matter of course to ask them to help to chose a name for new vessels.

Sensibly, they offer a shortlist, given the Boaty McBoatface debacle that beset the naming of the polar research boat last year.

Certainly Glen Sannox has emerged as an early favourite given the fondness for the 60-year-old boat of the same name, but there is bound to be support, too, for Goatfell and Glen Iorsa. Only Hutton, we feel, is likely to be an also ran, unless the geology community hijack the vote – and, I suppose, stranger things have happened.

What is important is that people take the trouble to have their say. It only takes a few clicks and it lets CMAL know the travelling public do care that they have conducted a public vote.

But there is not too much time. The vote closes at the end of May – plenty of time for a deep breath before the next vote on June 8, which is slightly more important.

Thought for the week

'There is nothing in all creation that can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.' (Romans 8:39)

Toilet sale too quick?

Sir,

Is it just me or does anybody else think the sale of the Arran toilets is inordinately quick?

My take is that when, because they will, government puts an obligation on councils to provide public toilets they will have no ready-made sites and will have to find them and then do all the design, planning and fundraising which will take years, that is if land owners will sell the land and residents accept them, and Arran will still be a place where you cannot leave the road for fear of being contaminated by human excrement – even worse your dog finds it and, as dogs do, rolls in it.

Coincidentally the statement by Ellen McMaster at the hustings that 'no-one in the room would go near them with a barge pole', bears out my previous expression that the Arran toilets situation is not new but local people, including Ellen McMaster have done nothing to have them improved. Sounds like a case of we need the tourists but let's not go overboard on looking after them.

Just a thought to end, have the council actually got the right to sell these toilets or can ownership be allocated to other parties?

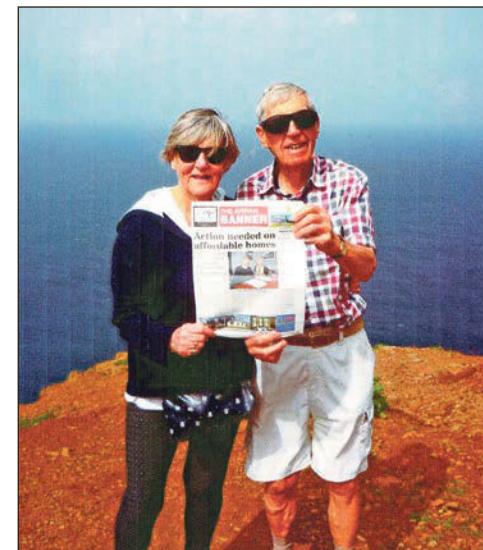
**Roderick C McKay
Moray**

Remove the political signs

Sir,

I am disappointed that the SNP has chosen to scar our beautiful island with its party signs.

I have received phone

**The Arran Banner on holiday**

The Arran Banner regularly receives pictures of its readers enjoying their holidays in far flung and exotic locations as well as those closer to home. When space allows we like to print these pictures of people who have remembered to take their favourite paper with them. In this week's edition we have William Blackwood, a regular visitor to Corrie, catching up on the latest news from Arran, left, in London, with the River Thames and St Paul's Cathedral in the background. Ann Hodge and Stan Cline, right, are pictured at the cliff point on Madeira nearest to America.

calls from residents and comments from visitors telling me that they are unhappy at what has happened.

I am not sure what the purpose of the signs is other than to annoy people who don't support the SNP views and make them vote for other political parties.

I don't suppose for one minute that the SNP has the permission of the property owners to put up signs, and I would urge the SNP to remove the signs at once.

Our beautiful island and the people who live here have a heavy reliance on jobs related to tourism – these ugly signs are not what visitors or residents want to see.

**Timothy Billings
Glenisle Hotel**

Mammouth task

Sir,

Having just completed the

newly-constructed coastal walkway between Cordon and Ardlui with a group of friends, I would like to say a huge 'thank you' and many congratulations to the people responsible for the hard work involved in the completion of this mammoth task.

The contours of the walk are a delight, especially on a beautiful sunny Arran day when all the spring flowers are at their best in the surrounding woodland.

Sparkling sea, gannets swooping, birds singing – what more could anyone want?

**Kate Hesp
Sliddery**

Captains salute your generosity

Sir,

We would like to say thank you very much to all the people who supported us

in raising funds for our P7 residential trip to Kingwood Activity Centre in Hexham.

We raised a fantastic sum of £683.33 from sales of our Christmas show programmes, Christmas coffee afternoon and the Daffodil Tea.

We couldn't have done it without raffle and home-baking donations, and a lot of people coming along.

We will be using the money to help with transport, souvenirs and tuck money.

Here are some of the activities we will be doing: climbing, abseiling, quad-biking and fencing.

We leave the island on Sunday May 28 – and we can't wait!

Thanks again.

House captains of Whiting Bay primary school:

Anna Wilkinson, Kirsty Morrison, Daisy May McNamara, Cameron McCallum, Alice Lockhart and Louis Grey

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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.

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Pilgrims rediscover the St Molaise way

Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

On April 18, the feast day of St Molaise, a group of resident volunteers from Holy Isle completed the long-disused pilgrims way from Clauchan to Lamlash and onto Holy Isle by boat.

It was a chilly but bright day and the group started at St Molios church in Shiskine, in front of the stone slab reputed to have covered the grave of St Molaise. They then walked up the road to visit the Clauchan Chapel and graveyard, before proceeding up the forestry road towards the summit of Clauchan Glen, following the burn to its source.



The group which completed the St Molaise pilgrimage.

The group descended the access road of the recently completed Glenkiln Hydro

scheme into Benlister Glen and onto the back road into Lamlash and from there

called in at the Church of Scotland to view the cross that used to stand in the

burial ground on Holy Isle before catching the last ferry back so they could walk along the shore to the cave where St Molaise had his hermitage.

The pilgrimage was completed as a tribute to the spiritual heritage of Holy Isle and as a way of connecting Arran with the island. It is hoped to make this an annual event and include more people from Arran and the wider area, perhaps making it into an established walking route to Holy Isle via Shiskine and Lamlash.

The total distance was about 9.5 miles to Lamlash pier and another mile walking along the shore of Holy Isle to the cave.

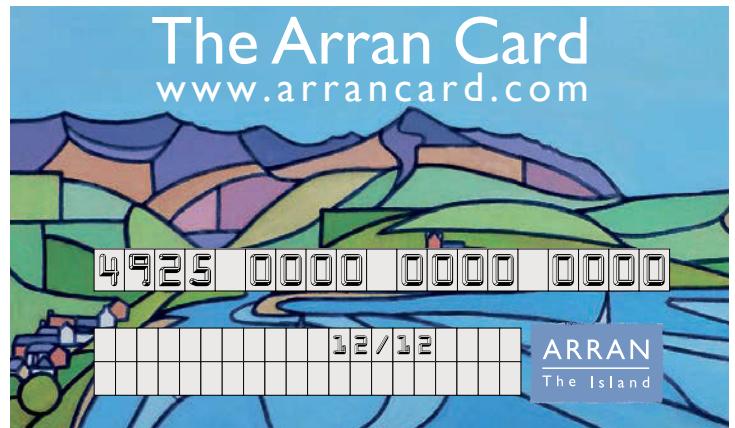
New measures brought in to protect scallops

The SNP government is to roll out new measures on June 1 designed to protect scallop stocks.

Changes will see the minimum landing size increase from 100mm to 105mm – a move ministers believe will help to protect the breeding stock and lead to an increase in yield and egg production.

Restrictions will also be placed on the number of dredges scallop vessels can tow in Scotland's inshore waters, with vessels limited to eight dredges per side, or 10 if they install electronic monitoring onboard.

Fisheries secretary Fergus Ewing MSP said: 'The scallop sector is very important to many of our local communities and these management measures coming into force will help secure the long-term sustainability of the stock.'



First as Arran launches island-wide gift card

The ArranCard, a prepaid Visa-based gift card for exclusive use on Arran, has been launched by VisitArran

The card was unveiled this week at the VisitArran desk on the MV Caledonian Isles and with an online promotion.

As previously reported in the *Banner*, Arran is believed to be the first island community to run such a scheme, certainly in Scotland and possibly Europe.

Featuring artwork by Arran artist Angela Elliott-Walker, the card can be bought in denominations

of £10 to £500 and is redeemable at more than 45 island businesses.

Much like any other gift card, the ArranCard can be used at cafes, restaurants, shops and other outlets.

However, unlike existing gift vouchers that so many businesses offer, the ArranCard will be able to be split between different businesses, as the user sees fit.

The purpose is to simplify things for the visitor, although residents may also like to consider this as a gift option for friends.

The VisitArran initiative has been supported by

Argyll and the Isles LEADER and North Ayrshire Council.

Sheila Gilmore, executive director of VisitArran, said: 'This is a very exciting project for our island.'

'We strongly feel that the ArranCard will simplify things for our visitors allowing them to use one card across a variety of businesses during their stay on our lovely island.'

The ArranCard is available for purchase at www.arrancard.com, where remaining balances can be checked and a list of participating businesses can also be found.

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Aldi sport fund boost

Low cost supermarket chain Aldi is pledging to provide sports clubs in Ayrshire and Arran with valuable funding.

The company has announced the return of its Scottish Sport Fund, which is now open for applications.

The fund is open to any charitable sporting organisation in the area and groups can apply for funding for a wide range of purposes, including new strips, training equipment or to subsidise transport costs.

Last year the fund supported six clubs in Ayrshire and Arran with more than £2,500 and in 2017 the retailer hopes to support even more clubs across the region.

Online applications for the 2017 fund are now open at www.aldi.co.uk/scottishsportfund

Trust shares key to Scotland's treasures

Families across Scotland are being handed the key to Scotland's treasures this summer – when they join the National Trust for Scotland.

That's the message from Scotland's largest conservation charity as it launches its biggest ever recruitment drive with TV, radio and outdoor advertising.

The TV advert shows a family approaching a mysterious door in Ayr High St with an ornate key. The family turns the key and are transported to a beautiful beach, an impressive castle and a dramatic battle scene all in a few seconds.

Miss Scotland Lucy Kerr tried out her own key on a recent visit to Pollok

House, Glasgow. Lucy, 19, from Bearsden, was joined by children on her visit to the historic property where the NTS was created 86 years ago.

Director of customer and cause Mark Bishop said: 'Becoming a member of the National Trust for Scotland is like being given a very special key – the key to spectacular scenery, the key to Scotland's amazing history and the key to experiences you will never forget. We wanted to showcase all of this with our exciting new campaign and encourage families to open up the trust's treasures which are just waiting to be shared and celebrated this summer.'

The charity says that it has deliberately taken a fun, family focus to help show new recruits that it is 'attainable, affordable and relevant to all'. The fresh campaign comes as the trust is investing £17 million in visitor improvements at Brodick Castle, Culzean Castle, Brodie Castle and Newhailes.

As a result Brodick Castle is closed until spring next year for the installation of vital fire protection works, but the gardens and country park remain open and a new adventure playground is due to open later this month.

The NTS is Scotland's largest conservation charity with 360,000 members and growing. The only charity to care for both built and natural heritage, it looks after the nation's top heritage treasures including St Kilda, the UK's only dual World Heritage Site; the Robert Adam-designed masterpiece, Culzean Castle; the iconic Glencoe; the site of the final defeat of the Jacobites at Culloden; one of Scotland's last remaining working grain mills at Barry Mill and the beautiful Pitmedden Garden.

Family membership starts at £7.50 per month. For more information, visit: www.nts.org.uk.



Miss Scotland Lucy Kerr with the giant key.

Photo Lenny Warren.



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Smooth general election pledge

Preparations are already underway to ensure the UK parliamentary election on June 8 goes as smoothly as possible in North Ayrshire.

Although the general election has been called at short notice, North Ayrshire's returning officer Elma Murray says arrangements are well in hand to ensure an efficient democratic vote.

But Mrs Murray said: 'I would like to take this opportunity to remind those who are not currently registered to vote, that they still have time to join the Electoral Register, allowing them to participate in the Parliamentary election.'

'No one should miss out

on their right to be part of the democratic process - simply go to www.gov.uk/register-to-vote where registration takes about five minutes.'

If you have already registered for the council elections, then it is likely that you will be eligible to vote in the parliamentary election. However, if you have changed address or other details have changed, you are advised to check your registration.

The deadline for registering to vote is Monday, May 22, while the deadline for registering a new postal vote is Tuesday, May 23. For those wishing to apply

for a proxy vote, the deadline is Wednesday, May 31.

Voters aged 16 or 17 on June 8 should be aware that while they are eligible to vote in the council elections, they will not be able to vote in the Parliamentary election as the minimum voting age is 18.

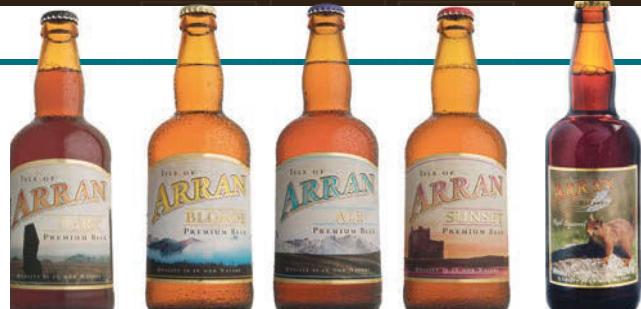
The notice of election for the UK general election was published at 4pm on May 5 and prospective parliamentary candidates can submit their names between Monday, May 8, and the nomination deadline on May 11.

Polling stations will open 7am to 10pm for parliamentary election on June 8.



Arran Leisure

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Above left, Abi Trail and Marsha Bain livened up their presentation with a musical performance in aid of the North Arran First Responders. 01_B18YPI07; above, Two presenters, representing ArCaS, take a pie to the face in the pie percentage game. 01_B18YPI04

Power of persuasion wins cash for charity

Second-year pupils at Arran High School put their powers of persuasion to the test last week as they attempted to convince a panel of judges to select their nominated charity which would then receive a £3,000 bonanza.

Utilising audio-visual presentations and outlining the benefits of the charitable donation, the children were taking part in the Youth Philanthropy Initiative which encourages community involvement, philanthropic pursuits and promotes responsibility and respect in the pupils.

The proposals were judged by a panel including head teacher Barry Smith, the Rev Benjamin van Rensburg, Brodie Pearcey, Elaine Campbell and a successful presenter from last year's initiative, S3 pupil Eilidh Hamill.

Before the six groups started their presentations, last year's winner Bill Barr of the RNLI explained to the audience how the award had contributed, along with the Mooring Association, to make a safe passage for boats entering and departing Lamlash Harbour through the purchase of six illuminated buoys.

Following an entertaining presentation by Finn McArthur, Ciara Wood, Freddie Bunyan and Abbie Mulholland, who represented Arran Mountain Rescue Team (AMRT), and a judges-versus-pupils quiz on the rescue group, AMRT came out on top, securing the £3,000 award. The

charity plans to use the money to buy additional life-saving equipment.

The other charities being represented were: Arran Cancer Support, (ArCaS), with two entries, the Search and Rescue Dog Association, (SARDA), the North Arran First Responders and the Arran Community and Voluntary Service, (ACVS).

The pupils, having done their research by visiting and learning about their selected charities, utilised various fun activities to make an impact and to make their presentations memorable.

Among these was a pie in the face game, a fashion show, singing, humorous videos including a stop-start Lego animation and a SARDA dog performing for the audience.

While the judges deliberated and selected their winning group – and the winning charity – the audience were entertained by the vocal, fiddle and guitar skills of Iona Summers, Charlotte McKillop and Abi Trail.

Mr Smith, who has been involved in YPI presentations for more than five years, in various locations, praised the pupils for the quality of their presentations.

He also acknowledged the huge amount of work by Mara Gosman, who spearheaded the initiative along with pupils who had not

only presented good causes but also demonstrated social responsibility.

The cheque to the Arran Mountain Rescue Team was presented to Darryl Urquhart-Dixon, who was representing SARDA, but is also a member of the AMRT.

Below, the winning team representing Arran Mountain Rescue Team receive a cheque from head teacher and judge Barry Smith. 01_B18YPI14



Pupils get creative



Bill Barr of Arran RNLI and the pupils from last year's winning team explains to the audience what the charity had done with the donation. 01_B18YPI02



Louie Urquhart-Dixon, Iona Summers, Mia Walker, Kyle McNicol and John Davidge present a convincing case for the Search and Rescue Dog Association. 01_B18YPI05



The group representing the Arran Mountain Rescue Team involve the audience in a Q&A session.



Ciara Wood and Freddie Bunyan host the judges versus pupils quiz in aid of the Arran Mountain Rescue Team. 01_B18YPI08



Erin MacPherson, Iain Gold and Paul Docherty outline the case for a charitable donation to ArCaS. 01_B18YPI10



Malley Robertson, Emilia Robertson, Jordan Rodgers, Gregor Crichton and Millie Young represented ArCaS. 01_B18YPI03



Darryl Urquhart-Dixon and rescue dog Ruby demonstrate some of the skills needed to be a rescue dog. 01_B18YPI06

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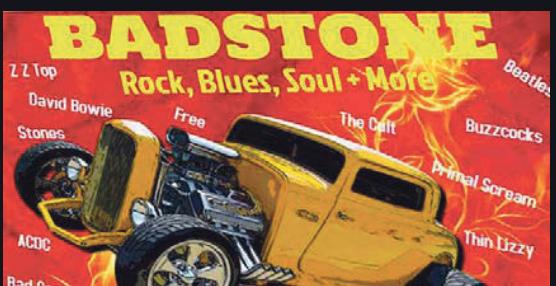
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for their cause



the judges in a judges versus pupils quiz. 01_B18YPI09



Rory Currie, Jed Russell, Cameron McKay and Naomi Provan explain how Arran CVS would use the funds if it were to win the award. 01_B18YPI12



Above, Barry Smith, the Reverend Benjamin van Rensburg, Brodie Pearcey, Elaine Campbell and S3 pupil Eilidh Hamill were the judges for the day. 01_B18YPI01



Iona Summers and Charlotte McKillop performed for the audience while the judges deliberated. 01_B18YPI13

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Castle Time Travellers
Sat 6th & Sun 7th April 11am & 2pm A family tour through the times of the Castle – dressing-up optional! Stout footwear advised – To book please contact the Castle Adults & children Free with Garden Entry

Brodick Castle from the Outside
Sat 6th, Sun 7th – 12, 1 & 3pm Thurs 11th & Fri 12th May - 11am, 12, 1, 2 & 3pm A guided historical tour of the exterior of the Castle – stout footwear advised. Please book at Reception on arrival Adults Free with Garden Entry

High level archaeology walk – Follow the prehistoric hunters
Thurs 11th May, 10am – 4.30pm Strenuous walk, partially on pathless, boggy terrain visiting our upland excavation Archaeologists will give an exclusive tour of the remains of the prehistoric dwellings high in the Arran Hills. Hillwalking clothing and footwear essential. To book please contact the Rangers 01770 302462 goatfell@nts.org.uk

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Trout fly fishing
Brodick Castle,
Arran Brewery
Soap making and candle dipping
Arran Heritage Museum, Rosaburn, Brodick

Loch Garbad, bank fishing
Garden open 9am-dusk
Mon, Wed, Sat 10-5pm, Tue, Thur, Fri, Sun 12.30-5pm
Arran Aromatics, Brodick, 10am - 4pm
Daily 10.30am to 4.30pm

Saturday 6th May

Army Cadets
Over 21s disco
Family games
Fun in the pool
Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Blackwaterfoot bowls
Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game
Live music - Badstone rock & pop
Whiting Bay Bowling Club Open Day
Lamlash Bowling Club Open Day
Live music - Jonnie Scotland
Tea dance

Auchrannie Road 11am -1 pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie games hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie spa pool, 4-5pm
9.30am - 11am
9.30am - noon
Bowling Club, 2pm
Brodick Bowling Green 2pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Bowling Club, 2pm
Bowling Club, 2pm
The Douglas Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Arran High School, Lamlash, 2pm

Sunday 7th May

Family games
Fun in the pool
Open acoustic session at Fiddlers
AA meeting
Live music - Badstone unplugged

Auchrannie games hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie spa pool, 4pm-5pm
Fiddlers, Brodick 2.30pm - 5pm
Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm

Monday 8th May

Over 50s badminton
Badminton
Morning fitness
Badminton
Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Arran Junior Football Club
Circuit training
Lamlash Aerobix
Tae Kwon Do
Summer bridge tournament
Arran Citizen's Advice Bureau
Adult Tennis
Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game

Brodick Church Hall adults and over 10s, 7.00pm - 8.30pm
Arran High School, 6.30pm - visitors welcome
Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30am - 1.30pm
Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club from 5.30pm
Brodick Bowling Green 6.45pm

Tuesday 9th May

Pop quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Youth club
Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Healthy outdoors
Blackwaterfoot bowls
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)
Lamlash Junior Drama Club
Flow yoga
Pilates
Brodick Castle garden walk
Scottish country dancing
Arran Music Festival AGM

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Kildonan Hall, 7pm
9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
NTS Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm
Bowling Club, 2pm
Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
Arran High School, 6.30pm - 9pm
Corrie and Sannox Hall, 6pm
Kilmory Hall, 6pm - 7pm
Meet at Visitor Centre, 2pm
Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Arran Mountain Rescue Base, Brodick, 7.30pm

Wednesday 10th May

Rock an pop bingo
Tae Kwon Do
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass rehearsal
Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Yoga
Hydrofit
Arran Heritage Museum archives and genealogy service
Mixed ability Run (Arran Run Coach)
Yoga-Arran
Mixed hockey
Dog classes
Flow yoga
Knittery and Nattery
Family friendly pup quiz
Bus pass club meal
Chair yoga St Molios
Burger and quiz night
Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game
Joan Eardley: A Private View

Ormidale Hotel 9.30pm
Arran High School Kids-6.30-7.30pm adults-7.30-8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm
9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
Auchrannie studio, 9.30am-10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
Dunfion Carpark, 5.30pm
Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm
Auchrannie sports Hall, 7.30-9pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 1pm
Shiskine Hall, 7.30pm
Kilmory Hall, 2pm - 4pm
The PHT, 8.30pm
The PHT, noon - 2.30pm
Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am - noon
Felicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm
Brodick Bowling Green 6.45pm
Corrie & Sannox village hall, 8pm

Thursday 11th May

Morning fitness
General knowledge quiz
Arran Vets surgery
Arran Vets reception
Ladies' hockey
Winter bowls
Arran Bridge
Quilt Arran
Flow yoga
Chair yoga
10th Ayrshire Shiskine Cub Scouts and Beavers
Adult Tennis

Auchrannie gym, 9.30-10.30am
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30-8.30pm
Auchrannie, 7pm
Brodick Golf Club, 7pm for 7.15pm
Lamlash Fire Station, 2pm - 4.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am - 11.30am
Shiskine Hall 6pm - 7.30pm
Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club from 5.30pm

Friday 12th May

Yoga
Hydrofit
Arran Youth Foundations
Lochranza children's badminton
Lochranza adults' badminton
Arran Vets
Arran Vets
AA meeting
Tae Kwon Do
Open Mic led by Jim

Auchrannie spa leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm
Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm
Lochranza Hall, 8pm
Surgery 9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm
Reception 9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
Arran High School, Lamlash adults, 7pm - 8.30pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

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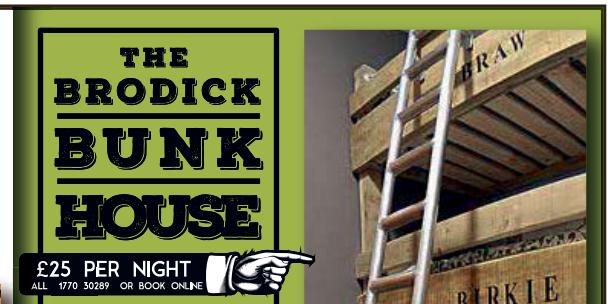
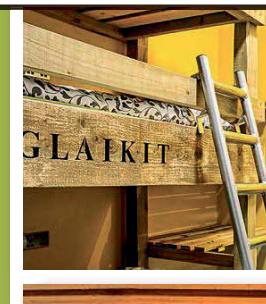


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A tale written on two continents

A master of Tartan Noir and a veteran journalist have collaborated to write a thrilling crime novel set on Australia's south coast.

But what makes the book all the more remarkable is that while half of it was being written on Arran, the other half was being written simultaneously on the other side of the world.

Bay of Martyrs is the result of the unusual collaboration between Arran-based author Tony Black and Matt Neal. During the writing, as Tony pounded away at his computer in Whiting Bay, his co-author Matt was doing the same in the South West Victorian town of Warrnambool in Austral-

ia. The result is the start of a gritty new crime series set in an exciting new location which reeks of hard-boiled authenticity. And it introduces a great new investigator - downbeat journalist Clay Moloney - and has all the ingredients for a hugely satisfying mystery.

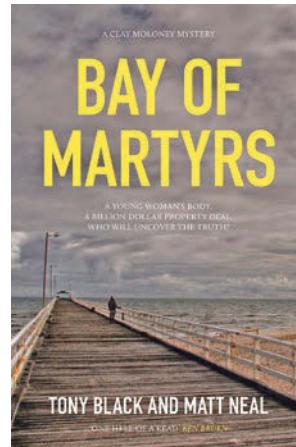
'This is a great read; two authors is a tricky gig and most times results in desultory effect. But here are two writers so in sync that it is seamless. A get-in-yer-face, down and dynamic read that grips and enthrals. Tony Black at the very height of his terrific talent and now with a double act to enrich his solid reputation,' said Ken Bruen, au-

thor of The Guards and Priest

Clay Moloney, a cynical reporter with a regional Australian newspaper, is expecting an easy Sunday at work when the body of a young woman washes up at the Bay of Martyrs. The death is an inconvenience for Clay, who's content filling obituaries and re-writing government press releases on the new multi-million-dollar airport.

But the more he digs into the Bay of Martyrs incident, the more he realises the girl's death is not a case of misadventure, despite what the police tell him.

Tony, who has always had a close association with Ar-



The cover of Bay of Martyrs.



Matt Neal.



Tony Black.

ran, moved to the island with his family more than two years ago. He was born in Australia and grew up in Scotland and Ireland. He is an award-winning journalist, editor, and novelist and is the author of 13 books including, Paying for It, Gutted, Long Time Dead, and most recently Summon-

ing the Dead. He has been nominated for a CWA Dagger seven times and was runner up in the Guardian's Not the Booker Prize for The Last Tiger.

Matt Neal is an Australian journalist, film reviewer, musician, songwriter. Born and raised in south-west Victoria, he's been a jour-

nalist with the Warrnambool Standard for 15 years. He's a prize-winning songwriter as well as a frequent movie reviewer for Australia's ABC Radio.

The paperback, published by Glasgow-based Freight Books has an RRP of £9.99, is available online and in all good bookshops.

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Farm boy who became a Nobel prize-winner

The Arran History Society invited Stuart Wilson of Kilmarnock to speak at the April meeting.

More than 75 members and visitors attended on a cold, windy and snowy day which the speaker, having sailed from Ardrossan, described as 'bracing', writes Norma Davidson.

Stuart studied biochemistry at Glasgow University, taught for more than 40 years and became head of Kilmarnock Academy.

He was happy to renew his acquaintance with Arran, which he first visited more than 65 years ago with his granny and later visits bringing school parties to Holy Isle.

He has a love of local history, and as a scientist it was natural that he chose as his subject Sir Alexander Fleming, born in the Darvel area in 1881, a pioneer of the modern antibiotic and Nobel Prize winner.

Indeed, he sent a handwritten 'thank you' letter to Frank and his twin brother Donald, for a Christmas card the boys had sent.

Fleming was born on August 6, 1881, at Lochfield Farm, a very remote moor-

visiting a Chinese village school, the official reception committee boasted that one former pupil had won a Nobel Prize for Physics.

Stuart took great delight in replying that his old school in Kilmarnock had two Nobel Prize winners, one being Fleming and the other Professor Boyd Orr for his work on infant nutrition.

Stuart actually knew a Frank Donnelly who was born in Darvel and was presented with the Dux Medal of Darvel by Fleming, who also gave him a wooden mounted medal with Fleming's head on the obverse and a microscope, Petri dish and mould spores on the reverse. He remembered him as a very pleasant person and quite modest, despite his fame.

By the age of 14 he was working as a shipping clerk in London where his brothers were studying medicine. He gained entrance to the Polytechnic where



Speaker Stuart Wilson was accompanied by his wife Isobel, who was keen to renew her acquaintance with Arran.

he shone academically. In 1902 he was a medical student of St Mary's, a medical school chosen by him because it had an excellent water polo team - and he was keen swimmer. In 1908 he graduated with an MB.BS. degree from the University of London. He was awarded the gold medal that year. Despite being a promising surgeon, bacteriology won and he joined Almroth Wright in the inoculation department at St Mary's, where he stayed all his working life.

During the Great War he served in the RAMC, joining the London Scottish and working in a hospital near Boulogne in Northern France. He was appalled by the number of troops who initially survived their wounds but to die later of infection. He started looking for the magic bullet to kill bacteria.

In 1921 and back at St Mary's he discovered Lysozyme, an antibacterial enzyme which occurs naturally in human tissues and secretions. He experimented with human tears and actually paid tear donors. Lysozyme had little effect on serious bacteria, but results alerted him to the possibility of antibiotics.

After a holiday in 1928 he returned to the laboratory to find Petri dishes left on his bench had grown a mould. The bacterial colonies on the blood agar in the Petri dishes had been repelled in the area around the mould, leaving a clear and uninfected zone. Initially this was called 'mould juice', and became penicilliumnotatum. By 1935 Chain & Florey were working in parallel in the USA.

The first patient to be injected was a Harry Lambert in 1942, and the results were startling, but as only a minute quantity was available a complete therapy could not be given.

Work then was concentrated on extracting on a bigger scale, and all available Penicillin was used on personnel injured during World War II.

Much work was done in Oxford by Norman Heatley and Edward Abraham, who worked on extracting the drug on a larger scale. They too deserve a mention in this history of the drug which would help millions.

It is licensed to GSK and is still manufactured in the UK. Since Fleming's first observations many others have continued the work, and broad spectrum antibiotics are now in use. Penicillin remains the most pre-

scribed antibiotic today in one of its forms.

Fleming was twice married, firstly to an Irish nurse, who died and he married secondly in 1953 to a research assistant, a Greek bacteriologist. He had one son.

He came globally recognised and memorials were erected to him. Portraits painted, stamps issued, streets named after him, a Guernsey £5 note and a Clydesdale Bank £5 note being a few acknowledgements to him.

His printed list of honours covers four pages, and vary to the extent of being golf club captain and recipient of the Nobel Prize for Medicine, alongside Chain and Florey. He died in 1955, and is buried in St Paul's Cathedral.

On the 50th anniversary of his death celebrations were held in Darvel where there is a bust of him and a memorial garden. This former Freeman of Darvel was honoured by a lecture from Sir Hugh Pennington, a modern-day bacteriologist and pioneer for public health. A stone at Lochfield was unveiled in 1957, and a memorial to him and his first wife was erected in County Mayo.

Worth mentioning are two memorials to Fleming outside the bullrings in Barcelona and Madrid. Pre-Penicillin, a matador who was gored by a bull would frequently die due to infection. The Madrid memorial has a matador doffing his cap - the ultimate honour - to the bust of Fleming.

The society thanked Stuart for a wonderful talk on a fascinating subject. From Ayrshire farm boy to Nobel prizewinner - amazing!

The next meeting will be on Monday May 15 at 2 pm in Brodick Hall, when the speaker will be Mhari Hastings from the Scottish Savings Bank Museum at Ruthwell, Dumfries. She will give a talk on the history of savings banks, which were founded in Scotland.

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the bedrooms have been lavishly refurbished, and now feature opulent marble bathrooms, freestanding bathtubs and sparkling chandeliers.

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To enter, send separate entries (in the same envelope) with your name, address, telephone number and email address to Wyvex Media Ltd, Competitions, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL. Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is May 31, 2017. Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Wyvex Media Ltd, 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 Wyvex Media rules apply.

Tale of the plant hunters

The rhododendron collections, that Brodick Castle is so famous for, are coming into full splendour at this time of year, writes Tim Keyworth.

Visitors often walk by without appreciating the great trials and tribulations that the plant hunters went through so that we can enjoy these plants in our gardens today. It is exceptionally easy to take a plant for granted, more so now than ever with it being fairly straight forward to propagate many plants with relative ease commercially.

Rhododendrons always seem to be on the cusp of being in fashion these days without truly making it to popular status. For many people, they aren't a thing of beauty but you have to admire everything that this plant has to offer. The leaf, for one, can be a feature in its own right. The bark on some of the huge specimens is intriguing and there is so much variation in flower size, style and colour.

My personal favourites are the large-leaved varieties that can be seen in full glory in the Lower Rhododendron Walk, at Brodick Castle just now. The best place to view these plants in my opinion is from the path where you can look down on top of them and fully appreciate their size.

I have a particular soft spot for a rhododendron hybrid called 'Fortune'. It's huge yellow flowers and gigantic leaves have won Best Hybrid in Show at the Scottish Rhododendron Society's annual show for the past two years. The specimen we have at the castle is thought to be a rare ex-



The rhododendron macabeanum.

ample of the plant, as it was one of the first crosses of the plant to be created.

The family at Brodick Castle contributed financially to the expeditions of some collectors, sponsoring them, if you like, in exchange for some of the first seeds or plants of new species and varieties coming into the country. The plant hunters with the strongest links to the property were George Forrest and Francis Kingdon-Ward, both of whom have fascinating stories to tell.

George Forrest 1873-1932

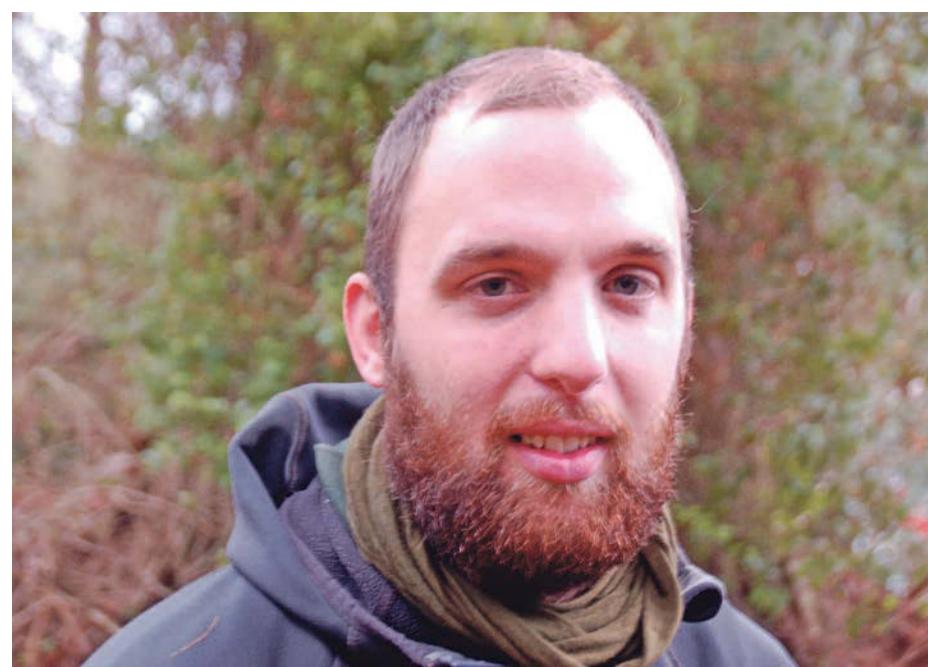
Looking back through history, many of the most successful plant hunters were Scottish; you can read into this what you like! George Forrest is a prime example. Born in Falkirk, he was one of the most prolific collectors. He worked exceptionally hard, but on top of this was one of the first to realise that he had to work with the locals and embrace the culture of the area and local knowledge if he was to succeed to the best of his ability.

It was arguably his ability to build a bond with the local people that saved his life. On his first expedition, he was to encounter horrific scenes, which made it remarkable that he carried on pursuing his chosen career.

On his maiden trip to China's Yunnan province he had a team of 17 local people working closely with him. Without going into too much detail, a massacre took place and he was the only person who survived.

War had broken out in the region and foreigners and people who had embraced the Western world were targeted. He went into hiding and managed to escape after being saved by a tribal king and narrowly avoided starvation as he fled through the jungle to safety.

Remarkably he carried on the expedition and was to return to the region another five times. It is thought that he collected as many as 1,200 plant species new to science. Plants include many of our favourite rhododendrons, countless primulas and many buddleias to name just a few.



Tim Keyworth, a proponent of rhododendrons in all their glory.

Having diced with danger on many of his previous expeditions and survived malaria, he succumbed to a massive heart attack on what was meant to be his last collecting adventure on January 5 1932. He was buried next to his close



One of Tim's favourite hybrids, the rhododendron fortune.

friend George Litton at Tengchong, in the area that he was often based when carrying out his plant collecting and research.

Francis Kingdon-Ward 1885-1958

Born in Manchester in 1885 Francis Kingdon-Ward attended Cambridge University but had to cut short his scholarship when his father, a renowned botanist himself, died at the age of 58. This placed the family in financial difficulty and Frank, as he was known, was forced to find work.

From a young age, he had been keen to travel and explore and thus accepted a

teaching position in Shanghai. He had no intention of making a career out of teaching but it was a start in his ambitions to travel.

Following this, he was asked to go on an expedition sponsored by The Duke of Bedford. It mainly focussed on animals but he managed to send a small selection of plants back to Cambridge University. This was the opening he had been waiting for and from this first expedition he started to write and he turned out to be a prolific writer.

In all he wrote somewhere in the region of 25 books about his travels, many of which are still in print today. In between trips he filled a lot of his time giving presentations and talks about his travels and the plants that he had collected. He was sponsored by wealthy gardeners and most notably perhaps, the owner of Bees Seeds.

The main brief of that expedition was to bring back new species of tropical plants hardy enough to survive in our climate.

Kingdon-Ward was a very talented plantsman but despite this he was full of self-doubt and never truly believed in his abilities.

He often felt under pressure, especially on his second exhibition for Bees Seeds, as many of his first collections of seed had either failed to flower or turned out not to be hardy enough for the UK climate.

seen widely in gardens today. There are several huge specimens of one of his other introductions, *rhododendron macabeanum*, at Brodick Castle and in complete contrast, good examples of the elegant and highly scented *R. johnstoneanum* can also be seen. The latter is not completely hardy but can be seen flourishing in gardens with milder climates.

Next time you are walking round a garden, pause to think for a moment, about the incredible people who risked their lives to bring us the fantastic variety of plants and subsequent hybrids and cultivars, we have available to us today.

* Tim Keyworth is the National Trust for Scotland gardens and designated landscapes manager for Ayrshire and Arran.



Rhododendron johnstoneanum is just one of the specimens found at Brodick Castle.

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George given national role

Ayrshire born George King has been named by a national nautical charity as its new area officer for the north of the UK, which covers Arran.

George, a former Royal Navy petty officer has been appointed by the Maritime Volunteer Service (MVS).

A member of the Northumbria unit George spent 18 years in the Navy as a weapons engineer, working around the world with the service including time spent in the Falkland's conflict.

George said: 'I enjoy my time working as part of the Northumbria team and feel that I can contribute even more on a national level with

my previous experience and skills. I'll have a large geographic area to cover and will be working more strategically but I'll still have plenty of time to patrol the Tyne with my colleagues.'

As well as his own Northumbria Unit, George will look after four other units, including North Ayrshire, which he is particularly looking forward to acquainting himself with.

'I grew up in Dalry which is just a few miles from the North Ayrshire Unit. I'm looking forward to visiting my home patch regularly.'

Founded in 1994, the MVS has more than 25 units around the UK coastline at

major port and river areas.

Its aim is to keep the country's seafaring traditions alive, with practical training in seamanship, small boat handling, engineering and communications. No experience is needed as full training is given.

Head of unit Angela Carrington was delighted with George's promotion. She said: 'George is a great team player and has a wealth of nautical knowledge and life experiences that will help him in his national role. We look forward to even more interaction with other units in George's area including those north of the border in Scotland.'



The audience watch Nescio perform at the PHT.

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Classic to rock – it's on at PHT

Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Arran Music Society and The Pierhead Tavern recently welcomed a group of young musicians from The Netherlands.

The Nescio Ensemble is a young, versatile and passionate string orchestra consisting of friends brought together by their love of music. Over the past five years, they have visited many beautiful places in Europe to play music and their Arran visit was the first of their Scottish tour.

The ensemble consists of both professional musicians and amateurs of a very high level. All their concerts and tours are not for profit as playing in the ensemble provides the musicians with an opportunity to play a repertoire that they love, together with their friends. This creates an invaluable energy, which is conveyed in their performances.

On the Saturday night, in the high school, Nescio played a beautiful chamber music repertoire prepared and chosen by the musicians themselves, while on the Sunday afternoon at the PHT their music including pieces from Bartok, Mozart and Shostakovich. Local fiddler Bethany Welsh joined the young people to showcase traditional pieces from the last century.

Over the next two weekends the PHT are welcoming back two of the island's well-loved bands, Badstone, which play very well known rock and pop songs, play tonight (Saturday) and

an acoustic set tomorrow afternoon. Next weekend Two Bob Rocket will entertain with a hugely eclectic playlist including rock, blues and punk songs.

On Sunday May 14 at 4pm, sensational harpist Heather Macleod joins forces with John Van B on percussion to create a mellow sound of mixed genres on the electro harp (the angel) in this new collaboration called The Fat Man & The Angel.

Young musicians of all abilities are welcome to play at The PHT either as a warm-up before the main act or during their Sunday celebration of young musician sessions on July 2, August 13, October 29 and December 24.

See their website for full listings: www.thept.co.uk

Summer bridge results from Lamlash

The latest results of the summer bridge at Lamlash on May 1 were: N/S 1 Jennifer Mc Arthur and

Liz Robertson, 2 Margaret and Douglas Bruce, 3 Doug Chase and Jennifer Wales. E/W 1 David Boag and Eandy McNiven, 2 Gege Kroner and John Dick, 3 Jan Beattie and Margaret MacGill.

THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday May 10, 1997

New memorial

Around 100 people attended a memorial service at Lochranza where a new memorial stone has been completed to mark the sinking of HMS Vandal.

Admiral Perowne gave an address and then Larry Gaines, now over 70, very alert and living in Perth, took the Union Jack from the marble cairn. The names of all those who died were read out by others who had served in submarines and, after the last post, wreaths were laid around the cairn.

Standing off Lochranza was a modern nuclear submarine, HMS Triumph, and when the party of old sailors returned on the Claonaig ferry, HMS Triumph stopped at the spot where HMS Vandal had gone down and a wreath was thrown into the sea.

Written off

A sum of £12,761 has been written off by North Ayrshire Council which it deems it could not easily recover from three householders in The Row, Catacol.

Following improvement work which involved moving the occupants out for a period, several of the owners were not satis-

fied with the work. After several attempts to satisfy these owners all but three paid the outstanding debts. The three that did not, repeatedly advised the council of further complaints from ingress of water owing to the poor quality of the work.

At its support services committee on Tuesday the council felt that it had done all it could to satisfy the owners and the only way to recover the money was to pursue legal action. Insofar as it could be costly and not necessarily successful, it was decided to cancel the charges.

Fèis ceilidh

A ceilidh, held last Friday evening in Brodick Hall, was to raise funds for the second Fèis Arainn. The festival of Gaelic culture and music, with expert tutors from all over Scotland, runs workshops for pupils and holds a concert at the end of the festival. The ceilidh raised more than £450 and the fèis committee also received a £2,000 cheque from the Scottish Co-op.

The Arran High School Ceilidh Band performed at the ceilidh and a high standard of fiddle, accordion, step dancing, singing and clarsach was enjoyed by the audience, who will, undoubtedly, look forward to attending the actual fèis.



Mary Crawford throws the first jack at the Lamlash Bowls and Tennis Club which celebrated its centenary on Saturday when a new flag was also unveiled. B18twe05



A party of ex-service personnel and family members disembark from the Claonaig ferry last Saturday to attend the memorial service at Lochranza for the loss of the submariners of HMS Vandal. B18twe01



Last week, being National Spring Clean Week, the Arran Crusaders and Lamlash Cubs joined together to clean up over 21 bags of rubbish from the Whitehouse woods in Lamlash. B18twe02



More than 20 ladies gathered at Lochranza tearoom last Friday to celebrate the 80th birthday of their painting class instructor, Agnes Lynch, who has lived and tutored in Lochranza for 22 years. B18twe03



Last Friday night a team of Royal Marine reservists were dropped off near Loch Tanna where they conducted a night exercise before abseiling down a cliff and departing at first light. B18twe04

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To contact Kenneth outside these times, please do so at: 01294 833 687

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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, Cunningham House, Irvine, between 9am to 4:45pm weekdays (4:30pm Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk

*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy & Communities) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 26 May 17. Any representations received will be open to public view.

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

17/00447/PP; Site To North East Of Pleasantfield, Whiting Bay, Brodick, Isle Of Arran; Installation of 15m high telecommunications streetpole, 3no antennas within GRP shroud, 2no 0.3m transmission dishes, 3no ground based equipment cabinets and ancillary equipment.

17/00443/PP; Site To East Of Linevern, Montrose Terrace, Whiting Bay, Brodick; Erection of 1 and 1/2 storey detached dwelling house.

Elma Murray
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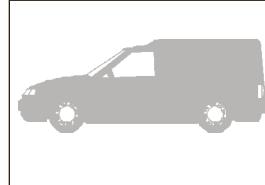
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6. The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.
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.

8. Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.
9. The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.

10. Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
11. Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
12. A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

RECRUITMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH HIJOBS

Visit hijobs.net FIND A JOB SIGN UP FOR JOB ALERTS GET CAREER ADVICE ADVERTISE A JOB



Eco Savvy Re-use Micro-Hub Managers

8 vacancies

Kildonan, Kilmory, Shiskine/Blackwaterfoot, Pirnmill, Lochranza,

Corrie/Sannox, Brodick & Lamlash

Eco-Savvy is an environmental charity on the Isle of Arran, working towards making Arran a greener and more sustainable island. The charity has been awarded a grant by the Climate Change Fund and the European Regional Development Fund to establish eight micro-hubs, so creating an island wide network of reuse and upcycling sites.

We are now seeking enthusiastic motivated people with a good knowledge of their local community to manage these hubs.

You will need good communication and organisational skills, be IT literate, with an understanding of spreadsheets & word documents. Social media skills would also be helpful but not essential.

Your objectives will be to motivate your community & gather supporting volunteers.

The job is a fixed term contract for 10 months working 8 hours per week (may include some weekend and evening work). The pay rate is £11.50 per hour.

To apply please send a CV and covering letter to arran.ecosavvy@gmail.com or post to Eco Savvy Community Shop, Shore Road, Whiting Bay, Isle of Arran. KA27 8PR.

Applications close 5pm Wednesday 10th May. Interviews will be in mid May with a start date of early June.

These positions are funded through the Scottish Government's Climate Challenge Fund and the European Regional Development Fund.



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SENSE OF SCOTLAND

An excellent opportunity has arisen for a friendly and enthusiastic person to work as a Seasonal Consultant at our Arran store.

As the ideal candidate, you will be immaculately presented, professional and friendly, with a passion for our products.

Our customers are our main priority, therefore you will be someone who is passionate about customer service, polite and outgoing, and someone who would always put our customers first.

As a Seasonal Sales Consultant with Arran, your duties will include:

- Welcoming customers and directing them around collection bays
- Assisting customers with understanding our fragrance collections and product options
- General retail housekeeping and stock replenishment
- Achieving sales and transaction targets
- Till operation
- Working on our soap making operation when required

If this sounds like your ideal position, then we would love to hear from you!

Please apply by sending your CV to our
Retail Business Manager Kim Reid -
kim.reid@arran.com

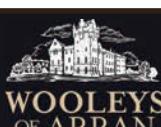
HOUSEKEEPER WANTED

Saturday changeover Brodick

We need a reliable person for Saturday changeover for a four bedroom holiday let from May 20th to end of September or later.

Very good rate of pay

Ask for Tom or Sheila on
07776 238497 or 07717 845755



VACANCIES AVAILABLE

**2 positions have become available
in our Brodick Shop**

If interested please call 01770 302280 or
email info@wooleys.co.uk

THE SHORE

Shore Road, Whiting Bay

Seasonal commis chef required.

Immediate start
40hr per week

Please phone **01770 700808** for an interview or
send a C.V to:

the Shore, Shore Road, Whiting Bay, Isle of Arran

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Property

WANTED

Single lady, independent means requires long term let on Arran from the end of May.
Brodick/Lamlash/Corrie preferred
No pets, non smoker
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Quiet location - non smoker
£250 pcm plus electric

Please reply to Box no:227
Arran Banner, Douglas Centre,
Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ

CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday 7th May

11am Holy Communion.
Rev Dennis Stanway,
Gatehouse of Fleet.
Coffee after service.
Wednesday 10th May
12.15pm Holy Communion with visit of 'pilgrims' from Christ Church, Lochgilphead.
ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill and Shiskine Independent but working together Minister:

Rev Angus Adamson Parish Assistant:
Mrs Jean hunter:

Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.

Sunday 7th May

Lochranza and Pirnmill Churches. 10.15am

Morning Worship including the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at Lochranza

Shiskine Church, 12noon

Morning Worship including the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

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.

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (Charity Number: SC014005)

Sunday 7th May 2017

The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am.

This Table belongs only to Jesus and all who love Him are most welcome.

There will be the usual activities in the Church Hall for our young people.

Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service.

There will be a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm to which all friends are welcome.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

Sunday 7th May

Rev Lily McKinnon Kilmory 10 am

Sacrament of Communion at Kilmory

Lamlash 11.30 am

Aileen Brookens All welcome, including families; children's area

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 7th May
Vigil Mass 7.30pm
Sunday Mass 11am

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)

Sunday 7th May
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge,
Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
All welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 7th May
Service 11am
Ormidale Pavilion
Tea and coffee after the service
Wednesday at 7.30pm Home fellowship group for bible study and prayer.
Contact phone no 600222
Everyone warmly invited

ARRAN FREE CHUCH OF SCOTLAND

Shiskine 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick 6pm

BACK IN THE CHURCH

Rev Benjamin Van Rensburg

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

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

DEATHS

IUTZ - Christine Carol Peacefully at Crosshouse hospital on Sunday, 30th April 2017. Much loved wife and mother.

Funeral service at St Molios Church, Shiskine on Thursday, 11th May at 11:30 am and thereafter to Clachan cemetery to which all are welcome. No flowers please, donations to, Isle of Arran Hospital Supporters League.

MITCHELL - Hamish Gordon

Died peacefully at Ayrshire Central Hospital on Friday 28th April 2017. Funeral service to be held in St. Bride's Church of Scotland, Brodick, on Tuesday 9th May at 11.30am and thereafter to Sannox Cemetery. All most welcome.

WALLACE - Penelope McDowall

Peacefully at home on Friday, 28th April 2017. Penelope (Pat), beloved wife of Alistair, much loved mum of David and Heather and proud gran of Craig, Alison, Olivia and Sophia. Cremation private. Memorial service in Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church on Friday, 12th May at 11:30 am to which all are welcome.



Brodrick Golf Club

Wednesday April 26, summer cup, 37 played, CSS 65. Matt Dobson 68-7=61, Iain Keen 72-9=63, Gordon Hendry 69-5=64. Scratch, Matt Dobson 68.

Sunday April 30, Brandon qualifer, 22 played, CSS 64. Jimmy Armit 74-11=63 ACB, Ewan McKinnon 64-1=63, Alistair Hume 75-11=64. Scratch Ewan McKinnon 64.

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Ladies' section: Tuesday May 25, medal final and CCQ2, 11 played, CSS 67,

RO. 1 Isobel MacDonald 88-17=71, 2 Susan Butchard 83-11=72.

Div 1: 1 Isobel MacDonald 88-17=71, 2 Susan Butchard 83-11=72,

3 and scratch, Ann J May 81-6=75.

Div 2: 1 Aileen Latona 99-23=76, 2 Lesley Murray 113-27=86.

Tuesday May 2, medal and CCQ3, 13 played, CSS 69.

Div 1: 1 and scratch, Ann J May 71-6=65, 2 Brenda Livingstone 80-13=67, 3 Pat Reid 88-17=71.

Div 2: 1 Kay Kitson 97-24=73, 2 Margaret Bryce 95-21=74,

3 Aileen Latona 99-23=76.

Fixtures: Please check notice board or web site as changes have been made.

Sunday May 7, AGA spring handicap at Shiskine GC.

Entries accepted on the day.

Tuesday May 9, club trophy, round 1.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday April 27, summer stableford, CSS 65, Par 64, 35pts to stableford. 1

Andy Smith 38pts, 2 Drew Wales 37pts, 3 Dougie Mac-

Farlane 35pts, 4 Allan Win-

ship 34pts. Scratch, D Mac-

Farlane 35pts. Magic twos, Scott Campbell @ 4th, Stuart Campbell @ 2nd, Neil Young @ 5th, Andy Smith @ 16th.

Sunday April 30, Hastings cup first round, CSS 65, Par 64. 1 Hugh McLellan 84-20=64 BIH, 2 Paul Cowan 69-5=64, 3 Alan Smith 77-11=66.

Scratch Paul Cowan 69. Magic twos Paul Jameson @16th.

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Div 2: 1 Kay Kitson 97-24=73, 2 Margaret Bryce 95-21=74,

3 Aileen Latona 99-23=76.

Fixtures: Please check notice board or web site as changes have been made.

Sunday May 7, AGA spring handicap at Shiskine, £5 entry fee,

sweep optional.

The draw has already been made, but late entries will be accepted.

Contact Shiskine pro shop, where times will be allocated.

Note: Thomson Cup Qualifiers. Due to the lack of entries, if there are not 16 qualifiers it will be reduced to eight, as agreed at the AGA meeting.

Sutton, CSS 65, RO. 1 H Bannatyne 77-6=71, 2 R Woods 90-18=72, 3 B Sherwood 86-13=73.

Fixtures: Saturday May 6, Hugh Steel cup, nine holes at 12.30pm. Tuesday May 9 Peter Sutton/Lady Mary. 12.30pm and 5.30pm.

Arran Golfers Association

Friday April 28, seniors bowl, first round. Shiskine beat Lochranza, Corrie beat Brodick, Whiting bay beat Lamlash. Friday May 5, seniors bowl, 2nd round @ 5pm. Machrie vs Shiskine, Corrie vs Whiting Bay.

Junior section: Monday May 1, AGA junior handicap, nine juniors played. 1 Kyle McNicol 63-24=39, joint 2, James Reid 65-24=41 and Rory Currie 65-24=41.

Best scratch Ross Trail 56. Great to see all nine juniors playing 12 holes at Shiskine in sunny but blustery conditions.

Well done to all those who played and had a good score as well.

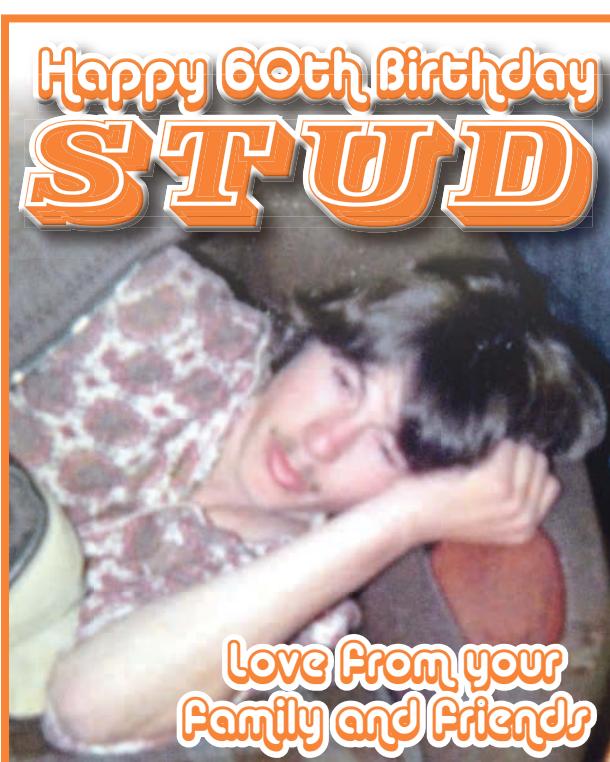
Fixture: Sunday May 7, spring handicap at Shiskine, £5 entry fee, sweep optional.

The draw has already been made, but late entries will be accepted.

Contact Shiskine pro shop, where times will be allocated.

Note: Thomson Cup Qualifiers. Due to the lack of entries, if there are not 16 qualifiers it will be reduced to eight, as agreed at the AGA meeting.

60TH BIRTHDAYS



Happy
60th
Birthday
Charlie

Love from
Lindsay,
Rachel,
Katie and
James
XXX



The swimmers at the end of last year's splash. 01_A39splash01

Swimmers wanted to make a splash

The 2017 Lamlash Splash, a 1.3-mile swim from the Holy Isle to Lamlash Pier, will take place on Saturday September 16 at 11.30 am.

There are 40 places available with at least 10 places reserved for locals. Last year 16 local swimmers took part which

was a brilliant turn-out for this extremely popular event. Many of these local swimmers have continued to brave the icy waters right through the winter months and by September, when the water will be around 13 degrees Celsius it will feel quite balmy for them.

In order to take part in this event you must be able to swim 2.2km non-stop in a pool and preferably be able to swim front crawl as breast stroke is very difficult in a wet-suit. If you have never swum in the sea you must attend some open water training sessions as it is a

completely different experience from pool swimming.

The Arran open water swimmers' group now has a Facebook page where swimmers post when and where they are swimming, usually at Brodick or Lamlash, so if anyone fancies giving it a go, check

the page out. The group welcomes and encourages new swimmers to join in.

If anyone wants more information on open water swimming or wish to enter the Splash, please contact Ann Hart on 01770 303530 or 07742 922228 or email annhartconner@yahoo.co.uk.

Lamlash bowling fixtures

The Lamlash bowling club fixtures for the coming season are: Ladler Gardener Triples – Tuesday May 23, Lamlash vs Whiting Bay, Blackwaterfoot vs Brodick.

Thursday May 25, Whiting Bay vs Lamlash, Brodick vs Blackwaterfoot. Tuesday May 30, Blackwaterfoot vs Whiting Bay, Lamlash vs Brodick. Thursday June 1, Whiting Bay vs Blackwaterfoot, Brodick vs Lamlash. Tuesday June 6, Blackwaterfoot vs Lamlash, Brodick vs Whiting Bay. Thursday June 8, Lamlash vs Blackwaterfoot, Whiting Bay vs Brodick.

Arran Federation Competitions (played at Lamlash): Monday June 12, Ladies' Singles, Blackwaterfoot vs Brodick, Lamlash vs Whiting Bay, Lamlash vs Whiting Bay. Gents' Singles, Whiting Bay vs Brodick, Blackwaterfoot vs Lamlash. Tuesday June 13, Pairs, Brodick vs Whiting Bay, Lamlash vs Blackwaterfoot. Rinks, Lamlash vs Whiting Bay, Blackwaterfoot vs Brodick. All finals Thursday June 15 at 6.45pm.

Talk to us

Send your sports news and photographs to editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Aquathlon outing for powerful contingent of junior triathletes



Luke Goatley cuts valuable time with his swim to run transition.

A small but powerful contingent of Arran junior triathletes travelled to the Edinburgh Aquathlon recently where they competed against other junior triathletes.

The day got off to a good start with Luke Goatley taking third on the podium by finishing with a time of 5 minutes 25 seconds.

Narrowly missing a podium finish too was Rhea Webster who, with Ruby Wright, gave good performances in the Tri one category. Ruby carried on her successful start to the triathlon season, finishing in fourth with a time of 11 minutes 40 seconds while Rhea was not far behind,

finishing in 11 minutes 58 seconds.

Rhea said: 'It was a hard race, but it was fun and I am already looking forward to the next race.'

The club was started last year by Craig Wood, a competitive age group triathlete, who formed the club with a view to providing children with the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of triathlon. The sport encourages children to be active, is open to members between P2 and S6, and is affiliated with Triathlon Scotland which is the national governing body for triathlon which involves swimming, cycling and running.



Ruby Wright crosses the finish line.



Celebrating a third place position, Luke Goatley is pictured on the podium.



INSIDE THIS WEEK:
Swimmers wanted
to make a splash

Lamlash kick start new season with cup win

Lamlash 5
Shiskine 1

The 2017 Arran football season kicked off on Monday night with the preliminary round of the Arran Haulage Cup. There is a new cup up for offer too, thanks to the generosity of Struan and Rachel Armitage.

Lamlash donned their new strips for their first competitive outing and played host to a Shiskine team who had a few of their familiar faces missing.

In the early stages, possession and chances were dominated by a fast, flowing Lamlash. The home side's Johnny Sloss was causing problems for Shiskine with his quick feet and trickery. However Shiskine's youthful centre back pairing of Stevie 'Trevor' Crawford and Dave

Webster kept them at bay. Shiskine broke the deadlock against the run of play when Donald Mulholland struck a curling half-volley from outside the box into the bottom right hand corner leaving David Heenan in goals with no chance.

The lead didn't last long though when Grant Adamson was on hand to slot an equaliser. Sloss then outpaced the defence and his shot hit the inside of the post to make the score 2-1 just on the stroke of half time.

With Lamlash going downhill in the second half, their fitness started to show and it was 4-1 within 10 minutes of the restart.

Sloss got his second goal of the match and Sean 'Higgy' Higgins was rewarded for his hard work down the right side of mid-

field when he cut in to get on the score sheet.

Trevor was given a yellow card for a deliberate foul on Sloss after he had had enough of the youngster running riot.

Lamlash could have gone further ahead if it hadn't been for an excellent triple save from Cameron Ross-Bain in the Shiskine goal.

At the other end Donald Mulholland was causing problems with his power and pace but couldn't break down the Lamlash defence including Sam Tattersfield.

It was Sam who rounded off the scoring when he met Higgy's corner to head it into the opposition net.

Young Calum McAllister came on for Shiskine and made two mis-timed tackles in quick succession to put himself in the book. Lamlash brought on young-



The Lamlash team line up behind the new Arran Haulage Cup banner. 01_B18footy01

sters Dylan Smith and Luc El Adm later on and the youngsters linked up well, both coming close to scoring but the game ended 5-1.

Referee Danny Head gave man of the match to Higgy after a tireless shift, crossing in some inviting balls and bagging a goal as well.

Stuart Campbell and Ryan Armstrong were linesmen for the game.

Lamlash are now rewarded with a home semi-final tie against Northend at Arran High School on Monday May 8 with a 7pm kick off.

The other semi-final will see the cup holders Southend play host to league champions Brodick at Sandbraes park at 6.30pm. It promises to be a intense encounter.



Opponents battle for possession. 01_B18footy05



Shiskine goal keeper Cameron Ross-Bain saves a close range attempt at goal. 01_B18footy03



Shiskine pose for a group photo with the banner before the game. 01_B18footy02

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