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SATURDAY 17 JUNE, 2017

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See pages 16 & 17

# Ferry chaos after engine blows up

Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Travel plans were thrown into chaos this week after the engine of the MV Isle of Arran blew up in a pall of thick black smoke putting her out of service for two weeks.

The ferry will not be back in service until the middle of next week, at the earliest, leaving the Brodick to Ardrossan route struggling to cope with just one ferry with the school holidays fast approaching.

Caledonian MacBrayne said this week that the damage caused by the incident had been significant but that it was 'doing everything it can' to get the ferry back into service.

At the Isle of Arran ferry committee this week, a Cal-Mac official frankly admitted: 'The engine blew up,' leading to the latest cancellation of services of the 33-year-old ferry.

In a statement, CalMac commented said: 'The engineering team have completed stripped down the thruster engine and the damage caused by the incident last week has been significant to her bow thruster engine.

'Assessment of the spares required has been completed and these are now being obtained from across the UK and Europe in order to be able to rebuild the engine. Unfortunately, given the scale of the damage and the time required to bring the spares to the Clyde, it is unlikely the vessel will be able to return to service before the middle of next week.

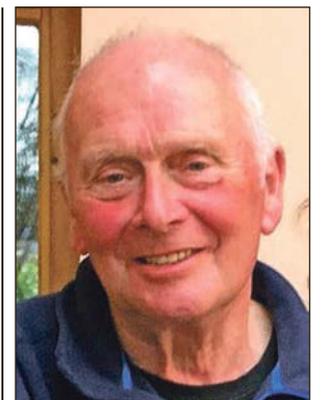
'We continue to clear traffic from both sides and the Loch Bhrusda continues to be on standby at Lochranza should she be required. We will continue to monitor traffic on the route and if

Continued on page two

## A folk festival to remember



A packed bar is entertained by musicians with instruments of all shapes and sizes during an open session at the Arran Folk Festival at the Douglas Hotel last weekend. Three pages of coverage starts on page 11. 01\_A24front01



John Smith.

## Huge turnout for new John search

A huge search at the weekend failed to turn up any new clues in the search for John Smith, who has been missing on Arran for nearly three weeks.

In an incredible show of community spirit, nearly 180 volunteers gathered at Machrie Tearoom to join in the search last Saturday but, despite their best efforts, John, widely known on the island as Smudger, has still not been traced.

Organised by Rachel Armitage, on behalf of the Smith family, the large searches were divided into groups and scoured Machrie Moor and its environs for any sign of the pensioner, who has been missing since Tuesday

Continued on page three



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# Ferry booking system has a 'fundamental flaw'

**Hugh Boag**

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A leading island businessman has said there is a 'fundamental flaw' in the ferry booking system which is why customers being told that sailings are fully booked when there is still capacity available.

Chairman Iain Thomson made the claim at the AGM of the Isle of Arran ferry committee this week during a discussion on the recent problems passengers were having trying to book cars on ferry sailings to and from Brodick, despite there appearing to be space available. The problem has been compounded by the breakdown of the MV Isle of Arran.

A CalMac official said that they still had no real solution to the problem but said they were 'extremely conscious' of it.

He said the problem stemmed from commercial and non-commercial traffic failing to show up for sailings, but there was a general feeling at the meeting that this was not the only reason.

## Identified

Mr Thomson stated: 'There is a fundamental flaw in the booking system which has still not been identified or corrected.'

However, he said it was sometimes the case that ferries had reached their capacity in tonnage which meant there could appear to be space they could not fill.

Alastair Dobson added: 'I

have never seen the ferries so busy. It is when they are running to capacity that the problems begin to show.'

Earlier it was confirmed that the much delayed introduction of e-tickets should be available on ferry services to Arran before the end of the summer timetable.

Ross Mahon of CalMac was responding to a complaint that it was 'an enormous problem' to book tickets online and admitted the introduction of e-tickets had been delayed but should be available by the end of the July. However, he said a bigger and more complex project to introduce smart-ticketing was still two years away.

More than a dozen members of the public turned up

for the agm held on Monday night, the only ferry committee meeting open to the public.

They heard Mr Thomson say it had been a busy year for the committee with the construction of new ferry terminal and discussions over the future mainland port for the Arran ferry, which finally saw the committee support the retention at Ardrossan.

He said they were now committed to ensuring Peel Ports delivered their promised infrastructure investment at Ardrossan.

In another move the National Trust for Scotland, as well as the licensed trade have lost their voice on the ferry committee, to be replaced by the NHS and the

Arran Economic Group. No reason was given for the change but the ferry committee is restricted to 12 representatives and it is understood the trust had not been in attendance for some time.

## Concern

During questions from the floor, concern was expressed about the extra distance that would have to be walked to board the ferry from the new terminal as well as the narrow width of the walkway with the concern it may only accommodate two abreast leading to delays in the turnaround of the ferries.

The poor communication skills of CalMac and especially the tardiness of service updates and scarcity of information on their own

website, Twitter and Facebook was also raised.

CalMac said it was something they were looking at.

There was also concern raised about how quickly they updated their customers and it emerged that until a service is running 30 minutes late, it is regarded by CalMac as 'normal service'.

The audience heard this was in line with the parameters set by Transport Scotland.

However, the meeting heard that trains are deemed 'late' if they are just five minutes behind schedule.

The meeting ended after an hour with Mr Thomson stating that the committee was there to receive questions from the community throughout the year.

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The MV Isle of Arran engine blows up in a pall of black smoke. Photograph: Colin Millar

## Chaos caused as MV Isle of Arran's engine blows up

**Continued from page 1**

necessary we will man the slips. We are continuing to contact passengers who were planning to travel on the MV Isle of Arran and are encouraging them to travel either as foot passengers or to travel via Lochranza. This message is being reinforced on social media and our website.'

The service of the MV Isle of Arran ended in a heavy burst of black smoke last week as she broke down in Brodick Bay. The dramatic moment came around 3.30pm last Wednesday June 7 just as the ferry left Brodick with a full load of cars and passengers.

The ferry was just swinging out of the pier when it suddenly stopped and thick smoke could be seen belching from the front end.

### Sailings cancelled

She was able a short time later to limp back into port and finally left more than an hour later. All sailings were thereafter cancelled when the ship went to Garvel dry dock in Greenock, where she has remained since.

'Passengers were never at risk and no-one was injured. We apologise for any inconvenience caused,' the CalMac spokesman added.

# SNP hold Arran seat but majority slashed

The SNP has held on to the North Ayrshire and Arran parliamentary seat but



Patricia Gibson.

saw its majority slashed by more than 10,000, writes *Hugh Boag*.

Patricia Gibson was re-elected as the constituency MP, receiving 18,451 votes and giving her a majority of 3,633. The Tories finished in second place with 16 per cent more votes than the election in 2015, pushing Labour into third place. The Liberal Democrats were fourth.

Mrs Gibson, who is the wife of Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson, took the seat from Labour two years ago.

Following the result, Mrs Gibson said: 'I wish to thank all those who voted for me. I will repay that trust by continuing to be a hard-working, visible and

accessible MP for all the people of this constituency, regardless of how they voted.

'This election was unnecessary and the result has thrown up great uncertainties for our future, in the context of Brexit negotiations which are due to begin in a matter of days. I wish to reassure my constituents that I will be their voice during these difficult times and ensure that their concerns are represented in the House of Commons.'

The runner-up, Conservative candidate David Rocks, said: 'After a positive and energetic campaign, I am delighted to have almost doubled the Conservative and Unionist

vote in the North Ayrshire and Arran constituency. I would like to thank everyone who voted for me. It is a great honour to have been given the trust and encouragement of so many people across the constituency.

'The Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party is clearly the only party that can take on the SNP in North Ayrshire and Arran. We have pushed Labour into third place not only at this election but also in the Cunninghame North constituency at the Scottish Parliament election last year. Combined with the huge gains we made at the local government election last month, we are the only party who will continue

to stand up for Scotland's place in the United Kingdom and hold the SNP to account. I am deeply humbled to have won 14,818 votes and proud to be a resident of North Ayrshire and Arran.'

The turnout for North Ayrshire and Arran was 64.9 per cent – compared to 71.2 per cent in the previous UK parliamentary election in 2015.

The full result was: Patricia Gibson, Scottish National Party (SNP), 18,451; David Rocks, Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party, 14,818; Christopher Rimicans, Scottish Labour Party, 13,040; Mark Dickson, Scottish Liberal Democrats, 1,124.

## Walkers rescued

The Arran Mountain Rescue Team was called out last Sunday at around 4.45pm to assist three male walkers who had become disorientated in the low cloud descending Goatfell.

The team's Argocat was deployed and the three male walkers were located by team members just above the deer fence. Although cold and wet, all three were unharmed and taken back to the team base for a hot cup of tea.

## Lost cat

A plea has been made to anyone who may have seen a lost cat in Whiting Bay.

The elderly brown and orange cat was last seen around Golf Course Road two weeks ago.

Anyone who may be able to help should call 07884 736390.



## Search continues for missing John

**Continued from page 1**  
May 30. Each search line was joined by members of the Arran Mountain Rescue Team, who guided the walkers and co-ordinated the search efforts with mobile radio communications.

Having taken advice from the AMRT, who had volunteered their time and expertise, and with a police presence, the searches were conducted professionally and methodically with each participant registering themselves in and out.

The search followed a

social media plea for volunteers and an island-wide campaign to place missing posters at every business and public area which had received a massive amount of support from the community.

### Thank you

Commenting after the search, Mrs Armitage said: 'On behalf of the Smith family and friends, a massive thank you to the AMRT, who supported us with their knowledge and skills, and to everyone who turned out to look for

Smudger. It was an unbelievable turnout which was very much appreciated.'

John was last seen shortly after 6pm on the Machrie Moor road near the golf course the night he went missing.

It is believed he was heading to Shiskine.

A Police Scotland spokesman said: 'Anyone with information on Mr Smith's whereabouts is asked to please contact officers at Lamlash/Irvine police office via 101 and quote incident number 4049/30/05.'

## Five days of temporary road closures

There will be temporary road closures on the C147 south of Whitefarland for five days from today (Friday).

The closures will be from 9.15am to noon and 12.30pm to 4pm to allow carriageway resurfacing

works which are to be carried out on or near the public highway.

Due to the nature of these works and existing road widths, legislation requires that in the interest of safety to both the road users and the workforce, a road clo-

sure must be put in place. It should be noted that the closure will be short-stop closures, for a maximum of 30 minutes at a time and there will be a 30-minute period when the road is completely open from noon to 12.30pm.

## Summer Showcase

Talented pupils at Arran High School pupils will be hosting an evening of music and entertainment at the community theatre in Lamlash next week.

Their Summer Showcase

performance, which is eagerly anticipated will take place on the evening of Tuesday June 20 at 7.30pm.

Tickets are available at the school office for £5 per person.

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# Backing for Eco Savvy water campaign



An Eco Savvy campaign against the single use of plastic water bottles has received a welcome boost from the Arran Trust with a donation of £200 towards reducing plastic waste by promoting free water refills around the island.

The campaign, which encourages people to reuse plastic water bottles, involves participating businesses displaying a 'water refills here' window sticker which was designed by local schoolgirl Roisin Ballantyne of Kilmory.

Roisin won the primary school design competition after entering her poster at a Zero Waste Week exhibition last year, where judges selected a winner in each



Angela Elliot-Walker and Henry Murdo from the Arran Trust present a £200 cheque to Barbara l'Anson, Michael Gettins and Val Waite of Eco Savvy.



The 'water refills here' window sticker.  
01\_B24trust02

age group, before an overall winner was selected.

The aim of the 'water refills here' campaign is to reduce the amount of waste plastic on Arran and to reduce plastic litter which can find its way into the sea or landfill. Walkers and cyclists are directed to locations where they can refill their bottles by the green and blue A5 window sticker designed by Roisin.

## Arran Open Studios event takes the biscuit

Arran Open Studios (AOS) has reached the final camp before the assault on the summit between August 11 and 14. Organisers have had their second last meeting before the big weekend and the stats are good.

There are 39 entries in this year's brochure - the sixth year of the event. This represents up to 50 artists as some are working collectively sharing studio or exhibiting space. This is a quantum leap from last year and the organisers are delighted with the way the event is burgeoning.

This is undoubtedly helped by the Arran Art Trail having its maiden voyage this year. It is also helped by newcomers to the island whose participation is welcomed and eagerly

anticipated in equal part as part of the event.

Whiting Bay's Richard Fletcher, who maintains the AOS website, has announced the newly-revitalised and updated website is now live for anyone to visit and plan their AOS weekend. Go online to see what is new for 2017 at [www.arranopenstudios.com](http://www.arranopenstudios.com).

Look out too for this year's AOS brochure which should be appearing at a venue near you.

Organisers are again running the Arran Open Studios biscuit tin.

Organisers have distributed biscuit tins throughout hotels, restaurants and other venues on the island.

In the tin will be paper and pencils/pens. Visitors are invited to make

a sketch or a poem or even just jot down a reflection, a passing thought, on the paper provided and leave it with others in the tin.

The AOS team would like to thank Patersons of Arran for supplying the tins.

### Advantage

At the end of the event, all the drawings, poems and meditations will be collected and documented. Your drawing, poem or thought could be part of the AOS event.

Take advantage of this over a pint or a coffee whenever you see the Patersons of Arran/AOS biscuit tins.

Instructions will be in or near the tin.

Tim Pomeroy.

# New household waste recycling centre opens

**Hugh Boag**  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A new household waste recycling centre has opened to the public in Brodick after improvement work to increase the facilities available for local residents.

The council-run site on Brodick has undergone a facelift to upgrade the facilities and increase the capacity for recycling, made possible by support provided by Zero Waste Scotland.

The site has been transformed to an all-purpose recycling centre complete with new waste containers and additional recycling containers. This has more than trebled the capacity of the centre and will help to reduce the amount of waste

going landfill. It now means residents no longer need to telephone the council office in advance, but simply turn up with the waste they want to dispose of.

Before the work was carried out, residents of Arran only had limited recycling opportunities on site such as for electrical appliances, metals and oils. Now environmentally-conscious local residents can recycle a wider range of household items including garden waste materials such as grass cuttings, hedges, branches and plants.

Residents can now deposit the following at the recycling centre: cans/tins, cardboard, cooking oil, electrical appliances such as TVs and



Campbell Armit and Sam Rayner demonstrate the various recycling options at the household waste recycling centre. 01\_A24recycle01

white goods, fridge/freezers, glass bottles and jars, green garden waste, household batteries, household general waste, light bulbs (fluorescent and energy saving), MDF/wood, motor oil, papers, plastic containers, rubble/soil, scrap metal and textiles/shoes.

Councillor Jim Montgomerie, cabinet member for place, said: 'We are one of Scotland's most environmentally-friendly councils and we are making strides to strengthen and improve this position.'

'The improvements introduced at Brodick will give

islanders the chance to recycle much more of their waste as we support our communities to help us achieve our long-term target of creating a cleaner, greener North Ayrshire.'

This facility is available free of charge for household waste.

However there is a charge for disposing of all waste arising from businesses through a pre-paid tip authorisation permit scheme. Site staff have the right to refuse entry to the site if the waste you are carrying is not household waste and if a pre-paid tip permit is not in place.

Businesses should contact the Arran Local Office on 01770 600338 for advice on purchasing pre-paid tip permits to become authorised to use the site.

The opening times are Mon-Fri 9am-3pm and Sat 9am-noon. Last entry is 15 minutes before closing. The centre is closed on Sundays. A one-way system is in operation.

## Get crafty at heritage museum

The Arran Heritage Museum at Rosaburn, Brodick, holds its first special event day of the season on Sunday (June 18).

At their annual Craft Day visitors can see all kinds of local traditional skills and crafts in action. Experts will demonstrate sheep shearing, wool dyeing, spinning and weaving, quilting, embroidery, felting, rag rugging, butter making, and many other skills throughout the afternoon, from 1.30pm onwards.

A group of local young musicians and the Isle of Arran Pipe Band will each be per-

forming; and other traditional music-making will also be evident throughout the afternoon. Additionally a local group of gaelic singers will sing the songs used in days gone by to 'waulk' newly made cloth to make it thicker after washing, soaking, beating, and shrinking by rhythmically moving the cloth in time to the music. There will of course be the traditional tombola with great prizes, and Café Rosaburn will be serving up delicious snacks.

Surely an event which will appeal to all the family, and certainly not to be missed.

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# Historic bill will mean a new deal for islands

An historic bill designed to meet the unique needs of Scotland's islands has been introduced to the Scottish Parliament. The Islands (Scotland) Bill will help create the right environment for sustainable growth and empowered communities.

Islands Minister Humza Yousaf said: 'The SNP government is committed to promoting islands' voices, to harnessing islands' resources and enhancing their wellbeing. The measures in this bill underpin this ambition.'

'In particular, the provision to "island-proof" decision-making across the public sector will ensure the interests of islanders are reflected in future legislation and policy from the very outset.'

'The National Islands Plan will set out the strategic direction for support-



Islands Minister Humza Yousaf has introduced the Islands Bill to parliament.

ing island communities, continuing the momentum generated by the Our Islands, Our Future campaign and the work of the islands strategic group.

'This is the first bill for Scotland's islands, marking an historic milestone for our island communities.'

'I am proud and privileged as Islands Minister to

be guiding the bill through Scotland's parliament.'

Measures in the bill include: a requirement to island-proof future legislation and policies; the creation of a National Islands Plan; greater flexibility around councillor representation within island communities, with Arran to become a council ward in its own right; and extend-

ing powers to island councils in relation to marine licensing.

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson welcomed the new bill, saying: 'The Our Islands, Our Future campaign specifically asked for an act for our islands and it is gratifying to see this objective being realised.'

'Island proofing is particularly important, as evidenced by the unique nature of life on our islands, including Arran and Cumbrae in my own constituency.'

'The cross-party local government and communities committee – of which I am one of the seven members and the only member to represent island communities – will scrutinise this important legislation to ensure that it delivers for all of Scotland's island communities, including Arran and Cumbrae.'

## Council hits back after schools are named in asbestos scare by MSP

Council chiefs this week insisted 'our schools are safe' after six Arran primaries were named in an asbestos scare.

Research has found that asbestos was used in 1,638 schools in Scotland and in 30 out of 32 local authorities. A total of 42 schools in North Ayrshire, it was claimed, could contain the substance, including Corrie Primary, Kilmory Primary, Lamash Primary, Pirnmill Primary, Shiskine Primary and Whiting Bay Primary.

Asbestos was used in the second half of the 20th century as a cheap, fire-proof substance. However, it was later found that inhaling asbestos fibres could result in lung cancer up to 50 years after exposure.

West of Scotland list Conservative MSP Jamie Greene said: 'The report is alarming. As many as 42 of our schools could contain this deadly substance which could have devastating consequences.'

'This is an immediate priority for the Scottish Government. It needs to assess which schools are at risk and remove the threat. I will be writing to deputy first minister John Swinney

and lodging parliamentary questions on the matter.'

'North Ayrshire needs immediate answers from the Scottish Government and to be made sure that their children are safe attending these schools. If these schools are found to contain asbestos, then I would expect a clear plan of action on the matter. Simply passing the buck to local authorities is not good enough. This matter is devolved to the Scottish Government and it should be taking the lead on addressing this concern.'

A North Ayrshire Council spokesman said: 'The safety and wellbeing of our young people and staff is a priority for the council.'

'We understand that MSP Jamie Greene's press release may cause alarm. But we would like to ensure all parents, carers, pupils and, of course, our staff that we take the issue extremely seriously and take thorough and robust measures to ensure their health is never compromised.'

'We follow a strict asbestos inspection and management regime in the relevant schools, in line with statutory guidelines.'

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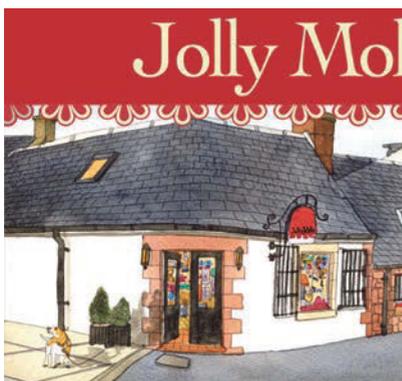


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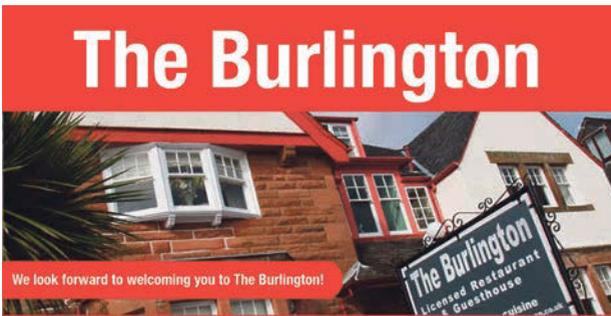


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# Art exhibition raises funds for Arran House

The Isle of Arran Distillery continued to show its support for Arran House in Nepal by hosting a fifth art exhibition by charity supporter and artist Gordon Davidson, writes Colin Smeeton.

The exhibition, which was officially opened by Captain Richard Morris of the Kalaa Jyoti charity – which established Arran House – raises funds for the provision of art training to Nepalese orphanages, schools and disadvantaged children across the region.

It also seeks to enhance the lives of Nepalese children through education and provides opportunities for the disadvantaged, some-

thing which receives no funding in Nepal.

Attending the exhibition, and surprising Captain Morris, Billy Black who played football with Gordon Davidson for Albert United Football Club more than 30 years ago, presented the charity with a donation of £500 which he raised by playing a sponsored round of golf in his kilt.

Billy, who is a pharmacist at a Boots store in Ayr, also convinced his store manager to equal his donation with a further £500 going towards the charity.

Craig Murdoch, Ayr store manager, said: 'Boots supports various charitable or-

ganisations and great causes. Kalaa Jyoti is among those great causes and we are very happy to support this much needed and valued organisation along with our colleague Billy Black.'

## Art training

The art exhibition which featured Mr Davidson's work, which was available for sale, also included artworks from some of the 1,000 children who have taken part in the art training over the last five years.

Arran House in Kathmandu provides safe accommodation to disadvantaged children to enable them to continue with higher education in order to secure future employment.



Faye Waterlow, distillery visitor centre manager, and Craig Murdoch, Boots' Ayr store manager, present Captain Richard Morris of Kalaa Jyoti with a cheque along with artist Gordon Davidson and fundraiser Billy Black. 01\_B24Nepal01



Visitors browse the artworks displayed in the visitor centre at the distillery. 01\_B24Nepal02



Various artworks created by the Nepalese children who took part in the art workshops are also on display. 01\_B24Nepal03

## Have your say on McLaren plans

A bid to give the public a voice over the proposals for the development of the McLaren Hotel has been extended.

As reported in recent editions of the *Banner* the developers have unveiled their plans for the prominent Brodick shore-front site – the proposal is to clear the site and build a 96-bedroom aparthotel.

### Consultation

Following a drop-in consultation last week former community councillor Chris Atkins posted details on Facebook which have received more than 100 comments some positive but mainly negative saying the proposed hotel is too big and unsightly. Now Chris is keen for anyone who is not

on social media to have their say as well. He has placed a copy of the drawings and collection boxes for comments around the island.

Anyone wishing to have a say should post their comments before the end of the month in the boxes at Arran Active in Brodick, the PHT in Lamlash, Bay Stores in Whiting Bay and the Harbour Shop in Blackwaterfoot.

These will be collated for submission to the developers and North Ayrshire Council.

A full planning permission by the developers, the Norfolk-based Abode Group is expected shortly

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## Editorial

### Out with a bang

Another week, another ferry problem. But this one seems more serious.

Certainly the MV Isle of Arran went out of service with a bang and left a gaping hole in the ferry timetable for two busy weeks and we hope not any more.

Again, the situation highlights the lack of spare capacity in the fleet. There are simply no boats to cover such an eventuality. All CalMac could come up with was to put the tiny MV Loch Bhrusda on as an additional sailing on the Lochranza route and try to encourage people to come in to the top end of the island. Not ideal, but at least they tried.

What the latest breakdown of the MV Isle of Arran shows is that at 33 years old, heading to 34, she is long past her sell-by date.

Things should improve when the new Glen Sannox comes into service next year – but what about this year's summer service?

It may well be a sensible move to keep the MV Isle of Arran in dry dock a few days longer to ensure the repairs are carried out in full.

Then perhaps we can hope for a summer free from disruptions and cancellations to the second boat service which, more and more, appear to have become the norm.

#### Thought for the week

'Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you.' (Ephesians 4:32)

### Landscape blot

Sir,  
As our ferry approached the island yesterday, I became aware that something had changed. The view that had thrilled me for over 30 years was now different, and as we neared Brodick the reason became very apparent. The new ferry terminal had appeared.

I gazed in some amazement at the size, shape and rather vulgar appearance of the structure and wondered how on earth something so out of character with the island could have been allowed to replace the friendly, welcoming terminal that has greeted us with apparent efficiency for so long.

I say apparent because there had clearly been some perception that the existing terminal had become unfit for purpose, so I assume this was the basis on which plans for the new building were laid. But why so big? Have the island fathers struck a secret deal with Cunard? Does Brodick see itself as a future Southampton?

I doubt if either of these are true, but in our Yorkshire hometowns we are seeing massive cuts in our social care budgets, benefits reduced, libraries closed etc. So perhaps your readers will understand why I see the new terminal as being also a blot on the financial landscape.

Sorry Arran, CalMac, North Ayrshire, but I think you got it wrong.

Yours,  
**Keith Hartley**  
North Yorkshire  
**Christian Aid**

Sir,  
The door-to-door Christian Aid collection in Whiting Bay and Kildonan, with tax reclaimed, amounted to £1,351. The Big Brekkie

for Christian Aid on Sunday June 11 raised £282, with tax reclaimed, and so in total, £1,633 has been received by Christian Aid.

Thank you to everyone in our two villages who gave so generously, many thanks.

Yours,  
**Elizabeth Watson**  
Whiting Bay

### Practical suggestions

Sir,  
It's not going very well is it? The summer ferry season seems to have brought the following:

A new ticketing system that on the one hand encourages us to book on the internet but renders it impossible to do so for those with OAP concessions seeking to book a car.

A telephone system that requires a 20-minute hold – I know I'm getting on but even I have better things to do.

And a supplementary boat that (how shall I put this?) is at best temperamental and at worst about as much use as a chocolate fireguard.

Some practical suggestions:

Tap up the rail companies for some top tips on how to enable concession tickets to be booked on the net and then checked at the point of use.

When a long-term fault with a vessel emerges, don't let everyone booked on it know at the same time: drip out the news in an attempt to smooth out follow-up demand. You might even fix it ahead of schedule.

Either have a phone system that's fit for purpose or don't have one at all: it's the hope that gets us.

A personal view, I grant you, but ease out, or ease up the price of RET ve-

hicle fares. Arguably the world's most successful travel company – Ryanair – has become so because it better matches supply and demand. CalMac's vehicle fares are both too cheap at peak times and too expensive in the troughs.

But I commend your staff's indefatigability.

Yours,  
**Nigel Armstrong**  
Whiting Bay

### Faith restored

Sir,  
On Wednesday June 7 I inadvertently left my iPad on the 12.30pm Caledonian Isles, but did not realise my loss till I was home.

I returned to the Brodick office and reported it to Cathie who, even although she was very busy, emailed Gourock to enquire, and told me to go home and she would phone me with the result. A short time later she did with the good news that it had been found and handed in, alas there was no particulars of the finder?

I should like to thank the finder if they should read this, also the CalMac staff, and particularly Cathie, for their outstanding service.

My faith in my fellow man/woman has been restored!

Yours,  
**Donald Cowan**  
Lamlash

### Coach trips

Sir,  
My love for the Isle of Arran began in 1976 when, as a family we rented a cottage in the very pretty village of Corrie and we have some very happy memories of our holidays there.

In 1995 I bought my first coach and started trading as Ronaldsway Door to Door coach holidays, providing coach holidays for the more mature person. When it came to planning my tour

programme, the Isle of Arran was right at the top of the list and so in June 1996 I brought my first tour to the island. Such was the success that it became an annual tour and I ran two tours a year – one in June and one at the beginning of October – for 15 years, both being very successful with some passengers returning with us each year.

It was with apprehension then that we watched the islands popularity grow, especially since the introduction of lower ferry fares.

Sadly, our fears were founded as we now are no longer able to secure accommodation at the hotel we have successfully been to for the last 15 years.

Please believe me when I say that I understand the hotel's decision as the rates that they can get from casual visitors, such as golfers, does not compare to group rates. I am sure that I would do the same.

I have nothing but praise for the hotel who always looked after us very well and gave us many kindnesses and always made us so welcome.

Thank you to the *Arran Banner* and all the group venues and the people of Arran who are all so friendly and make us feel so welcome. We have nothing but happy memories.

We are still hoping that we will be able to continue our tours to the island. My son is the driver now, (United Kingdom Coach Driver of the Year 2016) for our tours, which are operated by prize-winning Brethertons Tours, as problems with my health meant I had to surrender my driving licence.

Yours,  
**Ron Frankel**  
Rochdale

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# Top marks for behaviour

Arran pooches who have attended the winter series of dog classes have attained Good Citizen-standard gold, silver and bronze in their obedience tests in Whiting Bay.

Examiner Elizabeth McPhee travelled from East Kilbride to test the dogs, everyone's hard work and commitment paying off – 12 dogs and their handlers passing bronze, four at silver

and two at gold. Organiser Margaret Kay said: 'I am so proud of them all, particularly as there were some dogs in there who had issues.'

There were two special trophy winners. Fiona Mc-



Bronze and silver award achiever, Jackson with owner Andrew Mawby.



Bonnie, whose behaviour has improved in leaps and bounds, sits with her awards.



Dogs are put through their paces on the road during the silver award.

Kenzie with Bonnie who won the Jacquie Murie Memorial Trophy and £10 prize which was donated by Jacquie's daughter Jan.

Bonnie came on in leaps and bounds during the classes, from a very nervous, shy dog when she was referred to Margaret by vet Charlotte Clough, into a dog that achieved both her bronze and silver awards.

The second special prize winner was Jackson, owned

by Andrew Mawby and Steve Hill, who couldn't make it on the day.

Their trophy was donated by the examiner in memory of her standard poodle, Ark, who was a particularly difficult dog until the penny dropped regarding who was boss.

Obedience classes will continue for a few more weeks at the Whiting Bay Hall before the classes move to Sandbraes

Park with the agility kit. Margaret said: 'Thanks to Elizabeth McPhee, examiner extraordinaire, Cathie Steed and Mary Young for their weekly support and assistance, and also a big thank you to everyone and their dogs who attend the classes throughout the year – it wouldn't be a dog club without you all.'

Photographs by Nick Milioutou, PhotoGnick Arran

## Childcare courses at Argyll College

Advertorial

As one of the fastest-growing employment sectors in Scotland, Childcare professionals are going to be in increasing demand over the next few years.

If you fancy making the most of the situation and opting for working with children in some capacity as a career, the great news is that you can do your studying right here in Argyll.

Argyll College UHI offers five levels of courses in Childcare, ranging from Childhood Studies: An Introduction right up to BA (Hons) in Childhood Practice or BA (Hons) in Child and Youth Studies.

At present all three and four year olds in Scotland, and eligible two year olds, are entitled to 600 hours a year of free early learning and childcare.

The Scottish Government intends to nearly double this figure to 1140 hours by 2020, which will see a corre-



sponding increase in demand for qualified childcare workers.

Rena MacDonald, Argyll College UHI's Health and Wellbeing Curriculum Manager, urged anyone interested in pursuing Childcare as a career to check out what's on offer at their local College centre.

'The additional investment in this sector will have a significant knock on effect on the numbers of trained staff required, so we're likely to see a big expansion of career opportunities in Childcare over the next few years,' she added.

'Whether you're new to Childcare and higher education or whether you'd like to boost existing qualifications, Argyll College UHI will have a course to suit you so come in and have a chat, pick up a copy of our prospectus or look at our website. It might prove the best thing you ever did.'

Think that's an exaggeration? Ask Campbeltown man Ciaran Norris, who took Childcare as a taster course at school and is now well on his way to realising his dream of becoming a primary teacher. Ciaran, 19, said: 'I've

loved it from Day One, and the fact I can potentially go from zero to qualified early years teacher without ever leaving my home town is fantastic.

'I knew I'd probably be the only male in the class, but it didn't worry me and I couldn't have asked for a more positive reaction from everyone I've come across – my fellow students, tutors, staff in my placements and also the parents of the kids I've been involved with.

'I'm so thankful I opted for Childcare, because I've discovered a real passion for it. I can't recommend it strongly enough. If you're even slightly interested, go and find out more about the options open to you. That's what I did, and I've never looked back.'

For more information on Argyll College UHI courses, go to <https://www.argyll.uhi.ac.uk/courses>



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# Big smiles all round at Cooriedoon barbecue



Chef Ross McLean prepares the barbecue feast for residents. 01\_B23smile01

Residents of Cooriedoon care home in Whiting Bay had a lot to smile about last week when they enjoyed a barbecue as part of their National Smile Month celebrations.

The annual event, which was their biggest one yet, saw invited school children and residents taking part in an art competition, enjoying a sing-along and a barbecue in the recently upgraded and immaculate garden. Staff, who had completed in-house training on oral health and denture cleaning, served residents and invited guests a healthy serving of salad and barbecue treats cooked by chef Ross McLean.

Organiser Maureen Laya,

health advisor at Cooriedoon, said: 'I would like to say a huge thank you to managers Gwen Walker and Tracy Beck and each and every one of our hard working staff who have ensured residents and visitors have enjoyed all of our National Smile Month events.'

Cooriedoon currently has 25 residents who regularly take part in fun events including two bus trips a week, karaoke and a host of other activities. They were recently awarded a grant from the participatory budget by North Ayrshire Council which has been used to create a relaxing outdoor garden complete with wooden decking and seating.



Residents enjoy their meal, while others take part in a sing along. 01\_B23smile04

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Management and staff of Cooriedoon who took part in National Smile Month. 01\_B23smile02

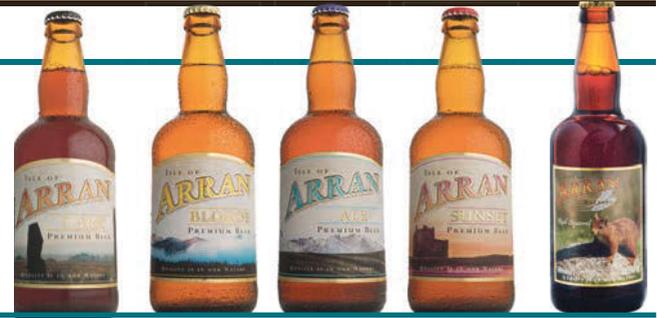


Cooriedoon residents enjoy their barbecue. 01\_B23smile03



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# Memories are made of this at Arran Folk Festival



The Tannahill Weavers on stage at Brodick Hall. 01\_A24folk18

'One of the biggest and best in recent times' was the verdict of the organisers of the 23rd Arran Folk Festival which saw Brodick buzzing last weekend.

With quality acts, an increase in visitors and a heady mix of formal and informal music, it made for a terrific few days.

Organiser John Hollingworth of Arran Events said: 'It was a great weekend. From our point of view, a successful festival is one where the visiting artists have as good a time performing as the audience does listening.'

The event began with an afternoon session in The Douglas Hotel bar hosted, as always, by 'Uncle' Keith Robertson. As the afternoon wore on, musician after musician with every kind of instrument poured into the bar to make collective sounds that will long live in the memory. And similar great sessions followed on Saturday and Sunday.

### Fantastic set

Mike & Stef played a fantastic set to open Friday's concert and got the packed hall singing along from the outset. It was the perfect opener for Jenn & Laura Beth to follow. They are two talented girls who are so enthusi-

astic it is a joy to watch. The Top Floor Taivers also gave a stunning set, as expected.

Jon said: 'There was a lot of talent on that stage. I felt privileged to have helped make it happen.'

The girls also seemed to have had a blast as Laura Beth later posted on Facebook: 'Such a great weekend gigging with my partner in crime, Jenn Butterworth, this weekend. We returned to Arran Folk Festival on Friday night to play to a blummin' lovely, friendly audience before a mighty session in Fiddlers' till the early hours. It took us a whole day to recover!'

Jon continued: 'Saturday's concert was sold out long before the day itself, which is such a relief. When we book high profile names like Rab Noakes and The Tannahill Weavers, we always hope people will appreciate the opportunity and turn out to show their support. But it's never guaranteed so it's nice when it all comes together and we have people waiting at the door in case there are any ticket cancellations.'

Rab was happy to be coming back to Arran and told the packed audience in Brodick Hall: 'I played Arran Folk Festival at the end of May in 1970. It went well and parting shots went

along the lines of 'We must have you back again another year'. So, it's with delight I'm letting you know that, although it's taken a year or two, 47 to be precise, this has come to pass.'

The Tannahill Weavers also had a great time and played a couple of cracking sets with nice contrasts throughout. They posted the following day: 'What a great gig at the Arran Folk Festival last night! It's a smashing festival on a beautiful island.'

### Thanks

Jon said: 'We're getting a good reputation on the circuit for looking after the musicians really well, so much so that we didn't go hunting for any of the line-up this year. They all approached us and asked if they could come and play. Thanks for this must go to The Douglas Hotel for accommodating them so well, Fiddler's Bar for feeding them in between their soundcheck and performance, the distillery for providing the bar at the concerts and the audience for turning out in droves and giving all the performers such an enthusiastic welcome. I was also chuffed that *The Scotsman Magazine* included us in their Cannae Miss List: June 9-16. We may just be on the right track with the little festival!'



Irene Watt on the clarsach is accompanied by husband Graham White. They were visiting from Aberdeen. 01\_A24folk07



George Machray is a popular festival regular.

01\_A24folk01



Maria and Stuart entertain the crowd.

01\_A24folk02



Nickey Summer in full voice.

01\_A24folk03

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# Rab's return marks terrific



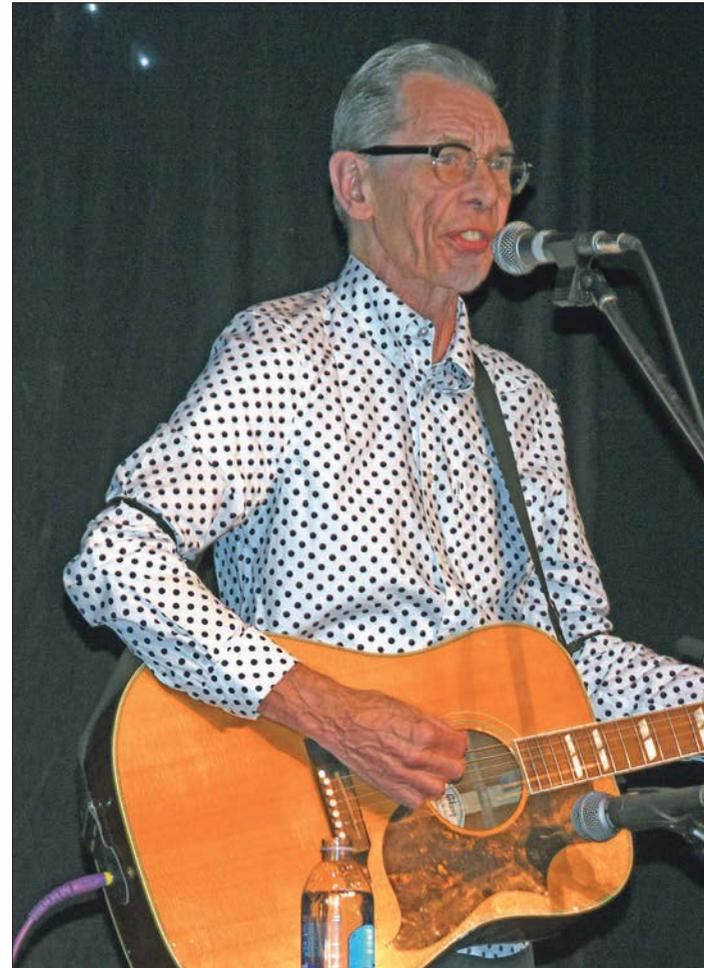
Bill Fraser entertains with a song.

01\_A24folk06



Gillian Frame and young players from Arran Fiddle Club entertained at The Douglas.

01\_A24folk11



Brodick's Mark Nelson gets some fiddle help with his song.

01\_A24folk04



A string collaboration.

01\_A24folk05

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Irene White  
01\_A24f...

# c 23rd folk festival

Rab Noakes in concert at a packed Brodick Hall.  
01\_A24folk17



Alastair Paul, left, Stuart Farrar, right, and friends.  
01\_A24folk13



Liz Stevenson from Mauchline is joined in her song by Gerry Hearns from Corrie on his bouzouki.  
01\_A24folk10



Watt and husband Graham perform a rousing ditty.



Kilted host 'Uncle' Keith Robertson in full voice. 01\_A24folk16



Colin Guthrie performs a hilarious shopping tale.  
01\_A24folk14



Stone Age Jenga perform at the Douglas. 01\_A24folk15

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<b>Skipness Castle</b>	<b>SUNDAY</b> August 27 Leave 3.40pm back 4.40pm Fare: Cruise Skipness Point £19

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**Castle Time Travellers - Sat 17th & Sun 18th June 11am & 2pm**  
A family tour through the times of the Castle – dressing-up optional! Stout footwear advised – Please book at Reception **Adults & children Free with Garden Entry**

**Brodick Castle from the Outside - Sat 17th & Sun 18th – 12, 1 & 3pm**  
**Thurs 22nd & Fri 23rd June - 11am, 12, 1, 2 & 3pm**  
A guided historical tour of the exterior of the Castle – stout footwear advised. Please book at Reception **Adults Free with Garden Entry**

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# WHAT'S ON

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 Arran Brewery  
 Soap making and candle dipping  
 Arran Heritage Museum, Rosaburn, Brodick

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

## Saturday 17th June

Army Cadets  
 RNLI Shop  
 Over 21s disco  
 Family games  
 Fun in the pool  
 Arran Vets surgery  
 Arran Vets reception  
 Blackwaterfoot bowls  
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club Rink Game  
 Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game  
 Flow yoga  
 Live Music - Backwater

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1pm  
 Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm  
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
 Auchrannie games hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Auchrannie spa pool, 4-5pm  
 9.30am - 11am  
 9.30am - noon  
 Bowling Club, 2pm  
 WBay Bowling club, 2pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am  
 The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

## Sunday 18th June

Family games  
 Auchrannie games hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Fun in the pool  
 Open acoustic session at Fiddlers'  
 AA meeting  
 RNLI Shop  
 Craft Day  
 Live Music - Backwater

Auchrannie spa pool, 4pm-5pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick 2.30pm - 5pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm  
 Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm  
 Arran Heritage Museum, 1.30pm  
 The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm

## Monday 19th June

Over 50s badminton  
 Badminton  
 Morning fitness  
 Badminton  
 Arran Vets surgery  
 Arran Vets reception  
 Arran Junior Football Club  
 Circuit training  
 Lamlash Aerobix  
 Tae KwonDo  
 Summer bridge tournament  
 Arran Citizen's Advice Bureau  
 Adult Tennis  
 Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game  
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club Rink Game  
 Arran skinnymalinks  
 Arran skinnymalinks  
 Early Years AGM

Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm  
 Auchrannie gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 Auchrannie sports hall, 7-9pm  
 9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm  
 9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm  
 Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm  
 Auchrannie gym, 6-7pm  
 Arran High School dance studio, 6.30pm  
 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  
 WBay Bowling club, 6.30pm  
 Shiskine Church Hall, 5.15pm  
 Brodick Church Kitchen, 6pm  
 Brodick Library, 7.30pm

## Tuesday 20th June

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

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

Brodick Castle garden walk  
 Arran High School Summer Music concert  
 Craft Fayre

Meet at Visitor Centre, 2pm  
 Lamlash, 7.30pm  
 Whiting Bay Hall, 11am - 3pm

## Wednesday 21st June

Rock an pop bingo  
 Tae KwonDo  
 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Arran Brass rehearsal  
 Arran Vets surgery  
 Arran Vets reception  
 Yoga  
 Hydrofit  
 Arran Heritage Museum archives and genealogy service 10.30-12.30 and 1.30-3.30  
 Mixed ability Run (Arran Run Coach)  
 Yoga-Arran  
 Mixed hockey  
 Dog classes  
 Flow yoga  
 Knittnerly and Natterly  
 Family friendly pup quiz  
 Bus pass club meal  
 Coffee morning  
 Chair yoga St Molios  
 Burger and quiz night  
 Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game  
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club Rink Game  
 Arran Skinnymalinks  
 Arran Elderly Forum

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  
 Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - 12noon  
 Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am - noon  
 Felicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm  
 Brodick Bowling Green 6.45pm  
 WBay Bowling club, 6.30pm  
 Lamlash Church Hall 5pm  
 Ormidale Pavillon, Brodick, 11am

## Thursday 22nd June

Morning fitness  
 General knowledge quiz  
 Arran Vets surgery  
 Arran Vets reception  
 Ladies' hockey  
 Winter bowls  
 Arran Bridge  
 Quilt Arran  
 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, 10.30am - 11.30am  
 Shiskine Shiskine Hall, 6pm - 7.30pm  
 Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club from 5.30pm

## Friday 23rd June

Yoga  
 Hydrofit  
 Arran Youth Foundations  
 Lochranza children's badminton  
 Lochranza adults' badminton  
 Arran Vets  
 Arran Vets  
 AA meeting  
 Tae KwonDo  
 Arran United Race Night  
 Open Mic hosted by Keith

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  
 Lamalsh Golf Club, 7pm  
 The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

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# Delightful stonechat are widespread on Arran

The settled weather of April continued into May with no rain recorded in the first 10 days. It was warmer and drier than May 2016 with the highest temperature five degrees warmer than last May and the rainfall some 20 per cent less. Conditions were generally good for birds trying to migrate north and birds getting on with breeding. May, like April, was an interesting birding month, again with more than 100 species recorded.

Here are some highlights. On May 8 there was a report of a hobby hunting hirundines over Lochranza golf course. This record has to be confirmed by the rarities committee. This raptor is a summer visitor to the UK and a rare vagrant to Arran. The last record was in June 2011. On May 13 there were eight common crossbill on Brodick golf course.

A long-eared owl seemed to investigate two bird-watchers on the Machrie Moor road at dusk on May 14. This is the first record of this secretive owl since July 2015. On May 21 a male black redstart posed on a post for a Lam-lash resident on his regular evening walk. The last record was also in Lam-lash in April 2015.

Our regular summer visitors continued to arrive. Here are May 'firsts' with the 2016 arrival date in brackets for comparison: whinchat in Glen Rosa on 1st (May 2), ring ouzel on

Mullach Buidhe on 2nd (April 10), swift over Cleats Shore on 5th (May 9), wood warbler in Auchenhew on 7th (no records in 2016), lesser whitethroat in Kildonan on 11th (May 11), spotted flycatcher at Machriewaterfoot on 12th (May 8) and Arctic tern at Silver Sands on 14th (May 14). In addition, throughout the month the numbers of familiar summer visitors like swallow, house martin, sand martin, willow warbler, whitethroat, sedge warbler and cuckoo continued to build up. To date, there have been no reports this year of garden warbler, common redstart, nightjar, corncrake or common tern.

Species who breed further north continued to pass through including: one black-tailed godwit at Porta Buidhe on 1st, 10 whimbrel also at Porta Buidhe on 3rd, two white wagtails on Cleats Shore on 5th, four great northern diver off Millstone Point on 6th, 10 dunlin at Torrylinnwaterfoot on 7th, a bar-tailed godwit at Sliderry Shore on 10th, four black-throated diver off Cosyden on 11th, eight turnstone at Machriewaterfoot also on 11th, three sandwich tern at Drumadon Point on 13th and six sanderling on Blackwaterfoot shore on 19th.

In May, breeding was well under way for many species. Encouraging signs included reports of golden eagle, golden plover, hen harrier, red-throated diver and short-eared owl all



Spotted flycatcher by Nick Giles, a stunning photograph of one of our later arriving summer visitors. Photo Nick Giles

holding breeding territories. Activity was reported from all the monitored heronries on the island but only two reports were received of lapwing holding territories. While a number of coastal cliffs held nesting fulmar, I would be interested to receive any reports of young birds. None was reported in 2016 from any colony.

However, breeding stonechat were again reported from widespread areas. These delightful birds appear to have recovered after the two consecutive very cold winters. Other breeding records included: around 60 sand martin at a new colony in Glen Catcol on 9th, five woodcock roding over Machrie Moor on 14th, dipper with young in Glenashdale on 16th, 30 Arctic tern at the colony on

Pladda on 28th and a pair of shelduck with seven young at Clauchlands, also on 28th. In addition, towards the end of the month, there were lots of reports of garden birds carrying food and feeding recently fledged young.

With the long daylight hours, it is a great time of year to be birding. Most birds are getting on with the business of breeding. Please take a moment to report any signs of breeding birds to me, but please also remember that under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly damage or destroy the nest of any

wild bird while it is being built or used. Do not hesitate to report any criminal activity to the local police. Particularly take care on our shores and please keep dogs on their leads at this time of year.

Enjoy your birding.

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at jim@arranbirding.co.uk I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the *Arran Bird Atlas 2007-2012* as well as the *Arran Bird Report 2016* and visit this website [www.arranbirding.co.uk](http://www.arranbirding.co.uk).



A fulmar in flight. These long lived species seem to be nesting but not producing young. Photo Dennis Morrison



Black redstart a scarce passage migrant last recorded April 2015. Photo Arthur Duncan

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The range of fine food and drink that is produced here on Arran is as varied and diverse as the wonderful island landscapes.

The cheese, whisky, fish, meat, chocolates and even ice cream are all hand made on this tiny island.

Every single one of these locally created products are available to us all-year long.

The people who make these products are united by a common commitment to quality and taste and all share a passion for their craft, as well as this beautiful island.

From internationally renowned companies, to small artisan producers, the main aim of each one is to delight you with the true taste of Arran.

#### The Island Cheese Company

Producing award winning cheeses is not an easy task, but at Home Farm in Brodick that is exactly what Arran's Cheese Shop has been doing for nearly 25 years.

With Arran Blue, Arran Camembert and Arran Brie cheeses winning Golds and Silvers at the World and the British Cheese Award and the Cheese Shop's Mustard Flavoured Cheddar being voted Best Scottish Retail Product a commitment to quality has to be the principal motivation.

As well as their own soft cheeses made in Blackwaterfoot, they produce a range of flavoured cheddars that are available at the Home Farm shop and at various outlets on Arran and throughout Scotland.

#### Arran Chocolate Factory

The Arran Chocolate Factory and its mouth-watering array of handmade truffles, fudges and chocolates has become one of the island's great food experiences.

James McClery first began making chocolates about 15 years ago and since then he has continued to experiment with flavours and fillings to create one of the country's finest range of hand made chocolates.

How about sampling champagne and ginger truffles, mandarin marzipan or passion fruit crèmes?

Supplying a select group of independent and corporate customers throughout Arran and the rest of the country, they also create very unique wedding favours all produced on the island.

Go to the website [www.jamesofarran.com](http://www.jamesofarran.com) where you can now also order online.

#### Wooleys

At Wooleys branches in Brodick and Lamlash, we freshly prepare a wide range of products which are available daily. Fresh baked bread and rolls, cakes, pastries and tea bread, pies, bridies, sausage rolls and other savoury items. Scones and pancakes, filled rolls and sandwiches and soup. And of course, oatcakes!

But never a company to rest on their laurels, Wooleys introduced a delicious new biscuit range for you to enjoy.

The 3 varieties are punchy ginger, seriously coconut and raspberry infused cranberry.

They are available from both Wooleys shops and from various outlets round the island.

#### Isle of Arran Distillery

Today Arran can boast one of the finest ranges of malt whiskies in the world. Using only traditional methods of distilling with wooden washbacks and copper stills designed to an exact specification, the distillery produces award winning whisky which is now distributed all over

the globe. Arran Distillery uses no peat in the production process, with the exception of the Machrie Moor bottling, and does not use any caramel for artificial colouring - unlike most other distilleries - and as a result the malt produced can rightly be described as 'the true spirit of nature.'

Today the distillery is producing whisky day and night to make single malts that range from a 10 year old to a delectable 18 year old, speciality cask bottlings, as well as Arran Gold whisky liqueur.

The distillery has also forged close ties with 14 other food producers on the island to develop mustard, ice cream and chocolates all flavoured with this wonderful whisky.

#### Arran Dairies

To make the famous ice-cream Arran Dairies only use milk produced on Arran. They say it makes all the difference because it has a special taste due to the cows grazing on the clean and green pastures of Arran's micro ecosystem, washed by the Gulf Stream and with rainfall coming straight in from the Atlantic.

It is philosophy which certainly seems to work since sales have soared since the company took the decision in 2014 to stop milk production and concentrate all their efforts on ice cream

The development of the ice cream business, and their partnership with A Taste of Arran, has moved their small island based company into being a supplier of artisan ice cream products throughout the UK and abroad and they are delighted that their ice cream has won regional and national awards and are justifiably proud to brand is part of the 'big tastes from a small Scottish island'.

Arran Dairies is a 4th generation family run firm, established on the island in 1978, but with a heritage of food production on Arran dating back to the 1930s.

It truly is a taste of Arran.

#### The Arran Butcher

Anyone looking for top quality meats their first stop should be The Arran Butcher shop in Blackwaterfoot.

Run by husband and wife team David and Dawn McKinnon the family butchers has been supplying homes and businesses on the Arran for over 53 years.

They offer an extensive selection of quality meats including traditional cuts of naturally reared beef, pork and lamb and wild Arran venison. They also have a fantastic selection of fresh fish and an ever growing range of home-made produce including their delicious freshly baked steak pies, sausage rolls and mutton pies.

The butchers, who were Salsa accredited earlier this year, also make their very own hand-made Arran haggis and black pudding which can now be ordered online.

The shop also stocks a range of products, cold meats, cheese and ice cream and also has a fish counter.

If you can't get to the shop on the west coast they also have a mobile shop which can come to you and they deliver free of charge across the island. Look out too for the fortnightly Facebook specials. You can also find their products in the Co-op stores and at local shops around the island. And when you're out for a bite to eat, why not look out for their products on the menu

# something to suit every palette



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# ISLE OF ARRAN DISTILLERY

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# Fun dance workshop



Dance teacher Gillian Montgomery takes the Lamlash Primary pupils through their dance routine. 01\_B24ydance02

Children at the Lamlash Campus threw themselves into the air and rhythmically moved their bodies to the sound of music last week when the national dance organisation, YDance, visited the schools to host dance workshops.

The Scottish youth dance organisation, which encourages an active lifestyle and personal development

through dancing, visited the two schools on the invitation of Archie McNicol of Active Schools.

Dance teacher Gillian Montgomery hosted the dance lessons, teaching pupils from P3 to S6 dance steps which they joined up to form a final dance performance routine.

Children at the workshops were shown various dance

moves which they were then encouraged to expand upon with their own signature moves which they performed in pairs.

Gillian praised the children at Lamlash Primary after her P5 to P7 class saying: 'The children at Lamlash Primary were very energetic and full of fun in their inclusive dance workshop.'



Dance routines included jumping, sliding and raising both feet off the ground. 01\_B24ydance04



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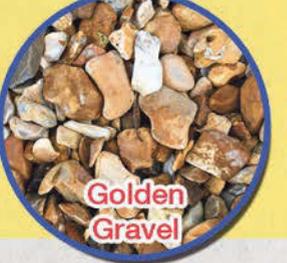
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# THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday June 21, 1997

## Big chop

Clear felling of Arran's timber began this week. In prospect for many years as the plantations of coniferous trees approached maturity, there has been felling on a small scale for some time. This was mainly thinning and opening up roads to gain access for the main timber extraction. Now chopping down trees has begun in earnest and export of timber will become a regular feature of the island.

A nine-year contract has been acquired by Wilson's Sawmills in Troon. Arran's timber will be taken by lorry to Market Road in Brodick and loaded onto a barge which will then be towed directly to the sawmill. These mature trees will be cut into planks to be used for housing timber, making pallets and the residue will probably end up in the pulp mill.

To measure the extent of the felling, the contract is sold standing and is for 20,000 cubic metres per annum – this is roughly three lorry loads per day – 10 times the amount which has been extracted so far and in five years time it will double to 40 cubic metres. The felling team which arrived this week is starting at the Dyemill, just south of Lamlash.

## Royal visit

The Ormidale Sports Pavilion is coming on apace, not only for its opening by the Queen on August 9, but also because

it is to be used in the Brodick Golf Club Centenary celebrations on July 12. It will be ready by the first date but, of course, all eyes will be focused on August 9. By then the whole area will be landscaped, the grass on the new sports field will be lush, and inside the pavilion there will be a large custom-made building, including a hospitality suite that opens onto the sports field, and extensive shower and changing facilities for up to four teams at once.

The Brodick Highland Games this year are to start at 11am and with the royal presence, it promises to be the biggest and best yet. There will be more pipe bands than usual and there will be extra ferries sailing that day to accommodate the many people who will want to travel to Arran to see the Queen.

Her majesty will lunch at the castle and then travel to Lochranza Distillery before leaving for the royal yacht Britannia.

## Travellers site

An agreement has been reached between the National Trust for Scotland and North Ayrshire Council to extend the lease on the travelling peoples' site at Merkland Bridge for 21 years. Built in 1987, it has created permanent homes for many of the travelling people and, being the first such site in Cunninghame, has been followed by others on the mainland. The rent of £25 per annum will be reviewed when the new lease starts in 2001.



The Arran Rotary Club donated £1,450 to local causes at the end of its first period of existence. Members include David Sutherland, Mike Lunan, John Beattie, Marion Gentleman, Jim Dickson, Hamish Thomson, Alastair Yates, Maureen Smith and George Baines.



Scenes from a successful Feis week at Arran High School where all of the school's musicians get on stage after the end of the Feis ceilidh last Friday. B24twe02



Last Friday night was Finals Night at Shiskine Golf Club with the gents, ladies and juniors all holding their club championship finals. Pictured here are Alan Bannatyne, junior champion, Liz Kerr, ladies champion and Billy Paton, gents champion. B24twe04



Last Tuesday all of the primary schools met at Lamlash to compete at their annual sports day. With the sun shining and the end of the school term in sight, pupils cheered each other on. B24twe03



The Kildonan WRI committee pictured at their 50th birthday celebrations were: Netta MacDonald, Mamie Stewart, Angela Turner, Christine Miller, Mary MacKenzie, Netta Miller, Judy Cook, Janice Robinson. B24twe05

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Tel: 302928

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## Public Notices

**ArCaS AGM**

Wednesday 28th June, 7.30pm  
Glen Cloy suit  
Auchrannie Spa

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CHURCH NOTICES

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)  
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
**Sunday 18th June**  
11am Holy Communion.  
Mr John Roberts.  
Coffee after service.  
**Wednesday 21st June**  
12.00 noon. 'Pop-up' service in the Pier Head Tavern (PHT), Lamlash.  
ALL WELCOME"

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

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

Rev Angus Adamson, Parish assistant:  
Mrs Jean Hunter:  
Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.

**Sunday 18th June**  
Lochranza Church, 9.30am Morning Worship  
Pirmill Church, 10.15am Morning Worship  
Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship.  
Brodick Church, 10.30am Morning Worship  
Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer Meeting, 12noon Morning Worship  
There will be a Service of Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

**WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(Charity Number: SC014005)  
**Sunday 18th June 2017**  
Worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am.  
Tea and coffee will be served after the service and there will be the sale of Traidcraft

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"  
**Sunday 18th June**  
Rev Lily McKinnon  
Kilmory 10 am  
Lamlash 11.30 am  
All welcome, including families; children's area  
Scottish Charity SC015072

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**Sunday 18th June**  
Vigil Mass 7.30pm  
Sunday Mass 11am  
**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
(continuing)  
**Sunday 18th June**  
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 18th June**  
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 CHURCH 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**

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

DEATH

**PIRIE, WILLIAMINA (WILLMA)** - Peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital, Lamlash on 11th June 2017, beloved wife of the late Jim, much loved mother of David, fond mother-in-law of Jackie, proud Grannie to Nicola and adored "wee" sister of Jessie. A good friend to many. Arrangements to follow

**WILLIAMSON JAMES** - Passed away peacefully at Crosshouse Hospital on Wednesday 7th June. A devoted husband to Eunice, loving father to daughter Cheryl, son Stephen and, doting grandfather to Karen and David. A well-known artist and active contributor to the community since moving to Arran in 1996, he will be sadly missed by many beloved friends. Funeral service at St Molios Church, Shiskine, on Friday, 16th June at 11:30 am to which all are welcome.

**BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
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**Whiting Bay Golf Club**

Wednesday June 7, Summer Trophy, ninth round. A total of 16 played on a day that started blustery, disrupting the ferry, but became calmer during the afternoon. The wind did little to put off early starter Alan Kay, who played a very tidy round to win with a net 62. 1 Alan Kay 19, 62, 2 Danny Head 5, 63 and lowest gross, 3 Frazer Barr 9, 64, 4 David Brookens 11, 65. CSS stayed at 63 and there were no magic twos.

Saturday and Sunday, June 11 and 12, gents' seniors open. Poor weather saw this popular event reduced to an 18-hole format with competitors able to submit their best card from Saturday or Sunday. This enabled players to pick and choose their times to try to avoid the worst of the weather.

On the whole, it worked well and, despite intermittent and sometimes heavy rain, most managed to stay reasonably dry. 1 Martin Foster 8, 36pts, 2 Stuart McGregor 18, 35, ACB, 3 Bob Hastings 19, 35, 4 Stan Rainey 11, 34.

A total of 21 cards were processed and CSS remained at 63. Magic twos: David Brookens, Norrie Kemp, both @ 17th.

The course held up well and the fine work Stewart and the greens staff had managed in the weeks leading up, certainly shone through. Our thanks to them for that. Thanks also to John and Nancy in the clubhouse for looking after so many bedraggled golfers so well and, finally, to Colin and Jackie Nisbet for their ongoing and generous sponsorship.

Fixtures: Sunday June 18, medal. Wednesday June 21,



**Brodick Golf Club.**

the Ballantyne Cup. Saturday June 24, AGA Hope Cup, Whiting Bay, at 1pm and 6pm.

**Brodick Golf Club**

Tuesday June 6, Captain's Prize. Unfortunately, due to the windy and wet weather, the Captain's Prize had to be postponed. However, the supper and raffle in aid of Epilepsy Scotland went ahead. It was a great opportunity for all the members to get together with some of the past captains. Trish, as usual, put on a great cold buffet and we all enjoyed some sweet treats made by some of the members. Instead of the team golf competition, there was a golf rules competition which aroused a lot of discussion. The winning team was Fiona Henderson, Lesley Murray and Gege Kroner. It was a successful evening with £170 being raised for Epilepsy Scotland.

Wednesday June 7, Summer Cup, 37 played, CSS 64. 1 Bruce Jenkins 67-8=59, 2 Kenny McMillan 76-13=63, 3 Billy Armit 75-10=65 ACB. Scratch, Bruce Jenkins 67. Sunday June 11, Brandon qualifier, 13 played, CSS 66. 1 Bruce Jenkins 70-7=63, 2 Kenny McMillan 79-13=66, 3 Douglas Robertson 86-

17=69. Scratch, Bruce Jenkins 70. Great double by Bruce. Congratulations to our lady champion, Ann May, on winning the Shiskine ladies' club championship.

Fixture: Sunday June 18, Royal Bank Shield.

**Lamlash Golf Club**

Sunday June 11, Fleet Cup round one, reductions only, par 64. 1 John O'Sullivan 88-19=69, 2 Alan Winship 85-13=72. Scratch, Ian Bremner 80. Magic twos, Alan Winship @ 16th. Magic twos accumulator, hole two selected so £19 is carried forward to the next competition.

Fleet Cup round two, CSS 67, par 64. 1 Alan Winship 78-13=65, 2 Alan Smith 77-11=66. Scratch, Ian Bremner 75.

Fixtures: Saturday June 17, Hope Cup at Whiting Bay. First game out - Lamlash v Corrie at 4pm. Sunday June 18, Jamieson Cup second round at 8.30am, 9.30am and 12.30pm. Thursday June 22, Summer Cup and Scratch Cup, make up own games, see starter for times.

Ladies' section: Friday June 9, club championship and Glenkiln Rosebowl final qualifying round, 12 played, CSS 65. 1 Sheena Murchie 81-16=65, 2 June Richardson 91-25=66, 3 Jenny Pattenden 99-32=67. Scratch, Sheena 65. Would the qualifiers for the Glenkin please note that, while the date of the final is fixed for Monday July 31, the dates and times of the quarter- and semi-final ties should be arranged with your opponent.

**Corrie Golf Club**

Wednesday May 31, Wednesday medal. 1 D Lo-

gan 69-9=60, 2 R Logan 68-6=62. Scratch, R Logan 68. Magic twos L Hartley. Len's name didn't come out of the draw so it's a large rollover.

Wednesday June 7, Wednesday Cup. 1 A Burke 79-21=58, J McConnachie 69-9=60, R Logan 70-6=64. Scratch, J McConnachie 69. Magic twos from B Innes, J McConnachie and A Burke. None of the twos was at the selected hole, so the rollover continues.

Saturday June 10, Summer Cup, fifth round. M Burke 69-14=55, R Burke 75-12=63. Only three played - there must have been big money competitions elsewhere.

Fixture: Saturday June 17, AGA Hope Cup first round at Whiting Bay, 1pm start.

**Arran Golf Association**

Saturday June 10, Thomson Cup, semi-final and final. In the first game of the semi-final, Jack McNally played Gordon Stewart with Jack winning. The second semi-final saw Graeme Andrew play Lenny Hartley which Lenny won after extra holes.

The final set off after Lenny had a short break and, lo and behold, the wind got up and made the playing conditions worse than they had been all day, but the boys carried on, all in good spirits.

It was nip and tuck for a few holes, but eventually Jack won. Well done both on reaching the final and well done Jack on winning the Thomson Cup.

Jock Kelso, who in his first duty as the new president of the Arran Golf Association, presented the awards to Jack and Lenny.

THANK YOU

**SMITH FAMILY MACHRIE**

We would like to thank everyone involved in the search for John in Machrie on Saturday.

To the caring community of the island who walked for miles, to those help organise and ensure their safe return and to all those behind the scene, we send our heartfelt thanks.

Lily



The Arran team in action at an earlier event.

## First skiff rowing regatta on Arran

The Arran Coastal Rowing Club (ACRC) is excited to be hosting its first rowing regatta for skiffs – rowing boats for four rowers and a cox – on Saturday June 24 at Lamlash Pier.

Although ACRC is only in its second season, last year it competed in three regattas at Troon, Largs and was the proud winner of the Prestwick regatta.

This year ACRC is going a step further. Besides taking part in several regattas on the mainland, five Firth of Clyde coastal rowing clubs have been invited to come over to compete in Arran's first coastal rowing regatta. Crews from Largs, Troon, Prestwick, Girvan and Carrick will race against the Arran skiff in

eight different races over a 1.5 kilometre course.

The start line will be on the far side of the yacht moorings and from there the skiffs will travel north, do two port turns and come back along the shore to the finish line directly in front of the yacht club. The home straight will be easily visible from Shore Road and from the pier. Weather permitting the races will be held at half hour intervals between 11am and 4pm, with an hour's lunch break at around 1pm.

Everyone is welcome along on the day to watch and cheer on the Arran skiff as they battle it out against the five invited mainland clubs.

# Entries doubles for ArranMan

Around 400 athletes will take part in the fourth annual ArranMan Triathlon Festival at Lamlash on Sunday, writes Hugh Boag.

This is almost double the number who raced last year as this year's event is the second of the SwimRun UK Scottish Triathlon Series.

The event will be based on Lamlash Green and organisers had been concerned about getting all the bikes and support vehicles on to the island ahead of the event with cancellation of the MV Isle of Arran sailings.

STS racing two weeks ago at LOCH loMAN triathlons in Balloch featured 400 triathletes and was of a very fast calibre, with course records being broken for the standard and middle distances.

Many of the fastest athletes from those races were expected to be on the start line on Arran to add to their points tally. They will be joined by

2016 Ironman UK Champion Sarah Leakey as she prepares for the World Championships in Kona Hawaii, as well as Arran Junior Triathlon Club head coach Craig Wood who is looking to improve on his second place in last year's middle distance race ahead of the British long course championships next month.

### Marathon distances

Alongside the triathletes there will be 100 runners racing in 10km and marathon distances and 30 open water swimmers racing 5km to Holy Isle and back.

The first race of the day is the middle distance triathlon starting at 7am. Triathletes will swim 1.9km in Lamlash Bay then ride one anticlockwise loop of the island, followed by a 20km run around Lamlash.

The standard distance athletes follow at 8.30am with a 1,500m swim, a 40km cycle over The Ross and back

via Whiting Bay followed by a 10km run. The 10km and Marathon Runners start at noon and the 5km swimmers at 1pm.

### Key times:

7am Middle distance race swim starts

7.30am First cyclist on course

8.30am Standard distance race swim starts

8.30am All cyclists passed Brodick

9am First cyclist at Blackwaterfoot

10am First cyclist returns to Lamlash and starts run course

10.30am First finisher standard distance

10.45am First finisher middle distance

12pm Marathon & 10km runs start

1pm 5km Swims start

1.30pm Final cyclist

2.30pm First marathon finisher

2.30pm First 5km swim finisher

5pm Final athletes finish

## Sunny start to bowling season at Brodick

Brodick Bowling Club has enjoyed a sunny start to the season with only two rink games having to be missed during May owing to rain.

With a good long-term forecast for the summer members are looking forward to many memorable games, and invite anyone who would like to join them to go along any day of the week. The green

is open to the public from 10.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday and noon to 4.30pm on Saturdays. Club rink games are on Mondays and Wednesdays starting at 6.45pm, plus 2pm on Saturdays. Novice players can be shown the ropes by the member of the club on duty during the day if required.

The results for the season so far is as follows:

April 30 – Colin Haggarty, Marion Spence and Ernie Stanger (+5); May 1 – Colin Haggarty, John McConachie and Teddy Kerr (+8); May 3 – Robert Crawford, Sid Allen, and Geoff Rhodes (+5); May 6 – Andy McCrindle, Lavinia Hendry and Teddy Kerr (+10); May 8 – Robert Crawford and Andy McCrindle (+20); May 10 – Iain Hendry and Aileen Latorna (+17); May 13 – Jim

Nichols and Robert Crawford (+5); May 15 – Andy McCrindle, Jim Nichols and Charles Hendry (+4); May 17 – Robert Crawford and Charlie Weir (+25); May 20 – Roberts Crawford, Andy McCrindle and John Lauderdale (+13); May 24 – Kate Nichols and Geoff Rhodes (+24); May 27 – Sid Allan and Andy McCrindle (+18); May 31 – Jim Gourlay and Robert Crawford (+16).

## Shiskine half marathon

The Shiskine half marathon and a smaller Round The Square run will this year take place on Sunday July 2.

Nearly 100 runners have entered the race, which is suitable for runners of all standards – if you don't mind how long you take, the organisers don't either. Runners must be 17 years or older on race day.

The Round The Square is more of a fun run and is for all ages. The run is just under four miles so would suit the older children although anyone is welcome. Trophies are awarded to the first male and female athlete as well as category shields.

The event is being run for

the first time by Shiskine Valley Improvements and the venue has changed this year. Registration, start and end will be at Blackwaterfoot Playing Field and not the Kinloch Hotel.

To this end, there are no changing or showering facilities onsite, although these may be available at a small charge on enquiry to Kinloch Hotel, call 01770 860444.

There will be four water stations on the course which is marked at every mile. Medical cover will be provided by First Responders and also paramedics.

Half marathon entries can be made at SiEntries.co.uk with entries to the fun run being taken on the day.

ARRAN UNITED RACE NIGHT  
FRIDAY 23RD JUNE 2017

7PM TILL MIDNIGHT



LAMLASH GOLF CLUB

Family evening with late license for kids

Evening includes

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Race Night

Raffle Prizes

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# SPORT



## INSIDE THIS WEEK:

First skiff rowing regatta on Arran

# Brodick beat the odds in close clash with Lamlash

**Brodick** 1  
**Lamlash** 0

Lamlash came up to Brodick in a hopeful mood of getting a result against a side with two 15-year-olds in the starting line-up and a 13-year-old substitute.

However, a mixture of good defending, poor finishing and one world class save from Greig Adamson meant Lamlash were frustrated at the final whistle.

Lamlash started well and almost took the lead but

Alan Murray managed to head the ball over his own bar to prevent the opener.

Johnny Sloss was, as usual, trying to make things happen for Lamlash but the Brodick defence were a match for his efforts.

### Rib injury

Midway through the first half, Babbies MacNeil, who was carrying a bad rib injury, managed to pounce on a mistake from the Lamlash defence and stick the ball away.

It was a fierce derby battle

in the midfield and Brodick new boy Mark Halliday went into the book for a late tackle on Sloss, who was also booked for use of colourful language which referee Andy McNamara did not appreciate.

Duncan Coyne played a neat one-two with Andy Thomson, who found himself one on one with David Heenan in goal but managed to drag his shot wide.

Veteran player Iain Keen made a return for the home side at half-time for the hard-working youngster Ross Dobson. Lamlash kept pushing forward with Mark Halliday winning headers and tackles all through the second half.

As Lamlash pushed on for an equaliser, it was nearly a Brodick player who scored it for them as John Drummond's attempted header was bound for the top corner. Somehow Greig Adamson managed to acrobatically tip it over, which some of the Brodick players celebrated like a goal.

After a long period of added time, the whistle finally ended the game, much to Brodick's relief as they look forward to getting some key players back for the remainder of the season.

The Brodick team will be keen spectators as Southend meet Lamlash at Sandbraes on Monday night.



Now that's what you call a 50:50 ball.

**Shiskine** 2  
**Southend** 6

Despite the result, Southend didn't have it all their own way when they travelled to Shiskine on Monday night. The visitors had majority of the possession and a barrage of shots on goal but they found it difficult to put the ball in the net until the last 15 minutes.

Ryan Armstrong took the lead for Southend after a mazy run but birthday boy Stuart Crawford equalised quickly after a fine strike darting up from the left back position.

Stevie Judge and Fraser

Gilbert both got on the scoresheet to make the score 3-1 and it began looking like Southend would start to run away with it. Shiskine had other ideas in the second half, though, as a cross was drilled in and met by the head of striker Joel Small to make it 3-2.

Southend did everything but score for the next wee while with balls hitting the woodwork and penalty claims waved away by Ian 'Loci' McDonald.

Eventually the floodgates opened as Armstrong, Gilbert and Judge all bagged their second of the match late on. Southend were

awarded a penalty and the ball was given to Lewis Kennedy to boost his confidence after having around 20 shots in the game and not scoring.

However, Blair in the Shiskine goal saved Lewi's effort. Lewi has been spotted in Shiskine kicking a ball about the field all week but rumours have it that he still hasn't scored.

Loci gave Ryan man of the match for dominating the midfield with his two goals to boot.

Next week's fixtures: Monday June 19 will see Southend vs Lamlash and Shiskine vs Northend.



Babbies McNeil is tripped as he turns away from Johnny Sloss. 01\_A24footy02

### Arran Dairies Football League Table 2017

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Southend	4	3	1	0	21	5	10
Brodick	3	2	1	0	13	4	7
Lamlash	4	2	0	2	15	3	6
Northend	4	1	0	3	6	15	3
Shiskine	3	0	0	3	5	18	0

### Top goalscorers

Archie McNicol, Brodick 7  
Grant Adamson, Lamlash 6  
Ryan Armstrong, Southend 6  
Stephen Judge, Southend 5  
Donald Park, Southend 5

### Ben Tattersfield, Lamlash 5

Johnny Sloss, Lamlash 4  
Danny Head, Southend 3  
Sean Higgins, Lamlash 3  
Jamie Sillars, Lamlash 3  
Dylan Smith, Lamlash 3

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