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No. 2041 Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER, 2017

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## Award night

Prizes handed out  
at high school



## New vets

Kirsty does the  
opening honours



## Rare heron

Only second sighting  
of little egret

# Waiting is finally over

## Terminal and ferry brings £70 million boost for Arran

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

Brodick's new £22.2 million ferry terminal will be open for business next month.

Monday October 23 is the day the terminal will be officially opened by finance secretary Derek McKay, who is expected to arrive at the old pier from Ardrossan and leave from the new passenger access system (PAS) on the new pier at Brodick.

Owner Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) has confirmed that contractor George Leslie Ltd is heading towards completion on site in the near future. The new terminal building is also nearing completion and CalMac will shortly commence an internal fit out and commissioning. It has also to

carry out essential training to ensure the facilities are ready for public use and no date has yet been set for any 'soft' opening.

Adelte has now also delivered the tunnel sections for the delayed passenger access system, as reported in last week's *Banner*, and it is currently being installed and commissioned over the next five to six weeks. This is an integral part of the full ferry terminal opening but is extremely weather dependent.

Completion before the end of October will mean it has taken 21 months since work first began on the reclamation of the land for the new pier and ferry terminal with the only significant delay being the delivery of the PAS, which was built in Spain.

**Continued on page 2**

## Chorus on song...



The 22-strong McLellan Festival Chorus in full song as they perform the Beethoven Mass in C with the students from Royal Northern College Arran summer school at the final concert of the festival last Sunday night. For a last festival round up see centre spread. 01\_B37front01

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## Council takes top honour

North Ayrshire Council has officially been crowned the UK's best local authority after it won the coveted Council of the Year award at the prestigious Association of Public Service Excellence (APSE) awards last week.

Chief executive Elma Murray hailed it as a 'phenomenal achievement' and paid tribute to staff, elected members and North Ayrshire's communities.

It is the fourth year the council has been nominated in the category but the first time it has won in what is regarded as the pinnacle of public sector awards.

It was also a double night of celebration with the 'Change' team also winning the best efficiency and transformation initiative at the ceremony.

# Community land boost meeting well attended

A meeting to encourage more community land ownership on Arran attracted a healthy attendance last week, writes Hugh Boag.

Organised by Community Land Scotland and Rural Housing Scotland at the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, the briefing session gave out information on the advantages of community land ownership.

Around 40 people attended the briefing from various island organisations as well as interested individuals. It follows recent reports in the Banner that the island is facing a population crisis with an urgent need to attract younger, working people to come and live here and provide them with affordable housing.

The meeting heard from the chairman of Community Land Scotland Ian Hepburn and the development manager Linsay Chalmers. Derek Logie of Rural Housing Scotland then spoke about the funding and



Outlining the benefits of community land ownership were, from the left, Derek Logie, Ailsa Raeburn, Linsay Chalmers and Ian Hepburn. 01\_B37land01; There was a healthy turnout at the meeting. 01\_B37land02

development of community-led housing and Ailsa Raeburn, of the Scottish Land Fund explained how to fund land or building purchases.

Afterwards a wide ranging discussion on a number of aspects of community land ownership was discussed.

Following the meeting, Linsay

said: 'We were delighted with the response to the briefing session on Arran. The problems faced on Arran are shared throughout the islands of Scotland and we hope those who came along were able to share some of the knowledge our organisations have.'

The Arran Community Land In-

itiative in Whiting Bay is the only island group which is a member of the organisation.

Community Land Scotland was established in 2010 as a response to the need for a collective voice for community landowners in Scotland. It is a company limited by guarantee with charitable status.

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## The waiting is over



The new terminal nears completion in Brodick. 01\_B37terminal01

**Continued from page 1**  
 Meanwhile, in a double boost for Arran this week, CMAL also confirmed the launch date for the new £48.5 million Arran ferry the *MV Glen Sannox* - Tuesday November 21 - as predicted in the *Banner* last week.

### Built

The ferry, currently known as hull 801, is one of two currently being built at Ferguson Marine Engineering Limited's (FMEL) shipyard in Port Glasgow.

The 102-metre vessel will be the first 'dual fuel' fer-

ry on the Clyde and will be capable of operating on conventional marine diesel or Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). She will have the capacity for 127 cars and 1,000 passengers, 700 of which should be comfortably seated inside.

Kevin Hobbs, chief executive at CMAL, said: 'Progress continues on the vessel at the shipyard and over the coming weeks we will work with the team at FMEL to make plans for the vessel's launch.'

It is not yet known who will launch the new ferry,

but Scotland's first minister Nicola Sturgeon is expected to attend. Further details are expected in the coming weeks. The launch ceremony is expected to be open to the public.

### Public vote

The name *Glen Sannox*, which was chosen in a public vote, has a long and distinguished pedigree on the Ardrossan to Brodick run.

Previous holders of the name were a majestic paddler from 1892, a 21-knot turbine in 1925 and a much-loved car ferry from 1957.

# New era for Arran Vets

A new state-of-the-art veterinary surgery has opened on Arran.

The Arran Vets practice has moved to new premises in Knowe Road in Brodick and on Saturday a large crowd turned up in the sunshine with their pets to see the official opening.

Practice owner Charlotte Clough was delighted to welcome broadcaster and journalist Kirsty Wark, and long time friend of Arran, over for the opening with her two black labradors Pepper and Stella.

The ceremony began with a performance of the Arran Pipe Band and was followed by a welcome by Charlotte who thanked John McKean, architect, Rachel and Struan Armitage and all the skilled team at Armitage Groundworks

for the building works, and Tim Wilkinson for the hospital floors and for a fabulous new surgery with a great finish.

The Rev Angus Adamson, himself a self-confessed dog lover, then gave a fitting and moving blessing before Kirsty unveiled the new vet dog mascot carved by Marvin Elliot and cut the ribbon to officially open the new surgery.

Those attending then had the chance to view the new facilities and enjoy a bite to eat and refreshments. Thanks to all the contributions to the Hessilhead Wildlife Rescue around £200 was raised on the day, which should help feed the two seal pups rescued on Arran over there.

Charlotte later told the *Banner*: 'These modern

veterinary premises and vet accommodation should future proof veterinary provision on Arran for a good 25 years ahead.'

As well as Charlotte the team at the practice consists of vets Hugh and Holly Simon, veterinary nurse Gemma Ferguson and receptionist Shona Hume.

'The building is accessible for all, with an easily accessed car park, access-for-all toilet, separate waiting room, dispensary and outdoor covered car port area. There is a private consultation room, staff kitchen, and separate ops room and prep room, all of which will extend the service we can provide and allow us to work to the best of our ability.

'I hope that these new premises will help give Arran the veterinary practice that all Arran's many animals lovers and all those who rely on animals for their living need and deserve, now and into the future. Now that we have the new surgery, I plan to start the process of applying for Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons accreditation for the practice.'

Charlotte added: 'I would like to say thank you very much to the Arran Pipe Band for making it such a special occasion and helping show Kirsty the best of Arran. It was fitting that Malcolm Wheeler was there to lead the pipe band and that we were able to use the occasion for everyone to thank him for his 33 years of dedicated service as Arran's only vet for much of that time.'



Kirsty Wark cuts the ribbon to open the new surgery. 01\_B37vets05



Vet Charlotte Clough welcomes the crowd to the opening ceremony as the Rev Angus Adamson and Kirsty Wark look on. 01\_B37vets03



Kirsty joins the vets practice team behind the new practice mascot. 01\_B37vets08



The Arran Pipe Band led by Malcolm Wheeler arrive at the new vets practice. 01\_B37vets01



Kirsty is presented with a bouquet of flowers by Penny and Rosie Ferguson. 01\_B37vets06

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# Work continues to save Lamlash green

Colin Smeeton  
 editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Work to save the Lamlash green from the ravages of the sea continues apace with tons of rock armour being delivered to the site to shore up the damaged sea defences, which have allowed the green to erode away.

The restoration work, which started last week, has seen sections of the damaged gabion baskets removed and replaced with rock armour which is being delivered by the truckload.

The formidable reinforcements will be placed in front of the existing gabion baskets to increase its strength and to prevent further damage there, and to either side of the damaged section.

Eroded sections of the bank will be reinstated with infill soil and will extend from the remaining green bank to the new rock armour.

The work, which is in the centre of the green, opposite the Glenisle Hotel, has seen the area fenced off and a new temporary road created across the green to allow the trucks access to the beach where diggers are working to move rocks into place.

Without the restoration



Clockwise from top: Construction machinery manipulates the large boulders in position. 01\_B37lamlash02; A small section of green that is being repaired and replaced. 01\_B37lamlash04; A lorry unloads rock armour to be used to shore up the Lamlash site. 01\_B37lamlash01;

work, a two-year-old consultation report on the rapidly declining green, indicated that the green erosion would continue and within a decade, at the least, would be lost forever if re-

medial action was not taken.

The work is being carried out by contractors for North Ayrshire Council which recently completed a legal process after the land

was gifted to the council by Lady Jean Fforde. The restoration and preventative work is scheduled to continue for at least another three weeks, depending on the weather.

# Kilmory joins nationwide beach clean up and survey

A beach clean up at Torrylinn beach in Kilmory this weekend is part of a nationwide initiative with hundreds of volunteers taking part in the Great British Beach Clean.

The Marine Conservation Society, which is hosting the events, will oversee 40 beach clean ups and pollution surveys taking place across the UK between Friday and Monday.

Besides cleaning up the litter, each beach clean team reports their findings to the Marine Conservation



Torrylinn beach clean will take place on Sunday.

Society which compiles a report to provide a snap-

shot on pollution levels.

This is used at regional, national and international levels to raise awareness of the impacts of marine litter and to campaign for marine litter reduction.

The Torrylinn Beach clean will take place tomorrow (Sunday) between 1pm and 2pm.

Volunteers can meet at the beach end of the track from Kilmory village and stout shoes and gardening gloves are recommended.

To get involved in the beach clean and receive

further information volunteers are requested to register at [www.mcsuk.org](http://www.mcsuk.org)

The Great British Beach Clean which is now in its 22nd year, occurs on the third weekend of every September.

It represents the United Kingdom's input to the global International Coastal Cleanup which takes place in 152 countries and locations on the same weekend in September, providing a worldwide snapshot of marine litter.

# The only way is up for Arran High School pupils

The school saw its overall attainment improve for the third successive year

Words and pictures by  
**HUGH BOAG**

More pupils than ever before passed higher and advance higher exams at Arran High School this year as the school saw its overall attainment improve for the third successive year.

That was the positive message head teacher Barry Smith gave at the school's annual award ceremony held on Wednesday September 6. As reported in last week's *Banner* the school this year has a joint dux in Alison Provan and Rachel Janse Van Rensburg.

Giving his address to parents at the awards night Mr Smith said: 'Arran High School's attainment has continued on an improving trend for the third straight year and this year we can celebrate not only a further increase in the average number of National 5 qualifications achieved by our S4 students, but also the best attainment at higher and advanced higher level across S5 and S6, that the school has seen.

'This year more than 60

per cent of our students left to go to university or college, with an even split between employment and apprenticeships for the remainder. These successful school leaver destinations rely on partnerships and I continue to be very grateful for the degree of engagement from the business community on Arran, in particular through our school-employer forum and VisitArran which work to develop the pathways that provide greater and more varied opportunities for our young people to develop skills for life and work.

'The achievement of our young people beyond the academic realm continues to be a huge strength of our school. Last year saw a number of our youngsters continue the tradition of musical excellence by performing with the North Ayrshire schools and West of Scotland schools orchestra, as well as having the winner of the NAC young traditional musician of the year Bethany Walsh and the runner up in the

NAC young rock and pop musician Emily Divine. Exceptional achievements for these students.

'Sport continues to be a major strength in our school and our young sports leaders are second to none, planning and leading lunchtime and after school sports sessions for both high school and primary school students. In all 25 separate sports were offered over the past year. The strength of their commitment has led to further leadership opportunities and the quality of their work being recognised with a National Sport Scotland Award. One of our young ambassadors, Ross Dobson, is part of the sportScotland young ambassadors conference team and was recognised as the first young ambassador of the month for Scotland in January 2017.

'Last year, 80 per cent of our high school students attended at least one extra-curricular sporting activity, the highest level of engagement across all

Continued on pages 6/7



Head teacher Barry Smith praised the work of the school captains behind him.  
01\_B37school02

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# Awards night to rememb



New school captains Jessica Miller, Mak Russell and Jasmine Scorey. 01\_B37school03



Sid Townsend was the Active Schools participant of the year. 01\_B37school04



Ross Dobson won the Active Schools community award. 01\_B37school05



Double winner Katie Murchie with the Admiral Group Trophy for business education and the Lamlash Millennium Cup for Citizenship with Tilly Ford, who was unable to attend. 01\_B37school06



The Margaret Wright Award was presented to Nastassja Alberti. 01\_B37school09

**Continued from page 5**  
North Ayrshire Schools and our challenge is to encourage every single one of our students to engage in some form of activity to enhance their health and wellbeing.

'In the past year we have been awarded the gold school sport award by sportScotland, we were the North Ayrshire community sport award winner for school sport in 2016, the Cycling Scotland mountain bike club of the year for 2016 and we have begun a pilot programme to become the first school of sport for triathlon in Scot-

land, in partnership with Triathlon Scotland and Arran Junior Triathlon Club.'

The guest speaker for the evening was Barry Fisher, a former pupil at the school who is now the director of The Duke of Edinburgh's Award in Scotland. He mixed some amusing school anecdotes with some inspirational words for the youngsters in the audience.

There was also a musical interlude from Finlay Elliot, who performed Jackson Street Blues on the piano and the David Bowie song Life on Mars was performed by

the Arran Brass Band quartet. Geography teacher Brian Donlin also gave an account of his trip with two pupils Meagan Bennett and Ben Downing undertaking volunteer work in Tanzania, as highlighted in the *Banner* last week.

After the class and inter-house awards were handed out the special awards presented were: The Ceitidh Anderson Friendship Quack, Gemma McLean.

Young traditional musician of the year, Bethany Walsh.

Young musician of the year, Lucy Walsh.



Ellie Bonner was named young singer of the year and was also named Active Schools young leader of the year. 01\_B37school11



Senior boy winner of the SWI Trophy Cameron Logan. 01\_B37school07



Senior girl winner of the SWI Trophy Ellie Ewing. 01\_B37school08

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# er at Arran High School

Young singer of the year Ellie Bonner.

Nicola McConnell Trophy, contribution to music department, Alison Provan.

Heather Gough Award for speech and drama, Rory Morrison.

Charles Russell Trophy for technical education in S5/6, Tilly Ford.

Admiral Group Trophy for business education in S5/6, Katie Murchie.

Arran Dairies Hospitality Trophy, for hospitality, Jamie Thomson.

Argyll College skills for work student of the year, Catherine Bloy.

Buchanan Prize for outstanding achievement in essay writing in S4, Emily Armitage.

A R Humphries Award for English in S5, Alison Provan.

Andrew J Johnson Award for mathematics in S2, Naomi Provan.

Andrew J Johnson Award for mathematics in S5, Rachel Janse Van Rensburg.

Ian Watt Trophy for science in a senior phase, Rachel Janse Van Rensburg.

Brian Miller Trophy for social subjects in S5/6, Evie Campbell.

Lamlash Memorial Cup for citizenship, Katie Murchie and Tilly Ford.

J D McKinnon: further education or apprenticeship - Aiden Gold, John Stewart, Jenna el Adm, Bethan Remington, Cameron Ross-Bain, Charity May.

Arran Society of Glasgow: Endeavour Award - S1 Margaret Gaber Hammedor, S2 Mhairi Thomas, S3 Hannah McCartney, S4 Ellie Bonner, S5 Jessica Miller, S6 Joanna Miggin.

*Note: Since some of the pupils have already left school not all of the prizes were presented on the night.*



Evie Campbell who won the Brian Miller Trophy for social subjects in S5/6. 01\_B37school10



Rory Morrison with the Heather Gough Award for speech and drama. 01\_B37school12



Joint dux Alison Provan and Rachel Janse Van Rensburg with head teacher Barry Smith. 01\_B37school16



Guest speaker Barry Fisher gives the audience his address. 01\_B37school01



Catherine Bloy was awarded student of the year in skills for work, construction crafts (bricklaying, joinery and plumbing), which is run in the school by Argyll College. 01\_B37school17



Dux Alison Provan with the Nicola McConnell Trophy for her contribution to the music department. 01\_B37school14



Jamie Thomson won the Arran Dairies Hospitality Trophy. 01\_B37school13



Dux Rachel Janse Van Rensburg with the Ian Watt Trophy for work in science. 01\_B37school15



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## Editorial

It may not be said often enough but the young people of Arran really do the island proud.

If there was a reason to remember this, we need look no further than the recent award ceremony at Arran High School.

There, the achievements of the youngsters – be they academic, musical or sporting – were there for all to see.

More pupils than ever before passed their higher and advanced higher exams leading to 60 per cent of the students going on to university or college, and there were achievements regionally and nationally in music and sport.

But it is not just at the high school where we can take pride in the young.

Take the five Duke of Edinburgh youngsters who are worthy recipients of their gold awards, with a marathon paddle on kayaks through the Great Glen.

The students from the Royal College of Music in Manchester and the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland taking part in the Arran summer school and performing at the McLellan Festival have been a credit to themselves and to their tutors.

And there is more to come: next weekend the island's fine young musicians come together for a special one-off concert – a real showcase of just what this small island can produce.

Yes, there is no doubt we can have real pride in the young.

### Thought for the week

Jesus said, 'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.' (Matthew 5:9)

## Expansion of fish farm opposed

Sir,

It was with disbelief that I read that the Scottish Salmon Company (SSC) intends to submit another application to significantly extend their fish farm in Lamlash Bay in last week's Arran Banner.

There is growing scientific evidence that aquaculture has a negative environmental impact both on-site (chemicals used, disease, fish waste issues, escaped salmon interbreeding with wild salmon etc.) and in the countries where the fish that are used to feed the salmon are caught. I know that I speak for many of us when I say that I can't understand why the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), whose job it should be to protect the marine environment, is even considering this application when the farm is located in the newly designated Marine Protected Area. If open water fish farms are tolerated in MPA's at all, then surely they shouldn't be allowed to increase in size.

SEPA is Scotland's principal environmental protection agency and claims to be 'protecting and improving Scotland's environment' but were recently accused of suppressing a critical report on pollution after private lobbying by the fish farming industry. We should be asking ourselves just how independent they are and if there is a tendency to push through the Scottish Government's plans for 'sustainable' growth of the aquaculture industry at all costs.

In addition, as far as I'm aware, SSC is mainly owned by Norwegian and Ukrainian investors and the parent company is reg-

istered in Jersey – one does ask oneself where the profits go. Why should they be allowed to pollute and degrade our marine environment for profit when the technology exists for land-based fish farms, where the effluent can be dealt with in a responsible way and there is no chance of fish escaping into the wild?

Whether we enjoy the bay as rowers, kayakers, sailors, divers or just appreciate a walk on the beach, the majority of us want to know that the biodiversity of the Clyde (the beauty of which can be seen on the website Arran Sealife) is being supported and protected. Why are local residents not being listened to? And why do we need to keep spending time and energy again and again to fight against something that has very little support on the island.

Yours,  
**Stuart Turner  
 Lamlash**

## Too little too late

Sir,

I read your article on the proposed expansion of the fish farm in Lamlash Bay with interest in last week's *Banner*.

Back in the autumn of 2015 Scottish Salmon Company applied to SEPA for a variation in its licence to increase the maximum biomass in their farm in Lamlash Bay from 1,154 to 1,881 tonnes, over 60 per cent of an increase. In fact SEPA itself in adopting the precautionary principle, seven years ago determined that an increase in the maximum biomass over and above the existing limit of 1,154 tonnes would not be appropriate.

This salmon farm is now in one of the established Marine Protected Areas

in the Firth of Clyde. This in itself should have been reason enough for ruling against any increase in biomass. No Environmental Impact Assessment has ever been done here, and self monitoring hardly provided confidence of the latest SEPA 'proposed determination' this time around to grant a licence for expansion. As is well-known, this proposal was 'called in' by the Scottish Government to be determined, essentially taken out of SEPA's hands. That was a year ago and just before a follow-up hearing by a Reporter for the Scottish Government scheduled for this month, the Scottish Salmon Company withdrew their application.

Only two weeks later this company informs the community that it intends to apply now for an even larger 2,000-2,500 tonnes maximum biomass farm in the same place. There is also a veiled threat in their communication about future expansion in the area. How much more public money and effort is going to be spent before the message gets through that this company and its practices are not welcomed, at least in terms of expansion.

In the past five years, 2011-2016, the Scottish Government figures for the Lamlash Bay fish farm discharges to the bay amount to:

- \* 7.6 tonnes of total cop per from feed and nets.
- \* 0.59 of zinc from feed.
- \* 209 tonnes of nitrogen as ammonia and urea.
- \* 29 tonnes of phosphorus as phosphate
- \* 670 tonnes of total organic carbon.

Then there are the licensed treatments for disease, another reason to refuse any increases of these toxic chemicals. The ap-

plication of neurotoxins and bioaccumulation in sediments is now causing wider concern, in particular the long-term effect on the ecosystem and marketable catch of crustacea, such as prawns, crabs and lobsters. Finally, it is quite evident that tourism on Arran has led to increased use for water sports and recreation demanding a guaranteed water quality for human contact, an objective incompatible with expansion of a polluting industry.

It is ironic that in 1998 the EU banned the dumping of sewage at sea or discharge from surface waters. The Clyde has been 'cleaned up' yet fish farmers seem to use the marine environment as a free waste disposal facility. Right now we have no idea of the longer term effects of bioaccumulation of these contaminants. In the recent past Scottish Water has spent £3.1million installing a primary treatment plant in Lamlash with the associated collection and pumping of sewage to a collection point. Yet Scottish Salmon Company, like all salmon aquaculture companies in Scotland, continues to employ the discredited 'dilute and disperse' method, which involves no cost to them, but, most likely, a great deal of environmental cost to the sea floor, ecosystem and the wider Clyde.

In my opinion it is high time for these industrial sites to be curtailed. The Scottish Government talks economics, economics, economics, yet the tourist industry in the west, an economic powerhouse, relies on the perception of pristine waters as well as wonderful views. Over the past decade at least, many community members in Scotland and elsewhere,

especially in British Columbia, Norway and Chile, armed with scientific and video evidence of anoxic mass underneath farms, harms to the ecosystems, especially wild salmon runs, called for reductions in biomass and stocking density on salmon aquaculture farms, and drastic reductions of neurotoxins and antibiotics, the panoply of chemical warfare employed by this industry

Farmed salmon, wild salmon and trout have been decimated by uncontained ravages of sealice from the 250-odd salmon farms off western Scotland. Recently, aquaculture has deployed 'cleaner' fish to consume the sealice attached to the farmed salmon as high levels of sealice increases salmon mortality.

The larger the number of salmon in a cage, the more likely disease and vectors spread. These cleaner fish are mostly wrasse, an important reef fish in the marine ecosystem. But now farmers are paying for the collection of these so compromising that population, even around Arran. I fear it is only when neurotoxins are found in the flesh of farmed salmon in supermarkets, or in inshore fisheries, be they crabs, lobsters, prawns, mussels, scallops or line caught mackerel, like the Dutch eggs of recent times, that the government will cry stop. Too little and too late.

Yours,  
**Dr Sally Campbell  
 Lamlash**

## Water worry

Sir,

As an average member of the public who lives in Lamlash and enjoys the occasional walk along the shore. I have made recent observations. Firstly

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the coastline from cordon to Ardlui is predominantly sludge. This now seems to be spreading onwards to the left hand side of pier (looking towards Holy Isle). The water off the pier is murky and when I do occasionally swim, it is not in Lamlash Bay. The rest of the island has clear water and sandy or rocky shores.

As Lamlash is a very popular tourist area, I wonder what a coastline of sludge will do for tourism. I know nothing about water quality, but in Lamlash Bay it seems very poor in comparison to other localities round the island.

Yours,  
**Sandra Brown**  
Lamlash

## Ferry priority

Sir,  
As I sit in Ardrossan harbour after the first two ferries were cancelled, including the one I booked, now two ferries later, I am number two in the queue. Yet another day's brewing not going ahead as I have needed ingredients in the van. With demand so high this is another huge loss in sales.

Millions spent on a new terminus in the wrong place as it's Ardrossan that has the weather problem, and with no priority for island businesses, yet another ferry related loss of a day's brewing, which the new terminal will not prevent happening again and again.

How do we really think business will survive on an island without a ferry system that works for local businesses? As the wind picks up it looks increasingly likely more ferries will be cancelled so our mainland orders will, yet again, not make it to the supermarket shelves. It's clear there are other breweries who will fill our space in a heart beat. So come on CalMac and our Ferry

Committee, get the ferry working for us, not against, the island economy. Local jobs depend on it. Priority for island business traffic and residents is essential.

The Arran Brewery picked up a silver award for Arran Blonde at last week's SIBA Scottish Beer Festival. The beer is wanted, only our ferry is stopping us bringing it to the world. The spread of the brand brings more tourists to the island so it's time to fix the problems with ferry operations now once and for all. The world deserves Arran beer.

Yours,  
**Gerald Michaluk**  
Managing Director  
Arran Brewery

## Iconic anvil

Sir,  
I was interested to see the recent letter in the Banner concerning the fate of the anvil which Davy Ballantyne hauled up to the summit of Goatfell to raise funds for his diabetic daughter.

It does seem a shame that the actual iconic symbolic object, the anvil itself, is now apparently lying discarded by the wayside. However, I can also understand the viewpoint of those charged with the custody of the Goatfell environment, that if they allowed this monument to be erected then other people might start following suit and carrying other objects up Goatfell for charity, and might rightly expect to see their efforts also memorialised at the summit. Where would it end?

There is, however, perhaps room for a compromise. If some kind soul or souls could endeavour to get the anvil back down the mountain, then there are several possible sites where it might perhaps be mounted on a suitable plinth to mark Mr Bannatyne's achievement.

One such might be the car park at the Claddach Centre where the 'tourist' path to Goatfell starts off. Or it could be incorporated into the Smithy exhibit at the Arran Museum, or (my own personal favourite) mounted on an angled plinth on Brodick seafront, with the point of the anvil aligned with the summit of Goatfell.

Although your previous correspondent's suggestion of an honesty box for donations might prove difficult in practice to administer, there would be no reason not to have a reference to the charity's web page included in the wording of the plaque, in case anyone felt moved to contribute.

Yours,  
**Steve Rudd**  
Huddersfield

## World class island

Sir,  
The oft reiterated aim for Arran 'world class island' provokes a deeply uncomfortable sensation since it is not a phrase which most islanders would use to frame their hopes for the island's future.

Huge infrastructure developments and reduced fares will have a welcome, beneficial effects on the island's tourist industry but, as many have pointed out, there are disadvantages which seem not to have been taken into account for which no provision has been made.

In the case of Orkney a recent programme highlighted the effect on the island of the regular visit of cruise ships where opinion among islanders was far from unanimous. A press photo of the Stour on Skye, a remote and majestic place, showed the access road jammed with cars and camper vans stretching into the distance while recent proposals for a hotel in

Brodick involved over 90 rooms, all this on top of a new designation for Scotland as the world's most beautiful place, surely a commercially motivated announcement despite this having been the considered opinion of Scots for generations.

While deploring NIMBY sentiments it is time for Arran's future development to be the subject of planning towards which Arran people need to have a say with the aim of keeping traffic and infrastructure compatible, developing a balanced, varied economy which is sustainable with a tourist industry which concentrates on the island's assets, ie, the scenery, sailing, walking, archaeology and geology rather than embarking on a course which may end as Dubai on the Clyde. Possibly far fetched but it would be prudent to start thinking about it now.

Yours,  
**John Inglis**  
High Corrie

## How to contact us

Arran Banner,  
Brodick,  
Isle of Arran,  
KA27 8AJ  
Phone: 01770 302142

### News editor

Hugh Boag  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

### Reporter

Colin Smeeton  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

### Advertising

Laura Hemming  
adverts@arranbanner.co.uk

### Head office

Wyvex Media,  
Lochavullin Industrial Estate,  
Oban,  
PA34 4 HB

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## Friends reunited for autumn season

After a quiet summer, with the castle closed for refurbishment, the Friends of Brodick Castle are gearing up for a busy autumn/winter programme.

Despite the closure, the friends have still managed to fund raise towards a defibrillator for the castle and the location of their regular meetings, now on a Thursday, will be moved to the rangers centre. The autumn/winter programme starts off on Thursday September 21 at 2pm with a talk by Chris Mills, interim property manager, on the progress of the work at the castle and plans for the future. The group would be delighted to see friends, old and new, at their meetings.

If anyone would like to join in or take part in any of the events Linda MacCallum, the membership secretary, can be contacted on 302875 or at lindamacallum@hotmail.co.uk

# Fiery spectacular is planned for Brodick

Visitors to the Brodick Castle grounds are in for a sensory overload next Saturday when a live performance called BuildNBurn will lead the proceedings at the Burning the Circle prehistoric fire festival.

The fiery spectacular, starting at 7.45pm on Saturday September 23, will take place at a secret location within the grounds overlooking Brodick and the Firth of Clyde. The theme of the festival which started in 2013, two having taken place on Arran and one in Caithness, is a closely guarded secret until the event itself, and this year will be no different.

As part of the proceed-

ings, during the week before the festival, archaeologists from Northlight Heritage and the University of Glasgow will work with National Trust for Scotland Thistle Camp volunteers to build timber structures at the festival site, inspired by other prehistoric sites on the island.

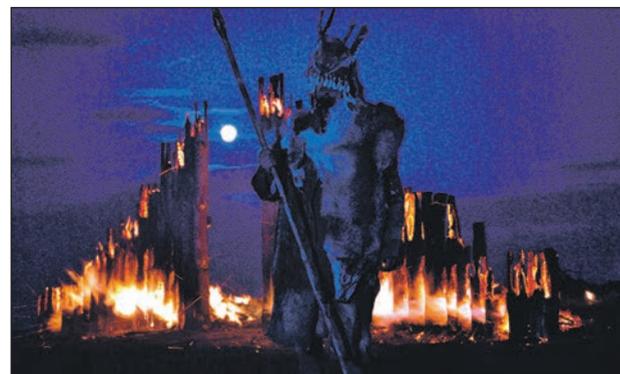
One of the BuildNBurn team, Dr Kenneth Brophy, an archaeologist from the University of Glasgow, said: 'One of the best ways to understand what it was like to live in prehistory is to get out there and do prehistoric stuff.'

'BuildNBurn is our way of doing this. Our third Burning the Circle festival in Arran will be our big-

gest yet, and we hope those who get involved will learn more about Neolithic and Bronze Age life ways, but also witness a memorable and spectacular fire festival.'

The Burning the Circle event is free to attend however those wishing to join in the fuller event - with activities over the whole weekend - can take advantage of a ticketed special package designed for those who would like to make a weekend of it.

Starting on the Friday evening there will be a special gathering at the Bronze Age roundhouse and storytelling. On the Saturday there will be a chance to work closely with leading



The Burning of the Circle festival is tailored to be dramatic and memorable.

prehistoric craft specialists, including Graham Taylor (Potted History) making grooved ware pottery, Neil Burrige casting bronze swords (Bronze Age Craft), and James Dilley (Ancient Crafts) knapping flint.

Finally, on the Sunday

there will be a chance to go on some walking tours with an archaeological theme. Weekend tickets include a prehistoric buffet on the Saturday, and optional access to the camping site in the grounds of Brodick Castle.

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## Injured walker airlifted off Goatfell

This is the dramatic moment an injured walker was airlifted off Goatfell on to a search and rescue helicopter.

### Lower leg injury

The woman had been rescued on the hillside by the Arran Mountain Rescue Team, which was called out at around 1pm on Wednesday September 6 to assist a 64-year-old, female walker who suffered

a lower leg injury on the Corrie side of the Goatfell path.

The team's two Argocats were utilised which transported all team members swiftly to the casualty's location. After assessing her injuries, she was made comfortable, put on to a stretcher and evacuated to hospital on the mainland by the Rescue 199 helicopter.



The injured woman is airlifted to safety. Photo: Ewan Mckinnon.



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# Classic cars visit Arran on tour of Scotland

Nearly 40 classic cars were being spotted and admired on the roads and car parks of Arran earlier this week.

They were taking part in a special Haggis Trail for classic cars being run by Welsh company Country Lane Tours over the next two weeks.

Classic cars from throughout the years, from a 1924 Rolls Royce 40/50 to Jensens, Jaguars and Triumphs and right up to a 2014 Bentley Continental and came from all over the UK and even Spain and Monaco to take part.

The tour started in Penrith last Saturday before they spent two nights on Arran, circumnavigating the island on the second day.

On Monday they left from Lochranza to island hop up the west coast of Scotland, taking in Mull,

Skye, Harris and Lewis before taking the last of seven ferries from Stornoway to Ullapool on the mainland.

Then it was on to the famous North 500 across the top of Scotland, via Thurso, to John O'Groats and down through Inverness and Aviemore to Pitlochry, the final destination of the tour.

While researching for the event, organiser Ian Glass got in touch with Arran transport expert Bernard Mitchell-Luker who helped him with historical information about the Arran SJ number plate. They met up in Brodick this week when Ian presented Bernard with a set of number plates from the trail run.

Ian said: 'Bernard is such an enthusiast for the tourism on the island and we are delighted to have been able to bring the trail to Arran.'



A 1967 Ford Mustang is seen driving through Brodick.



Ian Glass presents Bernard Mitchell-Luker with a set of Haggis Trail number plates.

01\_B37haggis01



A 1983 Vauxhall Astra GTE Mk 1 and a 1961 Jensen 5415 in Brodick.

## ... and there are more on the way this weekend

The Arran Heritage Museum will play host to a fantastic assortment of vintage and modern sports cars when the MG Car Club visits today. (Saturday)

The display, which will take place from 12.30pm to 3pm, will be the start of a three-day tour of Arran by the members of the MG Car Club Caledonian Centre – the first time the club

has visited the island - and their cars will be lined up on the museum lawn for all to see.

The club draws its members from all over Scotland, and many from England, and every year mounts more than 20 events, as well as joining in other classic car shows both in Britain and abroad. Such has been the popularity of this event

that it was fully booked more than a year ago. A total of 23 models from this distinctive marque, from the 1930s to the relatively recent past, will be on display in all their splendour.

The museum trophy for the best turned out car will be presented during the afternoon. Certainly one event for the keen motorist not to miss.

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# Team Gold kayak their way to success

In July five young people left the island to take part in two gold Duke of Edinburgh expeditions. Getting as far as their gold expedition is no easy task with much having been achieved already. However, the gold expeditions - practise and assessed - are what it all leads up to. So many skills are required in people so young.

Tom Mowatt, Rory McKenna, Kirsty Kerr and George and Max Doubleday made up the Arran Team Gold. Their practise expedition involved them paddling in their kayaks from Ardrossan across to Bute and onto Kintyre. Their assessed expedition was all about the Great Glen as the paddle took them from Fort William to Inverness.

The gold group is expected to be as independent as possible and to work well as a team. Some readers may remember this group circumnavigating the island in their kayaks last year for the silver award. What stands out immediately about this group is their incredible team spirit and the way they effortless support each other. The leaders have worked quite closely with this group for a number of years and have seen how well they prob-

lem solve and work collectively towards decisions and these skills were very much evident on their gold expeditions.

All of them have had their second winter kayak training in the pool in preparation for these events as well as some additional sea training. It is fair to say one must be fit to take on these challenges. Working with members of the Arran Kayak Club and instructors from the Arran Outdoor Centre has seen their technical skills develop considerably. They have to have achieved at least their two star competence award and have completed their water safety award. But all this preparation leads them to this one point. On the whole, the weather was favourable but there were a couple of more challenging days as the winds got up and the waves were far more evident.

Asking the five of them what they had each got from these expeditions predictably throws up different comments. They talked about their growing sense of independence and that feeling that they 'just have to get on with it' even when they are feeling tired. The Great Glen made them appreciate the size and scale of the Scottish land-



The Team Gold members with their instructor Martin Wood before the expedition.

scape and the journey they were on. Overall, they all believed that this sort of experience made them stronger and the leaders are not sure they could ask for any more than that.

Asking them about their stand-out moments was interesting. A rather large cow featured in all their 'moments' as she made her appearance just as they were going to sleep in their tents. Their contemplation that this cow may trample over their tents was not lost on the group. Paddling through small tunnels to reach a waterfall was something they all talked about. It is these moments that will, no doubt, be etched on their minds forever.

Experiences like these are life enhancing and there is little doubt this is the outcome for all of them individually and as a group.

If they could bottle their team spirit they would and yet it may be some time before they truly appreciate what they have achieved.

This year all the Duke of Edinburgh expedi-

tions have been supported through funds raised, parental contribution and generous support from both individuals and businesses and groups in the island community including: the Island Cheese Company and the Rotary group.

Leader Fiona Doubleday told the *Banner*: 'Sending these young people out on these expeditions is an expensive business and I know just how grateful the young people are for this support.'

'Our silver group have had some very bad luck with weather but have now completed their practise expedition and circumnavigated half of the island, but they still have their assessed part to do. They are also doing a seabird survey having completed some initial training with Arran bird recorder James Cassels.'

'On behalf of the all the Duke of Edinburgh leaders, parents and the entire island community we are all very proud of Team Gold. Congratulations on a job very well done.'



Two of the expedition team reach their destination after a long paddle.

## Table top fundraiser

The Duke of Edinburgh group are holding a table top, car boot and craft sale fundraiser today (Saturday) from noon to 3pm at Arran High School. There will also be teas/coffees, home baking and a tombola. All who can come along and support the work of the group will be made most welcome.



Team Gold with their kayaks ready for the off at the ferry terminal.

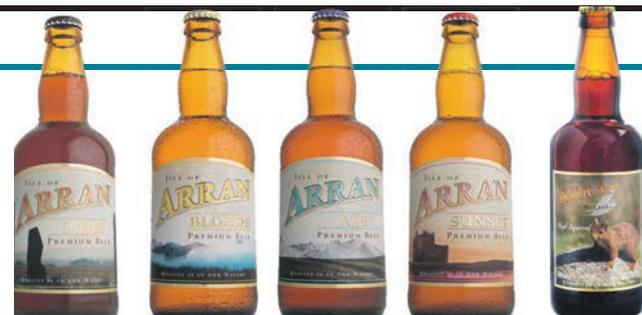


The team paddling their way through the Great Glen.



## Arran Leisure

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# A celebration of the island's own young musicians

Isle of Arran Music Society are launching their new season with a very special musical event – one not to be missed.

In recent years the island has produced a number of brilliant young musicians, and on Saturday September 23, at 7.30pm in the community theatre at the high school there will be an opportunity to hear some of them.

The concert will be headlined by Iain Clarke on piano, and he will be playing music ranging from Mozart and Beethoven to Stravinsky and Rachmaninov. Supporting him will be Olivia Barker, whom islanders will remember for her lovely singing voice. She will be singing a wide range

of material too, from Handel to Andrew Lloyd Webber and *Les Miserables*. There will be further evidence of Arran's musical talent from Finlay Murchie on the saxophone, Mungo Paul on guitar and Lucy Walsh playing the flute.

This not-to-be-missed event is likely to attract great demand, so to avoid disappointment it is advisable to get advance tickets, available from Arran Events ([www.arranevents.com](http://www.arranevents.com)) or from the Inspirations shop in Brodick though, of course, there will also be tickets on the door on the night. Under-18s are admitted free.

What a chance for the island to celebrate its own!



Singer Olivia Barker will be one of the performers at the concert.

## TV show to explore the mystery of Machrie Moor



Presenters Sarah Mack and Ashley Cowie in Luss for the show.

The Machrie Moor stone circles on Arran will feature in the new series of STV's *The People's History Show*, which explores the tales of Scotland's past over nine new episodes.

Fronted by presenter and journalist Sarah Mack and historian and adventurer Ashley Cowie, the series looks back in time to discover the places and people that make up Scotland's shared social history.

### Fascinating

The new series features some of the most fascinating events, places and personalities in Scottish history, including the 16th-century Massacre of Eigg, the slaying of almost the entire population of MacDonald clansmen by their enemies, the Macleods of Skye; and the battle of Langside in Glasgow.

Of particular interest to Arran residents is a visit by historian Fergus Sutherland who travels to Arran to unravel the 5,000 year

old mystery of the mysterious Machrie Moor stone circles.

The new series also features a special episode exploring some of Scotland's most influential women, including Dundee born Fanny Wright, who fought for the abolition of slavery and women's rights; Mary Somerville from Jedburgh in the Scottish Borders, who played a role in the discovery of Neptune; Scottish doctor Elsie Inglis, founder of the Scottish Women's Hospital Unit; and the Duchess of Atholl, Katharine Marjory, who in 1923 became the first ever female Scottish MP.

Presenter Ashley Cowie said: 'The new episodes dig really deep into Scotland's lesser known past and we've filmed some very inspirational, awe-inspiring and emotional stories featuring the blood, sweat and tears of the people who built our nation.'

The series started last Monday night on STV at 8pm or viewers can catch-up on the STV Player.

# McLellan Festival comes to a



A section of McLellan Festival Chorus perform Beethoven's Mass in C. 01\_B37opera02



The summer school students and the chorus perform Beethoven's Mass in C. 01\_B37opera03



The students of the Arran summer school who performed with tutor Peter Wilson.

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# a fitting finale



the opera gala concert with

The McLellan Arts Festival was to prove a whirlwind 10 days ending last Sunday with a spirited performance of Beethoven's Mass in C under the experienced baton of Alec Crow and the McLellan Festival Chorus.

The choral concert in the community theatre was much appreciated by the audience as have been all performances this festival including the opera gala, both of which involved the students of the Northern College of Music in Manchester who attended this year's summer school on Arran.

There was also the compelling, imaginative and, at times, powerful theatre from the drama students of the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in Corrie and Sannox Hall last Saturday the exuberant and entertaining performance of Scots Makar Jackie Kay, the fascinating and thoughtful forum with Tim Pomeroy, the interesting student and archive films, the fun of the radio drama talk by David Hunter, the beauty of the sacred music and the pleasure of McLellan's words in Corrie Church and the warmth of this year's poet Maura Dooley.

Organisers say the festival is amongst the best they have had and, as always thanks are due to the many who contributed to its success.

In particular they would thank all those who performed including the local performers: Angus Adamson, Arran Dawn, Biff, Sarah Cook, John Cruikshank, Drambusters, Heather Gough, Stuart Gough, Colin Guthrie, Joni Keen, Keith Robertson, Ailsa McNicol, George Pettigrew, Tim Pomeroy, John Sillars, Spike and Peter Wilson.

They would also like to

thank the Auchrannie Resort, The Douglas Hotel, Arran Aromatics, The Book and Card Shop, Arran Banner, Arran Events, Arran Lodge, KA Leisure, Whiting Bay Village Hall, Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, Brodick Library, Colin Guthrie for accommodation, front of house volunteers from the McLellan Festival steering group and, of course, grateful thanks to all those warm and appreciative people who attended the performances.

If anyone out there would like to join our steering group or become involved please email Heather at gough.carlo@btinternet.com or phone 01770 302670.

**Drama students from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland rehearse in Corrie hall. They are back, from left: Elliot Baxter, Edd Soper, and Olivia Barrowclough. In front are Megan Valentine and Kay McAllister.**

01\_B37drama01



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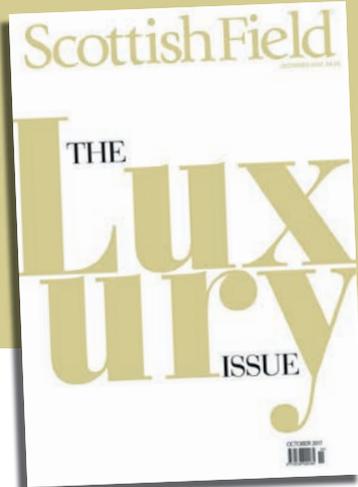


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# WHAT'S ON

## Everyday

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

## Saturday 16th September

Army Cadets  
RNLI Shop  
Over 21s disco  
Family games  
Fun in the pool  
Arran Vets surgery  
Arran Vets reception  
Blackwaterfoot bowls  
Whiting Bay Bowling Club Rink Game  
Brodict Bowling Club Rink Game  
Flow Yoga  
Growers drop in session  
Live music  
Live music - Slider

## Sunday 17th September

Family games  
Fun in the pool  
AA meeting  
RNLI Shop  
Live music - Scott Macdonald

## Monday 18th September

Over 50s badminton  
Badminton  
Morning fitness  
Badminton  
Arran Vets surgery  
Arran Vets reception  
Arran Junior Football Club  
Circuit training  
Lamlash Aerobix  
Tae Kwondo  
Summer Bridge Tournament  
Adult Tennis  
Brodict Bowling Club Rink Game  
Whiting Bay Bowling Club Rink Game  
Arran Skinnymalinks (slimming class)  
Arran Skinnymalinks (slimming class)

## Tuesday 19th September

Pop quiz  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Youth club  
Arran Vets surgery  
Arran Vets reception  
Healthy outdoors  
Blackwaterfoot bowls  
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)  
Lamlash Junior Drama Club  
Pilates  
Brodict Castle garden walk  
Flow Yoga

## Wednesday 20th September

Rock an pop bingo  
Tae Kwondo  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Arran Vets surgery  
Arran Vets reception  
Yoga  
Hydrofit  
Arran Heritage Museum archives and genealogy service  
Yoga-Arran  
Mixed hockey  
Dog classes  
Knittery and Nattery  
Family friendly pub quiz  
Burger and quiz night  
Brodict Bowling Club Rink Game  
Whiting Bay Bowling Club Rink Game  
Chair Yoga  
Flow Yoga  
Arran Parkinson's Support group  
Lamlash SWI  
Zumba Gold  
Just Jhoom (Bollywood dance fitness)

## Thursday 21st September

Morning fitness  
General knowledge quiz  
Arran Vets surgery

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

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1pm  
Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm  
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
Auchrannie games hall, 3pm-4pm  
Auchrannie spa pool, 4-5pm  
9.30am - 11am  
9.30am - noon  
Bowling Club, 2pm  
WBay Bowling club, 2pm  
Brodict Bowling Green, 2pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 9am  
Community Land, WBay, 10am - 12noon  
The Douglas Hotel, Brodict, 9pm  
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

Auchrannie games hall, 3pm-4pm  
Auchrannie spa pool, 4pm-5pm  
Brodict Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm  
Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm  
The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm

Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm  
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm  
Auchrannie gym, 9.30-10.30am  
Auchrannie sports hall, 7-9pm  
9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm  
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm  
Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm  
Auchrannie gym, 6-7pm  
Arran High School dance studio, 6.30pm  
Brodict Church Hall adults and over 10s, 7.00pm - 8.30pm  
Arran High School, 6.30pm - All welcome  
Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club from 5.30pm  
Brodict Bowling Green 6.45pm  
WBay Bowling club, 6.30pm  
Shiskine Church Hall 5:15pm  
Brodict Church Kitchen, 6pm

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

Ormidale Hotel 9.30pm  
Arran High School Kids-6.30-7.30pm adults-7.30-8.30pm  
Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm  
9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm  
9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm  
Auchrannie studio, 9.30am-10.30am  
Auchrannie Hotel leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am  
10.30-12.30 and 1.30-3.30  
Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm  
Auchrannie sports Hall, 7.30-9pm  
Whiting Bay Hall, 1pm  
Kilmory Hall, 2pm - 4pm  
The PHT, 8.30pm  
Felicity's @ Eden Lodge, from 7.30pm  
Brodict Bowling Green 6.45pm  
WBay Bowling club, 6.30pm  
St Mollios Hall, Shiskine, 11am  
Shiskine Hall, 7.30pm  
Lamlash Fire Station, 2pm - 4pm  
Fire Station, 7.30pm  
Brodict Hall, 4pm-5pm  
Brodict Hall, 6pm-7pm

Auchrannie gym, 9.30-10.30am  
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm

Arran Vets reception  
Ladies' hockey  
Quilt Arran  
10th Ayrshire Shiskine Cub Scouts and Beavers  
Adult Tennis  
Chair Yoga  
Arran Soul Choir  
Brodict Embroidery Group  
Arran Skinnymalinks (slimming class)

## Friday 22nd September

Yoga  
Hydrofit  
Arran Youth Foundations  
Lochranza children's badminton  
Lochranza adults' badminton  
Arran Vets  
Arran Vets  
AA meeting  
Tae Kwondo  
Arran Aromatics factory tours  
Quiz  
Smart Recovery Meeting

9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, 6.30-8.00pm  
Lamlash Fire Station, 2pm - 4.30pm  
Shiskine Hall, 6pm - 7.30pm  
Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club from 5.30pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 10.30am  
Arran High School, Lamlash, 7pm - 8.30pm  
Brodict Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
Thursday - Brodict Church Kitchen 10:30 - 12 noon

Auchrannie spa leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am  
Auchrannie Hotel leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am  
Church Hall, Brodict 7pm-9pm  
Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm  
Lochranza Hall, 8pm  
Surgery 9am - 10.30am and 4pm - 6pm  
Reception 9am - 2pm and 4pm - 6pm  
Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm  
Arran High School, Lamlash adults, 7pm - 8.30pm  
Home Farm, Brodict, 11am, 1pm & 3pm  
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 8pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 1.30pm - 3pm

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# New programme offers support to family farms

Active farm businesses on Arran are being invited to take part in the second year of the highly successful The Prince's Farm Resilience Programme, run by The Prince's Countryside Fund.

Established by HRH the Prince of Wales in 2010, The Prince's Countryside Fund aims to enhance the prospects of family farm businesses and the quality of rural life. They believe that the British countryside is a valuable natural asset and its contribution to everyday life cannot be underestimated.

Proven to help small farms improve their way of working, the programme

will provide free business support, skills and planning tuition, and one-to-one guidance to up to 20 small livestock and mixed family farm businesses across the island.

Feedback from participating farms has been unanimously positive, with farmers who have completed the programme feeling significantly more optimistic about the future of their farm business. The programme aims to tackle some of the biggest challenges being faced by small farm businesses across the UK.

Farmers will be given the skills to evaluate their viability and make informed

decisions about the future by using the business health check tool.

The programme also brings together like-minded family farm enterprises so they can review their current activity, and identify opportunities and improvements that can be made on-farm to build resilience.

Claire Saunders, director of the Prince's Countryside Fund, said: 'We are thrilled to be bringing The Prince's Farm Resilience Programme to Arran this year.'

Research commissioned by the fund revealed a steep decline in numbers since the beginning of the cen-

tury, and declining farming prices has led to the average farm income falling below £20,000 for the first time since 2007.

With uncertainty caused by Brexit adding extra pressure to farmers, the programme is more important now than ever.

If anyone is interested in taking part in The Prince's Farm Resilience Programme there will be a short meeting at Kilmory Hall on Tuesday September 19 at 7.30pm to discuss the programme in more detail and answer any questions.

Alternatively contact Ailsa Currie on 07740 986803 or [bellevuefarmcottages@btinternet.com](mailto:bellevuefarmcottages@btinternet.com)

## Market reports from Stirling

United Auctions had forward 1,144 store cattle and 179 cast cows at their sale in Stirling on Wednesday September 6.

Leading prices were: Store cattle: CharX blks £1140, 224p Moor; £1100, 242p Auchenhew; £1090, 234p Craigdhu; £1050, 255p Hawthorne. AAX blks £750, 198p Tighnafreoch. SalerX blks £820, 227p Ceither Gaoithe. SimX blks £785, 239p Ceither Goaithe. Hol blks £560, 141p Tighnafreoch. LimX hfrs £1070, 210p Clauchlands. CharX hers £1040, 233p Moor; £1020, 240p Craigdhu; £890, 232p Hawthorne. BBX hfrs £995, 220p Clauchlands.

Cast cows: SimX £1070, 140p Bellevue; £725, 129p Craigdhu. LimX £785, 135p Auchenhew. AAX £1010, 147p Bellevue. Hol £885, 126p Clauchlands.

At their sale on Tuesday September 12, United Auctions had a catalogue entry of 9,495 store and breeding sheep.

Leading prices were: Chev lambs £52 Cosyden. SuffX lambs £57 South Feorline; £55 Sheddock, £50 Ardbheinn. TexX lambs £57.50 Ardbheinn; £57.00 Bellevue; £49.50 Bloomfield. Mule lambs £53.50 Sheddock. SuffX ewe lambs £68 Drumaghini.



**Saturday 23rd  
September  
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To find out more contact the Rangers 01770 302462  
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**What's On.....**

<b>BRODICK CASTLE from the Outside</b>	<b>Sun 17<sup>th</sup>, Mon 18<sup>th</sup>, Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> &amp; Fri 22<sup>nd</sup></b>
<b>11.<sup>00</sup>, 12.<sup>00</sup>, 13.<sup>00</sup> &amp; 15.<sup>00</sup></b>	
A guided historical tour of the exterior of the Castle – stout footwear advised.	
<b>Please book at Reception on arrival</b>	<b>Adults Free with Garden Entry</b>
<b>GUIDED GARDEN WALK</b>	<b>Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Sept 14.<sup>00</sup> - 15.<sup>30</sup></b>
Join the our Garden's staff for a tour of our amazing Gardens	
<b>No need to book - please meet at Reception</b>	<b>Free with Garden Entry</b>
<b>GOATFELL TORCHLIGHT CHALLENGE</b>	<b>Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September</b>
Experience the magic of being on the high mountains in darkness, in the company of the Arran Mountain Rescue Team and the Rangers. A joint charity event, all proceeds will be shared between Rangers' upkeep of our mountain pathways and the Mountain Rescue Team.	
<b>To register visit <a href="https://nts.cloudvenue.co.uk/torchlightchallenge2">https://nts.cloudvenue.co.uk/torchlightchallenge2</a></b>	
<b>£10 per person plus minimum £30 in aid of these two worthwhile charities</b>	

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# Trust Housing Association has over 300 properties across the Isle of Arran.

## Housing for all ages

General Needs Housing offers affordable housing for families and individuals. This type of housing is available in the villages of Brodick, Lamlash, Whiting Bay, Kilmory, Shiskine, Pirmill and Corrie.

Benefits of General Needs housing:

- You can stay with Trust for as long as you like, there's no time limit on your tenancy.
- Rental costs can be inexpensive in comparison to private rents. Costs start at £324 per month for a double bedroom to £415 for three bed properties.
- Modern, warm and well insulated flats.

## Retirement made easy

Trust also provides Amenity Housing, ideal for older people, with an emergency pull cord system for added peace of mind and safety.

This type of housing is available in the villages of Brodick, Whiting Bay, Blackwaterfoot, Lochranza and Corrie.

Sheltered Housing is for those who are able to live independently, but want to ensure that all their needs are met. Shared areas offer companionship and your own fully self-contained flat means privacy when you want it. There are many advantages to living in Sheltered Housing with Trust:

1. Staff meet regularly with tenants to make sure all support needs are being met.
2. Onsite staff are available Monday to Friday.
3. Laundry and guest rooms (where family and friends can stay) are available onsite.
4. Controlled entry system to the main door offers added security.
5. All the flats are on ground floor level.
6. All flats have their own living room, bedroom, kitchen and bathroom.
7. Modern, warm and well insulated flats, with heating charged at a fixed monthly rate.



Rents are fully covered by Housing Benefit for those with an entitlement to this. Trust has a dedicated benefits advice service to help and support those looking to take up a sheltered tenancy.

Trust's two Sheltered Housing developments are in Brodick and Lamlash.

## The benefits of Sheltered Housing

Lynn Ross has been at Glen Estate since 2012. Initially unsure about sheltered accommodation Lynn has been 'pleasantly surprised' at the amount of independence she has with her support needs still being met, which she sees as a great balance.

Lynn's family are also 'delighted' at where their mother now lives, taking all kinds of worry away from them, with the added bonus of being able to stay in the devel-

opments guest rooms when they come to visit. Rates for guest rooms are under £12 per night.

When asked to describe her home, Lynn calls it 'a safe place to be' where she has the choice of joining the many activities on offer. Lynn laughed when asked by a friend if she ever gets lonely, as there is always so much happening 'there is companionship if needed so I don't feel lonely at all'.

Ann Reid, Coordinator at Glen Estate, Brodick said: 'Working daily with our tenants I fully believe that Trust Housing provides the most practical housing option for many retired people; to have a place they can call home, with no responsibilities for repairs and maintenance, and as little or as much care and support as they need. Moving to sheltered accommodation can help older people to remain independent for longer. Some

tenants who had misgivings before they moved in are now very happy. They have a secure door entry system and their own private self-contained apartment.'

Join the waiting list now; the housing situation on Arran is always changing. Please note the Trust application form is separate to the application for North Ayrshire Council.

Priority is given to applicants over the age of 60 for Amenity and Sheltered Housing, but there may be availability for younger applicants with support needs.

For more information contact Trust on **0131 444 1200** or **info@trustha.org.uk**

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# More than just affordable housing.

Trust has properties to rent across the Isle of Arran.



Trust's housing on Arran ranges from sheltered, ideally suited for older people, to homes for families and individuals.

Whatever your housing need, contact us to see if we have the right home for you.

**0800 917 1964** or [info@trusha.org.uk](mailto:info@trusha.org.uk).

# Only second sighting of rare heron on Arran

On Friday August 4, I received an email indicating that there was a little egret in Whiting Bay on the shore opposite the primary school. The sighting was confirmed and the information put out on the arranbirding website.

This was to be the first of 10 such reports between Friday August 4 and Monday August 7. Most of these were from the Sandbraes end of Whiting Bay but some were also from Clauchlands in Lamlash Bay. This was only the second record of little egret on Arran. The first one, at Sliderry Shore on Monday July 1 2013, did not hang around, but at least this latest one stayed for a few days, enabling many to

enjoy this pure white heron with black legs and yellow feet hunting in the shallow pools on the shore.

The liveliest hunters among the herons, they feed chiefly by walking through water and snapping at prey, or by running and agitating the water with their feet to disturb prey. The excellent photographs by Nick Giles capture the essence of the bird.

In breeding plumage it has a black bill with attractive white plumes on crest, back and chest. These plumes almost led to its demise in western Europe. At one time common in western Europe, it was hunted extensively in the 19th century to provide plumes for the decoration of hats

and became locally extinct in north-western Europe and scarce in the south. Around 1950, conservation laws were introduced in southern Europe to protect the species and their numbers began to increase. The birds also wander north in late summer after the breeding season, and this tendency to disperse may have assisted in the recent expansion of the bird's range. By the beginning of the 21st century the bird was breeding again in France, the Netherlands, Ireland and Britain

It first appeared in the UK in significant numbers in 1989 and first bred in Dorset in 1996. Its colonization followed naturally from this range expansion



A little egret is pictured with its distinctive black legs and yellow feet. Photo by Nick Giles.

**Bird notes**  
by Jim Cassels

into western and northern France in previous decades.

The map shows the winter records between 2007 to 2011 from the national bird atlas survey conducted by the BTO and its partners.

This is hugely different to the previous national winter atlas conducted between 1981 and 1984, when there was a grand total of one record. The little egret is now at home on numerous south coast sites, both as a breeding species and as a winter visitor. The population increase has been rapid, with over 750 pairs breeding in nearly 70 colonies in 2008.

They are colonial nesters, building near water, in trees and bushes or sometimes on rocks or cliffs. Colonies can range from a few nests up to a couple of thousand, usually in association with other herons, including the familiar grey heron.

Following the first breeding record in England in 1996, the first in Ireland was 1997, the first in Wales was 2002, but to date there is no confirmed breeding in Scotland. It is really a bit strange that birds breed in Lancashire and Northern Ireland, but not yet in Scotland - as far as is known.

Indeed Mark Holling of the Rare Breeding Birds Panel has put out a plea for any information on possible breeding of little egret

in Scotland. The expansion continues and it can only be a matter of time before it is widespread in coastal and inland water habitats in Scotland, including Arran.

Enjoy your birding

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or email me

at [jim@arranbirding.co.uk](mailto:jim@arranbirding.co.uk) I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Atlas 2007-2012 as well as the Arran Bird Report 2016 and visit this website [www.arranbirding.co.uk](http://www.arranbirding.co.uk)

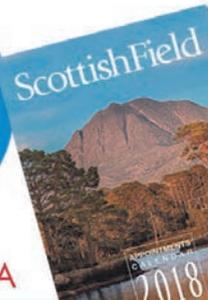
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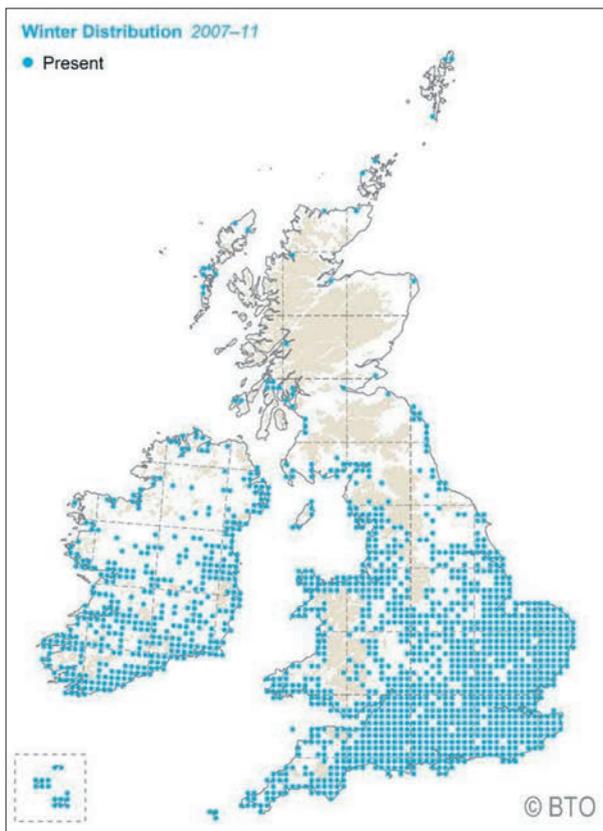
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WYVEX MEDIA



Little egret winter distribution between 2007 to 2011 from the national bird atlas survey conducted by the BTO and its partners.

# THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday September 20, 1997

## Non-ordained moderator

The Church of Scotland has recently allowed that a moderator of a presbytery need not be an ordained minister and one of the first non-ordained moderators is an Arran man. Ian Kerr, who was mostly brought up in Lochranza and still has a house there, has been appointed moderator of the Presbytery of Kincardine and Deeside.

An elder for 30 years Mr Kerr has now retired from a career as a teacher and educational administrator. He is presently studying for a degree in divinity. His first task as moderator will be to keep the presbytery in order, a task which, as was seen in the recent disagreements over the Lam-lash Church refurbishment, can require a firm and fair hand. His presbytery clerk, retired minister Ian Brown, is also a man with Lochranza connections.

## Highest Bidder

Arnhall in Whiting bay has a new owner but the Arran Outdoor Education resource

does not have a new home. Arnhall has been used as an outdoor education centre by Save the Children Fund for many years now.

It was expected that North Ayrshire Council, whose homeless outdoor education unit under Nigel Marshall is becoming a model for other local authorities, would take it over. Instead it goes to a private buyer to become a family residence.

With a closing date of last Friday and an asking price of £185,000 there were two offers, North Ayrshire and the eventual private buyer. Impassioned pleas had been made that the building, which is already adapted for educational use, would remain in public hands.

Said Mr Brown of DTZ Debenham Thorpe, the agency handling the sale: 'Clearly it would of been nice if North Ayrshire had been able to acquire it, but Save The Children Fund are obliged as a charity to ensure the open market price.'

## Dressed for success

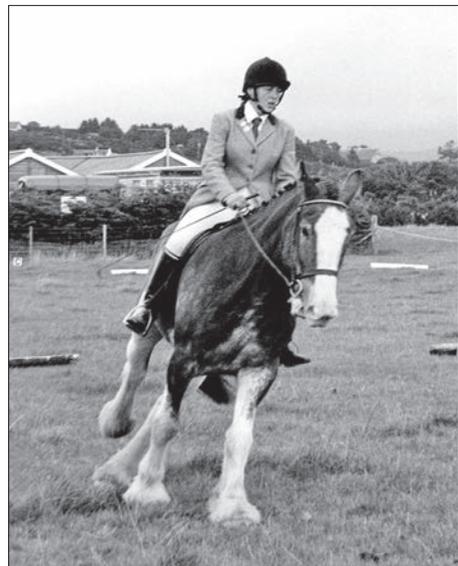
The start of the school year for 98/99 will see the introduction of a school dress code, a pupil-friendly word for uniform. This could at the moment range from anything from just having to wear black and white clothes, all the way through the spectrum to full blown blazer and shirt. At the moment Rector Ian Murray is suggesting a happy medium with a sweatshirt and possibly a polo shirt but this is still to be confirmed and discussed by all concerned.

The controversial issue of school uniforms has raged on for many years and some pupils are horrified by the idea of a dress code but most of the arguments are heavily weighted against the Campaign for Freedom of Clothing.

It used to be said that uniform was too expensive but this has fallen flat on its face after it became unacceptable to wear anything without a designer label. But whatever the parents or teachers think, North Ayrshire has made up its mind on the issue and like it or not, a dress code will be introduced.



David Hedley hands over a cheque for £1380 that he raised for the Arran Brass Band by cycling around the island and playing his euphonium in every village. 01\_B37twe01



Benjy and rider, Jenny Tod, go through their paces for the dressage competition at the Cairnhouse Riding Centre last Sunday.

01\_B37twe03

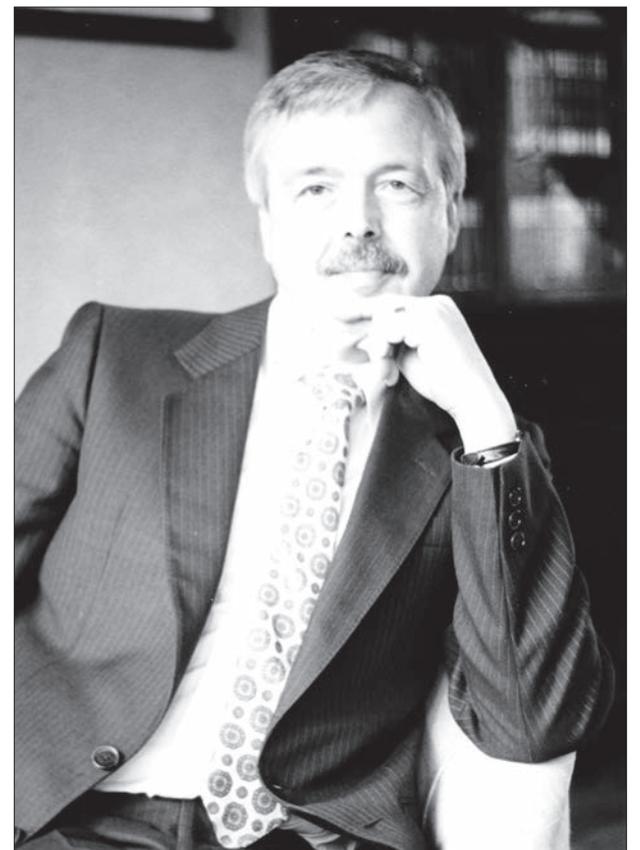


Attendees gather on their horses for a Combined Training Day at the Cairnhouse Riding Centre which saw Moira MacAlister and Jenny Campbell taking the top awards.

01\_B37twe02



Linda Johnston took the trophy for the Arran Ladies Golf Union Island Championship last Monday where Catherine McIntyre of Corrie took the runner up position. 01\_B37twe05



Head teacher Ian Murray is to leave Arran High School for Lanark Grammar School. Thus for the second time in just over three years a new rector is being advertised to fill the position. 01\_B37twe04

# Trade Classifieds

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# Classifieds

## UNDER £50

Folding guest bed (good mattress) £25; Relaxer/reflexology chair £15; Truckle trolley (goes up steps) hardly used £20; 2 x conservatory type chairs £20; Bagtelle Board (wooden) large £20. Tel: 700786.

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Chill display cabinet with roller blind, free to uplift. Telephone 01770 302141.

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**BANNER**

Tel: 01770 302142  
www.arranbanner.co.uk



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TURN YOUR UNWANTED ITEMS INTO CASH!



Simply complete the form and return to the  
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**PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE TUESDAY 4.00pm**  
NO MORE THAN 25 WORDS PLEASE

ITEM.....

DESCRIPTION.....

.....

.....

PRICE..... TELEPHONE.....

### ONLY ONE ITEM PER COUPON

The Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8AJ  
Tel: 01770 302142 Fax: 01770 302021  
Email adverts@arranbanner.co.uk www.arranbanner.co.uk

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**ARRAN  
AROMATICS**

**SCOTLAND**

**Job Vacancies**

**Permanent and Temporary  
Line Operatives**

Due to an uplift in orders we have several vacancies both for permanent and Temporary Line Operatives to join our busy production team 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](mailto: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

## Job Opportunity with North Ayrshire Council

Gardener | NAY02950 | 1 Vacancy  
42 hrs per week | £8.51-£8.62 per hour

Council Offices, Shore Road, Lamlash,  
Isle of Arran, KA27 8JY

Closing date: 23 September 2017

For further details and to apply visit  
[www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/councils/north-ayrshire-council](http://www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/councils/north-ayrshire-council)



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We are an equal opportunities employer so please inform us of any special needs you may have.

## THE ARRAN CHOCOLATE FACTORY LTD

We are looking for an enthusiastic trainee chocolate maker. The applicant should be able to demonstrate an aptitude and willingness to learn an interesting, varied and skilled job. We offer full training, a great working environment and good conditions.

The job is full or part-time and occasional weekend work will be required.

Please Apply to: **James McChlery**  
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Invercloy, Brodick KA27 8AJ  
**01770 302 873**

email: [james@jamesofarran.com](mailto:james@jamesofarran.com)

## Job Opportunity with North Ayrshire Council

Gravedigger | NAY02932 | 1 Vacancy  
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Isle of Arran, KA27 8JY

Closing date: 25 September 2017

For further details and to apply visit  
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We are an equal opportunities employer so please inform us of any special needs you may have.

## HOUSEKEEPER

Machrie/Pirnmill area

For large holiday house changeovers

Mainly Sundays 4-6 hours

Would suit 1 or 2 people, own transport  
required

Great rate of pay

Call: 07710 405334 or 01506 881688

## Stagecoach School Bus Driver Arran Depot

We're currently looking for a School Bus Driver for our Arran Depot. A part time position you will be required to work between 15 - 20 hours per week. Full training will be provided.

Contact: **Guy Bodie, Operations Manager**  
Email: [guy.bodie@stagecoachbus.com](mailto:guy.bodie@stagecoachbus.com)  
Phone: 01770 302000

## LOOKING FOR NEW STAFF?

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Tel: 01770 302142  
[www.arranbanner.co.uk](http://www.arranbanner.co.uk)

## Public Notices

### Kilbride Benevolent Fund Annual General Meeting

To be held in Whiting Bay Church Hall  
at 7.30pm on

**Thursday 28th September 2017**

All are welcome to attend

Scottish Charity No SC001184

## Property



### Thinking of renting your property?

Rent confidently with  
The Arran Letting Company.

Spacious room to let within a modernised property on the outskirts of Lamlash. Ideal for professional person, references required £100 per week inclusive of bills.

#### Have a spare room?

Let it earn you £7,500 a year tax free.

Our rent a room service will match you with the right tenant.

For a no obligation quote please call **Caroline Hester** on  
01770 499101 E: [rentals@arranletting.com](mailto:rentals@arranletting.com) W: [www.arranletting.com](http://www.arranletting.com)

### We are looking for accommodation preferably in the Lamlash area.

I will be starting work on the 18th of September and I am looking for accommodation for the next two years.

Can anyone please help or advise?

Contact [carolannechance@gmail.com](mailto:carolannechance@gmail.com) or  
**07519949622**

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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 17th September**

Lochranza Church, 9.30am

Morning Worship.

Pirnmill Church, 10.45am

Morning Worship.

Shiskine Church, 12noon

Morning Worship.

Brodick Church, 10.30am

Corrie Church, 11.30am

Prayer Meeting, 12noon.

There will 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, 17th September**

Holy Communion, 11am. Rev

Barry Roberts, Macclesfield.

Coffee after service.

**Wednesday 20th September**

"Pop-up" service, Lochranza

Hotel, 12.00 noon.

ALL WELCOME

**Arran Free Church of Scotland**

(continuing)

**Sunday 17th September**

Morning Service 11am

Trust Housing Lounge, Glen

Estate, Brodick

Evening Service 6.30pm

5 Glen Road, Brodick

All welcome

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Kilmory linked with Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim ~ a

fellowship to share"

**Sunday 17th September**

Rev Lily McKinnon

Kilmory 10 am

Lamlash 11.30 am

All welcome, including

families; children's area

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**Sunday 17th September**

Vigil Mass 7.30pm

Sunday Mass 11am

**BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(Charity Number: SC014005)

**Sunday 17th September**

Worship will be conducted by

the minister, Rev Elizabeth

Watson at 10.30am.

Tea and coffee will be served

in the transept immediately

after the service.

There will be a service in

Cooredoon at 2.30pm to

which all friends are invited.

**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings

**Sunday 17th September**

Service 11am

Ormidale Pavilion

Tea and coffee after

the service

Wednesday at 7.30pm Home

fellowship group for bible

study and prayer.

Contact phone no 600222

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Shiskine 11am (church on

road between Blackwaterfoot

and Machrie) Brodick 6pm

Rev Benjamin Van Rensburg

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS**

Quakers meet every Sunday at

11am. For meeting venue ring

- 830622, 820223

**DEATH**

**BOWLES - Amanda.**

Mandy died suddenly at home in

Cambridge on 4th September.

Survived by her heartbroken

parents Daniel and Jenny,

sister Rachel and son Ussi.

Funeral in Cambridge on

Friday 15th September.

**SERVICE**

**WALL - A service to celebrate**

the life of Tony will be

held on Saturday the 30th

September at 2pm at Whiting

Bay and Kildonan Church and

afterwards at Lamlash Golf

Club - all welcome.

**BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
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**Brodick Golf Club**

Wednesday September 6,  
Summer Cup, 34 played,  
CSS 67, RO. Iain Pittman  
74-12=62, Don Rudge 87-  
21=66, Brian Smith 81-  
13=68, ACB. Scratch, Iain  
MacDonald 73. Summer  
Cup, final results, best five  
round totals. Greg Mc-  
Crae 311, three players on  
312, Gordon Hendry, Iain  
Keen, Iain MacDonald.  
Scratch Jug, Ewan McK-  
innon 324, Greg McCrae  
336, Gordon Hendry 338.  
Elliott Summer Eclectic,  
Gordon Hendry and Greg  
McCrae 48, Matt Keir 49.  
Jinty, number of 2s, Greg  
McCrae 13, Bruce Jenkins  
11, Matt Dobson 9. Senior  
Club Championship final,  
Iain MacDonald beat Derek  
Roxburgh. Iain's first Sen-  
ior Championship win pre-  
vents Derek from achieving  
his hat-trick, at least for the  
time being.

Fixtures: Sunday Sep-  
tember 17, John Gemmell  
Shield, 3 club. Sunday Sep-  
tember 24, September's  
Brandon Qualifier will now  
be played in conjunction  
with the Winter Cup round.

Ladies' section: Tues-  
day September 5, Sep-  
tember Medal, 10 played,  
CSS 70 RO. 1 silver, Susan  
Butchard 82-9=73, 2 Iso-  
bel MacDonald 94-18=76.  
1 bronze, Pat Adamson.

**Lamlash Golf Club**

Ladies' Section: Wednes-  
day September 6, Fleet 6,  
CSS 65, PAR 65, 8 played.  
1 Sheena Murchie 82-  
15=67, 2 Jenny Pattenden  
101-31=70. Scratch, Shee-  
na 82.

Fixtures: Saturday Sep-  
tember 16, AGA Seniors  
Handicap at Brodick at  
1pm. Sunday September  
17, Scratch Cup Final at  
8.30am, 9.30am and  
12.30pm. Thursday Sep-  
tember 21, Summer Cup.  
Make up own games, see  
starter for times. Friday  
September 22, Seniors  
Open, Yellow tees Stable-  
ford. See starter for times.

**Whiting Bay Golf Club**

Wednesday September 6,  
The Bannatyne Cup. In all  
13 played on a day when  
the weather description,  
unsettled, was very much



Brodick Golf Club.

an understatement. For  
most of the day it looked  
as if the four morning start-  
ers might be the only play-  
ers but evening brought out  
nine hardy souls to make  
up the field. CSS stayed  
at 63 and was bettered or  
matched by the top five  
players. Top of that select  
heap was Pete Towndrow  
with an impressive nett 60.  
1 Peter Towndrow 12, 60,  
2 Kevin McAleeny 12, 61, 3  
Ronnie Mann 13, 63, ACB,  
4 Gus Macleod 12, 63,  
ACB. There were no mag-  
ic twos.

Fixtures: Saturday Sep-  
tember 16, AGA Seniors  
Handicap, 1pm at Brodick  
Golf Club. Sunday Sep-  
tember 17, Sweep, yellow  
tees. Wednesday Septem-  
ber 20, Stableford.

**Machrie Bay Golf Club**

Tuesday September 5, Sep-  
tember Medal, CSS 65. 1 B  
Sherwood 80-14=66, 2 W  
Kelso 76-9=67, 3 R Woods  
88-17=71.

Fixture: Tuesday Septem-  
ber 19, September Medal,  
12.30pm.

**Corrie Golf Club**

Fixtures: Saturday Septem-  
ber 16, AGA Seniors Hand-  
icap at Brodick Golf Club  
from 1pm. Saturday Sep-  
tember 23, Corrie Open  
from 9am.

**Arran Golfers Association**

The autumn meeting of the

AGA held in Brodick Golf  
club on Thursday August  
31 determined that three  
of the annual competitions  
would be dropped from the  
rota including The Arran  
Grouse. The trophies are  
to be retained at the venue  
club.

The Grouse, which began  
in 2004, had its final outing  
at Lamlash Golf Club on  
Saturday September 9 with  
all clubs represented apart  
from Corrie and Lochranza  
Castle. The average score

returned was 78.3, rather  
high considering the com-  
petitors complimented the  
condition of the course af-  
ter the rain of the previous  
two days.

Winner of the Grouse,  
Lamlash A team - Q J  
Young and J O'Sullivan  
with a net 69. Runners up,  
Machrie Bay B team - C  
Laing and P Betley with a  
net 71.

Fixture: Saturday Sep-  
tember 16, AGA Seniors,  
Brodick Golf Club at 1pm.

**Arran bridge results**

The results of the Arran Bridge Club match points  
competition played at Lamlash on Monday Septem-  
ber 11 were as follows: 1 Brenda Livingstone and  
Pat Adamson, 2 John Baraclough and Doug Chase, 2  
Giorsla Kroner and John Dick, 4 Margaret and Doug-  
las Bruce.

**Corrie Golf Club**

Once again we are offering a

**Winter Membership**

for the period

**1st Oct 2017 - 31st March 2018**

at a fee of £30

Application forms can be obtained at the  
Club House or by contacting the  
secretary J. Rudd at the following  
address

65 Murray Cresc, Lamlash,  
Isle of Arran Ka27 8NS

# Tough opposition for the coastal rowing club

Arran Coastal Rowing Club, (ACRC) took part in the Royal West of Scotland Amateur Boat Club Regatta in Greenock last Saturday, where they secured a well-deserved third place overall.

Given the quality of the other participants – very strong and well established clubs such as St Ayles Anstruther, North Berwick, Firth of Clyde Coastal Rowing Club in Largs and the hosts – Arran knew it was going to be a challenging competition.

Over the course of the day there were 10 races in a variety of categories – open, 40+ and 50+ for women, men and mixed crews as well as one for juniors. The time trial format of the races was also new for ACRC.

Each crew started the races at two-minute intervals with a crew member collecting a baton at the starter's cabin at the top of the beach, sprinting down the slipway and jumping into the skiff waiting at the beach. The skiff then had to

be pushed off the beach by team members and turned by the crew to head for the first turning buoy of a triangular course of approximately 1,500m. At the end of the race one crew member had to jump out of the skiff, sprint up the beach and return the baton to the starter's cabin which stopped the clock. All very exciting for both rowers and spectators.

As always there was plenty of opportunity between the races to socialise with rowers from the other clubs, make new friends and catch up with old ones, exchange tips and tricks and enjoy the warm hospitality of the host club. ACRC was delighted to welcome four relatively new rowers to their first regatta, all of whom did extremely well and enjoyed the day.

Despite being a bit chilly and drizzly the 13 ACRC rowers - five ladies and eight men - and their supporting shoremaster were very pleased at the end of



The Arran team at Largs.

the day. Overall the ACRC team came in joint third with Largs, only beaten by Anstruther and North Berwick, who are among the top east coast clubs. One of Arran's men's crews was only beaten by one second and the 50+ women's crew, made up with a North Berwick rower, won their race and secured some well deserved medals for the club. All in all an excellent result for ACRC, especially given the fact that they were unable to take part in the first race of the day due to the ferry limiting their arrival time.

The next regatta for ACRC is coming up soon, which is the Cumbrae Folk'n'Row Regatta on the weekend of August 12 and



There was stiff competition at the Largs regatta.

13. ACRC has grown significantly over the past 18 months and has a wide variety of members from all

over the island with ages ranging from 20 to 70. If anyone would like to give coastal rowing a try then

feel free to get in contact by email at [secretary@arrancoastalrowing.co.uk](mailto:secretary@arrancoastalrowing.co.uk).

Stuart Turner



Rowing to the start line.



The novice/freshers crew who won bronze are, from left: Colin Totty, Sarah Earney, Cecilia Paul, Ronnie McDonald, Stephen Brown.



The tug of war team who won silver, from left, Tracy Gibson, David Ingham, Gillian McLaughlin, Ronnie McDonald and Charlie Smith.



The 200m sprint rowing machine winners, from left, John Baraclough, Cecilia Paul, Stuart Turner and Gillian McLaughlin.

# Hockey ladies put up a brave fight in Glasgow



Mia Walker was nominated as dame of the game for her sterling efforts in goal.

**Clydesdale Western 5s** 4  
**Arran Ladies** 1

Arran Ladies hockey team travelled to Hutchesons' Grammar School in Glasgow last Saturday to play Milne Craig Clydesdale Western 5s, one of the two team's who were relegated down to the 3rd Division at the end of last season.

Arran had a depleted team of only 10 players and umpire Pauline Reid, but in true spirit of taking part in a sporting divisional league, chose still to go ahead with the match rather than conceding. Missing a few key players, credit should be given to Arran's young defender, Mia Walker, who offered to step into the goalkeepers kit for this match.

Team thanks and full credit should be given to young Mia, the dedicated defender, for stepping into the goalies pads at the 11th hour. Due to boat and traffic delays the team arrived too late for a warm up

and had to play the game straight off the coach. The opposition had a full squad of 16 players, with plenty of support and coaching from Scotland U21 Player, Frances Lonergan from the sidelines.

Clydesdale Western's opening attempt on goal was denied by first time goalie Mia. Arran's attacking force had many strong drives forward towards goal, being awarded three short corners in the first half, but Clydesdale's goalkeeper was a force to be reckoned with. Clydesdale met these attempts with their own breakthroughs, making Arran's defenders work frantically to clear the ball, they were organised and strong in their defence. Clydesdale's pressure paid off with a goal scored 20 minutes in, and then followed by a second just two minutes later. The resulting halftime scoreline was 2-0 to Clydesdale.

In the second half Arran pulled Abbie McKelvie

from center midfield, back into more of a center defensive position, to give defence more support. With still more attempts on goal by both teams, Clydesdale added two more goals to their scoreline before the final whistle blew. Arran did however manage a consolation goal out of sheer determination and fight from Lorraine Hewie, who finally managed to get a shot past MCCW's excellent goalie who was later awarded man of the match, due to her many spectacular saves.

The Arran defence, worked so well together and thwarted many attempts on goal, the girls in midfield made passes up the pitch and the forwards had over 20 shots on goal, either directly or returning a shot from rebounds off the goalies pads but the quality of Clydesdale Western defence and goalkeeping was certainly of a Division 2 level of play.

Captain Anne Watts said:

'It would have been a very different scoreline if we had had a full squad. It is hard to compete at this level if we cannot rally the troops and get at least 11 players on the pitch. Mia offering to step into the goalkeeper position at short notice and with no practice or experience is totally commendable. I think we all worked hard, it was difficult finding space on the pitch because we were a woman down. Clydesdale Western had a squad of 16, lots of substitutions for tired legs. All in all we did well to keep the score line down. So I say well done girls!'

The Arran Ladies were due to play in the first round of the West District League Cup today (Saturday) and had been drawn to play Hillhead 3s at Lower Windyknowe in Glasgow. However, they have been unable to put a team together so the game has been cancelled and they will have to concede the points.

## Swimmers ready for Lamlash Splash

Arran open water swimmers met for a final practise at Lamlash last week ahead of the Lamlash Splash which takes place today. (Saturday).

The 1.3-mile swim starts at 11.30am from the Holy Isle pontoon and the fastest swimmers can be expected back at Lamlash Pier by noon.

The event is limited to 40 places and there are 11 locals taking part this year: Mary Bowers, Ann Hart, Paul Hewie, Rory Hunter, Zabdi Keen, Georgina Maclean, Mike Mellor, Eric Milton, Heather Raeside, Glen Sloss and Jo Totty. Glen might have stiff competition for first local home with Rory participating this year.

Although a number of the swimmers consider the splash as a race, for many, just completing the swim is a challenge in itself.

The RNLI, Arran Sailing Club and kayakers will all be on the water supporting the swimmers on the day.

The Heather Queen Alys-sa McGarrie will present



The open water swimmers take to the water for a final practice.



Some of the local swimmers taking part in the splash.

the Ali Bodie Plate once all the swimmers are safely back.

Hopefully the weather and sea conditions will be as good as last year with the

opportunity for spectators to view this exciting challenge from Lamlash Pier.

# League and cup double for Brodick

Continued from page 28  
self in the book. The yellow card did not phase Babbies and he was on hand to hit the back of the net to put Brodick 3-0 up going into half-time. Brodick's Toby Wingham was booked just before half-time after a late challenge on Johnny Sloss. Lamlash came out from half-time and looked a better team as they managed to string some passes together and they were finally rewarded when James Todd flicked in a cross to make it 3-1.

Lamlash started to push more boys forward with

Danny Currie and Johnny Sloss making a lot of runs and trying to inspire their team mates.

This high risk style then led to Brodick being dangerous on the counter and it wasn't long before Archie started exploiting the gaps in the Lamlash defence. He scored twice in three minutes taking the score to 5-1 and killing the game off.

The goal of the game came as Toby picked the ball up in the middle of the pitch, beat two men before smashing the ball into the top corner of the goal off the inside of the post.

Lamlash were battered and bruised with a couple of their boys going down injured in the last couple of minutes before Danny Head sounded the final whistle.

Danny gave Archie man of the match. Despite a slow start Archie played his way into the game and was almost unstoppable with his runs up front.

The association would like to thank John Copperwheat for taking up the sponsorship of the cup and for being on hand to present the trophy to Brodick captain Matthew Dobson.



Brodick captain Matthew Dobson showers the jubilant winners with champagne. 01\_B37footy07



Sean Higgins drives the ball forward for his Lamlash team mates. 01\_B37footy04



Brodick goal scorer Babbies MacNeil tussles with the opposition to lay claim to the ball. 01\_B37footy03



Adam McNicol surveys the field before passing the ball. 01\_B37footy05

## Record prizemoney up for grabs at racing festival

It is one of the showpiece sporting events of the year in Ayrshire and a number of Arran residents will join the throngs who will make their way from all over the country to Ayr for the Gold Cup festival next weekend. Here we preview the event.

The 2017 William Hill Ayr Gold Cup Festival at Ayr Racecourse from Thursday September 21 to Saturday September 23 carries a record amount of prize-mon-

ey with £715,500 up for grabs.

The £200,000 William Hill Ayr Gold Cup run on the Saturday has attracted a stellar entry of leading

sprinters with a maximum field of 25 runners expected to go to post. Among those likely to contest the race are Saturday's Goodwood winner Johnny Barnes, trained by John Gosden, who is currently 14-1 clear second favourite with William Hill with Charlie Hills's Shanghai Glory, third in the Great St Wilfrid at Ripon earlier in the month, the favourite at 12-1.

A new Class 1 Listed race, The AlMaktoum Cup Arran Scottish Fillies' Sprint Stakes (Listed Race) over five and a half furlongs for three year olds and upwards will be run on William Hill Ayr Gold Cup Festival Ladies Day on Friday September 22 – the middle day of the three day meeting.

Other Friday highlights include the Shadwell Studs/EBF Stallions Harry Rose-

bery Stakes, a Class 1 Listed Race and the William Hill Ayr Bronze Cup.

The £65,000 William Hill Doonside Cup, another Class 1 Listed contest, run over one mile two furlongs is the feature race on Thursday while Scotland's only Group race – the Group 3 Firth Of Clyde Stakes is run on Saturday along with the William Hill Ayr Silver Cup.

All the leading trainers including John Gosden, Willie Haggas, Saeed bin Suroor, Richard Fahey and Roger Varian are likely to have runners and many of the country's top jockeys will be in action over the three days.

Tickets are selling fast and for more information go online at [www.ayrgoldcup.co.uk](http://www.ayrgoldcup.co.uk) or call 01292 264179.

# SPORT



**INSIDE THIS WEEK:**  
Swimmers ready for Lamlash Splash

# It's a knockout win for Brodick

**Brodick** 6  
**Lamlash** 1

Saturday afternoon saw the sun come out in Brodick for the finale of the Arran football season in front of a decent crowd at Ormidale Park.

Old rivals Brodick and Lamlash went head to head for the new-look Copperwheats Knockout Cup.

John Copperwheat has very generously taken on the sponsorship of the final competition of the year and provided a beautiful new trophy and plenty of refreshments for both teams.

Lamlash started the game missing two key players with Sam Tattersfield and Fraser Thomson unavailable. This paved the way for James Todd and Danny

Currie to make their Lamlash comebacks. Brodick had a strong team and were on a high after winning the league.

It didn't take long until Brodick went 1-0 up after Archie McNicol's shot was uncharacteristically spilled by David Heenan in the Lamlash goal. After 15 minutes it was 2-0 with centre midfielder Tony McDowall getting the goal.

Babbies MacNeil and Todd Jameson were having a heated battle anytime the ball came near them and Babbies was the first to overstep the mark and was given a yellow card for repeated fouling. Five minutes later Todd committed a professional foul on Babbies and also put him-

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John Copperwheat presents the new Knockout Cup to Brodick captain Matthew Dobson. 01\_B37footy06



Fancy footwork by Lamlash player Johnny Sloss sees him slip past his opponent. 01\_B37footy01

## Player of the year nominations

All the players in the league are currently voting for player of the year and young player of the year. They have to pick from the shortlist shown below. The results will be in next week's Banner.

### Player of the year shortlist

Matthew Dobson (Brodick)  
Archie McNicol (Brodick)  
Owen 'Pele' Quigley (Brodick)  
Andy Thomson (Brodick)  
Sean Higgins (Lamlash)  
Johnny Sloss (Lamlash)  
Ryan Armstrong (Southend)  
Fraser Gilbert (Southend)  
Gavin Gilbert (Southend)  
Danny Head (Southend)

### Young player of the year shortlist

Ross Dobson (Brodick)  
Luc El Adm (Lamlash)  
Dylan Smith (Lamlash)  
Cameron Logan (Northend)  
Cameron Thomson (Shiskine)  
Gregor Crichton (Southend)





## LAMLASH GARAGE

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Published by Wyvex Media, Brodick, Isle of Arran. Tel: 01770 302142, Fax: 01770 302021, Email: editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The Arran Banner's circulation is independently audited by the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC Ltd), www.abc.org.uk. The total average weekly net circulation for the 52 issues between 31 December 2014 and 31 December 2015 for combined print and digital editions was 3,053.