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Howard heads to US as climate trailblazer

Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A leading Arran environmentalist is taking part in a major climate change summit in the US.

And one of the ambitious proposals he will be taking to the summit is how to make Arran carbon-neutral in the next few years.

Howard Wood, the co-founder and chairman of the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST), will travel to San Francisco next month to take part in the Global Climate Action Summit as a climate trailblazer.

The 22 climate trailblazers reflect the global nature of the summit, which aims to bring together the best in international climate change activity from across the world. They will humanise the event as they will show through their actions that every day people can do extraordinary things.

And Howard aims to show how Arran individu-

als, businesses and community groups are already doing a great job in tackling climate change with renewable and environmentally friendly projects on the island, not least of which is COAST.

He said: 'There is a tremendous amount of work going on across Arran to improve the environment which I intend to highlight at the conference, some of which I am aware of and some of which I am sure I am not.'

Howard will also be taking an island commitment to be carbon neutral in the coming few years to next month's summit, but without a definite timetable.

He said: 'We are all agreed it's a target we need to achieve, but before putting a date on it we need to build a full island audit of both energy use and stored carbon in the environment. However, I am confident that with both Scottish government and North Ayr-

Continued on page two

Back to school in Brodick



It was back to school on Monday for primary and secondary pupils on Arran, a couple of days after most mainland schools. And there was plenty of enthusiasm among the youngsters at Brodick Primary on their first day back, with some of the new intake of primary ones just a little apprehensive. Here Mrs Anne Watts welcomes back some of the older children. Inset: one new start gets a helping hand from two of the 'seasoned' pupils. 01_B34school01 and 01_B34school02

Yard bosses to face Arran public

Bosses from the Ferguson Marine yard, where the new Arran ferry is being built, are coming to island next week, the Banner can reveal. They are to face the travelling public and have pledged to reveal all about the progress with the £48.5 million MV Glen Sannox, currently under construction at their Port Glasgow yard.

A public meeting will be held in Brodick Hall on Tuesday August 28 at 6pm and, after an overview of the shipyard, saved four years ago, and an update on the Glen Sannox, there will be question and answer session for which 90 minutes has been set aside.

Facing the audience will be the Ferguson chief executive, Gerry Marshall, and business development manager, John Morgan, and, it is hoped, the yard's chief ships architect, Chris Dunn.

Mr Morgan told the Banner: 'We are very keen to make our visit next week as constructive, informative and helpful as possible.'

Last week we told how further delays mean it will be more than a year before the ferry will start work on the Brodick to Ardrossan route.

■ MV Isle of Arran service blow, see page six.

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How Arran is continuing

Continued from page one
shire Council support, with funding and expert advice, Arran as a carbon neutral island can be achieved within a few years.

'My personnel commitment is to campaign tirelessly to protect and conserve blue carbon stores. It's a win-win situation, basically a no-brainer, if the Scottish government is serious about both reducing the effects of climate change and stopping biodiversity loss.'

Howard said the South Arran Marine Protected Area could go a long way to assisting with this goal as the four-kilometre stretch of sea grass at Whiting Bay, and the mearl and kelp beds, which are now protected, are excellent sources of carbon capture.

However, he believes that the Scottish government is

not doing enough to protect blue carbon capture and hopes to question First Minister Nicola Sturgeon on the subject when she visits Arran next week.

Along with Howard, the only other European delegate is British inventor Adam Dixon of Cardiff-based Phytoponics who has developed technology allowing a wide variety of crops to be grown highly efficiently and productively using hydroponics.

The three-day summit Howard is attending will take place from Wednesday September 12 in San Francisco and Howard received his personal invitation, through the Goldman Foundation, from the Californian Governor Jerry Brown.

The summit will bring leaders and people together

from around the world to: 'Take ambition to the next level.' Organisers say it will be a moment to celebrate the extraordinary achievements of states, regions, cities, companies, investors and citizens with respect to climate action.

It will also be a launchpad for deeper worldwide commitments and accelerated action from countries – supported by all sectors of society – that can put the globe on track to prevent dangerous climate change and realise the historic Paris Agreement.

At the heart of the Paris agreement is the commitment by national governments to review their progress and ratchet up the ambition of national climate action plans, known as Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

The summit, happen-



Howard Wood with his invitation to global summit in San Francisco.

ing midway between Paris 2015 and Poland in 2020, is timed to provide the confidence to governments to 'step up' and trigger this next level of ambition sooner rather than later.

The summit will also consider a range of new climate commitments under five key areas: Healthy Energy Systems, Inclusive Economic Growth, Sustainable Communities, Land and Ocean Stewardship, and Transformative Climate Investments.

A spokesman for the conference organisers said: 'The confidence, enthusi-

asm and support generated by this wave of action now and through 2019 will embolden national governments' leaders to trigger the necessary domestic processes ahead of 2020 while also triggering more states and regions, cities, businesses and investors to step up further action themselves.'

Howard added: 'It is a wonderful opportunity to go and tell the world the tremendous work that a small island corner of the planet is doing to fight climate change.'

Howard, a well-known

marine environmentalist, diver and campaigner, was awarded an OBE for services to the marine environment and in 2015 was a recipient of the Goldman Prize, often referred to as the Green Nobel, for his decades of work on marine conservation in Scotland.

Do you know any projects on Arran which are helping to fight climate change? If so, do get in touch with Howard and they could be highlighted at next month's international gathering in San Francisco. Email: howard@arrancoast.com



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GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION SUMMIT

to fight climate change

Mike and Liz Rose, Oakbank, Lamlash Individual

Mike and Liz Rose have reduced their energy needs to a fraction of their previous bills, while saving the environment.

To supplement a biomass boiler, they installed 16 x 250 watt solar panels in their backyard in December 2015. They can produce up to four kilowatts, which is the maximum domestic installation, before moving up to commercial three phase electric supplies. In past 12 months, they have produced 2991.86Kw hours of electricity.

Asked what their motivation was, Mike said: 'We have always wanted to be as environmentally friendly as possible. Over the years we have enjoyed many visits to the centre for alternative technology in Wales. We would encourage everyone to pay a visit, as they have hundreds of ideas on how to become more environmentally friendly while saving you a load of money too.'

Kenneth Bone, Glenkiln Farm, Lamlash Business

Between December 2012 and 2016, businessman and farmer Kenneth Bone installed a run of river micro hydro generating scheme able to produce up to 500Kw per hour.



Kenneth Bone at his Glenkiln Hydro project.

The multi-million-pound Glenkiln hydro scheme, which at 4.2km is one of the longest in Scotland, uses the water of Benlister Burn in Lamlash.

Fully automated, during the June and July dry spell it closed down. Now, after the recent rain, it is back up to full production and only takes a small percentage of what naturally flows.

It is able to provide approximately 70-80 per cent of Lamlash with its electricity needs.

At its completion, Kenneth said: 'It's been a long journey but we are immensely proud of what we have achieved with this project. We wanted to diversify our business further and, after many successful years running our farms, we saw a great opportunity in providing sustainable energy.'

Eco Savvy Community group

Eco Savvy is an outstanding example of the kind of community action that the California summit has in mind: community-based and working energetically and creatively to do all it can to help Arran folk reduce their carbon footprint.

Starting in 2014 with a community shop run by volunteers in Whiting Bay, and awarded charitable status

in 2015, Eco Savvy set out from the beginning to have a great environmental impact by focusing the shop and related events on waste reduction, saving huge amounts from going into landfill by encouraging re-homing, upcycling, repairing, re-using and even cooking up a free feast from good food no longer wanted. It is vital work for an island community where everything comes and goes by ferry, including the so-called rubbish.

These activities were expanded around the island in April 2017 by Eco Savvy's first external grant, from the Climate Challenge Fund, which supported the establishment of eight microhubs. More than 100,00 tonnes of carbon dioxide were saved from the atmosphere, and over 6000kg of items saved from landfill. In 2018, the Climate Challenge Fund has rewarded Eco Savvy with a further grant of over £100,000 to support home energy audits to reduce domestic energy consumption – and save islanders money.

In the immediate future, Eco Savvy is buzzing with ideas around developing sustainable island transport, and home food production – watch this space. However, medium-term plans are on a grander scale – we know Arran must step up a gear if it is to keep pace with the need to mitigate climate changes already unavoidable, and to stay within the Paris Climate Agreement targets of keeping warming to within 1.5 degrees. Eco Savvy is looking at ideas for acquiring land, to deal with compostable waste, even an eco park.



Mike and Liz Rose with their friend Robert Watt at their solar panels.



The Eco Savvy team promoting energy audits back in June are Whiting Bay shop manager Sarah Kelly, project manager Jude King and Ruth McLaren.

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Harry Potter day spells fun for young 'wizards'

An educational fun day with a Harry Potter theme worked its magic on young children who enjoyed games and activities at Brodick Hall last week.

Organised by North Ayrshire Family Learning Team, the fun day was run by family learning workers who ensured the activities were fun and magical and would appeal to children and parents.

Stephanie Melvin, an NHS speech and language therapist, was face painting the faces of younger children while encouraging communication and social interaction.

Family learning worker Tracy Devlin entertained children with bubbling and fizzing chemistry experiments while conveying the message of acids and alkalines by comparing it to proper eating and digestion.

At the craft table manned by Emma Quinn and Shauni Dorrans, children were encouraged to be creative and attempt new activities while



Children have a ball getting their hands dirty with Lucy Watkins who taught them how to make slime. 01_B33potter05

creating bright and colourful Hedwig owls. Bringing out the nostalgic touch, Leanne Bratton used a paper fortune teller - or pick a colour, pick a number origami - to ask children questions and to encourage them to speak about their feelings and opinions.

Those less inclined to chat enjoyed her scavenger hunt, word search and puzzles.

An integral part of any Harry Potter themed day of family learning and fun in Brodick Hall.

Shona Rae, Arran primary schools family learning worker, said: 'As part of the programme for family learning with Arran primary schools, the

Family Learning Team was delighted to welcome so many families from across the island to our Harry Potter themed day of family learning and fun in Brodick Hall.

'We would like to thank the local businesses who supported the event by providing a variety of resources - Armitage, MBS, Brodick Co-op, Brodick Pharmacy, Asda Ardrossan and North Ayrshire Council's holiday meals programme.'



Family learning worker Tracy Devlin conducts exciting experiments with children, explaining the concepts of acids and alkalines and their impact on digestion. 01_B33potter02



Lewis and Callie Gregg prepare for a snack with some of the crafts they made. 01_B33potter03



Stephanie Melvin, NHS speech and language therapist, paints the face of Jamie Gilchrist while Christie Munro shows off her rainbow design. 01_B33potter01



Layla Cociuban and mum Katie join Emma Quinn and Shauni Dorrans to create a Hedwig owl. 01_B33potter04

Pick a colour: cheerful Leanne Bratton entertained children with a scavenger hunt, word search, puzzles and fun games. 01_B33potter06



MP calls for action on Arran phone service

Arran has been badly let down by the UK government, an MP has said.

North Ayrshire and Arran MP Patricia Gibson has spoken of her concern at the continued lack of UK government action to improve mobile phone coverage on Arran, where so called 'not-spots' mean people are unable to call for help in an emergency.

Mrs Gibson said: 'Powers over mobile coverage are reserved to the UK government and for rural and island communities, often isolated and economically fragile, this should be a top priority. Action is urgently needed to deliver effective coverage across Arran.'

'Without UK Government pressure, the decision to provide mobile coverage is a commercial one for mobile network operators.

This has left much of Arran with either a poor service or none at all.

'Former UK minister for culture, communications and creative industries Ed Vaizey MP promised coverage on Arran would be rolled out by 2015. This never happened and there are still too many 'not-spots' on the island. Apart from being hugely inconvenient, this is potentially dangerous when there is a medical emergency. Indeed, the emergency medical retrieval service has said Arran should be the number one priority for mobile coverage in Scotland.'

'Arran has been badly let down by the UK government. Having raised this issue again with the new minister, I was very disappointed to be told mobile

phone users dialling 999 are able to roam onto another network if they have no signal from their own provider – advice which is completely unhelpful if you are in an Arran 'not-spot' where there is no signal from any provider.

'It is imperative black-spots are plugged for the good of residents and visitors. It is unacceptable Arran's communities continue to be left behind.'



Patricia Gibson MP.

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Propeller problem puts ferry out of service again

Uncertainty remains over when the MV Isle of Arran will be able to resume service on the Brodick to Ardrossan ferry route.

The ageing vessel limped out of service last Friday night, forcing passengers with upcoming reservations to make hasty rearrangements as spaces on the other ferries filled up fast.

After sitting idle all day at the second pier at the new Brodick ferry terminal on Saturday, the vessel was able to head for repair under her own steam to try to resolve an issue with her propeller pitch system.

It is just the latest problem to hit the 35-year-old vessel, which regularly needs repairs and is often out of service when the winds pick up.

It is due to serve as the second Arran ferry until September 24.



The MV Isle of Arran leaves Brodick under its own steam on Saturday night. 01_B34ferry01

The impact of a one-ship service is having a knock-on effect for passengers on the main Arran route, and services to Campbeltown were cancelled this week, with no guaranteed date being set for her return to service.

Engineers have been trying to resolve the problem since the issue first arose last Friday. However, following sea trials on Monday, their efforts had proven ineffectual and the ship headed to dry dock for repair.

A spokesman from ferry operator Caledonian MacBrayne said: 'At present it is not possible to say with certainty when the MV Isle of Arran will return to service but every effort will be made to return her to service as soon as possi-

ble next week. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.'

In order to make up for some of the loss of capacity, due to the cancellation of 10 services a day, the MV Caledonian Isles has been making additional sailings to cope with the workload. These sailings have been for customers who have been affected by the cancellations and were not open to new bookings.

In addition to the two extra sailings being undertaken by the MV Caledonian Isles, which is currently scheduled until Tuesday August 28, the MV Loch Linnhe has been drafted in to assist the MV Catriona on the Claonaig to Lochranza route to provide extra cover.

Additional staff have been drafted in to crew the additional sailings and staff numbers have also been increased at Brodick, Ardrossan, Lochranza and Claonaig ports to cope with additional pressures.

Affected customers are advised to contact 0800 066 5000 or message Caledonian MacBrayne on social media @calmac_updates to reschedule bookings. Service status and information can be found at www.calmac.co.uk/service-status



Gilbert Norris.

Oldest man dies

The man believed to be the oldest resident on Arran has died. Gilbert Norris, a D-Day veteran and recipient of the Légion d'Honneur, passed away peacefully at Cooriedoon Nursing Home on Thursday August 16, aged 102.

Gilbert who was born on May 29, 1916, was part of the D-Day landings during the war where, as an engineer, he played a valuable role in building and repairing bridges in France.

Following his military career, Gilbert returned to civilian life by becoming chief roads engineer with the Scottish Development Department in Edinburgh before moving to Arran in 1978.

In June this year, Gilbert received a special visit from the Consul General of France, Emmanuel Cocher, who presented him with the Légion d'Honneur in recognition of his help in liberating France during the Second World War.

Gilbert is survived by his son Geoff. His funeral service will take place at Lamlash Parish Church at 11.30am on Tuesday August 28.

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Fundraiser will keep dancers on their toes

A group of young dancers on Arran are hoping for a good turnout at their annual fundraiser, which generates much needed funds to keep the group afloat and to be able to continue with their free lessons.

The Arran Dancers, who meet weekly during term time at the Arran High School dance studio, will be hosting their fundraiser at Lamlash Church Hall today, Saturday, between noon and 3pm.

On offer in addition to the usual coffee, tea and home-baking and face painting, there will also be a number of stalls offering interesting things to see and do. Among them will be Made



The young Arran Dancers demonstrate their skills.

on Arran by Alisa, The Wee Gem Shop, Mummy made this stuff, Sea spray designs, Earth threads, Emma's teeth whitening, Karabell designs, Forever beautiful, Drifting on air and the big Co-op.

The club has previously faced closure owing to the loss of an instructor

who moved to the mainland. However, they were lucky enough to secure the services of another professional instructor who has helped to ensure that the children are able to continue with their lessons – which many of them have been attending since they were toddlers.

there is no other venue that is available at the required times, but it does mean that we are not allowed to charge pupils to help cover costs.

'This does put a strain on us to cover teaching and equipment costs so this fundraiser is vital for us.'

Anyone interested in joining the ballet or modern dance classes is welcome to contact the club at arrandancers@yahoo.com

Classes range from pre-primary to high school and are designed to teach age specific movement, co-ordination and expression, not to mention being good fun and beneficial to health and happiness.

Housing plan for Lamlash

Planning permission in principle for a residential development of two semi-detached houses has been made for a site in Lamlash.

The application has been made by businessman Gavin Fulton for the vacant ground he owns to the south of the Old Hay Barn in Park Terrace and is currently under consideration by North Ayrshire Council planning officials.

Two years ago planning permission was given to the erection of a building to be used as office and storage units on the same site.

This is YOUR paper...

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Cabinet reshuffle Arran schedule

Last-minute changes are being forced on the Scottish Government schedule ahead of its visit to Arran on Monday.

As originally reported in the Banner, First Minister Nicola Sturgeon and her entire cabinet will be guests of the island next week.

However, it is a huge logistical operation to bring the politicians and their army of officials.

Disruption to ferry services caused by the loss of the MV Isle of Arran has led to arrangements having to be



First Minister Nicola Sturgeon.

rescheduled for the cabinet secretaries who will be visiting organisations, community groups and businesses.

Ms Sturgeon is expected to start her visit with an

engagement in Brodick before chairing the cabinet meeting in the community theatre at Arran High School at 11.30am.

This will be followed at 2pm with a 90-minute question and answer session with pupils and members of the public, who can apply to attend.

It is widely expected that Ms Sturgeon will make a significant announcement affecting Arran during the cabinet visit, which is one of series being held across the country.

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

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Editorial

Arran's environmental pioneer

Arran environmentalist Howard Wood will once again be taking his Arran inspired message across the Atlantic. Having driven profound change on Arran, through establishing the Marine Protected Area and Lamlash No Take Zone, he added impetus to concerns which are now well-known and supported, but at the time were just taking root.

While both doggedly determined and relentless in his pursuit of challenging accepted, but environmentally harmful, norms, it is Howard's considered approach, amicable nature and symbiotic reasoning that has allowed his voice to be amplified and stand out among the many. It is for these reasons that he has had such success with his decades of hard work which has advanced conservation, not only on Arran but across Scotland. So, too, in his being awarded the prestigious Goldman Prize and being awarded an OBE for services to marine conservation in 2015.

We wish Howard every success in his latest endeavours and encourage everyone to lend their support in helping Howard, and Arran, to achieve carbon neutrality.

Thought for the week

'Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another – and all the more as you see the day approaching.' Hebrews 10:23

Torrid week

An open letter to Robbie Drummond, managing director of CalMac.

Sir,
On Monday August 20, up to 448 passengers were given just 16 hours notice that their ferry tickets for the MV Isle of Arran were useless for the booked sailings. CalMac then advised passengers the Arran ferry terminal had shut their IT booking systems down because of information-overload and it could take up to a week to sort out.

First, CalMac call centre staff at the sharp end, answering the telephones, dealing with upset and anxious customers, should be highly commended. A difficult job for ferry firm folk. From the five conversations I had, all of your CalMac staff handled these challenging situations calmly, professionally and with good grace. But Mr Drummond, this should not be happening. CalMac have been in the business since 1851. If the ships aren't running properly after 167 years of trying to get this right, then when?

The MV Isle of Arran will be off for days and thousands of passengers will be let down to some degree. On top of this, there is 'the list'. CalMac customer complaints that regularly grace this letter's page in the Arran Banner. For example: (i) Brodick Ferry Terminal being a significant problem for folk who have a disability; (ii) The profligate waste of £30m for a ferry terminal that should cost no more than £6m to build; (iii) The £100m cost of taxpayer funding for overly large ferries which are obscenely too expensive and oversized for the Arran service;

(iv) the significant docking problem and missed sailings that will happen at Ardrossan when the MV Glen Sannox and MV Corporate Ego can't get into the mainland port because of the massive sail area on the slab-sided vessels; (v) the millions of pounds in wasted fuel by carting crew accommodation on the ship's structure like some massive wet caravan, when the shipping operator would reduce the taxpayer burden by providing crew houses in Ardrossan and Brodick; (vi) the historic senior management failure in preparing for Road Equivalent Tariff traffic growth. The list goes on and on. Enough to fill a whole edition of the Arran Banner.

Mr Drummond, you have a very impressive CV: CalMac group finance director, transition director, bid director and service delivery director. One of the best in a generation of CalMac managing directors. Here is a golden opportunity for you to make permanent your position, and ensure CalMac survives beyond the next tender round.

Constructive suggestion: please send the two massive new-builds to serve the Outer Hebrides where they are much more suited. Then go back to the drawing board. Ask your naval architect for a medium-size 'class' of ship design at £9m each. Order three for starters. Then rotate two of them on the Ardrossan-Brodick route. Plug in the third when it gets overly busy. That works well. Don't take my word for it. Cast your eyes up the Clyde to Western Ferries. They have the right size of vessel for their service. They plug in an extra ship to suit the exigencies and demands of their route. If you

bring three mid-sized ships such as modern equivalents of 1985 vintage MV Hebridean Isles and 1983 MV Isle of Arran plus another of this class (modern 2018-2020 design) to Arran, then islanders will have a ferry service that starts at 5am in the morning and ends each day at 11pm. There will be a reliable back-up ship to cover extra demand to plug in at Brodick, just as Western Ferries do at Hunters Quay. We would avoid nightmare breakdowns such as this week.

If CalMac do not get the numerous problems sorted out on the Arran route, then Mr Drummond, how about leasing the old Brodick ferry terminal and linkspan to some of the disgruntled islanders/passengers who have been watching CalMac fail to learn lessons over the past 50 years? There is more than enough qualified, experienced and able people on the island to run our own ferry service. This happened up at Orkney. Andrew Banks's Pentland Ferries is an exemplar of how a local ferry company should and can work.

Instead, here on Arran, each time we get one of these nautical nightmares, it risks the jobs of people who live and work on the island. Mr Drummond, I would be amazed if you replied to this letter, but very happy if you stick your head above the parapet and speak to many of the distressed passengers regarding this latest, torrid ferry week.

Yours,
Russ McLean,
Sannox.

Car fly-tipping

Sir,
There is a problem with dumping of old cars in the

Whiting Bay area. This activity is difficult to snuff out because the police and local authority have little power in law and it is difficult to prove who has done the dumping. An old car with windows smashed has been dumped in the parking place at the Apiary at Arran Community Land. Most people who know anything in Whiting Bay know the probable culprit but the law is such that people get away with this sort of behaviour without being prosecuted because the council is not concerned unless the vehicle is dumped on the road and the police have little power, other than a warning.

In a modern society, this littering of the countryside with old bangers should be against the law. Disposing of old vehicles on an island is more expensive than it is on the mainland and maybe there should be a more affordable way of recycling these vehicles off the island which is subsidised by the state – it is an environmental issue after all – so that dumping is not worth the money paid to the dumper.

Yours,
John Cruickshank,
Whiting Bay.

Christian collection

Sir,
The Christian Aid 2018 door to door collection in Shiskine, Machrie and Blackwaterfoot has raised the fantastic total of £950. Thank you to everyone who donated.

Yours,
Joan Stewart,
Christian Aid.



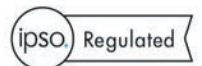
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Thumble Tumble puts Arran on the storybook trail map

Author Angela Proctor's books in the Thumble Tumble series, which are based on Arran, have been included among a list of literary landmarks in a new map issued by VisitScotland.

Scotland's Storybook Trail is a collection of children's characters and stories with connections to Scotland either by author, by location or by experience.

The trail, which is outlined on the bright and col-



The Scottish Storybook Trail map, which includes Arran among the literary landmarks.

ourful map, includes the characters Harry Potter, Peter Pan, The Gruffalo, Peter Rabbit, The Howlat and Greyfriars Bobby, as well as Thumble Tumble.

Author Angela told the Banner: 'I am absolutely delighted that the Thumble Tumble book series has been selected from hundreds of books to be included in the wonderful VisitScotland Storybook Trail.'

'The trail was developed to celebrate Scotland's links with children's literature and I am truly honoured to see my extraordinary little witch from the magical Isle of Arran alongside legendary Scottish characters such as Katy Morag, The Gruffalo and, of course, Harry Potter.'

'As a fairly new author, you can imagine how amazing it felt for me to see my name alongside writing icons, Julia Donaldson, Mairi Hedderwick and J K Rowling.'

'This is a fantastic project from VisitScotland which will encourage lots more adventures around

Scotland and maybe even conjure up the next era of writers, especially in this, Scotland's Year of Young People.'

Featured locations on the trail map include Brodick Castle and Lochranza Castle where Thumble Tumble's first two magical adventures were set; the Isle of Coll, the inspiration of Katie Morag's fictional home on the Isle of Struay; the Scottish Owl Centre in West Lothian where readers can meet some of feathered friends, similar to those that feature in the Harry Potter series; and Birnam Arts in Perthshire, the region that inspired Beatrix Potter's famous creations.

Gordon Smith, VisitScotland regional director, said: 'A great story has to have great characters and that's what inspired Scotland's Storybook Trail.'

'We wanted to create something, as we celebrate the Year of Young People 2018, that encourages book-lovers of all ages to discover the places and people behind these fa-



Author Angela Proctor.

mous fictional friends.' The Scottish Storybook Trail map can be found at www.visitscotland.com and at se-

lected VisitScotland iCentres, as well as bookshops and libraries across the country.

Arran helps Scotland wide charity pot

Joining a long list of secondary schools across Scotland, Arran High School has helped to secure £690,000 for small, grassroots charities across Scotland through the Youth Philanthropy Initiative (YPI).

Taking place earlier this year, four S2 pupils from the school competed against nine other teams in order to secure £3,000 for its nominated charity, the Arran Mountain Rescue Team.

The winning team, comprising Sam Reid, Gina Boni, James Macis and Euan Kinniburgh, convinced the judges to nominate their chosen charity with an informative and fun presentation.

YPI events take place in each of Scotland's 32 local authority regions and provide a welcome boost to charities tackling social issues such as mental health, domestic abuse, community provision, health support services and sports.

In the coming year, 255 schools will take part in YPI, one of the biggest and most successful independent initiatives being delivered in Scottish education, engaging a total of 34,000 young people in their local communities.

Arran High has been involved in the initiative for six years and during that time has helped to contribute to various worthwhile Arran causes.

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Talk to us

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

New goalposts for Lamlash

A playpark in Lamlash has new football goalposts and nets thanks to Lamlash Improvements Association.

They were put up by willing volunteers of all ages at the play area at the foot of Bungalow Road and Hospital Road and were in use almost immediately.

They have replaced the nets which had all but dis-

integrated and which were also donated by the improvements association.

Brenda Stewart, who organised the work party, said: 'We would like to thank Lamlash Improvements for the donation.

'What a difference they will make to children playing at this end of the village.'



The children build the goalposts.



The completed goals frame Holy Isle in the background.



Brenda Stewart, left, with the happy gang of volunteers.

Get children ready to fight flu this winter

Parents of primary school children in NHS Ayrshire and Arran are being urged to act now to get their children ready to fight flu this winter.

Following last year's bad flu season, health professionals have highlighted the benefits of getting children vaccinated early ahead of winter hitting.

Flu vaccination consent forms will be arriving home in school bags over the next few days as the autumn term gets under way, which parents need

to return if they wish their child to be vaccinated.

The safe and effective nasal vaccine is the best way to help protect children from flu. It only takes a few minutes and provides protection for around a year.

To date, more than 1.6 million doses of the nasal vaccine have been given to 2-11 year olds in Scotland, and the vaccine will be offered to 400,000 primary aged children this year as part of the Scottish childhood immu-

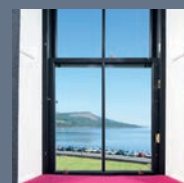
nisation programme. Deputy chief medical officer for Scotland Dr Gregor Smith has urged parents to consider getting their child vaccinated, not only to protect them, but to help stop the spread of the virus to others.

'Flu can be serious, and can result in even healthy children being hospitalised.

'The vaccine remains the best way to protect your child against flu and helps protect those around them who may be vulnerable to flu.'

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That's a wrap ... Arran film



Choreographer Fiona Rodriguez puts Lewis Stevenson through his paces at Corrie.

Uncowed is shot entirely

A full-length comedy film, shot by production company Positive Pictures, has taken a step closer to being released with the completion of the filming and moving the production into the editing room.

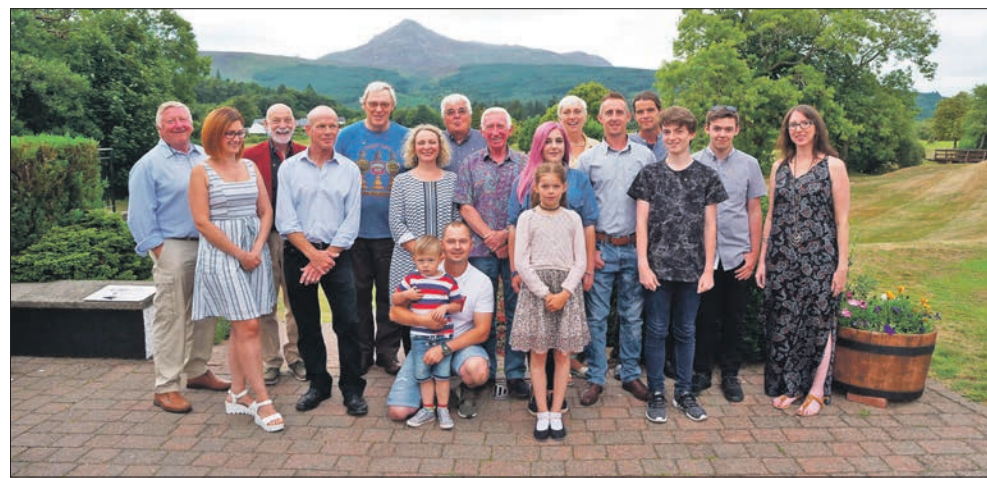
A year in development, the film *Uncowed* is a comedy but with the serious purpose of helping people stand up to bullies.

The brainchild of professional producers Chris and Jan Atkins of Brodick, *Uncowed* has been shot entirely on Arran with an

all-Arran cast with only one exception – the main character who is their grandson Lewis.

Costing in excess of £25,000 to produce, with part funding from volunteer backers, the production is due to be completed later this year with its premiere at Corrie and Sannox Village Hall and an island screening planned at the Screen Machine.

Chris said: 'The filming was finished in glorious weather, showing off the island at its very best. Islanders generously offered their



The cast of *Uncowed*, left to right: Bob Brass, Eleonora Blagova, Geoffrey Botterill, David Simpkin, Stuart Farrar, Isla Blair, Daniel and Atanas Blagov, Charles Currie, Stuart Gough, Rosie McNamara, Natasha Nelson, Sheila Gilmore, Mark Nelson, Andy McNamara, Lewis Stevenson, James Smith, Val Waite. Not pictured, Doreen McNulty, Louise Haggarty, Daisy McNamara and Marvin Elliott.



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Therapies at Inspirations



Director Chris Atkins and production crew direct the actors during a scene with the two main characters.



A vintage 1959 classic Austin Healey is included in the production in an outdoors scene shot on the roadside.

moves into post-production

ly on the island

properties as locations for some scenes and over recent weeks there have been some strange scenes witnessed on Arran – a kidnapping, a Mexican stand-off, dancing on Corrie jetty and on the ferry. But many other scenes were filmed in secret to maintain their surprise.'

The film crew reunited employees of Chris and Jan's previous production company from 30 years ago in Glasgow.

'Our crew are all seasoned professionals,

with whom we have worked for many years, all over the world.

'Their dedication and professionalism will deliver a memorable film, on time and on budget,' Chris added.

To find out more about the film, visit www.uncowed.com where a synopsis, cast and crew biography and a teaser trailer can be found, along with post production updates and where screenings and related events will be published.



Production crew, left to right, Fiona Rodriguez, Graeme Atkins, Jan Atkins, Rory Morrison, Richard Hickman, Heather Gough, Steve Agnew, Chris Atkins, Frank McAllister, Philip Johnston, Sean Monteith, Anne Curtis, Elizabeth Bell and Val Waite.

Performance director Heather Gough advises the actors during a critical scene.



The poster for the film featuring the Atkins's grandson Lewis.



Shot at various locations on Arran, actors enjoy the isolation at Kingscross.



N^o Sixteen

The Arran Lodge at Altachorvie is delighted to host **Number 16 Restaurant** for another 'pop-up' dining experience.

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Knotty Knitters to revive dying art

A newly-formed knitting group for children and adults will meet on Thursday evenings at St Molios Church, Shiskine, to learn the skill of knitting which is slowly fading away in modern society.

Hosted by Elizabeth Muirhead and known as the Knotty Knitters, the classes were originally going to be for children but there has been so much interest from adults that the classes have now been expanded to include adults and children.

Taking place between 4pm and 6pm, the classes will be aimed at all levels and as the classes progress, projects – such as knee blanket knitting for Arran’s elderly – will be undertaken by students.

Elizabeth, who is authorised to work with protected and vulnerable groups such as the elderly and children, said: ‘Parents can have peace of mind leaving their children with me at the classes.’

‘Over the years knitting had died a bit, but it is a skill which can be easily picked up, and has started to make a comeback. Doctors now say that it’s good for your health due to the fact that it keeps the brain active and keeps your mind alert.’

Classes will commence on Thursday August 23, with a nominal cost to cover overheads such as tutorials and equipment.



A group photo of all those who attended the reunion.

The gang is all here

Last month 43 members of one family – 31 adults and 12 children – descended on Arran for a large family reunion.

Three generations were present, all descendants of John and Mary Whitesmith, and related to Hugh Purdie, the brother of Mary and the well known potter of Arran in the 1960s and 1970s.

Three generations were present, with John and Mary’s three surviving children, Robert, Eleanor and Willie joined by their partners, sons, daughters and grandchildren. Rita, the elder daughter, unfortunately died in Ottawa in January but her three children all made the trip, together with two partners and six grandchildren.

Robert and Eleanor and

their families travelled from Glasgow and Bishops Stortford with an additional family member, and

partner, coming from Singapore. Willie and his family travelled from Kenilworth, Warwickshire.

The group stayed in and around Auchrannie and a party was held at the Auchrannie Hotel.



Left to right: Robert and partner Lorraine, Willie and partner Carol, and David and partner Eleanor.

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What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Every day

Brodick Mini Golf
Brodick Castle, garden only
Cafe and Isle be Wild
Soap making and candle dipping
Arran Heritage Museum
Arran Brewery

Open 7days, 9am - 7pm, all-weather
Open 9am-dusk
Brodick Castle, 10am - 5pm
Arran Aromatics, Brodick, 10am - 4pm
Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am - 4.30pm
Mon-Saturday, 10.30am - 5pm, Tours at 11am and
Sunday, 12:30pm - 5.00pm Tour at 2pm

Brodick gardens volunteers
Coffee morning
Coffee morning
Roundhouse Open
Chair yoga
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour
Archives and Genealogy Service Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 3.30pm
Introduction to geology talk
Dog classes
Arran Pace Makers running group
Flow yoga
Rink game
Arran Hockey Club - seniors (12 yrs +)
Tae Kwon Do
Burger and quiz night
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Live music – Shindig
Family friendly pub quiz
Quiz night
Rock'n'pop bingo

Brodick Castle and Country Park, 10am - 1pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - noon
St Bride's Church, Brodick, 10.30am - noon
Brodick Country Park, 11am - 3pm
St Mollo's Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am
11.30am and 2.30pm
Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 3.30pm
Arran Heritage Museum, 1.30pm & 2.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 12.30pm
Brodick, 5.30pm
Shiskine Hall, 6pm
Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm - 8pm
Advanced Juniors & Adults, 7.30pm-8.30pm
Felicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm
PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
Drift Inn, Lamlash 9pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Saturday 25th August

Flow yoga
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour
Arran Dancers fundraiser
RNLI shop open
Rink game
Rinks bowls
Family games
Fun in the pool
Live music – Mike Bailey
Live music – Audioclass, professional covers band
Over-21s disco

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
11.00am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall noon - 3pm
Lifeboat Station, Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

Thursday 30th August

Morning fitness
Lamlash Church
Abseiling & Ladders
Chair yoga
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour
ACLl volunteer gardening day
Lingo Flamingo, Spanish, Pablo Illera
Castle time travellers
Music Matters
Adult tennis
Arran Soul Choir
Summer family ceilidh with Arranach Ceilidh Band
Body Blitz
Tommy's general knowledge quiz
Family badger evening watch

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
Open - 10am - noon
Lochranza Centre 10.00am
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am
11.30am and 2.30pm
Golf Course Road, Whiting Bay, 11.30am - 3.30pm
Glen Estate Lounge, Brodick, 11.30am
Brodick Castle and Country Park, 2pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 2pm
Blackwaterfoot, 5.30pm
Community Theatre, Arran High School, 7pm - 9pm
Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall, 7.30pm
Auchrannie Spa Leisure 9.30pm - 10.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Brodick Castle and Country Park, evening time TBC

Sunday 26th August

Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour
Eco Savvy open day – AGM
Eco Savvy open day – social
RNLI shop open
Live music – Mike Edwards
Family games
Fun in the pool
Live music – Charlie Gorman & Cori on fiddle
Folk music session

11.30am and 2.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 2pm - 2.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 2.30pm - 4pm
Lifeboat Station, Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 2pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 27th August

Lamlash Church
Open canoes
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour
JogScotland mixed ability running group
Adult tennis
Circuit training
Summer bridge, visitors welcome
Rink game
Tae Kwon Do, adults and over 10 years
Live music – Mike Edwards

Open - 10am - noon
Lochranza Centre, 10am - 2.30pm
11.00am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm
Whiting Bay 5.30pm
Blackwaterfoot, 5.30pm
Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6pm - 7pm
Arran High School, 6.15pm for 6.30pm start
Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Brodick Church Hall, 7.00pm - 8.30pm
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm

Friday 31st August

Yoga
Hydrofit
Lamlash Church
Coffee Morning
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour
T'ai chi with Sue Thurogood
Fryday's Chip Shop
Soundbath
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Friday night quiz
Live music – Tim Pomeroy
Live music – Scott Nicol – Singer songwriter from Prestwick

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
Open - 10am - noon
Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, 10.30am - noon
11.00am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm
Glen Estate Lounge, Brodick, 11.30am
Lochranza Centre 6.00pm until 8.00pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6.30pm - 7.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

Tuesday 28th August

Lamlash Church
Healthy Outdoors team
Gorge walking
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour
Castle garden walk
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Blackwaterfoot bowls
Technology with Duan Bruce
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)
Flow yoga
Mini Kickers, 3-5-year-olds
Arran Hockey Club – Juniors (5-14yrs)
Trev's pop music quiz
Body Blitz

Open - 10am - noon
Brodick Country Park Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm
Lochranza Centre 10.00am
11.30am and 2.30pm
Brodick Castle and Country Park, 2pm - 3.30pm
Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Bowling Club, 2pm
Glen Estate Lounge, Brodick, 2pm
Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, 6pm
KA Leisure, Arran High School, Lamlash, 6pm - 6.45pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6pm - 7pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Auchrannie Spa Leisure 9.30pm - 10.30pm

Saturday 1st September

Flow Yoga
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour
Rink game
Rinks bowls
Family games
Fun in the pool
Live music – Mike Edwards
Live music – Escapade, covers band
Over-21s disco

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
11.00am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm
Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

Wednesday 29th August

Yoga
Hydrofit
Lamlash Church

Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am - 10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am
Open - 10am - noon



www.arranbrewery.com

International success for Arran Distillers

The team at the Isle of Arran Distillers is celebrating four coveted awards at this year's International Wine & Spirits Competition.

The independent whisky maker picked up two gold medals for its Arran 10- and 18-year-old single malts. The Bothy Quarter Cask and Lochranza Reserve claimed silver outstanding medals.

The competition is now in its 49th year and sets the international benchmark for quality. Entries are received from nearly 90 countries and each product is sampled by the judging panel, which consists of over 400 global experts.

The gold medal for the 10-year-old single malt is another in a long list of sought-after accolades that the classic expression of Arran has received.

Earlier this year the dram collected the double gold accreditation at the San Francisco World Spirits Competition, a gold medal at the World Whiskies Awards and an impressive 91 points out of 100 at the Ultimate Spirits Challenge, where it also received a cocktail commendation for the 'Rob Roy' drink.

Expert judges from across the world have been impressed with the 10-year-old's initial rush of rich vanilla sweetness that gives way to a touch of cinnamon that adds a spicy edge to the



Arran Distillers' managing director Euan Mitchell, who is excited by the success of the company's whiskies. 01_B34whisky02

soft and sweet texture. The citrus notes have rounded with age and reveal new depths of character against a background of sweet oak.

The 18-year-old single malt that also claimed a gold award at the competition, following a gold medal at the World Whiskies Awards earlier this year, is a favourite among whis-

ky lovers for its renowned depth of character.

Caramelised citrus and tropical notes on a background of toasted oak have created an intense, well rounded dram with charm and personality.

This single malt also utilises a balanced mix of the finest aged ex-sherry and ex-bourbon casks to offer

a full and unique maturation of the classic expression of Arran.

The distillers' managing director, Euan Mitchell, said: 'It's always exciting to see our whiskies perform so well on the international stage, and there aren't many more prestigious than the International Wine & Spirits Competi-

tion. Our whiskies represent more than just a great taste, they also characterise the heritage of our island.

'The local water, micro-climate and air quality all influence the spirit as it is distilled and matured.

'The whisky we create couldn't come from anywhere else but the Isle of Arran. Everything we make reflects a range of regional influences yet achieves a rare and unique personality all of its own.

'We look forward to the next stage of the company's growth with the opening of our Lagg Distillery in spring next year.

'The whisky produced at Lagg will be a heavily peated single malt in contrast to the unpeated style produced at Lochranza and it will remain true to our ethos as an independent whisky maker.

'It will continue exploring the incomparable characteristics of our home island that have seen our whisky acclaimed across the world.'

The most recent milestone for the Lagg Distillery was the completion of the steelworks. Come this autumn the copper pot stills will be installed, followed in early 2019 by the first production run of the new heavily-peated (50ppm) spirit that will become, in time, the flagship Lagg single malt Scotch whisky.

Fishermen to have their say

Fisherman and people from across all sectors of the Arran fishing industry are invited to have their say at the Scottish Inshore Fisheries Conference (SIFC) being held next month.

Seeking opinion and industry related feedback, the Scottish Government is collating information to develop a new model of fisheries management for Scottish waters.

With the UK's departure from the European Union, the fishing industry will change dramatically and new management guidelines will need to be established to deal with where UK fishermen can fish, how they can fish and what they can catch and how they will market their catch.

The fifth SIFC, being held in Inverness on October 5, will allow delegates from a cross-section of inshore fishing interests to make their views known.

Fergus Ewing MSP, cabinet secretary for the rural economy, will open the conference and give the keynote speech. A second plenary, in the afternoon, will provide a forum to discuss the Scottish Government's plans for taking forward work on the future of fisheries management in Scotland.

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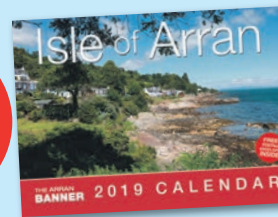
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Scots poem takes the prize at McLellan poetry competition

... but winner remains a closely guarded secret

Judging of this year's entries for Arran's annual McLellan poetry competition has now been completed and for the first time the overall winner of the £1,500 prize is a poem in Scots.

Forward Prize winner Sinéad Morrissey picked the Scots poem from a strong field of nearly 1,400 entries submitted by 750 poets. The Scottish success is notable given the increasingly international flavour of the competition which this year attracted entries from 35 different countries from Australia to Swaziland and Mongolia.

Local organisers Cicely Gill and David Underdown expressed delight that the winning poem should have a strong Scots flavour, especially as Robert McLellan, the Corrie-based writer in whose memory the festival was founded, chose to write his own work in Scots.

For the time being, the identity of the winning poet will remain a closely-guarded secret, but all will be revealed on Friday August 31, when Sinéad visits Arran to announce the

winner at the prize-giving event in Corrie and Sannox Village Hall. Those of you who attended last year's event will remember it as a heart-warming and stimulating evening in an intimate village setting. In the second half of the programme, after a musical interlude from Arran Dawn, Sinéad will read poems from her own work.

Tickets, priced at £10, including wine, are available online through Arran Events or from today (Saturday) at the Book and Card Centre in Brodick.

Sinéad admits that this will be her first visit to a Scottish island. The multi-award winning poet was born in Portadown in County Armagh and, after spells living in New Zealand and Japan, she settled in Belfast. Recently she moved to the north-east of England to become professor of creative writing at the University of Newcastle.

She will be arriving on Arran with her husband, acupuncturist Joseph Pond, and their two sons, and hopes to have time to discover what the island has to offer during her stay.

Sinéad's fifth collection, *Parallax*, won the prestigious T S Eliot award and last year her latest book, *On Balance*, was chosen as the Forward Prize best collection of 2017.

Sinéad will also be conducting a writing workshop in Corrie Hall on Saturday September 1, entitled *Spontaneous Adventures in Form*, which will look at different aspects of poetic form. There will be some poems to read and some exercises. The workshop is open to all regardless of experience – though places are limited.

If you are interested, please contact Cicely Gill on 700464 or David Underdown on 810640. At £10, including a soup lunch, it is one of the best bargains of the festival.

And this is just the beginning. An exciting weekend awaits with numerous activities for people of all tastes. On Saturday September 1, in Whiting Bay Hall, there will be the famous festival ceilidh, always a terrific night, with caller Stuart Gough and live music from the Drambusters as well as Tim Pomeroy, Angus Adamson and other local artists.

The following day, there will be a performance of sacred music in Corrie Church, by the students attending the Arran summer school, and a free event in Brodick Library with James McEnaney, who will talk about his fascinating recreation of Edwin Muir's *Tour of the Scottish Highlands*.

There will be more news of the rest of the festival in next week's Banner. Meanwhile, full details of all of the events can be found on the festival website at www.arrantheatreandarts.co.uk/2018-programme or pick up a leaflet which are available across the island.



Arran Dawn will be performing at the poetry event.

McLELLAN ARTS FESTIVAL 2018

Fri 31st August - Sunday 9th September

"and when the seed was sown, the hairst was gethert"

Robert McLellan (Arran Burn)

MUSIC ARRAN DOUBLE BILL

Friday 24th August
Community Theatre, Lamlash.
7.30pm
£10

Saturday 25th August
Whiting Bay Hall 7.30pm
£10

Friday 31st August
SINÉAD MORRISSEY
McLellan Poetry Competition
Corrie and Sannox Hall 8.00pm.
£10

Saturday 1st September
POETRY WORKSHOP
Corrie and Sannox Hall 11.00 - 3.30
£10 including lunch.
Booking essential 01770 700464
or cicelym39@gmail.com

Saturday 1st September
FAMOUS FESTIVAL CEILIDH
Whiting Bay Hall 7.30.
£12 including supper. BYOB.

Sunday 2nd September
McLELLAN ARTS FESTIVAL AT CORRIE CHURCH
Corrie Church 12.00 noon. Free event.

Sunday 2nd September
JAMES MCENANEY
'A Scottish Journey'
Brodick Library 3pm - Free event.

Monday 3rd September
FILM NIGHT
'Tommy's Honour'
Corrie and Sannox Village Hall.
8.00pm. Entry by donation.

Tuesday 4th September
AN ARRAN CLAMJAMFRY: MEMORIES, PICTURES AND SONG
Arran Lodge at Altachorvie,
Lamlash 8.00pm. £12.

Thursday 6th September
A SCOTS HAIRST
Arran Lodge at Altachorvie 8.00pm.
£12.

Friday 7th September
OPERA GALA NIGHT
Community Theatre Lamlash 7.30.
£12.

Saturday 8th September
DRAMA LIVE
Corrie and Sannox Hall 8.00pm. £12.

Sunday 9th September
PUCCINI - Messa di Gloria
VAUGHN WILLIAMS - Serenade to Music
Community Theatre, Lamlash
School, Lamlash 7.30. £12.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE AT SCHOOL FREE AT ALL EVENTS.
See Arran Banner and website, arrantheatreandarts.org for more details.

Tickets for performances can be bought online at arranevents.com, at the Book and Card Shop, Brodick from Saturday 26th August or at the door.

SPECIAL OFFER

A Festival season ticket which entitles entry to all events except Poetry Workshop, can be purchased online at arranevents.com or at the Book and Card Shop for £40. A massive saving for all festival goers (10 paying events).



Judge Sinéad Morrissey will announce the winner of the annual McLellan poetry competition next Friday.

Honourable mention for Arran Bird Atlas

The Arran Bird Atlas has achieved national recognition by being given an honourable mention when the magazine *British Birds* announced the winner of the award for the best local bird atlas 2007-2017.

Forty local atlases were considered by *British Birds* and the British Trust for Ornithology and here is what the judging panel had to say: 'As well as the six winners, we felt that the Arran Bird Atlas 2007-2012 was worthy of an honourable mention. The volume could easily be dismissed as light in both weight and content, given the minimal comment on each species. But the fieldwork was very much a community effort and the writing driven

largely by one individual. The result is a brief but reliable overview of the birds of this island at an easily affordable price and is a considerable achievement. The Arran Bird Atlas 2007-2012 deserves high praise.'

The atlas describes the mapping of the birds of Arran for the first time.

Under the direction of Dr Jim Cassels, the bird recorder for the Arran Natural History Society, more than 30 volunteers conducted fieldwork over five years covering the whole of the island. In addition, almost 700 people contributed bird sightings during these five breeding seasons and five winters.

The data collected contains more than 36,000 re-

ords on 177 species. It is an outstanding effort by residents and visitors, who share a passion for the birds of Arran. Adding to this effort, at the publication stage, more than 30 photographers agreed to the use of their images.

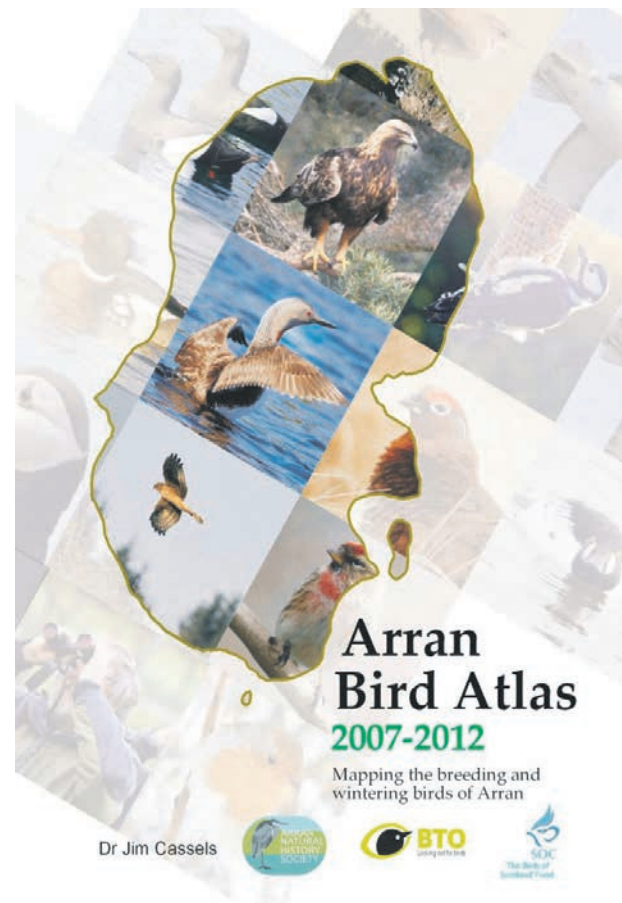
The work involved in this project was recognised nationally when the Marsh Local Ornithology Award was presented to the Arran Natural History Society in October 2013 by the Marsh Trust and the British Trust for Ornithology.

The key features of the resulting full-colour publication are: 168 pages with more than 400 maps and more than 200 photographs of 177 birds.

With the support of funds

from the Scottish Ornithologists' Club and the Arran Trust, the Arran Natural History Society has kept the cost to an affordable £8. The publication gives an insight into the distribution of Arran's birds and provides a source of information for future land management. It is a must for all with an interest in Arran.

The publication is available from shops and other outlets throughout the island or it can be ordered directly by contacting Lindsey and Robert Marr of Lamlash at arrannaturalhistorysociety@gmail.com



The cover of the Arran Bird Atlas.

Advertisorial

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THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday August 15, 1998

With the recent Brodick Highland Games still fresh in our memories, we take a look back at the 111th games, which were held 20 years ago at the Ormidale Park in the summer sunshine.

Still going strong, these pictures offer a glimpse into the games from yesteryear which are recent enough to be remembered by some of those who still visit the games today.



The Isle of Arran Pipe Band marches to the games. 01_B34twe01



Trophy winners Hazel Tod, Scott Clark, Colin Bryce and Chris Stanger. 01_B34twe02



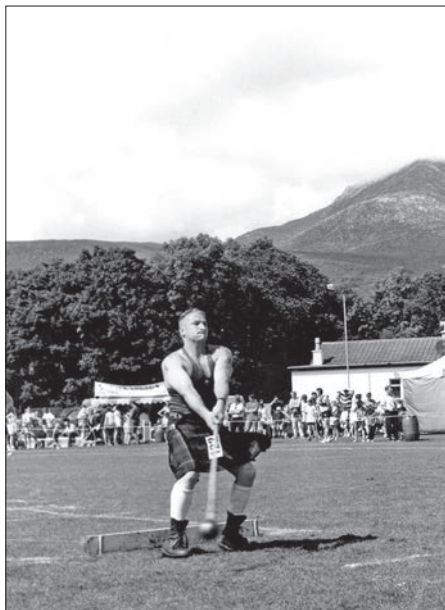
Highland dancers leap into the air during the Highland dancing competition. 01_B34twe03



Competitive dad John Watson of Milngavie instructs son Sandy on the best technique to win the children's race. 01_B34twe05



An elevated view over the fields, competitors, spectators and Goatfell. 01_B34twe04



Local heavyweight Scott Clark throwing the hammer. 01_B34twe07



A heavy events competitor tosses the caber. 01_B34twe06

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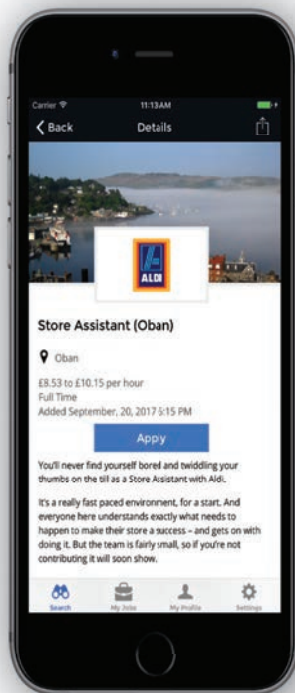
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(SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

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, Lamlash

Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy & Communities) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 14.09.18. Any representations received will be open to public view.

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

18/00702/PPP; Site To The South Of, The Old Hay Barn, Park Terrace, Lamlash; Planning permission in principle for residential development.

18/00663/PP; Llewellyn, Lamlash, Brodick, Isle of Arran; Proposed sub division of retail shop to provide 2 units.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE

North Ayrshire Council
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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 26th August

Lochranza Church, 9.30am. Morning Service.
Pirnmill Church, 10.15am. 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 26th August
Holy Communion, 11am.
Richard Trewby
Coffee after Service
ALL WELCOME

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 26th August
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
ALL WELCOME

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

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CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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Sunday 26th August
Rev Lily McKinnon
Kilmory - 10am
Lamlash - 11.30am.
In Lamlash: Prayer Service
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland, Charity Number: SC014005
Sunday 26th August
Worship will be conducted by Mrs Aileen Brookens, Reader, at 10.30am.
Tea and coffee will be served in the transept immediately after the service - please stay and enjoy more fellowship.
All most welcome.

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 26th August
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

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday 25th August
Vigil Mass, 7.30pm
Sunday 26th August
Sunday Morning Mass, 11am

DEATH

NORRIS: Gilbert (Lamlash, Arran) Peacefully at Coorie-doon Nursing Home, Whiting Bay, aged 102, on 16th August 2018. For 63 years loving husband and best friend of the late Joan. Much loved father of Geoffrey, father -in-law of the late Jacky, grandfather of Graeme and Andrew. Funeral service at Lamlash Parish Church at 11.30am on Tuesday 28th August, thereafter to Kilbride Cemetery, Lamlash. No black ties please. No cards or letters please and immediate family flowers only. Donations if desired to Arran War Memorial Hospital Supporters League c/o Arran War Memorial Hospital, Lamlash, Isle of Arran.

STEWART: Donald Cook. Peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital with his family on Monday, 13th August 2018. The family would like to thank all services that attended to him. Funeral service at Kilmory Church, on Thursday, 23rd August at 12 noon to which all are welcome.

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Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday August 9, Captain's Prize and veterans and scratch barometer for ladies. Silver: 1 and veteran, winner of captain's prize, Elizabeth Kelso 52-11=41, 2 Jill Smith 51-9=42. Winner of scratch barometer, Jenni Turnbull 51 BIH. Bronze: 1 Esther Henderson 63-16=47, 2 Shelagh Rae 72-21=51.

Saturday August 11, Captain's Prize and veterans trophy for gents. 1st class: 1 David Duthie 43-5=38, 2 Jack McNally 44-4=39, 3 and scratch, Martyn Ker 42-2=40. 2nd class: 1 J Corrie 49-10=39, 2 S Campbell 55-13=42, 3 Ian Rae 53-10=43. Magic twos, D Duthie, P Betley.

Thursday August 16, ladies' visitors and locals match. A total of 15 ladies played a Tri-Am on a lovely sunny evening, followed by sandwiches, cakes and a raffle. 1 Heather Burnet,



Winners of the Allan Maxwell Golf Day held at Shiskine Golf Club - John, Michael, M Whyte and Rick Urban.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

FOTHERINGHAM: Alistair - Kathleen and family of the late Alistair Fotheringham would like to thank most sincerely everyone for their expressions of sympathy. Also for the many cards and phone calls at this sad time. Grateful thanks to the Doctors and Community Nurses for their dedication over the years, Clare and David for the funeral arrangements, the Rev Jean Hunter, all those who attended the church and cemetery, the Kinloch Hotel, Evelyn and piper Ali and all those who passed the time with Alistair when he was in his garden. Very many thanks for the kind donations of £424 collected for the Hospital Supporters League

MCKENZIE: Jennie. The family would like to thank everyone most sincerely for their support and kindness both to Jennie and also the family over the past months. In particular, the staff at Lamlash hospital and also the staff at Coorie-doon where Mum received such kind care and attention. We wish to thank the Reverend Angus Adamson and Jean Hunter for their comforting words, the Corrie Hotel for catering and David and Clair Hendry for their professional services. £678.00 was raised in aid of ArCaS.

Carole Stewart and Esther Henderson 37pts, 2 Sandra Myles, Jenni Turnbull and Elizabeth Kelso 39pts. The raffle raised £58.50 for Music in Hospitals and Care.

Sunday August 19, Victory Shield and Kay Maxwell. 1 and scratch, Jimmy Morrison 45-5=40, 2 Brian Sherwood 52-7=45 BIH, 3 Alan Napier 50-5=45 BIH. Magic twos Jimmy Morrison.

Sunday August 12, Allan Maxwell Golf Day. Many thanks to all who took part or donated prize money. Thanks to everyone who gave either a raffle prize or a monetary contribution or even both. Thank you to all the local businesses who helped with donations and to everyone else who helped on the day. This couldn't happen without you. 1 John, Michael, M Whyte and Rick Urban 60pts, 2 The Richies 59pts BIH, 3 Miles Baigent, Ian Brown, Callum Young and Niall Hird 59pts. Hole prizes: 1st Martyn Ker, 2nd Mairi Pollock, 3rd Marshal Dale, 4th Tegan Browning, 5th Fraser Jackson, 6th Christine Macgilchrist, 7th Gordon Stewart, 8th John-

ny Thurlow, 9th Martyn Ker, 10th Andrew Howie, Martyn and Elizabeth Ker and Allan Howie, 11th Peter Robertson, 12th Stevie Crawford.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday August 15, Summer Cup, 28 played, CSS 64. 1 Charlie O'Neill 80-19=61, 2 Jim Green 83-21=62, 3 Babbies MacNeil 85-22=63. Scratch Ewan McKinnon 65.

Thursday August 16, Brodick GC Senior Open Championship, Stableford, 53 played, CSS 36 points. 1 Jimmy Armit 12, 40pts, 2 Alan Konarski 14, 39pts ACB, 3 Derek Roxburgh 9, 39pts. Sweep, aged 55 to 64, 1 Alan Konarski 39pts, 2 David Hendry 34pts ACB, 3 Stuart McGregor 34pts. Aged 65+, 1 Jimmy Armit 40pts, 2 Derek Roxburgh 39pts, 3 David Brookens 36pts. Nearest the pin: 4th, J McCall, 7th, D Cameron, 13th, D Brookens, 15th, I Sharp. Many thanks to all who supported this event, see you all next year.

Sunday August 19, Captain's Prize, Stableford, 18 played, CSS 37 points. 1 Stuart Brodie 16, 39pts, 2

Iain Sillars 16, 37pts ACB, 3 Donald McKinnie 10, 37pts.

Monday August 20, Senior Club Championship final, Billy Armit bt Bruce Jenkins.

Congratulations to our champion, Ewan McKinnon, on winning the AGA Champion of Champions for the ninth time.

Fixture: Brandon Cup final and sweep. No specific draw for Brandon so turn up for draws at 8.30am or 12noon.

Ladies' section: Tuesday July 3, July medal. 1 Gege Kroner nett 67 BIH, 2 Susan Butchard nett 67. Susan also carded the best gross score of 77. Tuesday July 10, Stronnach Foursomes. Winners Carole Stewart and Pat Adamson, gross 85, nett 65.5. Runners up, Fiona Henderson and Margaret Roxburgh, gross 89, nett 73.5.

Tuesday July 17, nine-hole Stableford. 1 Elizabeth Lawrie, 2 Brenda Livingstone. Welcome back Brenda. Tuesday July 17, Wright Trophy. 1 Susan Butchard 32pts, 2 Fiona Henderson 30pts.

Tuesday July 31, second medal. 1 Fiona Henderson

net 65, 2 Gege Kroner net 74. Division two winner was Margaret Bryce.

Whiting Bay Golf Club
Wednesday August 15, Summer Trophy. A total of 16 played in the latest round of the Summer Trophy. The threatened poor weather didn't come to much although the breeze stiffened as the day went on. That did nothing to dampen the scores, however, and CSS came down to 62. Jamie Macpherson returned a gross score only two over that figure to win with a fine net 58. 1 Jamie Macpherson 6, 58 and lowest gross, 2 John Pennycott 14, 60 ACB, 3 Danny Head 5, 60, 4 Nicol Auld 5, 63. Magic twos Danny Head @7th, Jamie Macpherson @17.

Sunday August 19, Stableford. A total of 13 played in the Stableford competition arranged to take the place of the cancelled Kilbride Challenge. A dull start to the morning soon gave way to some fine weather and some fine golf was played to match. CSS stayed at 63/36 points. 1 Jamie Macpherson 5, 38pts, 2 Stuart McGregor 13, 36 ACB, 3 John Pennycott 13, ACB, 4 Stan Rainey 11, 36. Magic twos Nicol Auld @6th.

Fixtures: Sunday August 26, Medal. In light of the cancellation of the Kilbride Challenge we will play a medal round from the white tees. Usual terms and conditions; open all day, handicap counter, draws at 9am and 11 am. Wednesday August 29, Summer Trophy.

Lamlash Golf Club
Thursday August 16, Sum-

mer Cup and Jim Young Cup, CSS 65. 1 Stuart Campbell 69-6=63, 2 Neil Young 70-5=65, 3 Ian Bremner 74-7=67. Scratch, Stuart Campbell 70. Magic twos Neil Young @14th, Stuart Campbell @16th.

Sunday August 19, Jamieson Cup, CSS 64. 1 Billy O'Connor 88-24=64, 2 Lee Dutton 90-21=69. Scratch Drew Wales 80.

Fixtures: Sunday August 26, Frank Crum, 9.30am and 12.30pm. Thursday August 30, Summer Cup and Commando Cup. Make up own games, see starter for times.

Ladies' section: Wednesday August 1, Fleet 5, CSS 64, par 65, three played. 1 Sheena Murchie 81-15=66, 2 Anne MacVicar 86-18=68. Scratch, Sheena 81.

Wednesday August 8, Medal 6, CSS 66, par 65, nine played. 1 Ellie Jones 87-18=69, 2 Sheena Murchie 85-15=70. Scratch, Sheena 85.

Wednesday August 15, Stroke 5, CSS 65, par 65, five played. 1 Yvonne Brothers 81-17=64, 2 Liz Sinclair 94-18=76. Scratch, Yvonne 81.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday August 15, Summer Cup and magic twos. 1 A Napier 74-9=65, 2 R Logan 72-5=67 and scratch. The Magic twos rolls over.

Fixtures: Saturday August 25, Medal, ballots at 9am and 2pm. Wednesday August 29, Medal, ballot at 5pm.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Fixture: Tuesday August 28, Lawson-Cameron final, sweep tee off at 12.30pm.



A tense moment as the ball comes in from a Southend corner. 01_B34footy04

Late drama as Southend secure the league title

Arran Dairies League

Brodick	2
Southend	2

Southend are the league champions for the first time in five years.

The Whiting Bay team had to come from behind against a solid Brodick in the Arran Dairies League match at Ormidale Park on Monday night to snatch a draw and the league title in a late drama.

Both teams were missing key players with some injuries due to the Arran league game the day before on Sunday.

Brodick's front line of Toby Wingham, Babbies MacNeil and Owen 'Pele' Quigley caused most of the problems in the first half and it was Toby who eventually slotted one into the goal before half-time to make it 1-0.

In the second half, Pele went on a mesmerising run and eventually the ball fell to Toby again who doubled the home team's lead to take his goal tally to 21 for the season.

The turning point in the game was when referee Ian McDonald had enough of Babbies's repeated fouling and verbal abuse and he was given his marching orders to

take Brodick down to 10 men. Brodick still looked strong and Southend were unable to break them down until, 10 minutes to go, Corey Allen pulled a goal back after a scramble from a free kick.

Southend were throwing everything at the game and in the 90th minute were awarded a free

Arran Dairies League

Shiskine	1
Northend	0

Shiskine ended their season on a high after beating rivals Northend in a very close encounter. John

kick 30 yards out. Goalkeeper Stevie Judge and all the Southend boys had come up in a last-ditch attempt to equalise to secure the league. Willie Sillars launched the ball in with most people thinking he would send in a cross.

Willie had other ideas though and the ball floated over everyone and the

outstretched arms of goalkeeper Finlay Sillars who couldn't prevent the ball from flying in the top corner of the goal.

Triumphant celebrations ensued as the Southend boys celebrated their first league title since 2013 with the final round of postponed games still to be played.

Murchie's goal was the only thing that separated the two teams after 90 minutes. Referee Greg McCrae gave the man of the match to Cammy Thomson after a brilliant performance up top for the Kinloch boys.

Monday night will see the start of the Copperwheats Knockout Cup and in the preliminary round Southend will host Northend to battle for a place to play Shiskine in the semi finals.

Bridge results

The results Arran Bridge Club summer tournament held on Monday August 13, were: N/S: 1 Brenda Livingstone and Pat Adamson, 2 David Boag and Eendy McNiven, 3 Tricia Martin and David Campbell. E/W: 1 Alan and Shahina McKelvie, 2 John Dick and Giorsal Kroner, 3 Liz Robertson and Jennifer McArthur.

The results of the tournament held on Monday August 20, were: N/S: 1 Tricia Martin and David Campbell, 2 Douglas and Margaret Bruce, 3 John Dick and Andy Martin. E/W: 1 Alan and Shahina McKelvie, 2 Margaret McGill and Jan Beattie, 3 Eendy McNiven and Ann McKelvie.



Club stalwart Jimmy Armit, Brodick Golf Club's 2018 Senior Open Champion.



Brodick's Toby Wingham keeps possession of the ball despite a number of Southend players chasing him.

01_B34footy02



Coach Alan Murray provides words of encouragement in the changing room prior to kick-off. 01_B34AAF01



This Archie McNicol effort was saved by the opposition goalkeeper. 01_B34AAF04



Players mirror each other in lunging for the ball with Arran's Adam McNicol securing possession. 01_B34AAF09



Archie McNicol launches the ball back into play. 01_B34AAF10



Killie United AFC visited Arran to be Arran AFC's first home game opponents. 01_B34AAF03

Early goal feast but Arran will face much stiffer tests

Continued from page 28
the other end of the tackle came out of it unscathed.

However, Matthew Dobson was less fortunate in a tackle before half-time as the Killie forward put in a mistimed tackle forcing Dobson off through injury. Surprisingly, the player was only given a yellow card.

Cailin Applegate was brought on to make his first appearance for Arran and 30 seconds from the start of the second half he got his first touch and slotted the ball through the keeper's legs to get off to a dream start.

Toby Wingham then got in on the act and scored two goals in quick succession to take the score to 4-0. Killie's heads were down and spaces opened up for McNicol – within a 10-minute spell he had scored another three, taking his tally to four goals for the match.

Another comfortable win for the Arran boys who have scored 16 goals and conceded none in their first two games of the league.

The match was kindly sponsored by Mark West Flooring and Andrew Ross Bain was also

on hand to represent main sponsor, Arran Energy.

The visitors waited until the later boat and enjoyed the hospitality in Brodick Golf Club which was a gesture appreciated by both sides.

Arran AFC thanked the golf club for their hospitality and to Matthew Keir and the Parks for providing all the food for the players after the game.

Tomorrow (Sunday), Arran face a bigger test as they travel to play Irvine Victoria, who are a much stronger outfit. All visitors and supporters are encouraged to attend.



A big crowd of local supporters turned up to watch the inaugural home game of the newly formed Arran team. 01_B34AAF11



Arran players celebrate one of their seven goals. 01_B34AAFC06



Toby Wingham wrestles the ball away from the group of Killie players. 01_B34AAFC08



Arran's Ryan Armstrong powers through the opposition. 01_B34AAFC07



Arran goalkeeper David Heenan touches this shot over the bar. 01_B34AAFC05



The Arran AFC lineup for their game against Killie United. 01_B34AAFC12

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SPORT



INSIDE THIS WEEK:
Late drama as Southend secure the league title



Isle of Arran AFC pictured with sponsors for their historic first home game. 01_B34AAFC02

Arran dream team in seventh heaven

Ayrshire Sunday League
Arran 7
Killie United 0

The newly-formed Arran team had their historic first home game on Sunday afternoon in the Ayrshire Sunday Amateur Football League.

A large crowd of more than 250 went along to support the team in the game against Kilmarnock-based club Killie United in ideal weather conditions at the Ormidale Park.

Manager Alan Murray made three changes to the team that had beaten Dalry

9-0 the week before, with Matthew Dobson, Adam McNicol and Fraser Gilbert all featuring in the starting line-up.

Arran dominated possession in the early stages of the game but were unable to break the deadlock. Killie were using the

counter-attack to good effect and came close to scoring a couple of times with one shot being tipped onto the bar by David Heenan in goals.

Eventually the home team made it 1-0 when Archie McNicol ran through on goal and placed one into

the bottom corner. Five minutes later, Archie was manhandled to the ground inside the area and the referee pointed to the spot, awarding a penalty.

Archie stepped up but uncharacteristically ballooned the penalty high and wide, almost taking out one of

Fred Galbraith's windows in his house on the road opposite.

Killie were reduced to 10 men when their midfielder flew into a tackle with both feet in the air and studs showing. Thankfully, Babbies MacNeil, who was on

Continued on pages 26 and 27

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