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**All smiles for Arran's primary ones**  
P1 photo spread inside this week

# Hunterston scrapyards sparks tourism fears

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

A coastal site in full view of Arran is bidding to become one of the UK's biggest oil and gas decommissioning facilities.

North Ayrshire Council has already given planning consent to Peel Ports for the decommissioning of oil rigs, offshore installations and large vessels at the former Hunterston Ore Terminal across the water near Fairlie.

Now known as the Hunterston Port and Resource Centre (PaRC) the massive site, which has lain dormant since it closed in 2016, has one of the biggest dry docks in the UK which its owners want to convert to scrap the growing number of redundant offshore oil and gas rigs.

However, some of these structures will be three times the size of any of the commercial shipping which uses the Firth of Clyde and

there are growing concern that the scrapage work could have a negative effect on tourism in Ayrshire and Arran.

The plan has already met stiff opposition on the mainland with more than 300 people attending the public consultation earlier this year to voice their discontent with the plans.

More than 2,000 people have also signed a petition calling for a full environmental impact assessment to take place on the effects that the plant would have on the surrounding area as well as marine life in the Firth of Clyde.

CessCon Decom, a Norwegian company established in 2016 and registered in the UK only since January 2018, has been contracted by Peel Ports to carry out the decommissioning. The company, which already has offices at the Hunterston PaRC site, plan to decommission

Continued on page two

## Arran's Blue Peter moment



Arran's Blue Peter moment. Representatives from all eight schools on Arran were delighted to meet top children's television presenters, Blue Peter's Lindsey Russell and Official Amazing's Ben Shires, along with Joshua Davidson the founder of Night Zookeeper, at the BAFTA Kids Roadshow held at Arran High School on Tuesday. See next week's Banner for a full report.

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# Tourism fears for Arran

Continued from page one

in excess of 200 rigs over a seven year period at various sites.

Opponent Rhona Cameron, who has lived in Fairlie since 2003, said: 'This is an area of unparalleled beauty and a mecca for tourists and outdoor enthusiasts. We have world renowned whisky distilleries, National Trust destinations, award-winning marinas in Cumrae, Troon, Arran, the Mull of Kintyre, which will all be threatened by these plans. These popular tourist destinations will also have their views blighted by oil rigs at least three times larger than any other vessels moving up and down the Clyde, and the effect on marine and plant life will be devastating.'

A local group of concerned

residents called Friends of the Firth of Clyde who are petitioning against the plans claim North Ayrshire Council passed the application without requesting an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), required by UK Environmental legislation to ensure all risks to the environment are considered before planning is even applied for.

Ron Gilchrist of the Friends group said: 'There simply has to be an EIA. There has been a manifest breach of the EIA legislation as the use of the site has changed since the previous environmental assessments. North Ayrshire Council and Scottish Natural Heritage both claim an EIA is not required, and clearly do not fully understand the full boundaries, nature and sensitivity of the



The CessCon Decom sign at the entrance to Hunterston PaRC.

SSSI site.'

Friends member and resident Ken Tully added: 'Our waters and habitat in the vicinity of the Clyde where they are planning this atrocity will be drastically affected by the nightmare

that is unfolding here, and who could believe it is with the council's blessing.'

Peel Ports still requires two licences from Marine Scotland for construction, as well as dredging and disposal before any

work could start at the site. West Scotland MSP Jamie Greene is to meet with Peel Ports to discuss the plans. He said: 'I've had a number of constituents email me and come to my office raising a lot of concerns

with what an oil rig decommissioning plant would mean for them.

'As the heart of our community, it's vital that their issues are addressed before any progress is made with this plan. It is right that an Environmental Impact Assessment is undertaken before any decision is made. Right now we do not know what impact these plans would have on our local environment, on tourism or for local residents.'

Earlier this year Gary Hodgson, Peel Ports' strategic projects director, said: 'With one of the largest dry docks in the UK and over 300 acres of development land, Hunterston PaRC is the ideal location to create a multi-modal decom campus which will lead to additional private sector investment and job opportunities.'



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## We will run new freight ferry if CalMac cannot

A determined group of businessmen are in the advanced stages of investigating the possibility of providing an alternative ferry service for Arran with the possibility of purchasing a third vessel on the main route for use by commercial traffic.

Residents and visitors have faced another difficult week of disruption due to the weather, and because the MV Isle of Arran still out of service and the MV Caledonian Isles is operating with a single ramp before going into dry dock.

The redeployment of the MV Hebridean Isles has helped and she will be in service along with the returning Caley Isles for the September weekend, with the Isle of Arran is due back on Monday.

However Scotslion Ferries Ltd – dissatisfied with the service provided by ferry operator CalMac and ferry owners CMAL – is looking into the feasibility of purchasing the MV Saturn in a bid to free up car space on the current

two ferries, offering a new freight-only service.

The consortium, which includes the new owners of the Sannox Bay Hotel, specialise in reopening empty shops, closed down hotels and rejuvenating defunct businesses, and while willing to undertake this massive challenge, has said it would prefer it if CMAL and CalMac purchased their own vessel and ran it efficiently themselves.

Russ McLean of Scotslion Ferries Ltd said: 'If CalMac senior management secure a third ship for Arran now, we believe they are best placed to operate such a vessel and help get the island's life-line ferry service off nautical life-support.'

'That should help remedy many of the outstanding concerns and worries about job losses on the island.'

'However, if the state-owned ferry operator continues to sail from crisis to chaos, then we will make best efforts to secure a third ship for Arran ourselves.'

Scotslion Ferries Ltd is

currently investigating possible vessels, with the MV Saturn near the top of the list owing to it being previously licensed and certified, and classed to operate the Ardrossan to Brodick route. Stating that the vessel is not ideal, the company says that after a refit she could certainly help alleviate the capacity issues until a longer term solution can be found.

The group behind the plan, then known as the Argyll Group plc, tried unsuccessfully to get permission to launch a ferry on the Arran route 14 years ago.

Scotslion Ferries Ltd is appealing for islanders, visitors, hauliers, island business, home owners and anyone else with an interest in this venture to get in touch via their website at <http://calmac-enigma.co.uk/>

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# Storm Ali packs a punch to wreak havoc on Arran

**Colin Smeeton**  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Arran took a battering from Storm Ali on Wednesday causing widespread disruption, causing roof damage, blowing down a number of trees and leading to power cuts and shops and businesses closing early.

The winds, which were gusting at up to 80mph, also disrupted travel as all ferries to Ardrossan and Arran were cancelled for the day as were the Lochranza sailings. Indeed all 28 routes across the entire CalMac network in Scotland experienced disruption or cancellations, and the few that did sail were placed on amber alert and were liable to cancellation at short notice.

Residents from villages in Whiting Bay, Shiskine, Lamlash and Corrie reported trees being blown over

with many blocking roads and off-road tracks.

Across the island North Ayrshire Council workers were kept busy clearing fallen trees with chainsaws and removing debris from the roads.

The Rodden Road in Shiskine was also completely blocked with five trees, which used to line the road, laying across it with a huge root system and surrounding soil exposed.

Brodick Country Park was closed owing to the high winds and concerns about the number of mature trees, many of them still in full foliage, that could potentially be brought down.

A number of big branches which had come down could be seen from the road, but a full assessment was still being carried out.

The ArCaS charity shop,

Bubbles car wash and a number of small businesses closed for the day owing to the storm.

Kildonan and Whiting Bay experienced power failures while throughout the island lights dimmed and flickered occasionally but for the majority did not go out completely.

The western side of the island did not go unscathed with large waves battering Blackwaterfoot and spraying the nearby buildings with sea foam whipped up by the fierce seas.

Torrential rain bucketed down on a few occasions but it was not sustained and there were even periods of brightness with sunshine punctuating the gusting winds.

Storm Ali, the first autumn storm of the season, was felt across central and southern Scotland with Northern Ireland most badly affected, where 55,000 homes were left without power and many public facilities closed.

The high winds and rain continued through the day and eased off into the evening and by Thursday morning all that remained of it was the evidence of broken branches and leaves littered on the ground.



Workmen use chainsaws and electric blowers to clear the road in Shiskine. 01\_B38storm02



Five large trees blocked the Rodden Road after a huge clump was toppled. 01\_B38storm01

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# New war memorial to be dedicated

One hundred years ago the First World War was nearing its conclusion after four long bloody years.

It is estimated that about 35 million soldiers and civilians died in the war, around 800,000 of who were British. It is difficult to comprehend losses on such a scale, but each one of those people had a home, family, friends and a life story.

Nearly every town and village in the country lost someone and these losses are recorded on the countless World War 1 memorials standing in tribute to a lost generation. Arran suffered the loss of around 100 men. Most of their names are recorded on the memorials dotted round the island most notably at the Ar-

A WWI memorial has been locally commissioned and installed in the memorial garden in Pirmill



The new WWI memorial at Pirmill.

that made the ultimate sacrifice. John Craig, James McCorma(i)ck, James Thomson, John Stevenson, Robert Skillen, Archibald McMillan and brothers Duncan and Ronald Robertson. The stories of these men will be told in a public talk at Pirmill Village Hall on Thursday September 27 at 7.30pm.

At noon on Saturday September 29 the new memorial will be dedicated in a service led by Rev Angus Adamson. The service is open to everyone and a bus will run from Brodick Ferry Terminal leaving at 11am returning by 3pm. Please contact Fiona Laing on 850216 to reserve a place. Please note parking within the vicinity of the memorial is limited. The service will be followed by tea and sandwiches.

The men may have died more than 100 years ago but the talk and dedication service will be a chance to commemorate them in their home village where their names will now rightly live forevermore.

ran War Memorial Hospital built in honour of these men and which is still at the heart of the community.

Not all the villages managed to erect their own memorials though, Pirmill being one.

Today Pirmill has a WWII memorial, but no memorial to the men from the area who died in the First World War. The ad-

dition of a WWI memorial was first proposed about eight years ago, and efforts have been on-going since then to raise the money to have one erected.

As a result of these efforts a WWI memorial has been locally commissioned and installed in the memorial garden. The memorial bears the names of eight men from the parish

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The rescue team carry the injured woman to the awaiting rescue helicopter.  
Photograph courtesy Arran Mountain Rescue Team

# Casualty is airlifted by helicopter

An injured female walker had to be airlifted off Goatfell last Wednesday after she fell.

Upon receiving the call shortly after 4pm, the Arran Mountain Rescue Team, with time being an important factor, raced to the scene using its two Argocats.

After locating the woman, who had fallen while descending the mountain, she

was assessed and the decision was made to evacuate her by helicopter.

The injured woman was made comfortable in the team stretcher and carried to a suitable place to transfer her to the helicopter, Rescue 199, for uplift to hospital.

A spokeswoman from the AMRT said: 'A big thanks to all involved and we wish the casualty a speedy recovery.'

# Two rescued by lifeboat from capsized dinghy

Two sailors were taken to hospital after their dingy capsized off Holy Isle last Saturday.

The volunteer crew of the Arran RNLI were called away from assisting at the annual Lamlash Splash event to rush to the distressed crew of a small dinghy which had capsized near Pillar Rock lighthouse on Holy Isle.

The crew were first alerted when they overheard radio communications from the Fisheries Support Vessel Minna which had spotted an overturned dinghy south of Holy Isle.

The lifeboat crew were soon tasked by UK Coastguard and made their way on scene using the speed of the Atlantic 85 inshore lifeboat. Arriving, the volunteers worked with the crew from the FSV Minna who

were also assisting in their RHIB.

After assessing the sailors it was decided that they would be brought back to Lamlash to an awaiting ambulance team.

The Arran RNLI crew then returned to the scene to right and recover the upturned dinghy and towed it into Lamlash bay.

It was the first callout for new crew member Rita Nemcsényi, who said: 'Today showed us that even mild weather conditions deemed mild can leave sailors in a very vulnerable position. Sheer luck can't be relied on when out at sea, so it's very important to keep a means of calling for help close at hand.'



RNLI crew attend the capsized dinghy near Holy Isle.  
Photograph courtesy Arran RNLI

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## Joining biggest coffee morning

Arran is joining in the World's Biggest Coffee Morning held every year by Macmillan Cancer Support.

Cafe Rosaburn in Brodick will host a coffee morning on Friday September 28 from 9am to 11am. All money raised on the day will be donated to Macmillan and go towards its amazing work supporting people and their families who are facing cancer. Lots of lovely bakes will be available and there will also be some fun activities on the day.

### Talk to us

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

## New visitor centre opens

The Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) is once again demonstrating its pioneering spirit with the opening of its – and Scotland's first – Marine Protected Area visitor centre.

Taking place today (Saturday) between 1.30pm and 4pm at the Old Pavilion in Lamlash, the official opening ceremony will be between 2pm and 3pm with various other activities planned throughout the day.

Named the Octopus Centre, the opening will also coincide with the 10th anniversary of the iconic Lamlash Bay's No Take Zone.

# Crackdown on Arran gull feeding menace

People caught feeding gulls have been warned they could be hit with a fine.

North Ayrshire Council says it is taking action in a bid to tackle the problem which is blighting seaside towns across Arran.

Signs have gone up in villages around the island, as well as on the mainland, warning people that they could be hit with a fixed penalty notice of £80 by council enforcement officers.

While there is no specific legislation to deal with those feeding gulls, the council is looking at littering and anti-social behaviour policies that are already in place.

A council spokesman said: 'The biggest single reason behind the gull problem is people feeding them.'

'They might think they are being kind, but they are not being kind.'

'They are exacerbating a problem which can have a really negative experience



One of the signs which has been put up in Brodick. 01\_B38gull01

for people visiting or living in our seaside towns.

'We have used social media, press and signs along the seafront to try and get the message out there that it's unacceptable to feed the birds.'

'Now we feel we have to take stronger action.'

'We think this is some-

thing that will be supported by the majority of people.'

'From a legal standpoint, we think feeding gulls could quite conceivably be seen as anti-social behaviour.'

'Feeding them is actually resulting in the aggressive behaviour of gulls as they then expect to be fed and

swoop down on people.

'We could also look at it as littering and, like anyone else caught littering, we would issue a fine.'

When the council introduced its litter, fly tipping and dog fouling prevention strategy it adopted a three Es approach - educate, enable, and enforce.

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# Another milestone at Lagg



Master Distiller James MacTaggart and colleagues were on site to welcome the stills which will now be installed in preparation for a commissioning phase.

Isle of Arran Distillers, owner of the Lagg Distillery in Kilmory, can add the arrival of its custom made pot stills to its rapidly growing list of milestones reached towards completing its new £10 million distillery.

With the external structure completed, the floors laid and the roof almost complete, the building is rapidly taking shape with exterior walls and internal structures well on their way towards being completed.

Windows are also starting to be added to the building signifying a move towards the second fix stage of construction where the building can be made watertight and internal works can get underway.

### Welcomed

As reported recently in the Banner, the copper pot stills have arrived on Arran and were transported to the site where master distiller James MacTaggart, distillery manager Graham Omand and visitor cen-



The large copper pot stills arrive on site at the new Lagg Distillery. Inset: A number of windows can already be seen during the construction of the Lagg Distillery in Kilmory.

tre manager Faye Waterlow welcomed their arrival. They will be able to produce 200,000 litres of alcohol within the first year.

The two stills are custom made and designed to produce a heavier, earthier spirit that will form the nature of the peated alcohol which is expected to retain the staple flavours of an Arran-produced malt.

The stills were produced by world-renowned still maker Forsyths Ltd which is based in Moray. The

wash still has a capacity of 10,000 litres and the spirit still a capacity of 7,000 litres.

### Milestone

In addition to the arrival of the stills a further milestone has been reached with the completion of the three Lagg warehouses which will allow for the initial and ongoing storage of casks.

A distillers spokeswoman said: 'Milestones such as these serve to remind us that we are on the right

tracks and that our Lagg Distillery really is coming to life more and more each day. As a team, we are more excited than ever at the opportunities which our new distillery affords and we look forward to the day we can invite you all to join us for a dram at our new Lagg Distillery and Visitor Centre.'

The Lagg Distillery and Visitor Centre is expected to open next spring with the first casks being filled in the first quarter of 2019.

# Arran products are the pride of Scotland

Arran continues to lead the way in food and drink, MSP Jamie Greene has said.

The West Scotland MSP made the comments after he met with representatives from the Isle of Arran Distillers at the Scottish Parliament's whisky reception and shared a wee dram.

Mr Greene highlighted how impressed he was

with the sheer quality of the whisky and said that it was another example of a small island community leading the world with its phenomenal food and drink industry.

### Notable

Praising not only Arran whisky, he also made mention of other notable Arran-based producers in-

cluding Arran Dairies, the Island Cheese Company, Wooleys of Arran, James of Arran and the Bellevue Creamery, which won the 2017 best cheese in Scotland award at the World Cheese Awards.

Mr Greene said that Arran once again showed itself as the pride of Scotland and said more should be done to help support island residents in producing food and drink so that Arran could be showcased to the world as a leader in delicious produce.

He said: 'It was great to welcome the Isle of Arran Distillers to the Scottish Parliament and try a wee dram of its phenomenal whisky.'

'It's all too easy to write off small island communities, but Arran has once again proved itself to be a world leader in agricultural produce. Whether its Arran distillery, James of Arran chocolates, Bellevue creamy cheese, Wooleys' baked foods or the Island Cheese Company. We punch above our weight time and time again.'



West Scotland MSP Jamie Greene enjoys a dram with Isle of Arran Distillers brand manager Corrie Morland.

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## Editorial

### Scrapyard wars

It is not without good reason we think it is time Arran took more interest in what is happening across the water at Hunterston.

Make no mistake, our old friends Peel Ports have every intention of trying to turn the old Hunterston Ore Terminal into one of the biggest oil and gas decommissioning sites in the UK.

And commercially it is easy to see why. They have a huge mothballed facility which can accommodate these huge structures and there is an ever-growing market for those needing to be scrapped.

It is also easy to see why the proposal has met with such fierce opposition.

Tourism is a mainstay industry on both sides of the Firth of Clyde and anything that could impact on that has to be a serious cause for concern.

Then there is the varied sealife for which the stretch of water is home. The seafront location is also immediately adjacent to a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Planners have already given the proposals their blessing, but it is vital that before this goes any further that an environmental impact assessment is ordered to evaluate all the risks involved.

We await developments with interest.

#### Thought for the week

'I sought the Lord, and he answered me; he delivered me from all my fears. Those who look to him are radiant; their faces are never covered with shame.'

Psalm 34:4

## Government failure

*This is a copy of a letter sent to Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson*

Sir,  
The integrity of the ferry services to Arran are being seriously tested and found wanting. Agreed that the confluence of the second breakdown of the Isle of Arran and the injury to the Caledonian Isles is unfortunate, to say the least, but there are few if any back-up vessels to take over and the fleet is old and creaking.

I put this to you. The Scottish Government, of which you are a member, owns CalMac and is responsible for commissioning new vessels for lifeline services to the islands.

It is a nationalised concern and your government is responsible for this failure to provide a service that is fit for the 21st century.

Yours,  
**John Cruickshank,**  
Whiting Bay.

## Arran appreciation

Sir,  
I would like to thank the kind people in Brodick who were so nice to my 21-year-old grandson Alistair Devine, who is lovely and has autism. My daughter had rented a bungalow for a week. From the lady at Red Door, who sold tablet, to the local paper shop, everyone was lovely.

If they could afford it, they would love to stay on Arran. My daughter is a nursery teacher and that would be a dream. The weather was great. They went horse riding, visited Brodick Castle and Kings Cave.

I myself (gran) went to Thunderguy at Pirmill to Dan and Effie Currie when I was young. I am now 76,



## Yacht beached in Lamlash

This is the dramatic moment reader Stephen Sparshott caught on camera after the yacht Stargazer broke her moorings last weekend and ended up beached just feet from his home in Lamlash. The boat, which is owned by four Arran sailors, will require to travel to Troon for repairs.

and have passed on my love for Arran to my own family. Now all three grandsons, including Alistair, have climbed Goatfell.

If maybe anyone of Alistair's age with autism would like to get in touch, his family and Alistair would welcome that.

Yours,  
**Rhona Parker,**  
Glasgow.

## CalMac is working hard

Sir,  
I appreciate the points that Russ MacLean and other recent correspondents have been making about the reliability of the ferry service to Arran over the past month, and understand how frustrating this must be for communities and local businesses.

Before addressing the issues he raises, I would like to thank him for recognising the efforts of our staff, and to reassure everyone on the island we are working at maximum effort to maintain services. I would also like to acknowledge his previous letter of August 25 and the points he outlines so clearly in that.

The growing popularity of ferry travel is in no doubt. Between 2012 and 2017, the number of cars

carried has grown by 37% to 1.43m per year and passenger numbers have risen by 17% to 5.2 million per year across the network.

While this is very positive news for island economies, it is unquestionably putting added strain on the resources we have to work with. The growth in traffic over the summer is also worth highlighting: from June to August we see a 20% increase in total passenger numbers.

Following the ferries plan, our major vessels are making many more sailings and are at full capacity. There is no flexibility or headroom in the timetable to deploy relief vessels in the event of technical breakdown.

For Arran, add in the delay of the Glen Sannox, which would have provided much needed capacity, as disappointing for us as the operator as it is for everyone else, and we are left to deploy all the energy and expertise we have to deliver the contract within the fleet assets we currently have.

However, apologies and excuses do not resolve the day-to-day problems people and businesses are experiencing. Action to address the issues being highlighted is what people rightly want to see.

We are working hard with

CMAL and Transport Scotland to put in place plans to satisfy the long-term ferry needs of the island. In the short term, the recently announced £3.5 million obsolescence fund by the Scottish Government will help improve speed of response to future technical issues, and we are carefully planning how and where best to use this.

We are also working to improve on-board maintenance of our vessels to increase their resilience with the introduction a new mobile maintenance team. This team will be able to respond quickly to any technical issues to reduce the need for vessels to be taken out of service.

I want to be as open and honest with the community about the issues we face and what we are doing about them as I possibly can. My team and I are in constant contact with the Arran Ferry Committee and at our next meeting I will be making an offer to attend a public meeting on the island to discuss the current challenges and what we are doing to meet them, if they think the community would find that useful.

Yours,  
**Robbie Drummond,**  
managing director,  
CalMac.

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However, we realise that mistakes happen from time to time. If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@arranbanner.co.uk; telephoning the chief reporter on 01770 302142 or write to the Group Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB. We will try to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter.

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Emailed letters can only be considered if they have a name, full address and phone number.

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We are open to accept all your deliveries large and small. A lot of companies won't deliver to Islands, why not use us as your mainland address and let us bring it to your home. We have all the national parcel companies and pallet networks calling in daily to our Parcelpoint. If you are ordering from a few different companies we can

hold it until all your goods have arrived and deliver it all together to your home. If you're needing special arrangements for your delivery we can help. Just let us know your requirements when you book in. Forklift on site for pallets and as well as our speedy parcel services, we offer a 2 man and tailift service throughout the Island.



# Brodick Bar & Brasserie launches Arran Wine Club

The Brodick Bar & Brasserie in collaboration with Alexander Wines is launching the Arran Wine Club. This will be an opportunity to buy wine at case prices directly from Alexander Wines but also to participate in a number of wine events, tastings etc. There will be no formal membership and the club will be open to all.

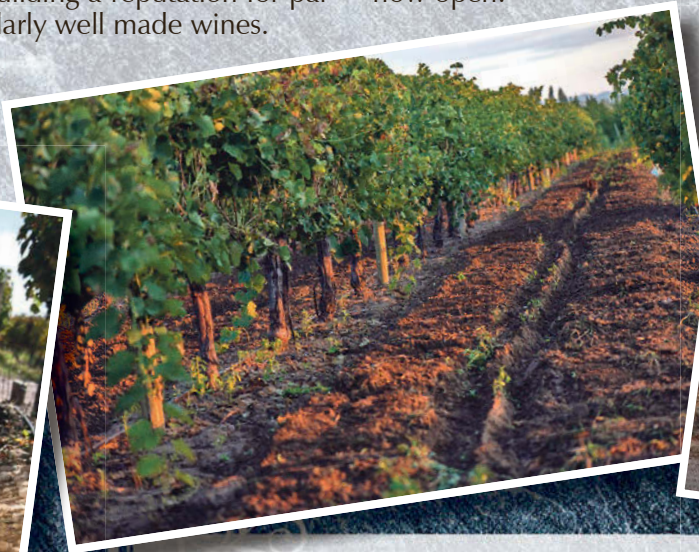
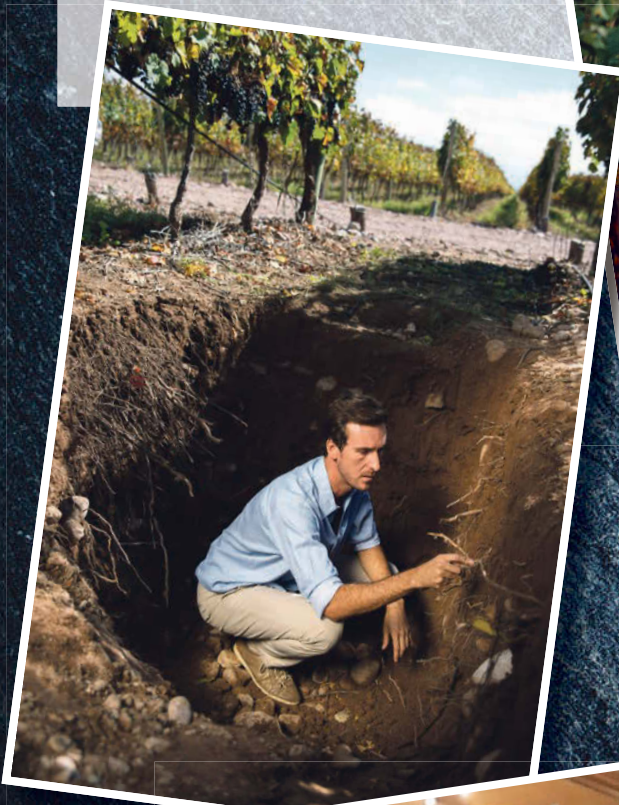
The inaugural event will be on Monday 1 October at 7.30pm in the Brodick Bar & Brasserie with a Wine Club

Dinner. The dinner will be a set menu with a different glass of wine with each course and will feature the wines of Santiago Mayorga from Cadus in the Mendoza region of Argentina. Cadus is a delightful winery in the shadow of the Andes, within the Uco Valley and this high altitude location is rapidly building a reputation for particularly well made wines.

The wines are made by Santi (young Wine maker of the Year 2017) and he will be at the dinner and will speak about each wine. Santi will be introducing his wines, carefully paired with dishes created especially for the evening.

This promises to be a memorable event and booking is now open.

The cost of the dinner will be £40 and will include wine. A vegetarian option will be available.



## Menu

Aperitif with glass of Nieto white wine

Cullen Skink with glass of Cadus Chardonnay

Venison Bon Bons, Haggis with whisky sauce  
with glass of Verne Malbec

Blade of Beef with Bourguignon sauce with  
glass of Cadus Tupungato Cabernet Sauvignon  
or Cadus Chacayes Malbec

Choice of sweets

(Vegetarian option available)

£40 per person including wine.

Early booking advised to avoid disappointment.

Taxi arrangements obligatory!

To book telephone or drop in to the  
Brodick Bar & Brasserie.



# New Drift Inn mural in praise of local produce

A new mural at the Drift Inn in Lamlash has been causing quite a stir.

The mural on the gable end of the shorefront pub and bistro is proving an eye-catching invitation to explore just what the inn is offering by promoting local produce.

The mural by Whiting Bay artist David Aitcheson, which is Dutch in influence, portrays not only scenes of Arran but the vast array of local produce on offer inside.

The main section of the mural features Glenkiln Farm, home of Drift Inn owner Kenneth Bone, and its animals at the top and the view of Holy Isle from the Drift Inn at the bottom. In between is a feast of Arran meat, fish, fruits, wine and spirits. To the left is a selection of vegetables and to the right a seascape of everything fresh from the sea. The mural carries the slogan: Eat Local, Eat Fresh, Eat Responsible.

The mural is the brain-child of the inn's management team of Amy Rickard and Euan Henderson. Amy said: 'It was a bit of a tired wall and we just thought if we could brighten it up it might attract some more

passing trade, but we did not expect the reaction we have had.'

David took far longer to paint it than he had planned as he kept being stopped by interested passers-by. The mural has been photographed hundreds of times by patrons.

Euan added: 'We have commissioned Andy Surridge to produce a photograph of it for inside the bistro and we have been asked if postcards are available to buy which we are looking at.'

However, the whole point of it is to promote the ever-growing range of local produce available in the bistro and a glance at the menu shows how extensive that is.

There's steak and beef sausages from Glenkiln Farm itself, Skipness Smokehouse hot and cold smoked salmon and most of its other fish now is sourced through Tim James. Award winning Arran cheese including blue, brie, camembert and cheddar, Robin Gray's salad leaves, and vegetables from Woodside Arran organic farm in Kildonan. It also sells Wooleys oatcakes, Arran sauces and pickles and, of course, a



The finished mural on the gable wall of the Drift Inn.

01\_B38\_mural02

wide range of Arran Dairies ice cream. The caramelised lemon tart comes with Arran gin and tonic sorbet and of course there are also a range of Arran whiskies and local beer.

Amy said: 'The slogan on the mural is very much our philosophy. We try to use as much local produce as possible as the quality is exceptional and we want to continue to expand this. It is important that we support the community as it supports us.'



Artist David Aitcheson at work on the mural. 01\_B37mural01

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## COAST INVITES YOU

to the 10th Anniversary of the Lamlash Bay No Take Zone and the Official Opening of the Octopus Centre, Scotland's first MPA visitor centre, led by our community.



Inspirational words, open exhibition, music by Edinburgh Castle Chorus and Heather Macleod & Stuart Farrar, kayaking (with Arran Outdoor Education Centre), cake and refreshments.

**Saturday 22nd of September at 13:30**  
Old Pavilion, Lamlash  
Please rsvp to [email@arrancoast.com](mailto:email@arrancoast.com)

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# Rose Room will bring gypsy jazz to Arran

Music Arran, previously the Isle of Arran Music Society, presents another exciting concert in Whiting Bay Hall on Friday September 28 at 7.30pm.

If anyone was there in August to hear Swing 2018, Seonaid Aitken, who sang with them, is returning with well-known Jimmy Moon, performing with Rose Room.

Scottish Jazz Award finalists Rose Room have become one of Scotland's leading ensembles influenced by the gypsy jazz genre. Sharing a love of Swing music and the style of the great Django Reinhardt and Stephan Grapelli, their 'vigorous and vivacious' performances go 'down a storm' with audiences as they serve up their 1930s hot club standards, gypsy jazz favourites and self-penned originals, with virtuosity, verve and panache recreating the excitement of Rive Gauche Paris.



Rose Room who will be playing on Arran next Friday.

'Rose Room swing harder than an elm tree in a force nine English gale,' said Shetland News. 'The Hot-test ticket in Scotland right now,' said Jazz Scotland.

So if anyone missed award winning violin-

ist and sophisticated songstress Seonaid Aitken and Swing 2018 in August, here is the chance to hear her with Rose Room. If you were there, well you can't have too much of a good thing.

Bring a bottle and some

friends to Whiting Bay Hall and settle down for a great Friday night of music. Tickets from Inspirations or arranevents or on the door are £10, with children and young people at school, and an accompanying adult free.

## Brodick Bar & Brasserie

Alma Road, Brodick. 01770 302169

### Arran Musicians at The Brodick Bar

Friday 21 September 9pm

#### Fat Man & The Angel

subtle blend of percussion & the haunting sounds of Heather Macleod's electro harp

Every Tuesday at 9pm

#### Traditional Music Sessions - all welcome

Plus coming soon

Friday 12 October

#### RANT

The all girl Shetland fiddlers featured at Celtic Connections

## Screen Machine

Scotland's Mobile Cinema

Brodick, Auchrannie Hotel  
Fri 21 to Mon 24 September

**Incredibles 2** (PG) 125 mins

"It's a blast" Playlist 21/09 at 5.30pm, 22/09 at 2pm

**Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again** (PG) 114 mins

"How can you resist it?" Telegraph  
21/09 at 8.30pm, 22/09 at 5.30pm, 23/09 at 2pm, 24/09 at 5.30pm

**Mission: Impossible - Fallout** (12A) 147 mins  
22/09 at 8.30pm

**Films We Love: Cleo From 5 to 7** (PG) 90 mins

(£5 adults/£3 concs) French with English subtitles. "Pretty much a total joy" Screen Machine 23/09 at 5.30pm

**The Children Act** (12A) 105 mins

"tremendous central performance from Emma Thompson" Telegraph  
23/09 at 8.30pm

**Mary Shelley** (12A) 120 mins

Elle Fanning stars as the aspiring teenage writer. "ingelligent, probing, well-acted biopic" Independent 24/09 at 8.30pm

Before *Mamma Mia* we will screen a free photo presentation of work called *Brian Griffin: POP* which has been produced in collaboration with Street Level Photoworks Glasgow. Please arrive promptly to be sure of catching it.

Book at: [www.screenmachine.co.uk](http://www.screenmachine.co.uk). Tickets also at the cinema 30 mins before screenings. Cash, no cards. £7.50 Adults. Concessions £5.50



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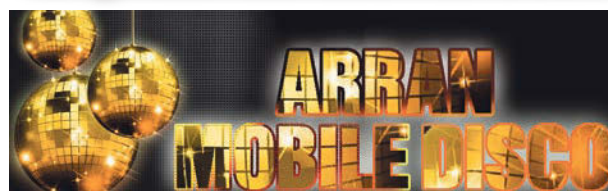


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Arranmobiledisco



# Bumper year for Arran



The six new P1s at Shiskine. 01\_B38school07

**Words and pictures**  
**Colin Smeeton**

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A total of 40 P1 pupils have swelled the numbers of pupils across Arran's seven primary schools with this year's new intake.

With an increase of 10 pupils from last year's figures, the healthy intake is not far off the 2016 record when 44 pupils started their school careers on the island.

The largest intake of pupils was at Lamlash where 16 enthusiastic new faces joined the school where P1 teachers Alison Henderson and Rachel Ostridge reported that all the pupils

were settling into school routine nicely.

Brodick received the next highest intake with eight pupils, who joined teachers Claire Scott and Kirsten Picken. Last year they welcomed 17 new pupils, including a set of triplets.

Whiting Bay had three boys and one girl start their schooling with school-stalwart Fiona Yates commenting on how well they had already blended in, adding that there were 'no tears this year'.

Compared to their single pupil last year, Shiskine Primary was delighted to welcome six new P1 pupils, three girls and three

boys. Also only welcoming one last year, Corrie teacher Lindsay Todd saw their annual intake double with one boy and one girl, both of whom reported that they liked school because they were having 'lots of fun'.

Over in Pirmill last year's two P1s helped to make their only newcomer this year feel very welcome. The new P1 pupil sat in her class and engaged with fellow pupils confidently as if she had been there for years.

*Note: Owing to a new GDPR policy adopted by Arran schools, no pupils' names have been included in the captions.*



Lamlash P1s with teachers Rachel Ostridge and Alison Henderson. 01\_B38school03



Corrie P1 pupils with teacher Lindsay Todd. 01\_B38school02



## Taste of Arran Shop & All Weather Golf

### Brodick

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Joules Fashions.



# primary schools



Kilmory teachers Jackie Colwell and Karen Barbour with three new P1 pupils. 01\_B38school05



There are four new P1 pupils at Whiting Bay. 01\_B38school04



Just one new start at Pirmill. 01\_B38school06



Brodick P1s with teachers Claire Scott and Kirsten Picken. 01\_B38school01

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**Therapies at Inspirations**



# The legendary Shiski Diski is back

In the summer of 1967 there was a revolution in Shiskine Hall at an otherwise normal dance.

With a three-piece band playing Scottish and modern dance music under the glaring fluorescent lights of the hall, the regulars were dancing quick steps, fox-trots and Gay Gordons when two teenagers said that they wanted some music for the younger attendees.

To that purpose they had brought along a Dansette record player and some 45 inch singles. Sandy and

Duncan were allowed to plug in their record player and the younger dancers danced with the main lights dimmed to the latest pop tunes. Amongst this group was Charles Currie, a 16-year-old who got involved with changing the records and choosing the next to be played.

Back in school in Glasgow Charles and his friend Douglas Maclean decided to try their hand at providing dance music for clubs on the mainland and founded Phoenix Disco, drag-

ging in their friend Raymond Miller, who had speakers and an amplifier. They agreed that having one deck made the gaps between records too long and through a family friend, who was a lecturer in carpentry at Stowe college, they had their first set of twin decks made.

There was no queuing facility to start with and they had to put their ears down to the record to hear the songs starting. This progressed to a switch which put one deck on air and the other to queue through a small valve amplifier.

Now well prepared, the trio hired Shiskine Hall for the summer of 1968 and roped in another friend, Alastair MacBain, to join the crew. A sound-to-light machine was added quickly to provide flashing images and then the team made light wheels with slides, food colouring and ether to provide a colour light show.

At the end of that summer disaster hit when Raymond said that he was leaving and taking his speakers and amp with him. Could this be the end of Phoenix Disco and would the Shiski Diski be gone forever?

Charles and Douglas approached their respective fathers and borrowed £100 each and went into Glasgow and bought an amp and speakers and returned

for 1969 to Shiskine. The disco was on a Wednesday night, originally, as there were dances at Brodick, Lamlash and Whiting Bay on a rotating basis on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

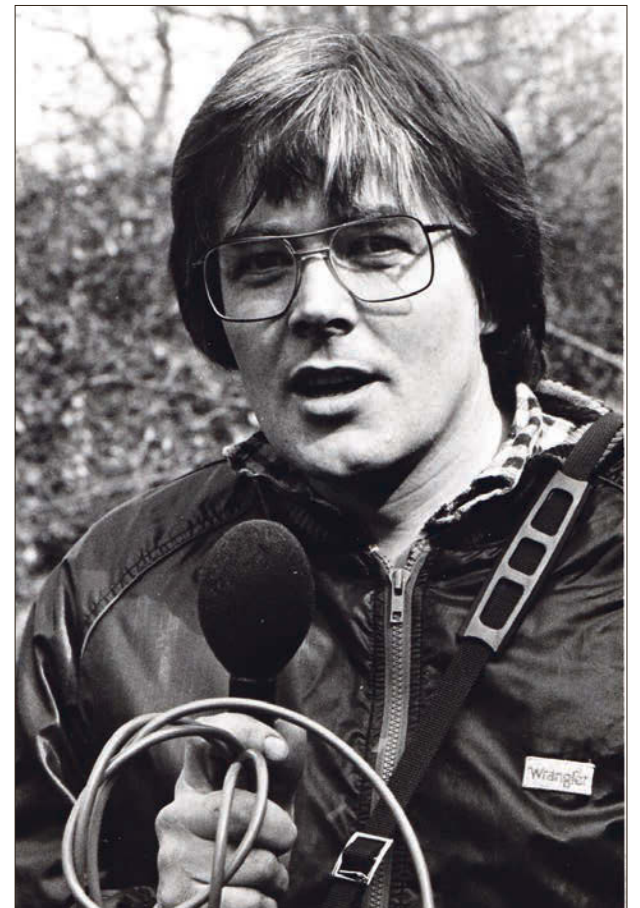
Shiski Diski grew in popularity and by the mid '70s was an established part of the Arran scene. Guest DJs like Steve Jones, Richard Park and Tiger Tim Stevens came down from Radio Clyde for special nights and the legend grew.

By then Charles was doing discos in other venues on the island and Douglas and Alastair were doing discos on the mainland.

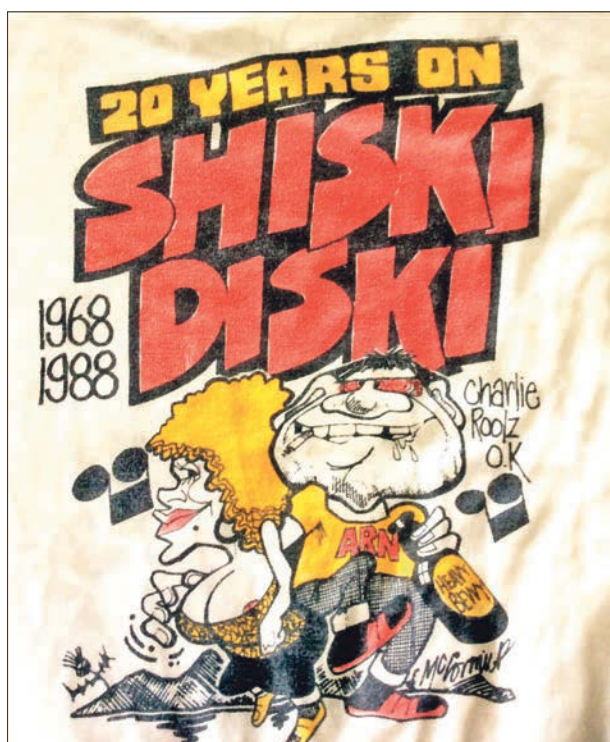
Equipment had progressed and purpose-made decks could be bought, the original deck case being relegated to cable carrier. Douglas and Alastair left and concentrated on mainland discos and Charles, with the help of wife Irene, and many other helpers, kept Shiski Diski as popular as ever, building up a record collection from scratch to provide the now standard Shiski Diski set.

In the 1980s Shiski Diski fans hired their own bus to take them over, roping in Ralston Green as driver and 'looker afterer' of those who might get too involved in celebrating.

Shiski Diski was a reg-



Charles Currie from his days as a DJ photographed in 1983.



A T-shirt designed by cartoonist Malky McCormick for the 20th anniversary of the Shiski Diski.

ular event throughout the summer up until the early '90s and from then became an occasional treat in aid of Shiskine Hall, without whose trust a 17-year-old and a 16-year-old could not have started in 1968.

This month, on Saturday September 29, Shiski Diski will celebrate the 50th anniversary of that first season with a night of memories from 10pm to 1am.

Over the years Shiski Diski fans have had their own favourite tracks which will hopefully be revived on the night and some local



An early momento from the Shiski Diski, then spelled Disci.

businesses have given spot prizes, which will be drawn against ticket numbers, just like the early draws for records in the early days.


## Selling your Whisky Cask?

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# What's on

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## Every day

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Arran Heritage Museum  
Arran Brewery

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

Brodick Gardens volunteers  
Coffee morning  
Chair yoga  
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour  
Archives and Genealogy Service  
Dog classes  
Arran Pace Makers running group  
Flow yoga  
Rink game  
Tae Kwon Do  
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting  
Live music – Tim Pomeroy  
Family friendly pub quiz  
Quiz night  
Rock'n'pop bingo

Brodick Castle and Country Park, 10am - 1pm  
St Bride's Church, Brodick 10.30am - 12 noon  
St Mollo's Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am  
11.30am and 2.30pm  
Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 3.30pm  
Whiting Bay Hall, 12.30pm  
Brodick, 5.30pm  
Shiskine Hall, 6pm  
Brodick Bowling Club, 6.15pm  
Advanced Juniors & Adults, 7.30pm-8.30pm  
Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm  
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm  
PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm  
Drift Inn, Lamlash 9pm  
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

## Saturday 22nd September

Flow yoga  
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour  
Arran Youth Foundations fundraiser  
COAST, opening of the Octopus Centre  
Rink game  
Rinks bowls  
RNLI shop open  
Family games  
Fun in the pool  
Family bingo night  
Live music – Mic Clark  
Live music – Midtown Riot, rock covers & their own folk-rock pop material  
Live music – Joni Keen Duo  
Over-21s disco

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am  
11.00am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm  
Strabane House, Brodick, 11am - 4pm  
Old Pavilion, Lamlash, 1.30pm  
Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm  
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm  
Lifeboat Station, Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm  
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm  
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm  
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 7pm  
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm  
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm  
Brodick Bar, 9pm  
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

## Thursday 27th September

Morning fitness  
Chair yoga  
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour  
ACLI volunteer gardening day  
Lingo Flamingo, Spanish, Pablo Illera  
Castle Time Travellers  
Music Matters  
Quilt Arran  
Adult tennis  
Arran Hockey Club – seniors (12 yrs +)  
Arran Soul Choir  
Brodick Embroidery Group  
Body Blitz  
Tommy's general knowledge Quiz

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am  
11.30am and 2.30pm  
Golf Course Road, Whiting Bay, 11.30am - 3.30pm  
Glen Estate Lounge, Brodick, 11.30am  
Brodick Castle and Country Park, 2pm  
Lamlash Church Hall, 2pm  
Firestation, Lamlash, 2pm - 4.30pm  
Blackwaterfoot, 5.30pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm - 8.30pm  
Community Theatre, Arran High School, 7pm - 9pm  
Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
Auchrannie Spa Leisure 9.30pm - 10.30pm  
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

## Sunday 23rd September

Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour  
Live music – Mic Clark  
RNLI shop open  
Family games  
Fun in the pool  
Midtown Riot, acoustic rock covers and their own folk-rock pop material  
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting  
Folk music session

11.30am and 2.30pm  
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 2pm - 4pm  
Lifeboat Station, Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm  
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm  
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm  
The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm  
Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm  
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

## Friday 28th September

Macmillan Cancer coffee morning  
Yoga  
Hydrofit  
Coffee morning  
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour  
2 for 1 fish and chips  
Chantraine dance class for adults  
Soundbath  
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting  
Friday night quiz  
Live music – Shindig Pladda  
Live music – Midtown Riot - open mic / jam session

Cafe Rosaburn, Brodick, 9am - 11am  
Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am  
Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am  
Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, 10.30am  
11.00am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm  
Felicity's @ Eden Lodge 5pm - 6pm  
Arran High School, Lamlash, 6pm - 7.15pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick 6.30pm - 7.30pm  
Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm  
Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm  
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm  
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

## Monday 24th September

Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour  
Chantraine dance class for adults  
JogScotland mixed ability running group  
Adult tennis  
Circuit training  
Summer bridge, visitors welcome  
Rink game  
Tae Kwon Do, adults and over-10s,  
Live music – Arran Dawn

11.00am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm  
Village Hall, Lochranza, 4.30pm - 5.30pm  
Whiting Bay 5.30pm  
Blackwaterfoot, 5.30pm  
Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6pm - 7pm  
Arran High School, 6.15pm for 6.30pm start  
Brodick Bowling Club, 6.15pm  
Brodick Church Hall, 7.00pm - 8.30pm  
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm

## Saturday 29th September

Flow yoga  
Highland dance classes, P2 and under  
Highland dance classes, P3 and over  
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour  
Craft fair presented by Katsock  
Rink game  
Rinks bowls  
Family games  
Fun in the pool  
Jimmy Blair accordion concert  
Live music – Biff Simpson  
Live music – Steve Hepworth Band  
Over-21s disco

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am  
Arran High School, 11am - 12.30pm  
Arran High School, 11am - 1pm  
11.00am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm  
Brodick Hall, 11am - 3pm  
Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm  
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm  
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm  
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm  
Arran Lodge at Altachorvie, 7.30pm - 10pm  
Fiddlers' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm  
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm  
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

## Tuesday 25th September

Healthy Outdoors team  
Brodick Castle From the Outside – a guided historic tour  
Castle garden walk  
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting  
Blackwaterfoot Bowls  
Technology with Duan Bruce  
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)  
Flow yoga  
Arran Hockey Club – Juniors (5 - 14yrs)  
Trev's pop music quiz  
Traditional music sessions  
Body Blitz

Brodick Country Park Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm  
11.30am and 2.30pm  
Brodick Castle and Country Park, 2pm - 3.30pm  
Brodick Church Hall, 2pm  
Bowling Club, 2pm  
Glen Estate Lounge, Brodick, 2pm  
Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm  
Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, 6pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6pm - 7pm  
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm  
Brodick Bar, 9pm  
Auchrannie Spa Leisure 9.30pm - 10.30pm

## Wednesday 26th September

Yoga  
Hydrofit

Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am - 10.30am  
Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.45am - 10.45am



[www.arranbrewery.com](http://www.arranbrewery.com)



# September weekend at the Pierhead Tavern

The Pierhead Tavern is launching a new menu this weekend.

Owner Jane Howe said: 'Our kitchen team have been very busy experimenting with new dishes and so with many added pounds on me I am delighted to introduce our new menu at The Pierhead Tavern. We have kept all the favourites like steak pie, homemade lasagne and our own scrumptious burgers but have added food with an interesting twist fragrant vegetarian ter-

rine, penne arrabiata alongside a night time bar snacks menu. We have upped the number of vegan/vegetarian dishes and have a packed full specials board which changes daily.'

In further news The PHT will next week we introduce our takeaway menu with the aim of providing tasty food at budget prices and will include our chef's special curry (v), homemade burgers, sausages (v vg option) plus fish and chips (gf option)

# Midtown Riot will be rockin' the PHT

Midtown Riot Keep The Heid Tour 2018 visit the PHT this weekend.

Formed in July 2013, specifically to play at Douglasdale Folk Festival, they play a mix of acoustic folk/rock/pop penned in the main by founding member Davy Cunningham. Alongside their original tunes they play some covers too which will get you singing along.

The band became a properly constituted Music in the Community Group in 2017 to further their aims of creating and promoting opportunities for amateur musicians to perform at community events.

### Support

They have worked with many people giving them the chance to play at community events and support local good causes by pro-

viding fundraising musical events.

The band will be doing three sets this September weekend at The PHT, on Friday night all local musicians are invited to either take the mic or join in with the band from 9pm, Saturday night full band 9pm and Sunday afternoon acoustic set at 4pm so come and support their aims.

# Trust in hunt for wildlife award

The Arran Trust has been shortlisted for a business award in the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Nature of Scotland Awards.

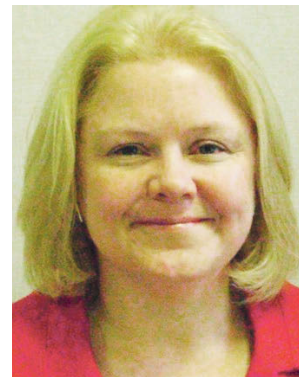
The awards, now in their seventh year, aim to celebrate those people and projects who passionately work towards excellence and innovation in Scottish conservation.

There are nine categories in the awards which includes a political advocate of the year, an innovation award, sustainable development and a young nature champion award.

Arran Trust has been shortlisted in the business category with Barratt Homes, Scottish Water and Wild Planet Explorers as the other contenders.

The business award is awarded to organisations, large and small, that can clearly demonstrate what they have done for the benefit of nature in Scotland.

The applications will be



Anne McCall.

Anne McCall, director of RSPB Scotland, said: 'One of the highlights of my job as director of RSPB Scotland and chair of the judging panel for the Nature of Scotland Awards is to be given the opportunity to sit down and read all the applications. Each year as we get more, it becomes a bigger job but one I love as I learn about the inspiring projects and people working hard to conserve Scotland's important habitats and wildlife.'

considered for standing out from the crowd and by doing things differently. They are also judged based on the impact delivered in proportion to the size of business and available resource.

Established in 2010, the Arran Trust is a visitor gifting scheme which funds projects looking after the landscape and environment of Arran. The trust works alongside community groups and businesses to improve sustainable practice and safeguard the future of the island.

'My fellow judges and I would like to thank those of you who took the time to submit an application and we look forward to meeting and celebrating with you and others from the conservation community at the presentation dinner in November.'

A black-tie presentation dinner to announce the winners will take place at the Sheraton Grand Hotel, Edinburgh, on the Thursday November 22.

# This weekend @ the PHT!

## GOOD FOOD GOOD BEER GOOD CHEER

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All dishes only £6.95

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September Specials

- Mussels Served in white wine cream or tomato and basil sauce £6.95/£12.95
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- Sweet potato curry Served with rice £9.95 (V VG GF)
- Tandoori chicken skewers with cous-cous, flat bread and coleslaw £12.95

Music in the community group

## MIDTOWN RIOT

play an "all welcome" open mic / jam session on Fri - 9pm

Full band performance Sat - 9pm

Acoustic set Sunday - 4pm

# MIDTOWN RIOT

WWW.THEPHT.CO.UK

01770 600418

ARRAN

THE PIERHEAD TAVERN LAMLASH



# THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday September 12, 1998

## Digital TV

Digital TV, the biggest change since colour in 1967, is coming to Arran next month. Digital TV is a new technology which can transmit hundreds of TV channels to the viewer simultaneously in perfect picture quality and perfect CD quality.

The existing analogue TV system is old and leaves no room for improvement, or any expansion to the amount of programmes that we will be able to view. It is also affected by interference and weather and the picture can be grainy, snowy or ghostly. Digital TV suffers from none of these annoyances because of the robust nature of the signal. Sky digital satellite TV plans its launch on October 1 and it will supply around 200 channels for TV and around 40 for CD quality radio. Shopping, banking and learning will all come online and the set top box will be able to receive these services right away.

## Double Dux

Amazingly for a school of Arran High, five candidates achieved five Highers in their exams last May. They were: James Primrose, Chris Kennedy, Eleana Cameron, Colin Tinto and David Thompson. On top of these, Colin and David achieved the holy grail of exams results by getting five As.

For the first time in its history the school decided that, because grades were so close, there would have to be a runner up prize which went to Colin Tinto.

As for the honour of being Dux, this went to David Thompson who, once he leaves school, is hoping to attend Glasgow or Strathclyde university to study maths and physics.

## School sale

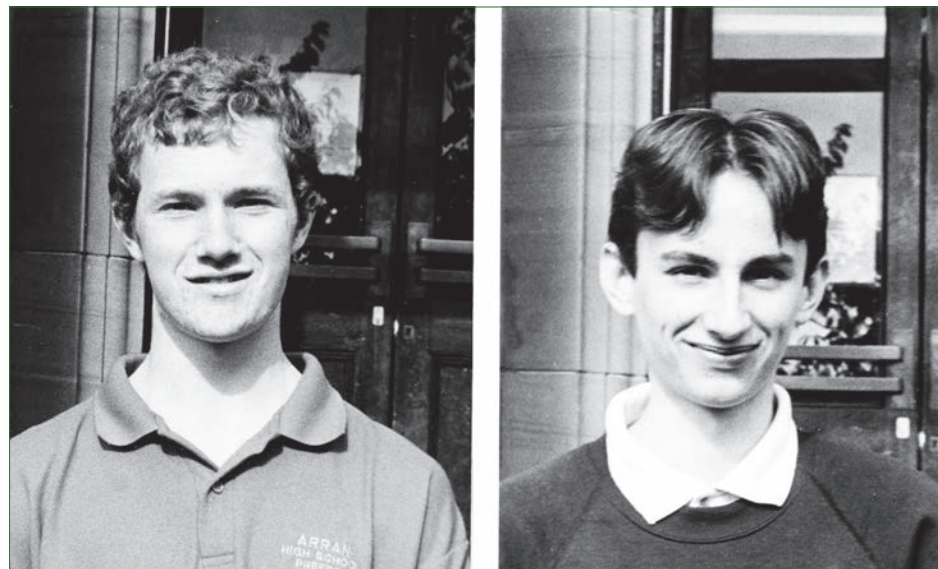
Bidding for something is wide open unless there is a price guide of sorts. When Kildonan school and schoolhouse went on the market, no guide was given. It had already been the subject of some uncertainty when it was realised that precise ownership could not be determined.

Although declared surplus to requirements by the former Strathclyde education department it had taken a long time to clear up the title matters and offer safeguards to any potential buyer. North Ayrshire also decided to build a car park at the foot of the ground which may have affected the level of interest.

What is in no doubt is that it is a desirable property in a desirable location. Thus when offers came in the range was wide. There were eight in total ranging from £99,000 from a private buyer on the mainland, to several around £20,000. The highest offer has been accepted.



A Country Fair was held recently at Brodick Castle just above the Rangers Centre. Featuring all things country, stickmaker extraordinaire Stewart Lambie of West Glensheraig sold some of his handiwork. 01\_B38twe02



Too close for just one, Arran High School had a Dux, David Thompson, left, and a runner-up, Colin Tinto - both achieved five As. 01\_B38twe04



Kildonan Sheep Dog Trials winners, John McKillop, centre, second Geoff Brookes, left, and third place Neil McEachern. 01\_B38twe03



Arran textiles Project Orchil organised a Latin American day in Whiting Bay Hall last Thursday and invited Fabiana Galante from Argentina along. Fabiana will return to Arran next month to give more tuition on Latin America. 01\_B38twe01



Arran Golf Association's 1998 Champion of Champions is Dougie Macfarlane of Lamlash. 01\_B38twe05



# Trade Classifieds

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# Classifieds

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Kitchen/dining table - attractive wood 47" by 31", detachable legs fro easy storage - £30. Please call 01770 700786

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Selection of walking poles - length adjustable to suit individual and terrain. Any two £14. Please call 01770 700786

# UNWANTED ITEM TO SELL?

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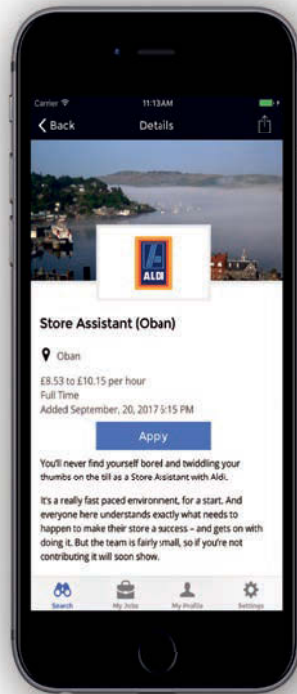
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ADVERTISING FEATURE

# HIJOBS – is now even better value for money

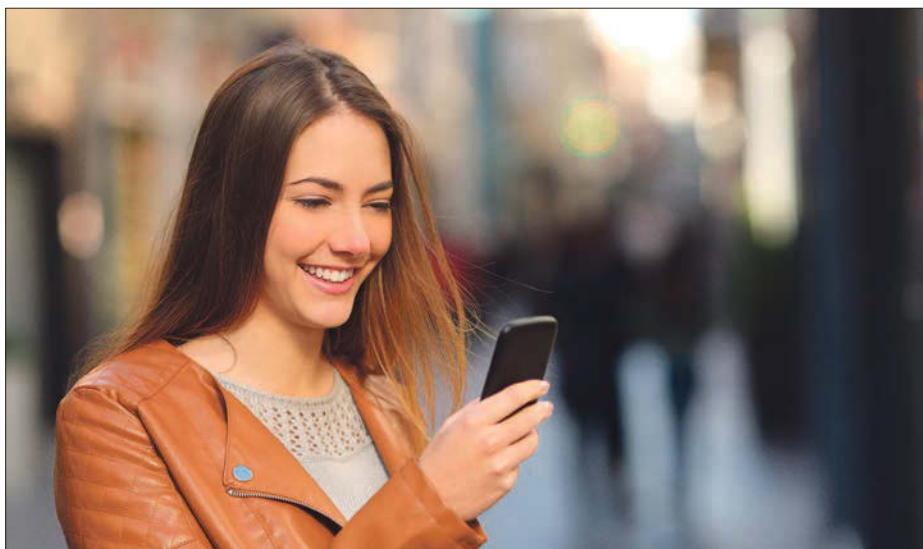
HIJOBS, Scotland's leading platform specialising in rural recruitment, has become even smarter and more cost effective.

New simplified processes mean a platform that was already quick and easy to use is even slicker.

Posting a job or signing up as a candidate has never been easier. Laura Saunders and Christopher Snelgrove, HIJOBS' founders, have a very technical term for the platform's ease of use; according to them: 'It's an absolute doddle.'

When Laura and Christopher are not blinding everyone with similar kinds of highly technical jargon, they are constantly looking at ways to make HIJOBS both simpler and more cost effective in these challenging times.

As Laura says: 'We cannot ignore the impact that the tough economic climate and the continuing uncertainty over Brexit has caused, particularly in our heartland of rural Scotland. It is our job to bring recruiters and candidates together – and our track record shows that we are exceptionally good at it. But we understand that em-



The new simplified platform means HIJOBS is quicker and easier to use – for both businesses and job seekers.

ployers are becoming increasingly anxious about the cost of recruiting, especially in the areas which we serve.'

As a result, HIJOBS has unveiled a new, more affordable price structure that will

suit every kind of business, whether a one-man-band or a multi-national company.

Christopher explains: 'We are so confident in our ability to deliver that if you haven't used HIJOBS before, we will give you

a free job credit, allowing you to advertise any vacancy for 30 days.'

After that, a single credit will cost £49 or a bundle of five credits will cost £199 with no expiry date – use them whenever you want.

These packages will typically work for small to medium-sized businesses that will be recruiting sporadically.

However, a new unlimited package is now available for larger organisations which recruit on an on-going basis which at £99 per month offers unbelievable value for money – even better value if you opt for the annual up-front charge of £999.

With more than 100,000 users every month, HIJOBS is THE solution for businesses across rural Scotland.

A second-to-none platform at the cutting edge of technology that quickly reaches the best, relevant candidates via Google Jobs, social media, email and the fantastic HIJOBS app. Give HIJOBS a try.

Just remember – it is an absolute doddle!

For more information visit [www.hijobs.net](http://www.hijobs.net) or call Laura on 01397 779003.

## Public Notice

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

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

Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy & Communities) at the above address or emailed to [eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk) by 12.10.18. Any representations received will be open to public view.

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

18/00780/PP; Site To East Of Scotthaven, Park Terrace, Lamplash, Brodick; Demolition of existing storey and a half workshop building & erection of new storey and a half dwelling.

Elma Murray  
Chief Executive  
Cunninghame House  
IRVINE KA12 8EE



## Property



**Culag,  
Harbour View,  
Blackwaterfoot  
O/O £325,000**

Spacious five bedroom detached family house built over two storeys in prominent corner plot with open sea views. Accommodation comp, Kitchen diner with balcony, Lounge with open fire, bathroom, cloak room and WC, five good sized bedrooms, Great Location, close to Golf, Village and Beach. Early Viewing essential.

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## CHURCH NOTICES

## CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

**Sunday 23rd September**  
Lochranza Church, 9.30am.  
Morning Service.

Pirnmill Church, 10.15am.  
Morning Service.

Shiskine Church, 12noon  
Morning Worship.

Brodick Church, 10.30am.  
Morning Worship.

Corrie Church, 11.30am  
Prayer Meeting, 12noon  
Morning Worship

There will also be a Service of  
Worship in Montrose House  
at 1.30pm.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL  
CHURCH

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

**Sunday 23rd September**  
Holy Communion, 11am.

Richard Trewby  
Coffee after Service  
ALL WELCOME

ARRAN FREE CHURCH  
OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)

**Sunday 23rd September**  
Morning Service 11am

Trust Housing Lounge, Glen  
Estate, Brodick

Evening Service 6.30pm  
5 Glen Road, Brodick

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF  
FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday Worship at 11am  
'Heather Lodge', Brodick  
(Next to the Douglas Hotel)  
Telephone 700346  
Everyone Warmly Invited

## CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

**Sunday 23rd September**  
Rev. Lily McKinnon

Kilmory - 10am  
Lamlash - 11.30am.

At Lamlash:  
Harvest Thanksgiving

All welcome, including  
families; children's area  
Scottish Charity SC015072

## CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan  
Church of Scotland, Charity  
Number: SC014005

**Sunday 23rd September**

Worship will be conducted by  
the minister, Rev Elizabeth  
Watson, at 10.30am.

Everyone most welcome.  
Tea and coffee will be served  
in the transept immediately  
after the service; please stay  
and enjoy more fellowship.

ARRAN BAPTIST  
CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings

**Sunday 23rd September**

Service 11am, Ormidale  
Pavilion, Brodick  
Tea and coffee after  
the service

Wednesday at 7.30pm Home  
fellowship group for bible  
study and prayer.

Telephone 600222  
Everyone warmly invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH  
OF SCOTLAND

Shiskine, 11am (church on  
road between Blackwaterfoot  
and Machrie)

Brodick 6pm  
Rev Benjamin Van Rensburg

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC  
CHURCH**Saturday 22nd September**  
Vigil Mass, 7.30pm**Sunday 23rd September**  
Sunday Morning Mass, 11am

## Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday September  
12, Flag Competition, 30  
played, winner Iain Sillars.

Sunday September 16,  
John Gemmell Shield,  
Three Club Stableford, 10  
played, NC. 1 Fred Gal-  
braith 19, 33pts, 2 Bri-  
an Smith 14, 30pts ACB,  
3 Terry Raeside 11, 30pts  
ACB.

Fixture: Sunday Septem-  
ber 23, Winter Cup Stable-  
ford first round, 8.30am  
and noon.

Saturday September 29,  
Belhaven Mixed Texas  
Scramble. An extra spe-  
cial event this year with the  
proceeds going to Alzheim-  
er Scotland in memory of  
long-standing member Gus  
Robertson. Please enter by  
visiting pro shop or calling  
01770 302349.

Ladies' section: Tues-  
day August 21, Stableford.  
1 Pat Adamson 21, 38pts,  
2 Margaret Roxburgh 15,  
37pts, 3 Ge Ge Kroner 21,  
34pts.

Tuesday August 28, Bo-  
gey. 1 Ann May 5, All  
square, 2 Margaret Rox-  
burgh 15, 1 down, 3 Heath-  
er Raeside 24, 2 down.

Tuesday September 4,  
Medal. 1 Pat Adamson, net  
74 BIH, 2 Isobel MacDon-  
ald, net 74. Nine hole med-  
al. 1 Brenda Livingstone,  
13pts.

Tuesday September 11,  
Pink Day. A total of 10 la-  
dies played in dreadful con-  
ditions. it was won by Fio-  
na Henderson and Yvonne  
Brothers and raised £120  
for breast cancer.

## Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday September 13,  
Summer Cup, CSS 64. 1  
Serge El Adm 76-16=60,  
2 Dougie MacFarlane 63-  
0=63, 3 Willie Currie 74-



Not just about the golf: Captains Day at Machrie Golf Club  
also saw golfers enjoying a feast of cakes and sandwiches.



Brodick Golf Club's prize-winners at the annual dinner held last week.

9=65. Scratch Dougie Mac-  
Farlane 63. Magic twos,  
Norrie MacFarlane @2nd,  
Drew Wales and Alan  
Smith @16th.

Sunday September 16,  
Scratch Cup final round,  
CSS 64. 1 Billy O'Con-  
nor 91-24=67, 2 Graeme  
Andrew 77-9=68. Scratch,  
Graeme Andrew 77. Con-  
gratulations to the overall  
winner, Allan Colquhoun.  
Runner up, Graeme An-  
drew.

Fixtures: Saturday Sep-  
tember 22, Ken Western  
Texas Scramble Cup, noon  
to 1.30pm, make up own  
teams. Sunday Septem-  
ber 23, Medal Shield Fi-  
nal, 9.30am and 12.30pm.  
Thursday September 27,  
Summer Cup Final, make  
up own games, see starter  
for times.

## Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday September 12,  
Winner takes all final. 1 G  
Andrew 67-9=58. Mag-  
ic twos, Ken Thorburn.  
An excellent final Wednes-  
day evening competition to  
finish of the season. Many  
thanks to 'super chef'  
Graeme Andrew for the  
tasty curry.

Fixtures: Saturday Sep-

tember 22. Corrie GC Open  
competition, 18 holes of  
stroke play. Make up your  
own games during the day  
up to 2pm or ballots at 9am  
and 2pm. All Arran and be-  
yond golfers are invited to  
compete in this year's open  
competition. Lots of gen-  
erous prizes gifted by our  
sponsors. Proceeds in aid  
of Cancer Relief in mem-  
ory of the late past captain  
Teddy Kerr.

## Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday September 12,  
Summer Trophy. A total of  
23 played in the final Sum-  
mer Trophy round of 2018.  
CSS went up to 64 and  
there were no magic twos.  
1 Danny Head 4, 63 and  
lowest gross, 2 Ryan Arm-  
strong 9, 64, 3 Stan Rainey  
11, 65, 4 Paul Robson 13,  
66.

Sunday September 16,  
The Raymond Curtis Sal-  
ver. In the face of an un-  
certain weather forecast,  
eight played in the Ray-  
mond Curtis since one of  
our charity support opens  
rained off earlier in the  
summer. Due to some con-  
fusion as to the format, this  
year's event was played as a  
medalford and CSS stayed  
at 63. 1 Jamie Macpher-  
son 5, 61 and lowest gross,  
2 David Blair 15, 65 ACB,  
3 John Dick 15, 65. Magic  
twos Ronnie Mann @2nd,  
David Blair @11th.

Fixtures: Sunday Septem-  
ber 23, Sweep.

## Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday September 13,  
Ladies 18-hole medal. 1  
Jenni Turnbull 82-18=64,  
2 Fiona Scott 97-27=70.  
Scratch Anne May 77.



Anne May, winner of the  
ALGU Cir Mhor trophy.

Saturday September  
15, seniors' handicap, 18  
played. 1 Willie McNally, 2  
Davie Blair, 3 Stan Rainey.  
Magic twos John Penny-  
cott, Graeme Andrew and  
Stan Rainey. Best scratch  
score, Alan Napier.

Sunday September 16,  
Gents 18-hole medal. 1  
Ken Littlejohn 82-17=65,  
2 and scratch Phil Betley, 3  
Alan Young 89-21=68.

Arran Ladies' Golf  
Union

Saturday September 15, Cir  
Mhor trophy, 17 played at  
Machrie Bay GC. This was  
the first fixture in the new  
season and it was quite a  
challenge. The first name  
on the winners' board is  
that of Anne May. Anne  
won scratch and net to  
scoop the trophy with Su-  
san Butchard coming sec-  
ond.





Arran in the lead in the Exciseman's Chase.

# Double up for Arran skiffs

As the busy regatta season reaches its conclusion, Arran Coastal Rowing Club (ACRC) was really looking forward to two rowing events that it hadn't attended in previous years and whose format was quite different to anything it had done before.

Saturday September 8 saw members taking part in the Exciseman's Chase, a race of approximately eight kilometres out of Maidens harbour. Eight Clyde clubs battled valiantly through choppy seas at the scenic foot of Culzean Castle, changed crews at Gas House Bay, picked up a miniature bottle of whisky, which they then had to get back to Maidens without being 'caught'.

The staggered start meant that the skiffs were both chasing and being chased, which made for an extremely exciting atmosphere on the waves. On both legs of the race, ACRC powered forward with great determination, overtaking one boat after the other to come back in a time of one hour-nine-minutes, three minutes ahead of the nearest rival, to win the handsome bar-

rel trophy and, of course, a full-sized bottle of the amber nectar.

After a week to recover their strength, last Saturday nine Arran rowers took both of their skiffs (Seabhag and Iolair) to the Castle to Crane race at the Clydebuilt Festival, a 13-mile (21km) row along the Clyde from Dumbarton to the Finnieston Crane in the heart of Glasgow city.

With the ferry problems last week, it was touch and go if they could get there at all but the arrival of the MV Hebridean Isles meant that passage for the trailer and both 22-foot wooden boats was assured.

The race was open to any fixed seat, coxed rowing boats of at least four oars and 75 in total took part, including not only St Ayles Skiffs but also such boats as Cornish and Pilot Gigs and Shetland Yoles, making for a magnificent spectacle at the foot of Dumbarton Castle on the Saturday morning.

As - in contrast to other clubs - ACRC hadn't trained specifically for such a long row members decided to just enjoy the occa-



The winning Arran Exciseman's Chase team with the trophy.

sion and interesting scenery along the Clyde. The Iolair crew had a fairly leisurely row with regular crew changes and an interesting sightseeing commentary from Caroline. Starting in the category Open Mixed, they finished in a very respectable two hours, 24 minutes and 50 seconds.

Seabhag started in the 50-plus mixed category and

decided to go as fast as was enjoyable. The result was therefore a big surprise to everybody - with an impressive time of two hours four minutes and 15 seconds they had the 13th fastest time of all 60 participating St Ayles Skiffs, were the seventh fastest skiff in the category 50-plus and the second fastest skiff in the category mixed 50-

plus. And that with no crew change and a heavier than usual cox. One wonders what would have happened if they had tried to win.

Congratulations to all rowers on this big success. The hard, continuous training has been paying off and this is another remarkable milestone in a successful regatta season. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed

ACRC's first appearance at this event, which most certainly won't be the last.

The regatta season closes on Saturday September 29 at Prestwick. ACRC has won this event two years in a row and is going for the hat-trick this year. Both Arran skiffs and many local rowers will be taking part in what bodes to be a very exciting finale. *Stuart Turner*



The Arran crews who took part in the Castle to Crane event.



Castle to Crane crews waiting for the start in Dumbarton.



# The magnificent seven as Arran progress in cup

## GoVending Cup

Arran	7
Galston	1

The Arran team had their first knockout cup game since forming and it was a home tie against Galston Amateurs in the GoVending Cup which is played among the Ayrshire Sunday League teams.

Manager Alan Murray opted for a 4-5-1 formation. Stephen Judge got his first start in goals while Marty Hynes partnered Danny Head in the centre of defence with Adam McNicol and Gavin Gilbert as full backs. Babbies MacNeil and John Drummond were the central midfield partnered with Ryan Armstrong pushing on just in front of them. Donnie Park returned on the right wing

with Toby Wingham on the left side. Archie McNicol was the enforcer in the lone striker role.

Arran dominated possession from the start but still looked a bit shaky in the first 20 minutes and they were punished when Galston pounced on an uncharacteristic mistake by Armstrong, allowing them to open the scoring. The Arran Energy boys didn't panic though and played some tactical passing football and it wasn't long until Archie McNicol made one of his trademark runs to slot the ball beyond the keeper. It was Archie again who finished a well-worked move to put the home side 2-1 up at the break.

In the second half Toby Wingham turned on the flair and was making some



Arran AFC players, sponsors and supporters and the match referee. 01\_B38footy02

menacing runs causing the Galston boys all sorts of problems. The third goal

for Arran was an own goal after the away side's defence crumbled under the mounting pressure. McNicol then bagged his hat-trick which takes his total up to 13 for the season after only playing five games.

Captain Danny Head was playing his last game for the club before he heads away to Australia for the winter and he was rewarded with a goal. However, the ball looked to have struck his hand as it crossed the line but luckily for him the referee was unsighted.

Wingham made it six when he was rewarded for his play, the big man powered the ball into the left

hand corner with a fine strike.

The scoring was completed when Joel Small finished off a great move where the ball had been passed out from the back and the ball hit the net without a Galston player getting near it.

Johnny Sloss made his comeback, coming on with 15 minutes to go to give the team a boost. He had a quick reintroduction to Sunday League tackles as he was upended with a shocking two footed lunge.

Thankfully the winger came out unscathed and is sure to be a key player for Arran during the rest of the season.

Toby was given man of the match. The forward had a quiet game in the first half but really turned on the style in the second to showcase his powerful dribbling and skills.

Arran will travel to Irvine Victoria again tomorrow (Sunday) with a 2pm kick-off in a repeat of the fixture from three weeks ago which ended in a draw. With all the qualifying now finished this will be Arran's first game in Division 1 and they will be hoping to get off to a flyer. Limited spaces are available on the team bus, if anyone wants one they should contact a member of the team.



Archie McNicol powers towards goal to score for Arran. 01\_B38footy04

## Club invites juniors to 'Come and Tri'

Arran Junior Triathlon Club (AJTC), which continues to go from strength to strength, has issued an open invitation for young members to try triathlon activities at its Come and Tri events over the next week.

Training will be provided by Blair Cartmell, who was the lead performance coach for the Scottish triathlon team at the Commonwealth Games.

The open sessions are part of the SportScotland Clubs Open Doors week which takes place from Sunday 23 to Sunday September 30.

On Arran there will be three sessions to provide children, young people and parents the chance to 'Come and Tri' out the

sport, as well as answering any questions they may have.

The first session on Thursday September 27 will be the swimming portion at the Auchrannie Hotel pool between 8pm and 9pm. Swimmers must be able to confidently swim at least two lengths' front crawl. The running portion will take place at Arran High School on Tuesday October 2, between 4pm and 4.45pm. The cycling and run event will take place on Sunday September 30 at Arran High School between 9.45am and 11am. Bring your own bike if you have one.

Blair Cartmell can be contacted on Blair@newtriathlon.com if anyone wishes their child to try any of these sessions.



Babbies MacNeil in a tight tussle for the ball. 01\_B38footy01



# 'Brutal' Lamlash Splash

Continued from page 24 the choppy sea. Their fantastic encouragement really made a difference.

Also many thanks went to all the volunteers who were involved in marshalling, registration, timekeeping, recording and catering.

As usual, all the volunteer help meant the event ran smoothly with Arran swimmers being able to concentrate on their swim.

The many spectators on the pier who waited for a long time in bad weather to cheer the swimmers were really appreciated by the swimmers.

This year there was a special presentation from Arran Open Water Swimmers to Mike Mellor, who had

completed his 10th Splash in a row.

It was disappointing that only 31 swimmers took part with a total of 13 call-offs from the original entry list. The event raised more than £1,000 for the Arran Junior Sailing Club.

Anyone who is interested in open water sea swimming can check out the Arran Open Water Facebook page for times and places of swims. Swimming takes place right through the winter months but if anyone wants to take part in the Splash next year it would be advisable to start training in early May when the water the sea has started to warm up.

Ann Hart



The first swimmers jump into the water. All photographs Hugh Boag. 01\_B38splash05



The green-capped swimmers get a final briefing from Mike Mellor. 01\_B38splash06



Arran swimmers Eric Milton, Mike Mellor and Paul Hewie are all smiles before the start of the splash. 01\_B38splash02



Heather Queen Keira Willis presents the Ali Bodie Plate to Morag Litton. 01\_B38splash15



First man home was Graeme Schreiber. 01\_B38splash12



First female, and also first local female, was Lynsey Cuthbertson. 01\_B38splash13



And they're off ... as the swimmers head for Lamlash. 01\_B38splash07



Ann Hart presents Mike Mellor with a memento for completing his 10th splash in a row. 01\_B38splash14



An exhausted Aileen Clark climbs ashore after completing the crossing. 01\_B38splash11



A kayaker keeps a close eye on the swimmers. 01\_B38splash08



# SPORT



**INSIDE THIS WEEK:**  
The magnificent seven  
as Arran progress in cup



The Arran swimmers who completed the gruelling splash with Heather Queen Keira Willis. 01\_B38splash16

# Lamlash Splash is a gruelling challenge

The 2018 Lamlash Splash last Saturday was described by many of the swimmers as brutal and the worst conditions for a number of years.

The sea was choppy, the wind blew, there were squally showers and the tide was turning which meant that the majority of

swimmers really struggled in the conditions. This was reflected in the finishing times which were slower than previous years.

The first male home in 38mins 30secs was Graeme Schreiber from Houston who has had second and third places in previous years. Having recent-

ly turned 60 he wonders if he is the first sexagenarian to come first in the Splash? Second male was Alan Bowey in a time of 39.48 and third male was Mark Rafferty in a time of 50.05, just beating first local male Eric Milton whose time was 51.00.

First female, and also first

local female, was Lynsey Cuthbertson from Lamlash in a time of 52.45, followed by locals Jo Totty in 60.32 and Georgina Maclean close behind in 60.40.

The Ali Bodie Plate was won by Morag Litton, who showed great courage and determination in completing the swim.

Thanks went to Bill Barr who took over as lead safety officer and Faye Hamill who was medical officer.

Also, to all the emergency services – the RNLI and the Coastguard – and to all those in the ribs and kayaks who supported the swimmers in the water. It was not an easy task given the

conditions. A big thank also went to the Holy Isle ferries for transporting the swimmers across to the island for the start.

Many of the swimmers wanted to thank individual kayakers who were able to guide, encourage and care for the swimmers across

**Continued on page 23**

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