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New £48.5m ferry hit by further shipyard delays

Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The new £48.5 million Arran ferry is seriously behind schedule, the Banner can reveal.

It means that the new MV Glen Sannox is highly unlikely to be in service for the start of the main summer season next year.

And the Ferguson shipyard on the Clyde where she is being built has come in for some sharp criticism from Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) which has accused the yard of slow progress and has admitted the revised delivery date of winter 2018/2019 cannot now be met.

There have been months of speculation that all was not going well with the new ferry, the first dual fuel vessel to be built in the UK, which can use liquefied

natural gas (LNG) and marine gas oil (MGO).

The MV Glen Sannox is currently undergoing internal outfitting at the Ferguson shipyard in Port Glasgow where she was launched last November.

The Banner contacted Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson with our concerns and he admitted: 'This is the first I have heard of this.'

Mr Gibson has since been pressing CMAL for answers and the company's CEO Kevin Hobbs told him, as we went to press: 'I can report that resources at the shipyard have been significantly below our expectations and as a result progress has been less than we would anticipate.'

'It is our assessment that the date (winter 2018/2019) cannot be achieved as we are some seven months after launch.

It's complete Madness at high school



The cast of *Our House* are in full voice led by Joe Casey (Innes Thorborn) on the opening night of the Arran High School *Madness* musical which has been on all week. Review and more pictures on pages 10 and 11.

'CMAL keeps pressing the shipyard for a cardinal date programme but this has not been provided

despite repeated requests. This is very frustrating for all concerned.

'We continue to seek ad-

ditional tonnage but this has not yielded any results despite our best efforts. The decisions regarding

vessel deployment lies with CalMac.'

Now Mr Gibson intends **Continued on page two**

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Probe promised as new walkway is broken again

Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Ferry passengers were left increasingly frustrated last week at the repeated failure of the new passenger access system which forced them to alight and disembark from the car deck.

The enclosed walkway, which cost £2 million, was built by the Spanish firm Adelte and was the cause of significant delays ahead of the new Brodick ferry terminal opening.

Now, just three months after the £30 million terminal opened, there has, over the past few weeks, been a number of failures of the



system. The result was that for three days foot passengers had to access the ferry via the car deck.

The problems have led to accusations that the new terminal is 'not fit for purpose' and there is anger, too, that the terminal has already picked up an award for being the UK port infrastructure project of the year.

One resident commented: 'The award that CMAL got for this terminal is a joke – no way does it improve the travelling experience.'

Another said on social media: 'Once again had to board by the car deck ... this new terminal is not fit for purpose. Something has to be done as this is happening far too often. What a waste

of money. The old building served the public much better than this supposed state-of-the-art structure.'

Conservative councillor Timothy Billings, who is vice-chairman of the Clyde Ferry Stakeholders Group, has written to terminal owner Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) and ferry operator Caledonian MacBrayne (CalMac) demanding answers.

However, CalMac told the Banner it is a CMAL issue as it is part of the port infrastructure. Engineers from Adelte have been on Arran for several weeks trying to resolve the issues.

Councillor Billings said:

'CMAL have to be honest about what the problem is and to tell us what they are going to do about it to ensure that we have a reliable terminal.'

'They also provide proper waiting facilities even when the PAS is not functioning. When passengers are using the car deck, ferry staff actively guide people towards the stairs and lift, and help people carry items up the stairs, leaving the lift for those who cannot use the stairs.'

'I would encourage everybody to write or email CalMac, CMAL and Transport Scotland with their experiences of this terminal.'

CMAL confirmed the passenger access system was out of operation from June 13 to 16 due to a fault with the extendable bridge that links the PAS to the ferry.

A spokeswoman for CMAL said: 'Adelte technicians are currently on-site at Brodick to carry out planned and routine maintenance and post-construction snagging. They were able to inspect the PAS and fix the problem. The PAS is now safe to use and is back in operation. An investigation will be conducted to explore the cause of the fault and identify if any further work is required to prevent future problems.'



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It may be next May or even later before the MV Glen Sannox is in service.

New £48.5m ferry hit by further shipyard delays

Continued from page 1
to raise the matter with transport minister Humza Yousaf when he chairs the next meeting of the Ardrossan Harbour Taskforce at Holyrood next Thursday.

The Arran Ferry Committee believes the vessel could be complete by February or March next year, but even that is now thought to be optimistic. Even then, the ferry will still need to undertake two months of rigorous sea trials as the first dual fuel ferry, meaning it could be at least May, if not later, before she is handed over to

the Caledonian MacBrayne for deployment.

Before the latest setbacks, the 102-metre roll on-roll off ferry was already six months late and spent several months in dry dock as the bulbous bow had to be refabricated, following a design flaw. A second similar vessel is also being built at Ferguson's.

A spokeswoman for CMAL this week confirmed: 'MV Glen Sannox is currently berthed at the shipyard in Port Glasgow and internal outfitting is taking place, which includes installation of cabling, piping,

generators, control modules and other components.

'The MV Glen Sannox, and the second LNG ferry, will require around two months of full familiarisation, as agreed with the operator and the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA), because the vessels are the first in the UK to use LNG.'

In another development, the Banner believes that the taskforce will next week confirm that Ardrossan will remain open while the harbour is being upgraded, ruling out even a temporary switch to Troon or another port, as has been suggested.

New Lagg Distillery will be opening next spring

The new distillery at Lagg will be open to the public by next spring, Isle of Arran Distillers confirmed this week.

The most recent milestone at the Lagg Distillery is the completion of the steelworks. As highlighted in the Banner last month, with the structure now in place, the distillery has begun to take on its distinctive shape, overlooking the south coast of Arran and the Firth of Clyde.

The new distillery has been positioned next to fields of barley that provide a portion of the malt currently used in distillation at Lochranza.

Come the turn of the year the copper pot stills will be installed, shortly followed by the first production run with a heavily-peated (50ppm) spirit which will become in time the flagship Lagg Distillery single malt scotch whisky.

Seven hundred of these casks were first made available to purchase in February and, so far, have proved attractive to a variety of individuals from all over the world.

Once the casks have been laid down they will remain at the distillery for a minimum of 10 years of maturation under the careful eye of Graham Omand, who



The iconic structure of the Lagg Distillery is rapidly taking shape.

has been appointed the distillery manager. Graham is the nephew of the Isle of Arran Distillers master dis-

tiller James MacTaggart. He has been working under his uncle's guidance at the Lochranza Distillery

for more than eight years. Managing director Euan Mitchell said: 'It is fantastic to see the vision turning into

a reality. With just under a year to go until we plan to open the Lagg Distillery, we're delighted to confirm that everything is on target to be completed by spring next year.

'We're assembling a team, headed up by Graham, which will play an integral role in growing the business and producing rich, earthy and high-quality peated spirit.'

When fully operational in 2019, the Lagg Distillery will increase Isle of Arran's production capacity to two million litres. Further, the total visitor numbers to both distillery sites are expected to exceed 200,000 by 2020.

Disabled riding group wound up

An Arran group who provided riding for the disabled is being forced to close its doors at the end of the month.

The committee says it is 'with sadness' that it has to announce that the Riding for the Disabled Arran Group is being wound up.

Founded in 2005 by Barbara Tinto, with bespoke premises at her home, Oakbank, Lamash, and affiliated to RDA UK, the group

was staffed totally by a small band of dedicated volunteers.

Sue Tozer of the RDA Arran Group said: 'Against the odds we managed to continue when the Tinto family left the island, securing the temporary use of a riding arena and grazing for ponies due to the generosity of local individuals.'

'There has now been a change in circumstances, partly due to our diminish-

ing number of fit and able volunteers and the retirement of two of the three designated RDA ponies.

'We wish to sincerely thank the people of Arran for their support, the help and expertise of West of Scotland RDA, all our volunteers, past and present, for giving their time and energy and, of course, all our riders and parents over the years for their hard work and commitment.'



Willie's funeral cortege leaves Brodick Church.

Friends say sad farewell to Willie

A who's who of Arran lined Knowe Road outside Brodick Church last Thursday to say farewell to William Innes of Brodick who died on June 4 aged 86.

Known as Willie to his many friends, he was a stalwart of the Brodick Golf Club having been the club captain on three occasions, winning the club championship eight times, along with numerous other

accolades during his 70 years of supporting the club.

Willie also served in the Brodick Fire Brigade and the Arran Mountain Rescue Team, and was an active member of the community.

Although a Brodick man through and through, Willie was interred at Sannox Cemetery where his wife is buried.

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Community rallies to rescue Arran House

Words and pictures
Colin Smeeton

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

An emergency charity appeal to save Arran House in Nepal has raised almost all of the £3,000 which will stave off its imminent closure after generous donations and support from members of the Arran community were received over the weekend.

At a collaborative event with the Crafts and Company Collective, two anonymous donations of £1,000 each were made to the charity after the Banner earlier this month told of the plight of the destitute and orphaned children in an article, prompting one of them to make the donation.

The donations added to

the fundraising by Crafts and Co who hosted their monthly craft day event at Whiting Bay Hall and invited founder and fundraiser of Arran House, artist Gordon Davidson, to the event. Selling artworks, items and images created by the Nepalese children of the charity, Kalaa Jyoti project, it raised £2,621.55 from supporters and the two benefactors.

Among Gordon's stall and supporting his cause, more than 25 exhibitors displayed their wares, filling the Whiting Bay Hall and the lesser hall and even the passageway between the two.

Selling everything from woodwork to clothing, accessories, plants and crockery to trinkets, photographs and ornaments, the craft fair featured a huge variety of quality handmade items that are individually produced, artistic and often unique.

Crafts and Co members had also been assisting with the fundraising by helping to sell craft items

at their various events that they recently attended, including the craft fair at Brodick Castle where bags, cushions and tea towels were among the Nepalese-themed items for sale, helping to raise the much-needed funds.

Arran House, which was established in 2016, builds on the charitable work of Gordon, who has been involved in helping orphans and destitute children in Nepal through his work and with the help of the Kalaa Jyoti Gurkhas.

Hoping to take the project further and to establish a halfway house, Gordon hosted exhibitions on Arran and sold his artworks and with the help of a generous donation from the Isle of Arran Distillery – and a successful garden party fundraiser held in Lady Jean Fforde's garden – he helped raise enough money to establish and operate Arran House.

Run by volunteers, Arran House – while under financial strain to support the numerous young adults



Gordon Davidson, centre, is joined by all nine members of the Crafts and Company Collective at the Whiting Bay Hall craft fair. 01_B25kalaa05

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More than 25 exhibitors displayed their wares at the Crafts and Company Collective fair at Whiting Bay Hall. 01_B25kalaa01



Crafts were displayed in the main hall, lesser hall and in the passageway between the two. 01_B25kalaa02

and children it helps – has seen many success stories with a number of children provided with opportunities to become productive members of society and leaving Arran House to start careers that have enabled them to support themselves and their families. Gordon said: ‘I can’t thank the Crafts and Co collective and the two unbelievably generous donors enough for all their wonderful support. What I can promise is that every pen-

ny will go to Arran House, which will give underprivileged Nepali children their two A level years in a safe environment. It is the only one in Nepal. ‘The support from the Arran community will make a huge impact in the lives of children in Nepal. This week Adeep, Finjo and Tenzing leave Arran House with great exam results and jobs to go to. Sankar has one more year with us and we already have new recruits who we will be able

to take under our wing and hopefully give them a chance of a future that they don’t have right now. ‘We have narrowly saved Arran House for now but the struggle to keep it afloat will be ongoing. If anyone would like to support this worthwhile cause or if any businesses wish to support or sponsor Arran House on a regular basis, then please do get in touch – your help could change the lives and offer hope to underprivileged children.’



Gordon Davidson describes the work that is being done to help the orphans in Nepal with two interested visitors. 01_B25kalaa04



Rob Grant of Whiting Bay with some of his hand-crafted wooden products. 01_B25kalaa03

Your cash back in your pocket

Great news! We've just received our quarterly electricity bill and can compare to the same quarter last year for the first time. Energy Usage is down a massive 44% AW, Brodick

Hi Norman Just to let you know our new direct debit is down from £180 per month to under £100 GM, Lamdash

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Bunting bid for Brodick

A bid is being made to get Brodick brimming with bunting for Highland games day.

While the Brodick Highland Games committee put bunting up through the village last year, some businesses put bunting up for the games as well, including Hunters guest house, and other companies have also done so.

Games secretary Sheila Gilmore said: 'This was very much appreciated, both by the visitors and also the games committee, making the whole appeal of the day more festive, and we wondered if we might try to encourage more local businesses to do this sort of thing as this would add to the celebration of the occasion. Bunting is inexpensive to purchase and it would be lovely to see the whole of Brodick celebrating our wonderful Highland games.'

The games are on August 4 this year at Ormidale Park.

Kirsty bakes for heroes

Whiting Bay mum Kirsty Park will be donning her apron and baking to raise money for the forces charity which supports her veteran dad.

Kirsty is taking part in Help for Heroes' Bake for Heroes initiative by holding a baking sale on Tuesday June 26, at Whiting Bay Hall from 11am to 1pm.

Kirsty, mum to two-year-old son Thorin and five-month-old Freyja, said: 'I decided to host this bake sale because my dad Andrew, a former 17/21st Lancer in the army, is a beneficiary of Help for Heroes and a member of their Band of Brothers beneficiary support network, so I wanted to help and give something back.'

'I also wanted to take the opportunity to reach out to any veterans who might

live on the island in case they are isolated. I'll be putting out Help for Heroes information on the day, in case it could help someone beyond the bake sale.

'The local Co-op has donated £50 worth of home baking already, and I've already had a lot of offers from locals to provide tablet and cakes. It's going to be fantastic, I'm so excited about it. It would be great to see people coming along to have a home-made cake or even just popping in to find out how Help for Heroes supports wounded, injured, and sick veterans and family members.

'If you're not able to make it but still want to get involved, you can donate by contacting me on Facebook. I am happy to take donations and put them in the collection box lead-



Kirsty Park is hosting a bake sale in aid of Help for Heroes.

ing up to the day if people would like to do that.'

Ailsa Alcock, Help for Heroes regional fundraising manager for Scotland, said: 'We are extremely grateful to Kirsty for fundraising to help our wounded, injured and sick veter-

'We are always touched when any of our beneficiaries' families help raise funds, as it makes it so much more personal. I hope the people of Arran will support her event and enjoy some delicious home-made baking, while also helping a good cause.'

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First communion is celebrated on Arran

Three Arran schoolchildren received their first communion at the Holy Cross Catholic Church in Brodick on Sunday June 10.

Neha Ann Bino, Kacper Batyra and Warren Jackson received the sacrament from Father Noel Colford at the mass attended by pa-



Kacper Batyra, Warren Jackson and Neha Ann Bino all received their first Holy Communion.



Kacper, Warren and Neha with their families and Father Noel Colford.

rishioners and family and friends from the island and the mainland.

The children's prepara-

tion had been led by Father Noel and catechist Elizabeth Wilkinson. The church

was beautifully decorated

by parishioners and light refreshments and home baking were enjoyed after mass.

Free film screened in plastics fight

Two environmental groups on Arran are getting together tonight (Saturday) to show the film Albatross, by American artist, photographer and passionate oceans advocate Chris Jordan.

This film is both beautiful and tragic. However, because of the powerful content, the makers ask that the film should only be shown to those over 12 years of age.

The film is being staged jointly by the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) and the new TAP Arran (Think About Plastic) group who consider the issues of plastic ocean pollution so important that the film will be shown free of charge.

Donations will be welcome and after covering costs will be divided equally between the film-maker, COAST and TAP Arran.

The film will start promptly at 7pm in the community theatre in Lamlash.

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Editorial

Waiting game

It is disappointing in the extreme to learn that there are significant delays to the new Arran ferry, the MV Glen Sannox.

There has been rumblings for months concerning progress, but nothing concrete. The Banner waited three weeks after asking for an update from CMAL.

Now, it is clear why. The £48.5 million ferry is way behind schedule because of slow progress at the Ferguson's shipyard where it is being built. That is really disappointing, too, given the delight when it was announced that the new vessel was to be Clyde-built.

So what has gone wrong? There has been problems right from the start after a 'design flaw' led to months in dry dock to have the bulbous bow refabricated following the launch.

And CMAL are now blaming 'resources' at the shipyard for the delays – presumably meaning the yard is trying to do too much work with too few workers.

On top of that, when it is finally ready and leaves the shipyard it will have to undergo two months of sea trials because it is the first vessel built in the UK to use greener liquified national gas (LGN).

All of which leaves the question – just when will we see the MV Glen Sannox on the Arran ferry route?

Thought for the week

'Trust in the Lord and do good; dwell in the land and enjoy safe pasture. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.'
Psalm 37:3

Wrong traffic

Sir,
I could not get on two ferries at Lochranza on the morning of June 12 due to many road surfacing vehicles. I have sent the following email to the CEO of CalMac.

'I planned on spending the day on Kintyre. I arrived to catch the 8.15am ferry and found that I could not get on it because of a lot of heavy road repair equipment. I waited for the 9.30am ferry and could not get on that either because of many large road surfacing lorries.

'The road was badly jammed in Lochranza because of the large lorries and the traffic unable to get in the queue as a result, the corner position meant that it was dangerous.

'There was absolutely no point in waiting for the next ferry as it would only give me a very short time on Kintyre before having to return and also the fear of not being able to get on a return ferry.

'I feel that you are prioritising the wrong vehicles. I, for one, will not consider using this service again and I was not alone at the ferry. There were many people waiting to get on the ferry who were obviously on holiday and were having their plans ruined.

The failure to catch this ferry means that you lost out on my fare for a car and four adults. Kintyre also lost out on providing meals, refreshments and anything else I may have bought while over there. As I stated, I will not consider this trip again as the same thing may happen.

'You should come to some arrangement with the road surfacing company to lay on a special fer-

ry at their expense for such a large amount of vehicles that totally restrict normal passengers. The vessel is obviously not big enough to take the number of vehicles wanting to use the ferry.

'My day's plans were completely spoiled. It seems that now you have gained a new contract you are running the service to suit CalMac rather than the customer. The service should be bookable, so that both yourselves and customers can plan with some kind of surety.

'I do not suppose my complaint will make any difference to the way in which you operate, but I feel that you should be made aware that your service is below an acceptable standard.'

Yours,
**Stuart Whiston,
Crewe.**

More thought

Sir,
The new ferry terminal may be a very attractive building when viewed from Brodick promenade. However, it is not so good when you first use the new pier as a foot passenger on arrival from Ardrossan on a crowded ferry.

After the long airport-style walk, one arrives in the midst of a tight mass of passengers descending the staircase or wait ages for one's turn to use a lift by which time the bus you planned to catch has left!

This system may suit the young and sprightly with only a wee bag, but aside from being daunting for the older traveller what about mothers arriving at that down staircase with three kids and luggage?

Why on earth, having spent around £30 million,

could the architects not have specified a sloping powered walkway or an escalator?

The system for those coming over to the island with a car is so much simpler in terms of disembarking but a wee bit more thought is still needed if the Arran community want to have ALL passengers arriving without grumbles.

Yours,
**J M Wilson
Prestwick**

Slower oldie

Sir,
I must thank the CalMac staff for all the kindness and help to assist me through the 'tube' recently. It was the first time I needed to ask for help – so not easy to accept – but now being a slower oldie, it was much appreciated.

Yours,
**Mrs M Youseman
Shiskine**

Summer show

Sir,
At a recent meeting of the committee of the Arran Horticultural Society, the main item for discussion was the summer show to be held on August 8 in the High School. The show schedule, which will be available before the end of July, was discussed and agreed.

It was noted that the schools, which normally participate in the spring show, had requested the availability of the children's section in the schedule. We are very hopeful that this will result in increased entries in the this section this summer by members of youth organisations with whom we will be in contact. We are also hoping to see stronger entries in the industrial sec-

tion, the wonderful skills are there, so please let us share them. Two classes we are flagging up in good time from the decorative section are, flower arrangement – Tutti Frutti and floral art – Jazz Festival.

It may be noted that we are not hiring a coach to the Ayr Flower Show this year and it was noted that our membership still holds in the 80s, and that the Society's finances are sound.

Yours,
**John Sillars,
Chairman.**

Waste points

Sir,
Having been a frequent visitor to Arran for 30 years I wanted to thank the island and its business owners for maintaining its continued warm and hospitable welcome to myself and my wife this last week. We enjoyed superb catering and friendly service wherever we went and will be back.

One suggestion, however. As we are now campervaners and mindful of the huge increase in this type of holiday it would be beneficial to increase the number of waste points from the present two to serve wild campers like ourselves. It would encourage more visitors to the island and surely bring financial benefits accordingly.

Yours,
**Paul and Lynne Mosley,
Hemel Hempsted.**

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Traditional skills at the museum

Traditional skills and crafts were on display at the annual craft day held at the Arran Heritage Museum last Sunday.

Spread out under a marquee on the expansive lawn, visitors were treated to a host of skills and crafts, many of which have

been superseded by modern machinery and which are seldom seen in modern day life.

Working with wool, Alison Barr and Rorie Rutherford demonstrated spinning fleece into wool and weaving, using an old fashioned spinning wheel and a loom.

Also on display were intricate embroidery works and fine quilted duvet covers, pillow cases and throws.

Causing a fair bit of excitement for the children - who were allowed a hands-on demonstration - was the butter churning of Phyllis Picken which was then

used on scones and home-baking which the adults and children then sampled.

Other traditional games for the children included a horseshoe toss and a throwing challenge using bean bags.

For the adults and children alike the allure of the tombola table proved a popular one as did the delicious food and snacks provided by Cafe Rosaburn which were enjoyed in the shade in a seating area in the garden.

In addition to the ambient music provided by Alastair and Mungo Paul on guitar and violin, visitors at the event enjoyed a spirited performance by the Arran Pipe Band.



Alfie Wilson and Phoenix Sharpe prove to be dab hands at the horseshoe toss. 01_B25craft03



Rorie Rutherford and Alison Barr explain the process of spinning and weaving to interested visitors. 01_B25craft01



Did I win? Esme Lucas and Hannah Sharpe of Edinburgh try their luck at the tombola. 01_B25craft02



Penny Ferguson has a go at churning milk to make butter while her sister Rosie takes cover to avoid any spilled milk. 01_B25craft04

Classic motorcycles next on show

The fifth annual Classic Motorcycle Show at the Arran Heritage Museum is expected to be their biggest yet.

The response to invitations to members of mainland clubs and local enthusiasts inviting them to show their machines, including off-road machines, so far indicates that there will be a very memorable turnout on the day.

The show starts on Sunday July 1 at 1.30pm, when a parade of gleaming vehicles will be lined up on the lawn, and their owners will be on hand to discuss and ex-

plain their machines. If any local owners that have not been invited would like to bring their machines and join the fun they will be made most welcome.

As musical accompaniment the Arran Pipe Band will play a set at approximately 2pm, and the Arran Jazz Café Band will play throughout the afternoon.

Café Rosaburn will be providing delicious teas, snacks, burgers and meals and the famous museum tombola stand will also be handing out prizes to the lucky winners.

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The cast spot danger ahead as they take a spin in the excellent makeshift car. 01_B25house09



Joe leads the dance troupe in a Tiller girls routine. 01_B25house15

Welcome to the house of fun

Words and pictures
Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

It was utter madness at Arran High School on Tuesday night – but boy was it fun.

The opening night of the school show *Our House* played to a packed community theatre audience, who went home with a spring in their step and *Madness* songs in their ears.

After all, they had just spent a dizzying two and a half hours in the company of a happy gang of youngsters who really worked hard to bring the show to life, especially in the first half, when hit after *Madness* hit kept the tight production bouncing along.

While the music is fun, the story itself has a darker side with Joe Casey, superbly played by Innis Thorborn, developing a split personality as a good Joe and a bad Joe.

I did not know the story of the musical and have to say I was a little confused

during the first half by exactly what was going on, but that didn't stop my enjoyment of the show just by the enthusiasm of all those involved.

While Innes may have had the biggest role, being on stage for 95 per cent of the show, he was ably supported by his girlfriend Sarah (Eilidh Macpherson), best friends Emmo (James Smith) and Lewis (Ross Dobson), who made a great comedy duo, and sassy sisters Billie (Shannon Galbraith) and Angie (Leigh Boyd) doing it for themselves.

Daisy Urquhart-Dixon did a fine job as the shady Reecey, in what is usually a male role, as did mum Kath (Stella Riddell), in her first principal role, and Joe's dead dad (Rory Morrison), who acts as the show's narrator.

There were also some excellent dance moves in the show led by dance troupe captain Ellie Bonner and her talented team.

Praise must also go to the band who really brought the whole musical to life with their talented arrangements of the *Madness* songs we all know.

For some of the older students, this will be their swansong, and boy did they go out with a bang, but there was plenty younger talent on show as well to prove that the next school production is in safe hands.

The show was excellently directed by Steven Swan, who brought his production team from the mainland, but credit must go to all the local talent behind the scenes, including the stage crew who, almost seamlessly, got the sets changed quickly.

If you are going tonight (Friday), you are guaranteed to have a good night but don't go without a ticket as it is already a sell-out. Missing it was just madness.

■ See next week's Arran Banner for more photographs.

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Bad Joe and Sarah celebrate their wedding in Las Vegas. 01_B25house12



In a poignant moment as Good Joe gives the title deeds of her home to his mum Kath. 01_B25house18



A comedy moment as Lewis tries to silence Emmo by putting a bucket on his head. 01_B25house07



Reecey and Emmo lead the vigorous dance routine. 01_B25house05



The dance troupe strut their stuff on stage. 01_B25house08

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Summer sunshine draws the crowds at school fair



Children browse the bric-a-brac stall. 01_B25BP502



Jackie Colwell transforms children's appearances into any animal or character with her face painting. 01_B25BP501

Parents, family and friends flocked to the annual Brodick Primary School fair, which was held in the school playground bathed in late afternoon sunshine last week.

Visitors, many attracted by the smells of barbecue burgers and hot dogs, had a host of stalls to browse and activities to enjoy.

The most popular was the tombola and the bric-a-brac stall which had something for all ages, from children's games to crockery, cutlery to books, and bears to homeware.

For the children, there was face painting, a net-ball skills game and indoor activities which included a buried treasure competition, along with carnival-style throwing games.

Adult were also invited to take part in a guess the weight of the cake competition.

Doing a roaring trade, two volunteers at the school gates were kept busy selling raffle tickets which visitors snapped up to be in with a chance of winning prizes which had been donated to the school.

Children from the school socialised with their friends and enjoyed the lively atmosphere, while others concentrated their efforts on the ever popular waffles on sale, dripping with sweet toppings.

Proceeds from the event are used throughout the year to contribute to school outings and activities.



Trevor and Laura Helliwell are busy at the burgers and hot dog barbecue. 01_B25BP503



Visitors enjoy the summer sunshine and activities on offer. 01_B25BP505


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Folk, fun, sun and music

The 24th Arran Folk Festival was another sparkling success. Here are some more photos from the terrific open sessions held in the sunbathed terrace at the Douglas Hotel in Brodick over the festival weekend.

Photographs by Hugh Boag



Bethany Walsh entertains on the her fiddle. 01_B24folk02



There can be little doubt it was a full house with others listening from the lawn giving it a real festival feeling. 01_B24folk18



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The songs of Tim Pomeroy were well received. 01_B24folk15



Accordianist Sam Mabbett from the Ella Munro Trio performs a tune. 01_B24folk01



Stuart Farrar and Maria Palmer on their whistles. 01_B24folk04



Heather McLeod on the harp, Stuart Farrar on the whistle and Nickey Summer on guitar. 01_B24folk23



Kilmory's Finlay Cable went down a treat. 01_B24folk06



Jamie Campbell from Saltcoats got the crowd rocking. 01_B24folk07



Derek Shand got the crowd to their feet during a rousing set. 01_B24folk11



Mally Smith from Boston with a more mellow sound. 01_B24folk08

Whisky and good cheer at Arran Malt and Music Festival



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THE ARRAN BANNER

This year is the 9th staging of the event and takes place from Friday June 29 to Sunday July 1. The three day festival starts with the White Stag dinner on the Friday night, which has already sold out, while the main festival takes place on Saturday from 1am to 5pm with masterclasses, mini tours and tastings, live music and a specialist whisky bar. Entry is free of charge.

Incredibly popular, the masterclasses have also already sold out, however there are still limited spaces available for a whisky and chocolate masterclass and a whisky cocktail masterclass which is hosted at Rowan House. Tickets, priced £25, can be booked at www.arranevents.com

There is music and entertainment throughout the day, including a visit by the

Arran Pipe Band and the Arran Brass Band. The ceilidh which will be on Saturday evening in the grand marquee in the distillery grounds is not to be missed, if you can get tickets.

On Sunday, between 12pm and 3pm, the survivors dram will round off the festival with the informal gathering which is not ticketed. Visitors are welcome to go along and en-

joy the music, food and a bar will be available in the grand marquee, along with some specially selected drams from master distiller James MacTaggart.

The annual festival has established itself as the highlight of the whisky appreciation calendar and is always a great weekend filled with whisky, fine food, pleasant company and great camaraderie.

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Arran Heritage Museum	Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am - 4.30pm
Arran Brewery	Mon-Saturday 10.30am - 5pm, Tours at 11am and 2pm
	Sunday 12:30pm - 5.00pm Tour at 2pm

Saturday 23rd June

Flow yoga	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
RNLI shop open	Lifeboat Station, Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Lamlash church fete	Lamlash Church, 2pm - 4pm
Rink game	Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm
Rinks bowls	Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Family games	Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Fun in the pool	Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
COAST & TAP Film Show (over-12s only)	Lamlash Community Theatre, 7pm - 9.30pm
Live music - Michael Clark	Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm
Live music - The Sell Out, The Who covers plus...	The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Over-21s disco	Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

Sunday 24th June

Live music - Michael Clark	Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 2pm - 4pm
RNLI shop open	Lifeboat Station, Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Anniversary triples (open)	Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 2pm
Family games	Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Fun in the pool	Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Live music - Robbie Lesiuk, guitarist and songwriter	The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
Folk music session	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 25th June

Coffee morning	Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church Hall, 10.30am - 12 noon
Arran Skinnymalinks, in aid of Mary's Meals	Shiskine Hall, 5.15pm
JogScotland mixed ability running group	Whiting Bay 5.30pm
Adult tennis	Blackwaterfoot, 5.30pm
Circuit training	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6pm - 7pm
Summer bridge, visitors welcome	Arran High School, 6.15pm for 6.30pm start
Rink game	Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Tae Kwon Do	Brodick Church Hall, Adults and over 10s, 7.00pm - 8.30pm
Live music - Tim Pomeroy	Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm

Tuesday 26th June

Healthy Outdoors	NTS Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm
Castle garden walk	Brodick Castle, 2pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Blackwaterfoot bowls	Bowling Club, 2pm
Technology with Duan Bruce	Glen Estate Lounge, Brodick, 2pm
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)	Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
Flow yoga	Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, 6pm
Arran Rotary Club	The Douglas Hotel Snug, 7pm for 7.15pm
Trev's pop music quiz	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Live music - One Hand Clapping, folk, rock, pop and Beatles	The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Body Blitz	Auchrannie Spa Leisure 9.30pm - 10.30pm
Scottish country dancing	Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm

Wednesday 27th June

Yoga	Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am - 10.30am
Hydrofit	Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
Coffee morning	Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - 12noon
Arran Skinnymalinks, in aid of Mary's Meals	Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am
Chair yoga exercise class	St Molios Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am
Arran Heritage Museum archives and genealogy service	10.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 3.30pm



Dog classes	Whiting Bay Hall, 12.30pm
Illustrated talk by Colin Totty on Water Gardens	Glen Estate Lounge, Brodick, 2pm
Arran Pace Makers running group	Brodick, 5.30pm
Flow yoga	Shiskine Hall, 6pm
Rink game	Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Tae Kwon Do	Arran High School, Kids-6.30-7.30pm, Adults, 7.30pm-8.30pm
Burger and quiz night	Felicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
Live music - Arran Dawn	Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm
Family friendly pub quiz	PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
Rock'n'pop bingo	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Thursday 28th June

Morning fitness	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
Chair yoga exercise class	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am
ACL1 volunteer gardening day	Golf Course Road, Whiting Bay, 11.30am - 3.30pm
Lingo Flamingo, Spanish, Pablo Illera	Glen Estate Lounge, Brodick, 11.30am
Music Matters	Lamlash Church Hall, 2pm
Adult tennis	Blackwaterfoot, 5.30pm
Body Blitz	Auchrannie Spa Leisure 9.30pm - 10.30pm
Tommy's general knowledge quiz	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Friday 29th June

Yoga	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
Hydrofit	Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
Coffee morning	Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, 10.30am
T'ai chi with Sue Thurogood	Glen Estate Lounge, Brodick, 11.30am
Soundbath	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
Tae Kwon Do	Arran High School, Lamlash, adults, 7pm - 9pm
Friday night quiz	Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm
Live music - The Buchaneers	Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8 - 10.30pm
Live music - Joos Van Oost, singer / songwriter from Holland	The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

Saturday 30th June

Flow yoga	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Children's clothing fundraiser	Lamlash Hall, 1pm
RNLI shop open	Lifeboat Station, Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Rink game	Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm
Rinks bowls	Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Arran CND branch meeting	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 2.15pm - 3.45pm
Family games	Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Fun in the pool	Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Live music - Shindig	Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm
Live music - The Sensational Alex Harvey Experience	The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Over-21s disco	Ormidale Hotel, 10pm



www.arranbrewery.com



Cheesemaker Calum Chaplin invites Betty Fleming and mum Claire Johnston to sample some of the cheese from Bellevue Creamery. 01_B24farm01



Donald and Andrew Currie show off the various animals on the farm, including two turkeys. 01_B24farm02



Dressed for the weather, Angus and Freya Stewart. 01_B24farm07



Peanuts the rabbit receives a treat from Heather Snowdon from Shiskine. 01_B24farm08



All aboard, visitors prepare to enjoy a tractor ride through the fields. 01_B24farm11

Visitors flock

‘We were delighted with the turnout of visitors’

Bellevue Farm really reaped the rewards when more than 120 people recently turned up to see what really happens down on the farm.

In a first for Arran, the open day was part of a nationwide initiative known as Open Farm Sunday

which is managed by Linking Environment and Farms (LEAF).

Welcomed

Farmers Ailsa and Donald Currie, along with sons Donald and Andrew, welcomed the visitors and, after providing them with a map, allowed them free

rein to explore all aspects of the farm along a carefully laid out route, taking in all of the sights, smells and sounds.

Providing visitors with an insight into how a working farm produces food and how the land is managed, visiting families were in-



John Knox of Sliderry demonstrates the friendly nature of the one-year-old calves. 01_B24farm05

ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM
Scottish Charity Number SC002089
Rosaburn, Brodick, Open Daily 10.30am to 4.30pm



THE ISLAND'S FOUR STAR FAMILY DAY OUT

Learn about Arran's Unique Geology, Farming, Archaeology, Social History, Clearances, etc., and visit the 19th Century Cottage, the 1940's Schoolroom, and the Blacksmith's Forge.

Archive and Genealogy researchers welcomed
(on Wednesdays only from 10.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm or by appointment).

Children's Quiz and Play Area.
Riverside Picnic Area. Gift Shop.
Lovely Snacks and Meals at Café Rosaburn.

The Sett Out
Sat 23rd 9pm

Robbie Lesuik
Sunday 24th 8pm

Tue 26th 9pm

One Hand Clapping

?ub Quiz
Wednesday 8.30pm

Karaoke
Open mic
Friday 9pm

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to open day

terested to see the agricultural machinery, the vintage tractor display and especially the ewes, lambs, cows, piglets and baby chicks.

Photographs

Besides the animals available to view, some which visitors could touch and feed, there was a huge amount of detail on the science used on farms, the management of the grasslands and soil and the human aspects of farming, which was brought to

life through information boards, products and photographs.

Visitors could also sample cheese from the award-winning Bellevue Creamery next door, while others enjoyed short tractor rides through the fields and farmlands.

Ailsa said: 'We were delighted with the turnout of visitors and how well everything went. We have received almost £500 in donations which will go to the charities, Breast Cancer

Awareness and Arran Cancer Support (ArCaS).

'The event was such a success that we are considering opening the farm up again during the summer holidays and to provide visitors with tours.

Thanks

'A huge amount of thanks must go to the team who ensured that visitors were well looked after and who helped to make the day such a success, it was totally a happy team effort,' she added.



The whole gang behind the Bellevue Farm open day.



Visitors Angus and Freya Stewart, along with gran Joan Stewart, take time out to cuddle a friendly farm dog. 01_B24farm06



Donald Currie explains the chicks incubation process to visitors. 01_B24farm09



Andrew Currie demonstrates how the baby lambs are fed. 01_B24farm03



Visitors look over the range of vintage and modern tractors before making their way into the various farm buildings. 01_B24farm10



What's On.....

Brodick Castle from the Outside - Mon, Fri & Sat: 11.00, 13.30 & 15.30
Tues, Wed, Thurs & Sun 11.30 & 14.30

A guided historical tour of the exterior of the Castle – stout footwear advised. Please book at Reception on arrival
Adults Free with Garden Entry

Garden Walk - Tuesday 26th June - 2 - 3.30pm

A guided walk of our amazing gardens with our senior gardening staff
Free with Garden entry

BRODICK CASTLE & COUNTRY PARK

brodickcastle@nts.org.uk 01770 302202

It pays to advertise in the Arran Banner

Learning to fly like an eagle

Author teaches children valuable life lessons

Children's author Sue Ellis has visited schools across Arran speaking about being the best that you can be, being a writer and overcoming difficulties in life.

Being involved in the education industry for more than 30 years, she has worked as a secondary school teacher, lecturer and as a behavioural advisor, as well as bringing up her own two children.

Teaching valuable life lessons, Sue conveyed her message through the use of reading from her own books, *Gorgeous Gwendolyn Goose* and *Proud Patrick Peacock*.

Proud Patrick Peacock comprises six funny, modern fables, one of which is set on Arran and which teaches children to overcome life's difficulties and to become the best versions of themselves through wise choices, just as the characters do in her books.

Visiting Brodick, Corrie and Pirmill primary schools, Sue involved the children in the lessons by allowing pupils to read various character parts and to express their thoughts and feeling on the aspects and situations that are covered in the book.

Sue, who spent almost



Children at Corrie Primary School listen intently as author Sue Ellis tells the story behind her two books. 01_B24sue01

a week on Arran, said: 'It has been a real pleasure for me to come and speak with the children.'

They have all been so well behaved and engaging, asking many questions and showing real interest. I don't know who has enjoyed the visits

more, the children or myself.'

Sue's other book, *Gorgeous Gwendolyn Goose* and other stories also features Arran's Lochranza as a setting and has the same messages of overcoming adversity and dealing with life's challenges.

With its Arran setting, many children are already familiar with the book's stories, which includes tales of Dougal Eagle flying down to Lamlash secondary school and, amusingly, his work experience at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court. In another eagle story called

You're My Hero, Douglas Eagle, children are encouraged to use their eagle eyes to look after everyone and everything on the planet.

The books are both available from Amazon, Barnes and Noble and Waterstones in paperback, hardback and as eBooks.

OFFERS & competitions

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

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Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Scottish Field, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Usual Scottish Field rules apply. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition - your name, address, telephone number and email address. If you wish to receive news and offers from the third party running the competition, then please mark the words "OPT IN" on your postcard entry. If you enter various competitions on one card, you will be opting in for every competition running. Unless you opt in to receive further marketing information we will only contact you if you win a prize in the competition. Scottish Field (Wyx Media) will retain your information for a maximum of 3 months after the competition closes and then it will be deleted. If you have opted in to receive third party information, the data you have supplied will be passed to the third party company running the competition. This may be used for the purposes of the third party contacting you regarding new products and services for a period of 3 months, unless you agree to an extension with the third party company at a later date.



Pirmill Primary pupils show their appreciation for the lesson to author Sue Ellis. 01_B24sue03



Encouraging audience interaction, Sue answers the children's questions. 01_B24sue02

Spring is in the air

Bird notes
by Jim Cassels

MAY

In May spring arrived, with the temperature building up during the month, giving a particularly settled spell towards the end of the month. There was no rain at all after the 20th and temperatures were in the 20s after the 24th.

Although there was a cold start to the month, it was generally warmer and drier than recent months of May. 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.



The last record of this vagrant Mediterranean gull was in 2015. Photo Chris Grant



Fifty gannet were seen plunge-diving for food in Machrie Bay in May. Photo Nick Giles



Common sandpiper is a bird that breeds usually beside water but is increasingly being reported breeding in gardens. Photo Brian Couper

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. In addition to the 'firsts' reported in the April notes, here are some further 'firsts' with the 2017 arrival dates in brackets for comparison: lesser white-throat on Cleats Shore on 30 April (11 May), two swift over Blackwaterfoot on 5th (5 May) and a garden warbler in Gortonallister on 31st (28 June). There were only two records of garden warbler in 2017. To date there have been no reports this year of wood warbler, common redstart, nightjar, corncrake or common tern.

Species who breed further north continued to pass through, including seven turnstone and two black-throated diver in Blackwaterfoot on 3rd, six white wagtail at Drumadon Point on 5th, six dunlin on the shore by Shiskine Golf Course on

6th, a whooper swan at Clauchlands, also on 6th, six sandwich tern in Lam-lash Bay on 7th, two whimbrel at Kilpatrick Point, also on 7th, and eight great northern diver off Drumadon Point on 13th.

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 holding breeding territories. Activity was reported from all the monitored heronries on the island but only three 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 2017 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. There were also May reports of kingfisher in two possible breeding territories. To date there has been no confirmed breeding of kingfisher on Arran.

Other breeding records included around 30 sand martin at a new colony in Glen Catacol on 8th, dipper with young in Glenashdale on 9th, three woodcock roding over Machrie Moor on 12th, 19 black guillemot off Whitefarland on 13th, a family of shelduck near Bannan Head on 23rd and a report of common sandpiper nesting in a garden in Blackwaterfoot on 27th. In addition towards the end of the month, there were lots of reports of garden birds carrying food and feeding recently fledged young.

Here are some other highlights: 50 gannet feeding in Machrie Bay on 18th, two puffin feeding off Pirn-mill on 31st, only the second Arran record this year, and an adult Mediterranean gull flying along Sliderry Shore also on 31st. The last Arran record of this vagrant gull was in 2015. Finally, it was encouraging to receive increasing numbers

of reports of greenfinch whose numbers have been slashed in recent years by the trichomonas parasite.

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,



Puffin reported off Pirnmill in May feeding. Photo Dennis Morrison

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 bird-

ing on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Atlas 2007-2012 as well as the Arran Bird Report 2017 and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk

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Sailing from LOCHRANZA Pier

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SUNDAY June 24 Leave 1pm back 6.25pm
Fares: Visit Campbeltown £31 SC £29
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Leave 3.40pm back 4.40pm
Fare: Cruise Skipness Point £19

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Cruise Arran Coast
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Leave* 2.15pm back 3.40pm
SUNDAY Aug 12 Leave 3.30pm back 5pm
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*Jul 12 until Aug 23 Leave 3.30pm back 5pm

Steam Round Ailsa Craig

SUNDAY July 1 & MONDAY July 23
Leave 2pm back 5.30pm
Fare: Cruise Ailsa Craig £29 SC £27
Dunoon • Lochs & Castle

TUESDAYS July 31 until August 21
Leave 11.30am back 6.10pm
Fares: Visit Largs £21 SC £19
Dunoon or Blairmore £27 SC £25
Cruise Loch Long £33 SC £31

Learning and Laughter at Glen Estate

Spring Programme 2018

All classes and talks in the Glen Estate Lounge
Tuesday Technology with Duan Bruce 2 – 4 PM
Thursday Mornings - Spanish Lingo Flamingo Course 2 With Pablo Illera 11:30 AM
Wednesday June 27th - "Water Gardens" – Illustrated Talk by Colin Totty 2PM
Wednesday July 4th – Mike Bailey Concert 2 PM
Wednesday July 11th - Art Therapy 'Taster' with Shona Redmayne 2 PM
Wednesday July 18th - "Healing at Heather Lodge" – Talk by Susan Knox

For more information
or to book a space
phone Glen Estate 302716



THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday June 13, 1998

School dress code

Pupils at Arran High will start the next term with a new dress code. While uniform will not be compulsory, not wearing it will be discouraged.

Parents who are on benefits will receive a grant so that they can afford the new uniform which is available to purchase at the school. The badged uniforms, say many parents, will actually save money as many children of school going age like designer labels so an element of one-upmanship is ever-present when purchasing clothing for school.

A dress code has been promoted at the school before but following a series of votes with pupils, head teacher Susan Smith hopes that it will now work. The new uniform will be black skirt, trousers/shorts with a school sweatshirt or black woollen jersey and a polo shirt, navy, black or white. For formal occasions a white shirt and tie will be essential.

10th folk festival

The 10th Arran Folk Festival is now well under way. Always a hugely popular start to the summer on Arran, 15 groups and individual artists have been entertaining diverse audiences the length and breadth of the island over the past week.

The miserable weather of the early part of the week hasn't deterred the folk dev-

otees, and there have been plenty of tourists grateful for something different to do on a wet evening. Simon Thorborn, with his mix of haunting melodies and drinking songs about the perils of cider, and old favourites The Raggle Taggle Gypsies, started the festival off on Monday at the Catcol Bay Marquee, followed by Nagus at the Ormidale on Tuesday.

Wednesday night at the Breadalbane featured Bobby Watt and local groups including Tattiebogle and Gillian and Damien Frame.

The weekend features the double-header in Lamlash hall, The Bushbury Mountain Daredevils on Friday and Eleanor Shanley on Saturday.

Taste trail

A total of 27 local businesses received awards at the Ormidale Pavilion last Wednesday night at the launch of the Isle of Arran Taste Trail, a new scheme promoted by Argyll and the Islands Enterprise Company to highlight the fine food and drink the island has to offer.

The trail takes the form of an attractive booklet and has bronze resin awards created by local craftsman Marvin Elliot. Glasgow author Catherine Brown compiled the booklet, which lists the various establishments, and also has some interesting information on the history of food production on Arran and some recipes.



Arran Open scratch winner Alex Gold receives the trophy from Brodick Golf Club captain Alastair Dobson and Marian Noble of sponsors, the Isle of Arran Distillers. 01_B25twe05



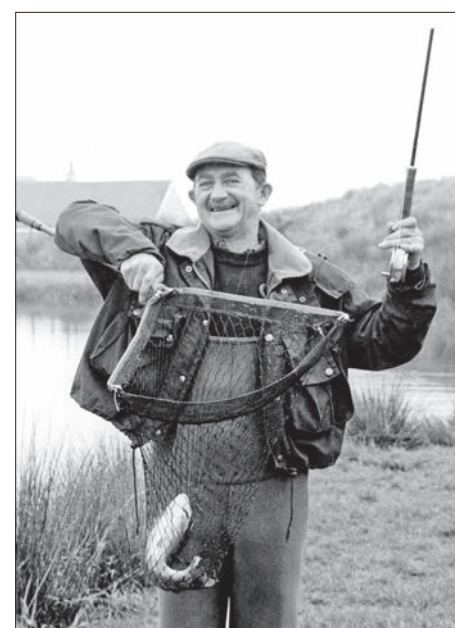
The children of Whiting Bay Primary get to noisily test the musical instruments at the 10th annual Arran Folk Festival. 01_B25twe04



Married in Lamlash Church by the Rev Dr Ian MacLeod last Saturday were Charles John Graham Fforde of Arran Estates and Lynn Howieson. Lynn is from Lanark and the couple are hoping to make their permanent home at Sannox House. 01_B25twe01



Penny Raeburn with her trophy for winning the Arran Riding Club Junior Cross Country Championship. Craig Lindsay on storm was the senior winner. 01_B25twe03



Actor and TV presenter Paul Young visited Arran on Tuesday to fish at Portnalochan at Blackwaterfoot. Paul came with his friend Ian Tait who is a member of the Blackwaterfoot Angling Club. 01_B25twe02

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Public Notice

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS)(SCOTLAND)
ACT 1997**

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined at Planning Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine, between 09.00-16.45 weekdays (16.30 Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk *and at The Council Offices, Lamnash

Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy & Communities) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 13 July 2018. Any representations received will be open to public view.

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

18/00489/PP; Site To The East Of Linever, Silverhill, Whiting Bay, Brodick; Upgrading of access road, erection of a 1 and 1/2 storey dwelling house and garage and temporary siting of an associated residential caravan for a period of 2 years.

18/00541/PP; Plot 5 Greenhill, Torbeg, Blackwaterfoot, Brodick; Erection of detached 1 and 1/2 storey dwelling and separate single storey garage/workshop.

18/00542/PP; Plot 3 Greenhill, Torbeg, Blackwaterfoot, Brodick; Erection of 1 and 1/2 storey detached dwelling and separate single storey garage/workshop.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
North Ayrshire Council



Recruitment

ARRAN AROMATICS
SCOTLAND
Job Vacancy

Production Line Operative

We have a vacancy for a Production Line Operative to join us at our Home Farm base in Brodick. No experience is necessary as training will be given. Availability for an immediate start would be ideal.

Arran Aromatics operates a four day week, 7am to 5.30pm Monday to Thursday

To apply - please email your letter of application and CV to Sarah McDowall, Production Manager at sarah.mcdowall@arran.com

Alternatively for postal enquiries please send your application to -
Sarah McDowall
Arran Aromatics Ltd
The Home Farm, Brodick, Isle of Arran. KA27 8DD

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NATIONAL TRUST for SCOTLAND

Brodick Castle
are looking to recruit a
Collections Care Assistant
Full Time/Fixed Term - 6 months - Salary £18,200

As a Collections Care Assistant, you report to the Collections Officer for the planning and day-to-day cleaning and care of all collections areas housed at Brodick Castle. The post holder will ensure that best preventive conservation and collections care practices are followed through adhering to an effective collections care regime in line with Trust policies and procedures. In this visitor facing role we would like the post holder to engage with visitors about the conservation work they are carrying out on collections housed within the property. The post holder will be part of the collections team and the wider team of employees and volunteers, helping to support / conservation clean the property where necessary.

Interested applicants should forward a completed application form to the People Services Department (Applications), The National Trust for Scotland, Hermiston Quay, 5 Cultins Road Edinburgh EH11 4DF, by mail or by email via workforus@nts.org.uk, by first post (i.e. 10.00am) on Friday 29th June 2018.

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Recruitment

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CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran, Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill and Shiskine Independent but working together
Minister:
Rev Angus Adamson
Parish Assistant:
Mrs Jean Hunter
Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.

Sunday 24th June

Lochranza Church, 9.30am. Morning Service.
Pirnmill Church, 10.45am. Morning Service
Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship.
Brodick Church, 10.30am. Morning Worship.
Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer Meeting, 12noon Morning Worship
There will also be a Service of Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 24th June
Holy Communion, 11am.
Richard Trewby
Wednesday 27th June
Holy Communion, 12 noon,
Lagg Hotel
ALL WELCOME

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 24th June
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
ALL WELCOME

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday Worship AT 11am
Brodick Library
Telephone 700346
Everyone Warmly Invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 24th June
Rev Lily McKinnon
Kilmory - 10am
Lamlash - 11.30am.
In Lamlash: Prayer service, prayer time 10.45am
Songs of Praise 3pm on Green if dry.
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland, Charity Number: SC014005
Sunday 24th June
Family Worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am.
Crèche facilities will be available in the Church Hall.
Tea and coffee will be served after the service.
All most welcome to stay and enjoy more fellowship.

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 24th June
Service 11am, Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick
Tea and coffee after the service
Wednesday at 7.30pm Home fellowship group for bible study and prayer.
Telephone 600222
Everyone warmly invited

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday 23rd June
Vigil Mass, 7.30pm
Sunday 24th June
Sunday Morning Mass, 11am

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
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Arran Golfers' Association

Friday June 15, AGA Junior Kelso Cup. A breezy day which mostly kept the midges off also saw a great following of spectators watching the match throughout the day.

Representing Shiskine were Ross Trail (handicap 17), Rory Currie (25), Donald Currie (29) while Mathew MacDonald (13), Kyle McNicol (17) and Charlie Aitken (36) represented Brodick.

Ross and Mathew played in a singles match, both playing some really excellent golf, with Ross finishing six up at the end.

Shiskine's Rory and Donald and Brodick's Kyle and Charlie played in the foursome format, the 1st and 10th fairways causing problems for both teams, thereafter some excellent golf from both sides with Shiskine finishing four up before playing the 17th hole.

Very many thanks to Willie Kelso and Brian Sherwood for refereeing and to Machrie GC for the excellent playing conditions, to Jock Kelso for following the matches throughout.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday June 13, Summer Trophy. Another week when the weather forced a continuation into Thursday for the Summer Trophy round.

A total of 14 played over both days and, despite heavy rain on Wednesday and storm force winds on Thursday, CSS posted at 63 on

each day. Captain Wolfi Kroner stormed home with an incredible gross 73 to win by a five-shot margin. 1 Wolfi Kroner 15, 58, 2 John Simmons 13, 63 ACB, 3 Eddie Hope 16, 63 ACB, 4 Alan Kay 19, 63. Magic twos Douglas Auld @17th.

Saturday and Sunday June 16 and 17, Senior Gents' Open. In spite of some interesting changeable conditions, a few good Stableford scores were posted. Day one results: 1 A MacLeod 37pts, 2 J Pennycott 35pts, 3 S Paterson 33pts. Day two: 1 J McCulloch 40pts, 2 M Foster 38pts, 3 A Kay 36pts. Overall winners for the best weekend score were: 1 J McCulloch, 2 M Foster, 3 A MacLeod who was also this year's Super Senior.

A huge thank you to sponsor Colin Nisbet and to all the staff for their hard work. This year there were prizes for nearly every hole which meant that some of the participants required wheelbarrows to take their winnings home.

Friday June 15, Ladies' nine-hole medal. The medal was played in mixed conditions. 1 Patricia Tait 14, 21pts, 2 Lynda Blair 15, 20pts. Well done to both ladies who reduced their handicap by one.

Fixtures: Saturday June 23, AGA Hope Cup, Machrie Bay GC 1pm and 6pm. Sunday June 24, Morton Quaich. Wednesday June 27, Cancer Relief Stableford Open.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday June 14, Summer Cup, CSS 66, par 64. 1 Hugh McLelland 80-19=61, 2 Willie Currie 72-9=63, 3 Neil Young 71-5=66. Best scratch Neil Young 71. Magic twos Hugh McLelland @13th, Neil Young @17th. Accumulator, hole 13 drawn, winner, Hugh McLelland.

Kayakers to paddle round coast of Arran

Around 30 members of the Arran Kayak Club will be kayaking around Arran tomorrow (Sunday) in a fun 24-hour relay starting at midnight.

Starting at the Arran Outdoor Education Centre, the circumnavigation will involve 11 relay legs going clockwise around the island and is expected to finish at 8pm.

The Arran Kayak Club has more than 100 members ranging from six to over 60 and includes members from all over the UK – many of whom regularly visit Arran – and one Austrian member who will be volunteering on Arran over the summer.

Practice sessions regularly take place in the Auchranie swimming pool from October onwards and there are also sea sessions most weeks. For more information about the Arran Kayak Club, you can email kayakarran@gmail.com or find them on Facebook.



Kelso Cup winners are, left to right, Donald Currie, Ross Trail and Rory Currie who beat a Brodick team in a singles and foursome format competition.

Sunday June 17, Jamie-son Cup, CSS 64, par 64. 1 Alan Smith 77-11=66, 2 Ian Bremner 74-6=68. Best scratch, Ian Bremner 74. Magic twos Alan Smith @ 16th.

Fixtures: Saturday June 23, Hope Cup at Machrie Golf Club. Lamlash v Brodick. Sunday June 24, Medal Shield, 8.30am, 9.30am and 12.30pm. Thursday June 28, Summer Stableford, make up own groups.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday June 13, Summer Cup, 17 played, CSS 64. Jim Green 84-21=63, Bob McCrae 73-9=64, ACB, Jim Reid 84-20=64, ACB. Scratch, Bob McCrae 73.

Sunday June 17, Royal Bank Shield, four ball better ball, 16 played. Billy and Jimmy Armit 59, Iain MacDonald and Nicol Hume 60, ACB, John May and Chris Pattenden 60, ACB.

Fixture: Sunday June 24, Marchioness of Graham Trophy.

Ladies' section: Tuesday June 19, Wilkie Trophy. The Wilkie Trophy was

won by Yvonne Brothers with a marvellous 40 points. The runner-up was Margaret Roxburgh. The par/bogey competition played on the same day was won by Ann May; the runner-up was Moira Small.

Fixtures: Tuesday July 10, The Stronach Foursomes. Tuesday July 3, monthly medal, signing sheet on notice board.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Monday June 18, Club Championship finals. Kema Genda just edged it from Jenni Turnbull on the 18th hole and Hamish Bannatyne beat Sandy Murray on the 18th as well. In the President's Cup Alistair MacDonald beat David Jeffrey.

Tuesday June 19, Peter Sutton, CSS 64. 1 Phil Betley 78-11=67, 2 Reuben Betley 101-27=73.

Fixtures: Saturday June 23, Hope Cup at Machrie Bay. Shiskine v Whiting Bay, Brodick v Lamlash, Corrie v Lochranza. Tee off at 4pm. Tuesday June 26, Peter Sutton / Lady Mary, tee-off 12.30pm/5.30pm.



Pictured at the Machrie Bay Club Championship final were winners Kema Genda and Hamish Bannatyne, and President's Cup winner Alistair MacDonald, left.



All of the horses and riders in fancy dress.

Fun in the sun at Arran Junior Riding Club show



Champion Lily Currie and Missy with joint reserve champions Daisy and Rosie McNamara on Fudge and Prince respectively.

One of the most anticipated events on the horse riding calendar, the junior show, took place recently in glorious sunshine with a large number of entries taking part in the fun events that define the show.

Kicking off as usual with the fancy dress, entrants went to great lengths in creating the costumes for horses and riders, giving judge Julie Graham a difficult job in having to pick a winner.

Harry Potter went straight to the top of the class to take first place, against stiff competition from a witch, Spiderman, and a bride and groom, to name a few.

The jumping, with a clear round and a timed round for each combination and the handy pony followed,

with the gymkhana games to finish. Host Jen McNeish made sure everyone got safely round the jumps while those waiting for their turn had a go at hooking a duck while carrying a cup of water on horseback and hula hooping while also holding their pony – to see which pony was the ‘handiest’.

The bending race was followed by the potato race, where riders lean down to collect their potatoes, then gallop home to drop them in a bucket. Next was the walk, trot, canter and the popular pancake race where riders jump off to quickly eat a pancake before leaping back on their horse and racing home. All of the events allowed for

some exciting races, with photo finishes to round off a lovely day in the sunshine.

At the end of the fun day the points were added up, and Lily Currie and Missy were named as the overall champions, demonstrating a consistent performance across all of the events. Daisy McNamara on Fudge and Rosie McNamara on Prince were the joint reserves.

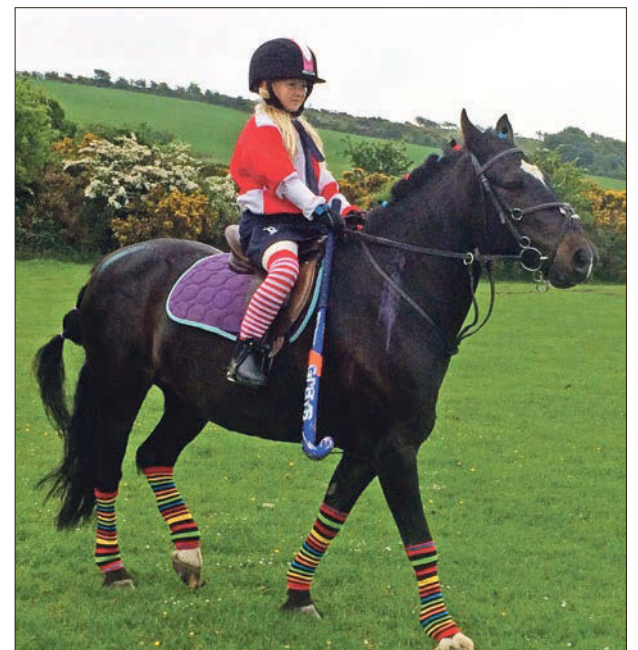
Participants and parents thanked Jen McNeish for hosting and organising another eventful day where the children, who enjoyed themselves immensely, were provided with another opportunity to practice their skills at a fun and enjoyable show.



Three little piggies (Emma, Lisa and Cara Henderson) sitting atop the wolf (Teddy).



Fancy dress winners Hermione (Niamh Gosman) riding on Harry Potter (Fred).



Chloe McNeil and Lily just back from St Trinian's.

Sleepover excitement at junior pony club camp

It has been an exciting start to the summer horse riding season for junior riders with the recent junior show and the annual pony club camp.

Adding to the camp fun, the children enjoyed sleep-

ing over at Balgowan Farm where they were able to practice their skills.

During the camp everyone had four lessons over the course of the weekend, where they learned a dressage test, tested their jump-

ing skills, got to explore the farm with their ponies and learned about plaiting. There was also time for some gymkhana races which the participants thoroughly enjoyed.

A spokeswoman from the Arran Riding Club said: 'Many thanks to Jen McNeish for all of her expert teaching and the support and encouragement she gives the riders. And thank you Jen and Alison Currie and their families for enabling the kids and ponies to stay the night, giving the authentic camp experience. It wouldn't be the same without it.'

'Lastly thanks to all the mums and helpers, and especially the bakers.'

The next date in the diary for the club is the showing show. This will take place at Balgowan Farm, Shiskine, on Sunday July 8. Doreen Mathie from Skelmorlie and Charlie Nicholls from Auchterarder will come all the way to Arran to judge the competition.



Pony club camp members hard at work cleaning the dressage boards.



Horses and riders out exploring Balgowan Farm with Jen McNeish.



Pictured at pony club camp are: Lily Currie, Kirsty Morrison, Daisy McNamara, Annie West, Rosie McNamara, Rosie Wilkinson, Chloe McNeil, Niamh Gosman, Hollie Buckby, Lisa Henderson and Grace Poplewell and Jenny Currie.

Rowers successfully bring



A handsome rope fender was presented to each team.



Hard work but fun out on the course.



The various crews fight for supremacy.



Greenock ladies power their way through the water.



Teams take on the Hamilton Rock challenge.

Continued from page 32
Anstruther could only play catch-up. Arran crossed the finish line first to cheers from the watching crowd only to be disappointed to find out that Troon had beaten them into first place by one second in the first heat but which nevertheless brought Arran another silver.

The following race was the mixed decades, a category in which each rower must be in a different decade of life and which is becoming more and more popular as it brings younger and older rowers together in the same boat. Arran's four were between their late 30s and early 60s and came away with an impressive win in the fastest time of the day, edging Arran

ever further forward in the competition.

The penultimate race of the day was the men's 220+. Very strong Troon and Largs crews battled it out for first place while Arran and Greenock fought valiantly on the home straight for third, the latter just managing to pull away, giving the home side a very useful fourth position.

And, last but not least, was the women's 220+. Despite having two ladies very new to regatta rowing, this determined crew fought well against strong competition to secure a seventh place. So in addition to the three golds, two silvers and two fourth places, things looked very promising for the hosts.

Time to freshen up and

gather for the prize-giving. Bathed in sunshine and with a backdrop of Holy Isle and the Arran skiffs sitting proudly on their double trailer, the table loaded with medals looked resplendent: gold, silver – handmade soap thanks to Friederike Lorenzen – and bronze – hand-turned laburnum mini fenders thanks to Rory Cowan. In addition, there were miniatures of Arran whisky for each winning crew very kindly supplied by the distillery and a handsome looking rope fender for each participating team made by John Baraclough.

The chairwoman of ACRC, Cecilia Paul, announced the winning teams and to much joy and applause the well-earned

Southend and Lamlash secure wins in the Arran Dairies League

Arran Dairies League

Shiskine	0
Southend	4

Both Monday night's fixtures in the Arran Dairies Football League featured new talent with a young and upcoming home-grown footballer joining the ranks of Arran's football teams.

Southend were 4-0 winners at Shiskine with young Rory Currie making his debut for the home side. Lewis Ken-

nedy scored a brace for the visitors, while Ryan Armstrong and Donald Park contributed the remaining two goals. Man of the match was James Currie.

Arran Dairies League

Northend	1
Lamlash	3

In the other match, ever-green Bobby Sloss made a rare appearance in a game that ended with a win for Lamlash. Grant Adamson, Dylan Smith

and Ben Tattersfield each contributed a goal to bring the scoreline up to three, while Andy McNamara prevented a whitewash with a goal for Northend. Scorer Grant Adamson was nominated as man of the match.

The next fixtures in the Arran Dairies Football League will be on Monday June 25, when Lamlash face Shiskine at 6.30pm and Brodick take on Northend at 7pm.

regatta trophy home



Photos courtesy of Dave Ingham of Arran Photography arranphotography@btinternet.com

fruits of hard labour were presented to the smiling rowers. Everyone waited with baited breath for the announcement of the winning club, which when it came was met with a roar of applause: Arran CRC were the overall winners of the regatta by an impressive margin and proudly accepted the trophy.

To round off the ceremony, the magnificent Arran Trophy, designed and created by Steve Garraway and won last year by Troon CRC, was presented to the new winners by their chairman, Harry Risk.

Now it was time for fun – the bar opened and the evening’s entertainment began with a much praised barbecue, for which many thanks to Yolly Camp-

bell and her helpers for the magnificent and much enjoyed spread. Once everyone had their fill, the winners of the raffle were announced and the party started, the yacht club resounding to a great selection of music from DJ Steve while dancing, singing, chatting and drinking went on until late at night.

Sunday morning saw the rowers congregating again for a hard-fought 6km race around Hamilton Rock and after the presentation of the medals and a fine, new trophy (thank you, Dave Ingham) to the strong Largs crew, the clubs reluctantly departed with much talk of a fantastic event and promises to return next year in even greater numbers.

The committee would

like to send their heartfelt thanks to the whole club and their families and friends for working tirelessly to make this event a highlight in the coastal rowing calendar. They would also like to thank Arran Distillery, Arran Deliveries, the Brodick Co-op and Wooleys for their very generous support. And, of course, a very warm thank you to all the wonderful rowers who came from far and wide to take part.

If you would like to know more about coastal rowing and want to give it a try, visit the website arrancoastalrowing.co.uk or email secretary Friederike Lorenzen at secretary@arrancoastalrowing.co.uk.

Stuart Turner



The open men’s gold medal winners, with cox Friederike Lorenzen.



The open mixed gold medal winners.



Winners Lamlash in pink and runners-up Whiting Bay.

Lamlash win netball tournament

Lamlash took the honours in a primary school netball tournament on Thursday June 14.

They faced opposition from Shiskine,

Brodick, Whiting Bay and Kilmory schools.

After a keenly-fought contest, the final was between Lamlash and Whiting Bay.



Arran’s mixed decades gold medal winners.

SPORT



INSIDE THIS WEEK:
Young Shiskine golfers
win Junior Kelso Cup

Arran coast to victory

After months of preparation, the day of the second Arran Coastal Rowing Regatta arrived on Saturday and began early in the morning with a hive of activity in the pouring rain.

As the last crews arrived on the first ferry, Lam-lash Yacht Club was buzzing – gazebos going up, rowers welcomed with hot drinks, the course laid and the hard standing quickly filled up with a long row of brightly coloured skiffs belonging to rowing clubs from throughout Scotland – South Queensferry, Anstruther and Portobello from the East Coast, while the Clyde was represented by Stranraer (at their first ever regatta), Troon, Largs, Prestwick, Greenock and Cumbræ, and from Arran's northerly neighbour came a team from Islay.

Despite the downpour and Holy Isle enveloped in mist, everyone was in good spirits and chatted with old friends and new, all the time crossing their fingers that the forecast for brighter weather later in the day would be proved right. By the time the first race started at 11 o'clock, the rain had eased up and the first open men's race was set in motion on the 1.5km course around the moorings.

Despite some strong rowing in the first of two heats, the Arran men put their winter training very firmly into practice by storming through in the second heat to a well-deserved gold medal.

Next up was the open women and, as a few rays of sunshine began to peek through the cloud, the Arran ladies looked strong



The triumphant Arran team with the trophy. Photos courtesy of Dave Ingham of Arran Photography arranphotography@btinternet.com



Arran chairwoman Cecilia Paul accepts the winners' trophy from last year's winning Troon chairman, Harry Risk.

and confident. They knew their work was really cut out in a heat with Anstruther, the longest-established club in the skiff world and renowned for the power of their female rowers. Rowing with all their heart, the Arran lasses kept tight on Anstruther's heels and secured an impressive second place.

Any rower who hasn't won a race at a regatta is termed a novice and it was them who were on stage next. The second heat of this mixed race (two ladies and two men) was a cliff-hanger and, despite giving their all, the Arran rowers narrowly missed winning

their heat and came in a very respectable fourth place overall.

Particular mention should be made to Caroline McGinlay, who was rowing in her first regatta and did a great job.

The last race of the morning session before the officials on the water had a chance to warm up and get some lunch was the open mixed. By now the sun was ever more present and all the participants were drying off and enjoying the warmth. In a tightly contested fight with a strong Greenock crew, Arran maintained their initial lead and pulled away on

the home straight to a hard-fought first place. So far, so good – the local club had accrued two golds, a silver and a fourth, which put them at the top of the table going in to the break.

Many thanks go to the magnificent team of volunteers who put on a fantastic spread for lunch, which was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. Like all good things, though, the time of rest and recuperation was over and after 45 minutes the rowing battle recommenced in sunshine and with an appetite for more success.

Starting the afternoon ses-

sion was the Mixed 240+. As with the other races, holding a line on the start was challenging due to a strong southerly wind. The skiffs got off to a good start in the second heat and with an experienced crew made headway immediately. Anstruther were also on top form and were quick to challenge Arran on the starboard side.

Arran's cox foiled the Anstruther attack by keeping a wide line on the approach to the all important first turn. The local crew got there first, claiming the advantage and from there

Continued on pages 30 and 31

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