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£15.5m pledge to fix Ardrossan harbour

Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The first full details of the multi-million-pound plans for the redevelopment of Ardrossan harbour have finally been revealed.

They will see £15.5 million spent on improving facilities in Ardrossan and, if all goes to plan, could see work start this time next year and be completed by the end of 2020.

All the partner organisations were in Brodick Hall on Tuesday to show details of the proposals at the community drop-in session and dozens of interested people turned out on a dreadful night to see what was on offer.

They included port owners Peel Ports, Transport Scotland, Caledonian MacBrayne, Caledonian Maritime Assets (CMAL), North Ayrshire Council and many more.

And the proposals confirm just what had been ex-



Arran High School pupils are delighted to receive a sportscotland gold award on behalf of the Lamlash campus, for the second time, at a special assembly. The sportscotland awards are presented every two years to schools that demonstrate a high standard of sporting ability and opportunities – and the gold award is the highest level achievable. 01_B43gold01

pected from the preferred design option announced by the government-led Ardrossan Harbour Taskforce in April including:

A new Brodick berth and linkspan for the MV Glen Sannox and the upgrading of the Irish berth, ensuring

two number berths are always available.

A new or comprehensively redeveloped terminal building.

New marshalling areas and upgraded car parking with enhanced capacity.

Improved terminal to rail

platform and town centre connections, including a new covered walkway.

The plans show the new hydraulic linkspan proposed for the Brodick berth is similar to the new linkspan at Brodick. A refurbished linkspan is pro-

posed for the Irish berth providing a back-up facility.

The linkspan is to be designed for use by all three of the primary design vessels to load and unload vehicles through all states of the tide from lowest astro-

nomical tide to highest astronomical tide. Vessels may dock either bow in or stern in. This includes the MV Glen Sannox, due to come into service next autumn.

Ardrossan harbour has
Continued on page two

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The Ardrossan harbour consultation meeting attracted a healthy interest. 01_B43habour02



Visitors study the proposals in Brodick Hall. 01_B43harbour03

£15.5m pledge to fix Ardrossan harbour

Continued from page one

always involved a 'hand-brake turn' on entering the harbour. The proposals being developed, and as illustrated within the masterplan, are based on the taskforce outline proposals which look to re-align the Brodick berth providing a minimum berth face to bet-

ter service the needs of the three primary design vessels.

The primary purpose of the new two-storey terminal building, or maritime hub, is to provide for ferry users and ensure the 'lifeline services' to Arran and Kintyre are fully supported within a modern, fit-for-purpose terminal.

There are also plans to upgrade the parking and marshalling area with a view to enable the port to handle one million passengers a year on the Arran and Campbeltown routes.

'Creating an all-user transport interchange means improvements and better connections between the new terminal build-

ing and the railway station and town centre. Improvements to public transport connections and facilities for active travel will be incorporated where possible within the proposals,' the masterplan states.

Then there is confirmation of the cost: 'Peel Ports, North Ayrshire Council and partners are investing £15.5 million to the Ardrossan harbour upgrade.

'The steering group has developed a high-level programme for the harbour works programme. The preferred option with amended berthing will require additional works over that originally proposed with the potential for more disruption to ferry timetables and a longer build programme. Design and technical studies being currently undertaken are seeking to identify mechanisms to mitigate impacts and accelerate the contract award process.

'Detailed technical stud-



An artist's impression of the proposed new linkspan.

ies and contract procurement may require amendments to the programme. The master programme assumes completion by end 2020. The programme is dependent upon conclusion of design development and may be amended dependent on the finally agreed scope of works.

'Planning and master planning for the new facilities seeks to minimise disruption and ensure continuity of service at all times. Lessons have been learned from other recent terminal and facility upgrades (including Brodick) and

every opportunity is being taken to plan the works to take advantage of the full extent of the site and phase works to avoid disruption,' according to the plans.

Reaction to the drop-in consultation was mixed. Some felt they had plenty of time to view the displays on offer and give their feedback and written comments, while others were unhappy that there was no opportunity to ask questions from the floor of a public meeting.

A second public consultation was held in Ardrossan on Wednesday afternoon.



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HGVs hit by weight restriction at Gourock

A newly-imposed weight restriction on the linkspan at Gourock could hit commercial traffic trying to get to and from Arran if the ferry is diverted to the port of refuge during inclement weather.

The notice of the downgrade, which was announced last week, has already presented problems for hauliers and animal transporters during the recent storm Callum when sailings from Rothesay to Wemyss Bay were diverted to Gourock – the main alternative port for sailings from Rothesay and Ardrossan – and CalMac advised

that HGVs would not be carried.

With the long-term forecast predicting particularly bad weather this winter – owing to a larger than average shift in the Gulf Stream – there is potential for severe disruption.

A CalMac spokesman said: 'We have been advised by the owners of Gourock Port, Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL), that a weight restriction is being put on the linkspan at Gourock with immediate effect.'

'Given that Gourock is the alternative mainland port for both Rothesay and

Arran, this will have implications for the type of commercial traffic we are able to carry during periods of disruption.'

A spokesperson from CMAL said: 'The revised load limit may affect commercial/heavy goods vehicles during periods of service disruption at Rothesay and Arran, when services are normally diverted to Gourock.'

'CalMac Ferries Limited will endeavour to provide hauliers with as much notice as possible if a diversion is likely to allow them to make alternative arrangements.'

Volunteer award for Emily

Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A young volunteer who works tirelessly for the cancer support charity ArCaS has been named Young Volunteer of the Year – Arran Locality Winner 2018.

Emily Gillson, from Pirmill, has received the award for her work in the ArCaS charity shop in Brodick which now spans 10 years and translates to a conservative estimate of 1,150 volunteer hours.

It all began when she was 15 years old and volunteered at the popular charity shop as part of a school placement. Although now at college, she still gives up at least one day a week to help.

ArCaS shop manager Lisa Remington said: 'Emily is a very hardworking and dedicated young woman. She is inspirational in her enthusiasm and her won-

derful personality fills even the busiest of days with light and joy. Other volunteers working are some 60 years her senior and she is a hugely important member of this team, sharing humour and happiness.

'Since Emily started, numerous Duke of Edinburgh Award pupils from the high school have completed their volunteer obligations within the shop and subsequently student placements have taken place. I believe this is due in part to how positive Emily works and reinforces her role and the wonderful work of our charity. She is truly committed.

'Our island is blessed with having a very big heart and a caring community. Emily has been and is a part of our hearts and we are proud to have seen the wonderful young woman she has become within our own.

'We are reminded that we are all individuals with strengths and challenges. Characters and personalities are as varied as the stars and Emily is a bright example of a wonderful, joyous and spirited person.

'We are reminded to consider the importance of not just the work completed but the importance of the work to community.'

The Ayrshire Community Trust – partner organisation of the Arran Community and Voluntary Service – decided to run the awards throughout North Ayrshire as part of the national Year of Young People.

There were nominations for a Young Volunteer of the Year in each locality and Emily was chosen as the winner for Arran. The idea of running the awards was to show recognition and appreciation to young volunteers.



Emily with her award at the ArCaS shop with volunteers left to right: June McLean, Linda Taylor and Alan and Ruth Thompson. 01_B43arcas01



Funeral is held for Dr Angus Campbell

The funeral is taking place today (Friday) of a well-loved Arran GP, who has died after a short illness.

Dr Angus Campbell, who was 65, died at home in Lamash last Wednesday surrounded by his family.

A statement issued by Arran Medical Group read: 'It is with deep sadness that we advise that our longstanding colleague Dr Angus Campbell died on Wednesday.

'Angus was an exceptionally trusted, experienced, kind and compas-

sionate man whose door was always open for advice, counsel or laughter. We will miss him terribly. Our thoughts are with Yolly and Angus's family at this time.'

Dr Campbell, who retired in December last year after 36 years as a GP, first moved to Arran with Yolly and his family in 1981.

Originally from Carlisle, he was an equally familiar face in the sailing community and also played a long-serving role in the Arran RNLI and

helped established the Arran Coastal Rowing Club.

In February, more than 100 of his recent and past colleagues held a ceilidh at the Whiting Bay to mark his retirement.

Dr Campbell is survived by Yolly, his children Colin, Euan, Jenny and Jamie, and three grandchildren.

His funeral, which is expected to be exceptionally busy, is taking place today (Friday) at noon at Lamash Cemetery to which all are welcome, as well as afterwards at the Drift Inn.

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Objections fail to halt mast go-ahead

Colin Smeeton
 editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A nine-metre smart-metering radio mast has been given the go-ahead in Lam-lash, despite an objection from the Arran Community Council which described the location as unsuitable.

The installation of the mast, which will allow communications between energy suppliers and households, is the second location selected by applicant Arqiva Ltd which was previously denied planning permission at a site at Arranton Place.

However, the planning department at North Ayrshire Council said full planning approval was not required and that the installation, which is part of the national Smart Metering rollout programme, can proceed under the permitted development regulations.

In addition to supporting statements, approved drawings and technical justifica-



The site which been approved near Brableside for the new mast. 01_B37mast01

tions, agents Arqiva Ltd also added that the proposal was the last opportunity to include Lam-lash within the national Government programme to give metering coverage to the area.

In its objection to the proposal Arran Community Council said the application at the revised location was 'equally unsuitable'.

'Like the original application the proposed site is on the A841, which is the main road into and out of the village on its northern edge. The mast will be visible to both residents and tourists alike and as such we take the view that it's not in keeping with the location and natural environment. We would again re-

spectfully suggest that the application is located in a less obvious position.'

In total, five neighbour notifications were issued to properties within 20 metres of the site boundary, and two objections were received by the planning department. The application was approved with no conditions being imposed.

Yacht crewman in hospital dash after multi-agency rescue

A crewman from a yacht in Sound of Bute was airlifted to hospital after a multi-agency rescue.

Arran's RNLI was part of the rescue involving vessels from RNLI Troon, Largs, Tighnabruaich and the helicopter Rescue 199 tasked to attend to a distress call from a yacht near Inchmarnock on Monday.

Responding to the call of a seriously ill crew member on the vessel, the Arran volunteer lifeboat crew launched the relief inshore lifeboat Martin Harvey, joining the RNLI inshore lifeboat from Largs and the RNLI all-weather lifeboat from Troon, as well as the rescue helicopter in a rush to reach the crewman, who was reported to be experiencing chest pains.

Rescue helicopter 199 arrived on scene first quickly followed by Largs lifeboat which put two crew members aboard the vessel.

Once aboard they assessed the crew member and started to administer care.

After deciding that evacuating the ill crew member swiftly was of paramount importance, and due to the extremely challenging conditions, the Largs RNLI crew decided to beach their inshore lifeboat in order to allow the swift evacuation of the casualty by Rescue 199.

Following this the Largs lifeboat was refloated by the volunteer crew of the Arran inshore lifeboat. The Largs crew then towed the yacht towards Tighnabruaich before passing the tow

onto the Tighnabruaich RNLI crew who took the vessel back to safe harbour.

Arran RNLI helm Martin Wood said on Monday: 'Today's callout was time critical; this meant we had to push the Atlantic 85 to get on scene as quick-

ly as possible in challenging conditions. Our colleagues at Largs performed an excellent evacuation of the casualty and when refloating the Largs lifeboat both crews showed amazing teamwork and professionalism.'



Mary's Meals Fundraiser
Sunday 28th October
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Santa needs his elves to make Christmas sparkle

Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Lamlash Events, which now organises Santa's Sparkle, will be holding a special meeting next week in preparation for this year's Christmas event.

Committee members, who will meet on Monday October 29, at 6pm at the Pierhead Tavern, are inviting anyone with an interest in either volunteering or hosting a stall to attend the meeting.

Following their annual general meeting, at which the election of directors and office-bearers will take place, the committee members will assess the progress being made and work towards ensuring that all facets of the event are on schedule and running according to plan.

Preparations have been under way since the start of the year and, while all of the framework, including legal and financial mechanisms, are in place, final arrangements, including performers and volunteers, continue until nearer the event itself.

The annual Santa's Sparkle, which was run by the previous owners of the Glenisle Hotel, has been taken over by Lamlash Events which wished to see the village tradition continue. Run as a community event for



Santa makes a grand appearance atop the Mogabout at last year's Santa's Sparkle. 01_B43sparkle01

the first time last year, the afternoon was so successful that not only did it cover its costs, but it also turned a small profit which was donated to local organisations.

This year's Sparkle, as it is affectionately known, will take place at Arran High School on Saturday November 24 with Santa arriving at Lamlash Pier at noon and travelling to the school along with a festive parade to see the children in

his grotto. Later in the afternoon, after everyone has been entertained with live music and dancing, and experienced the delicious food on offer, Santa will lead the throngs out to light the village tree where there will be a firework finale.

Anyone with an interest in helping with the sparkle, can find further information on the Facebook page or by attending the meeting on Monday.

Hallowe'en tradition at Montrose House

It has become something of a tradition for a number of years now for the children of Brodick, in some cases accompanied by their parents, to start off their Hallowe'en visits around the village at Montrose House.

There, between 5.30pm and 7pm, the residents will be gathered on Wednesday in their decorated lounge to hear and see the children in their fancy dress perform their songs, tell their stories or recite their poems – no doubt remembering their own exploits so many years ago.

Of course there will be dooking for apples, and no doubt a few treats will be offered.

Such welcome visits make those members of the older generation very happy and no doubt very nostalgic.

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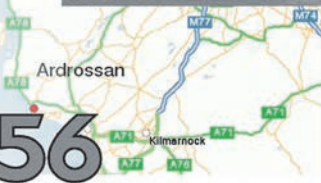
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HSCP in £1.7m overspend

Colin Smeeton
 editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership (HSCP), which provides community-based health and social care services on Arran and across North Ayrshire, is expected to overspend by £1.7 million this year.

This is in addition to the £5.8 million it already owes North Ayrshire Council, according to a budget update report presented to the North Ayrshire Integration Joint Board.

The partnership includes NHS Ayrshire and Arran, North Ayrshire Council, third sector organisations and independent care organisations.

The projected overspend will follow a pattern of overspending for three years in a row – which has been blamed on demand for services.

Partnership director Stephen Brown said the overspend was caused by 'demand for services outweighing the available resources' and pointed to

care home placements, respite provision, looked-after children, learning disability care packages and mental health services as examples.

He reported: 'Significant changes need to be delivered through the integration of health and social care services, and this needs to work alongside significant constraints on financial resources.'

'The partnership faces challenges to deliver more services to more people and the available funding is not keeping pace with the cost of service delivery.'

The Scottish Government plugs gaps if NHS Ayrshire and Arran overspends but that does not apply to the partnership.

The budget update report stated: 'Financial balance has not been delivered in previous years and in the new financial year there is a projected overspend position.'

The North Ayrshire HSCP was allocated a budget of £230 million for the financial year.



A Brodick audience enjoys the performance of Sax Ecosse.

Contemporary sax quartet hits all the right notes

An eager audience listened raptly in Brodick Hall to the warm bright brass sounds conjured by youthful quartet Sax Ecosse on Saturday night.

Organised by Music Arran, this latest of a series of top musical performances brought much-anticipated delight to Arran's strong community of music lovers.

Sax Ecosse is the name of the group which was founded by the two female members back in 2004. The group's instruments span a full range of saxophone 'voices': soprano, tenor, alto and bass.

Each is a fine piece of polished metalwork, glinting gold under the lights, as the performers wrestle with

their musical masterpieces. The performers took it in turn to introduce each work to the audience – high-lighting links back to the golden age of the saxophone in US clubs, back in the 1930s.

Once the concert got under way, unfamiliar and memorable sounds punched stridently through the hall. Many of the pieces performed were written for saxophone performance and not widely aired. While Grieg's Holberg Suite is regularly performed and broadcast, the arrangement for saxophone quartet came as a refreshing surprise, with the brass instruments giving a unique and compelling sound.

Only towards the end did a stac-

cato passage yield what might have sounded to a passer-by like a traffic jam of classic cars – with the flamboyant honking that might be expected under such circumstances.

Living around Glasgow, the ensemble found it a pleasure to be able to hop on a train and be wafted over to the warm reception the members enjoyed on Arran. This has included being treated to homemade apple cake, with local apples, and overnight accommodation with local music supporters.

The grateful listeners applauded loudly and, after a delightful encore, departed contentedly into a still, clear Brodick night.

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Abi Marshall removes large plastic items from the beach.



Elliott Marshall during the Corriecravie beach clean.

Holiday family in fight against litter

Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Three generations of the Marshall family from Gloucestershire have played their part in helping to reduce marine plastic litter by undertaking a beach clean while on holiday on Arran.

Alexandra Marshall, grandson Elliott and daughter-in-law Abi were inspired to remove the rubbish after an earlier trip to Ireland where they learned of an initiative encouraging people to pick up any plastic they find.

Taking place during their last day on Arran, the family took to the secluded Corriecravie beach and spent the morning collecting plastic and litter.

Alexandra said: 'Three generations of our family had a wonderful week on



A collection of plastic removed from Corriecravie.

Arran at Corriecravie and spent our last morning on the lovely secluded beach there.

'We did a mini clean-up but some pieces were quite large and we had to leave the collection there, but we put it above the tide line in the hope that in due course someone would find it and be able to remove it.'

Following an increase in

awareness of plastic pollution in the oceans, various initiatives are being undertaken by individuals, businesses and organisations trying to make a difference by removing litter, especially plastic, from beaches and the sea.

Running awareness and action campaigns to help eliminate plastic waste are organisations such as Surfers Against Sewage and #binit4beaches and Take 3 for the Sea which encourages individuals to remove at least three pieces of rubbish when visiting beaches, waterways or anywhere that rubbish can be found.

Arran organisation Think About Plastic (TAP) has also been playing a role in beach cleans and has been working with North Ayrshire Council and local businesses such as the Auchrannie Resort, Lam-

lash Bay Hotel and Carraig Mhòr Bed and Breakfast and Alice's Wonderland B&B, in helping to reduce plastic usage and finding sustainable alternatives.

Arran Library hosts book week event

Arran is taking part in Book Week Scotland 2018, which runs from November 19 to 25, when this year's theme is Rebel.

Visiting author Barb Taub will read from her book *Life Begins When the Kids Leave Home* and the *Dog Dies* on November 21 from 7pm to 8pm at Arran Library in Brodick



Barb Taub.

In halcyon days BC (before children), Barb wrote a humorous column for several Midwest newspapers. With the arrival of child number four, she veered towards the dark side, an HR career. Following a daring daytime escape to England, she's lived in a medieval castle, a Hobbit house and on a Scottish isle with her prince-of-a-guy and the world's most spoiled Aussie dog.

Considering all her days are now Saturdays, Barb is amazed that this is her sixth

book. This is a free ticketed event, but telephone 01770 302835 to book your place.

The Arran event is just one of hundreds taking place across Scotland during the week. Marc Lambert, CEO of the Scottish Book Trust, said: 'We're delighted to present another packed programme for Book Week Scotland, our celebration of reading and writing.'

For more information about Book Week Scotland 2018 and how you can get involved, visit www.book-weekscotland.com

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Editorial

Progress please

It has taken a long time, but could we at last be making some progress to fix Ardrossan harbour?

While the communities' update on Arran this week offered little new in the way of detailed plans, the presentation at least gave the travelling public the first look at what they can hope to find when the works are complete.

The proposals came with a pledge that Peel Ports, North Ayrshire Council and partners are investing £15.5 million in the improvement works and that work should be ready to start in a year and be completed in 2020.

What is extremely clear, however, is that there is still an awful lot of work to do in the next 12 months if work is to start on time.

And there remain a lot of unanswered questions. Where will the Arran ferry berth while the works are being carried out, given both the Brodick berth and the Irish berth, currently out of action, are both to be redeveloped?

Also given, it is hoped, that the new MV Glen Sannox comes into service at some point next year, can the existing facilities cope to handle her?

And what disruption do the ferry services, and the long-suffering public, face during the works?

Answers please.

Thought for the week

'Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because He cares for you.' 1 Peter 5:6

Important dialogue

Sir,
Below is a reply from Caldonian MacBrayne to my letter published in the Banner on Saturday October 6 and my response. This dialogue is important if we, as islanders, are to retain a good lifeline ferry service

Yours,
**Dr Sally Campbell,
Lamlash.**

GDPR to blame

Dear Dr Campbell,
Thank you for your recent correspondence regarding our process for wait-listing car reservations. Please allow me to respond to your concerns.

You are correct that obtaining car spaces is becoming more demanding with each year that passes. The introduction of RET has certainly benefited island communities, with record numbers of passengers travelling each year.

Nonetheless, with car carryings continuing to increase, this has placed additional demand on each and every sailing. In particular, Arran continues to see record growth. Since the introduction of RET, Arran has seen carryings increase by almost 16 per cent, with 205,000 cars shipped during 2017.

In previous years, we did operate an informal wait-list at Brodick. This involved the local manager using a book to record wait-listed passengers for the heavily utilised 08.20 sailing. However, given the implications of the new GDPR legislation, we cannot hold passenger details in such an informal manner. Furthermore, as part of the new Clyde and Hebrides contract, we cannot

differentiate by sales channel. In other words, all customers should have equal access – on a first come, first served basis – to our booking inventory. The Brodick book was only accessible to those who contacted the port in person or via phone.

However, we do appreciate that having a wait-list facility would benefit passengers. Indeed, some routes on the CalMac network already allow this. Please rest assured that we are currently exploring all possible options to assess this for the Ardrossan-Brodick route, and are working continuously to try to find solutions that will benefit all our passengers.

Yours,
**Robbie Drummond,
Managing Director,
CalMac Ferries Ltd.**

Major issue

Dear Mr Drummond,
Thank you for your email of October 17. Several further questions arise from your explanation and information.

In your letter you confirm that across other parts of the fleet the wait-listing facility is available, so why not on the Ardrossan-Brodick route? What is preventing this?

This is a lifeline ferry service, so why is there no extra service potential for full-time Arran residents, such as a wait-list book? We are all aware tourists are booking well in advance. Your numbers confirm what we already observe: 'Since the introduction of RET, Arran has seen carryings increase by almost 16 per cent, with 205,000 cars shipped during 2017.'

If the objective of the fer-



Robbie Drummond, CalMac managing director.

ry service is purely economic and not a lifeline, tell us. Arran will become less desirable as full-time residents find their freedoms being curtailed and more and more second homes/renting options/Airbnb replace them.

This is already becoming a huge social and community issue for the island and, although I do not expect CalMac to solve this issue alone, the way the ferry service is run is part of the story that must now be of concern to service providers of all sorts.

As full-time residents, we do not always know weeks in advance when we need to travel to the mainland for such things as hospital appointments, important meetings, essentials shopping or family emergencies. I find your statement: 'As part of the new Clyde and Hebrides contract, we cannot differentiate by sales channel. In other words, all customers should have equal access - on a first come, first served basis - to our booking inventory', bodes ill for the future.

The Brodick book was only accessible to those who contacted the port in person or via phone and therefore gave local res-

idents at least a chance. Clearly, as a lifeline ferry for the full-time residents of Arran, CalMac's publicity makes great play on vital island services.

'Scotland's various ferry services are a vital lifeline for island residents', says VisitScotland, and the First Minister has said she is 'determined' to improve ferry services to Scotland's island communities in the wake of widespread concern over reliability (The Herald, September 13, 2018).

The Ardrossan Harbour Taskforce, reported in TransportNetwork on April 10 2018, as having identified its preferred design option for the harbour upgrade, which aims to improve the facility's operations and resilience ahead of the introduction of a new, larger ferry. In the report, North Ayrshire Council leader Joe Cullinane welcomed the decision 'alongside our partners on the working group, we have been working hard to ensure Ardrossan Harbour is of a standard which will allow it to support to lifeline ferry services and the new vessel on the Arran route for many years to come'.

Last week, The Arran

Banner records CalMac's award as Ferry Operator of the Year 2018 at the National Transport Awards, 'providing a first class customer experience'. I note you added: 'Our core market is lifeline services we provide to communities across the area, but the popularity of our services with visitors is growing year on year.'

You mention that the wait-list book is a problem and non-viable since the introduction of the GDPR legislation. If we, as customers, are willing to provide information and confirm it can be listed by written hand in a book held at the terminal for staff to read, how can it be against the law? Clearly, for many full-time resident islanders, it is a positive alternative to having no chance of a car booking on a certain date and time. Do full-time island residents no longer deserve a true lifeline ferry service?

Since RET was introduced, tourism has exploded on Arran. Full-time resident islanders begin to feel that their needs are being discounted in the rush to 'increased economic opportunity'. The island's ability to attract and retain full-time residents, whether born on the island or incomers, is paramount for wider services to continue, be they medical, schooling, social services of all sorts and commercial. It is vital that CalMac consults with the wider community on what lifeline is now coming to mean. Too many options purely for growth in numbers on the ferry and visiting Arran is not an option if it discounts the importance of lifeline ferry for the full-time resident islanders.

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to Arran to come along and discuss with all interested parties in the community what this term 'lifeline ferry' actually means today and how our service could better respond to that term in the future.

I fully appreciate that the major issue that I am raising here demands attention more in the political arena of transport operating policy in Scotland than in simply delivering an efficient ferry operating service.

Yours,
**Dr Sally Campbell,
Lamlash.**

Helpful hero

Sir,
An enormous thank you to the guy who works at the Whiting Bay hardware store. At 4pm last Friday, I was getting into my car when the ignition keys slipped from my grasp and fell into a drain.

To my horror, the drain was

sealed in the tarmac and all I could see beneath the bars of the culvert was a well of dark and impenetrable water. As an English woman of middle years, holidaying on Arran and therefore a 'stranger in a foreign land', I feared the worst: stranded, car-less and just as the working week was coming to an end.

In desperation, I went to the hardware store in Whiting Bay. There I met a chap with a plaited grey beard. Without hesitation, he unpacked a telescopic magnet and patiently dredged and probed the inky blackness.

After a little while the tool was retracted with my keys firmly attached. I was so relieved! My hero was self-effacing and firmly rejected any reward. He was a proper gent and upheld the true tradition of Arran's obliging and helpful nature.

Yours,
**Jo Grogan,
South Milford, York.**

Flu facts and the danger it poses

Sir,
As we move into flu season, it is time for people with asthma to protect themselves against the flu virus. New analysis by Asthma UK reveals that around one million Brits with asthma are at risk because they are not planning to get the flu vaccine – even though eight in 10 people with asthma say flu is a top trigger for life-threatening asthma attacks.

That's why Asthma UK is urging people with asthma to get the flu vaccine as soon as possible to reduce their risk of catching the virus and prevent a life-threatening asthma attack.

The flu virus can increase the inflammation in the airways so they can become narrow, leaving people coughing, wheezing and gasping for breath. This increased inflammation also

means people are more likely to react to other triggers, such as pollen or pollution, increasing the chance of an asthma attack.

Every asthma attack is potentially life-threatening with around three people dying from one in the UK every day.

Unfortunately, there are lots of myths about the flu jab not working, causing side-effects or causing flu, and our research shows this is preventing people from getting it. But the vaccine can't give you flu, the potential side-effects are minimal and it could save people's lives by preventing a life-threatening asthma attack.

We are urging people to get the facts about flu so they can make an informed decision by visiting asthma.org.uk/flu

Yours,
**Dr Andy Whittamore,
Clinical Lead at Asthma
UK and a practising GP.**

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 ATOM BRANDS

MWest's new showroom will leave you floored

There's a new one stop shop for all your flooring needs on Arran. And it doesn't stop there because MWest Flooring Ltd can also look after your tiling, wet wall and wall cladding needs ... they can even supply you with a lawn.

The brand new showroom in Whiting Bay has emerged from the shell that was the former Belford Mill, which closed two years ago.

For Mark West and his wife Kirsty it has been a real labour of love for the last year transforming the building into a plush modern showroom in which to browse for carpets, wooden flooring, laminate and much, much more.

Next door there is a whole room filled with tile, wet wall and other samples for all your kitchen and bath-

room needs.

The new showroom also has a display of wood burning, multi-fuel, and electric and gas stoves in association with Gibson and Goold of Ayr, including a real working demonstration wood burner.



The new Whiting Bay showroom at Silverhill. 01_B43west13

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Kirsty and Mark at the front counter. 01_B43west11



The spacious new MWest Flooring showroom. 01_B43west01

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Mark is already well known on the island and his stylish vans are always seen out and about. But whereas previously he would come to you. He now wants to invite everyone to come and see him.

He said: 'The showroom gives customers the chance to view a much wider range of products to browse at their leisure in well lit, warm and comfortable area.'

However, while he believes the 120 sq m of showroom will leave customers spoilt for choice, he will still be pleased to pay

home visits to any of his less able clients.

Kirsty, meanwhile, will be the welcoming face at the spacious new Silverhill showroom which opens for business today (Friday).

But while showroom is now open, the project is far from complete. For in the new year Mark will have a separate section with carpets, vinyl, laminate and tiles in stock and available for collection. There will also be variety of room sized carpet remnants available.

'The idea is that anyone in a hurry with a project, can come and grab what they

need and get on with it,' Mark said.

With 25 years in the trade covering all aspects of flooring, Mark and his team bring a wide selection of skills and expertise together to carry out the work once you have made your selections.

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The 1935 Austin pick-up bears the Brodick credentials of the original. Photograph: H&H Classics

Historic truck sells for more than £30,000

A rare and desirable Austin pick-up truck sold for nearly double what was expected when it went under the hammer last week at the Imperial War Museum in Cambridgeshire.

The 1935 Arran registered pick-up sold for £30,375 after being auctioned by H&H Classics, which specialises in collector cars and motorcycles.

As reported earlier this

month in the Banner, the truck had an estimated value of between £14,000 and £18,000. However, the original, but restored, pick-up truck commanded a far higher price than anticipated when it was sold with 36,900 miles on the clock.

Snapped up by an anonymous buyer whose location is unknown, the purchaser will be the proud owner of a vehicle whose provenance dates back to Brodick in 1935 when Mary and Janet Currie of Brodick purchased it to deliver dry goods on the island. Still evident on its driver's side door are the words M & J Currie, Merchants, Brodick, Telephone 12.

Also emblazoned on the bonnet is a military number, harking back to the days of its service during the Second World War when it was purchased by the War Department in 1939.

Also emblazoned on the bonnet is a military number, harking back to the days of its service during the Second World War when it was purchased by the War Department in 1939.

Few grumbles on Arran as complaints rise

North Ayrshire Council has received 1,813 complaints for the 2017/2018 year – up by 275 from the previous year – according to its annual report which provides a detailed analysis of complaints from across the local authority area, including Arran.

The 32-page report includes figures and results from the period between April 2017 and March 2018.

The vast majority of gripes, 1,237 of them, related to the council's place department, which includes commercial services such as roads, transport and waste services and the physical environment, which includes housing, building services and facilities management. Included in these were complaints regarding the closure and transfer of public conveniences.

Residents moaned about street lighting, grass cutting, removal of a bus service and missed bins, among others. Out of the total of all complaints, 37 per cent were upheld while 18 per cent were partially upheld.

Irvine and Kilwinning residents made the majority of the complaints, owing to the higher population of the towns. Arran residents, along with Millport and Skelmorlie, provided the fewest number of complaints, once again a reflection of population sizes.

Council chief executive Elma Murray said: 'North Ayrshire Council is committed to providing high quality services for North Ayrshire residents, businesses and visitors but it is recognised dissatisfaction will sometimes occur. When it does, we want to know what went wrong,



Elma Murray, North Ayrshire Council chief executive.

why it went wrong and what we can do to make things right.

'We review our complaint handling performance regularly to ensure we learn from mistakes and use the feedback we receive to improve services the council provides.'

The council said there was a 'valid reason' for the jump in complaints to 1,813, up from 1,538 the year before, saying that the leap was due to social work issues now being included in statistics and that a surge in school complaints had been attributed to bet-

ter training in identifying problems raised.

The report stated: 'The 38 per cent increase in complaints for education is the result of schools being better able to identify complaints after receiving additional support and guidance from the customer complaint team throughout the year.'

The council said a rise in policy complaints was due to 'the changing of the council's flag flying protocol, the removal of a free bus service and the removal or transfer of some public conveniences'.

Also included in the report were more than 570 compliments which recorded praise for council services. These included cross-council compliments where customers commended more than one service and some were internal, where employees complimented other employees.

The annual complaints report, which can be viewed online on the North Ayrshire Council website, was presented to the council's audit and scrutiny committee.

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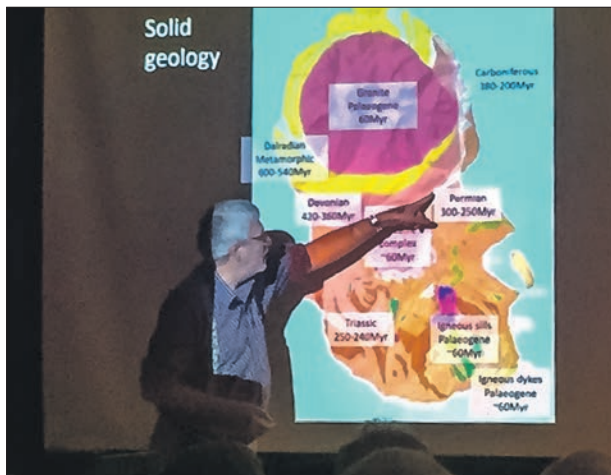
Enjoying the sun and a geology walk on Corrie shore.

Stormy weekend can't halt geofest

Despite the best efforts of storm Callum, the third annual Arran geology festival recently went ahead as planned.

On the Saturday night, Corrie Village Hall was full and heard Dr Simon Cuthbert's talk on 'Arran's journey through deep time'. In just over an hour, Simon gave a highly entertaining and educational account of Arran's 600-million-year geological history.

The audience included many who, earlier in the day, had braved heavy rain to enjoy one of the geology walks. Highlights included seeing the Arthropleu-



Dr Simon Cuthbert speaking in Corrie Hall.

ra footprints, Arran's only volcano, and the illusive Hutton's Unconformity.

Earlier, the geofest had opened at the Heritage Museum with an enjoyable in-

troductory to Arran's geology from the island's own Stuart Blake, and it finished on Sunday with improved weather and most of the walks taking place in the relatively dry conditions.

Some ventured into Glen Rosa, and others visited three fulgurites (fossilised lightning strikes) and a newly discovered metre-long fossil on Corrie beach.

Overall, the festival was a great success and, when Arran Geopark opens next April, there will be many more events over the year.

NFUS launches farming poster competition for children

A fantastic competition to get children thinking about the rural landscape around them has been launched by NFU Scotland.

The competition follows on from previous popular ones run by the farmers' union to engage children with agriculture and thinking about where their food comes from.

This competition, which will be judged by NFUS president Andrew McCornick, is asking children to draw their interpretation of

Farming through the seasons in Scotland.

As well as having the opportunity to win great prizes, the winners will also have their drawings featured within the union's membership magazine, Scottish Farming Leader, and on other NFU Scotland marketing material.

First prize is a Siku farm bundle comprising of a Siku farm starter set, a cover and tyres set and a Siku John Deere 8430 tractor with livestock trailer – val-

ued at £79.90 and provided courtesy of Farm Toys Online. Second prize is a £50 Amazon gift card.

Andrew said: 'We are always looking at new ways to engage children in farming and this competition aims to get their creative juices flowing and have them creating something which they can relate to.'

The competition is open to children aged three to 15. The artwork should be created in pen or paint on an A4 size of paper in

portrait orientation. The child's name and age should be written on the back of the drawing alongside the parent or guardian's contact number and address, and an alternative method of contact, such as email or alternative phone number.

Original artwork should be submitted by Tuesday November 20 at noon to Ruth McClean, NFU Scotland, Rural Centre, West Mains, Ingleston, Edinburgh, EH28 8LT.

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OBITUARY Howard Allan Driver: May 1, 1948-October 5, 2018

The man who was the heart

Howard Driver, who died on October 5 in Gloucester, was one of Arran's best known personalities.

Through his role as vice-president of the Arran Farmers' Society and his work with The Arran Banner over several decades he was familiar with, and involved in, almost all aspects of Arran life. In 1986 he was instrumental in bringing Princess Anne to attend the Arran Farmers' Show in Lamlash and from 1985 he printed The Arran Banner until it was taken over by The Oban Times Ltd in 2003 and printing was moved to the mainland.

Howard was born in 1948 in Sale, near Manchester, to Robert and Kathleen Driver.



Howard outside the Banner office on his retreat. 01_B43howard01

er. His father died when he was only three and then his brother Anthony died at the age of six leaving Howard to be brought up as an only child by his mother and grandmother. He

did well, however, at Sale Boys Grammar and was eager to go into agriculture, although becoming a farmer then meant either inheriting a farm, or having the money to buy one, but nei-

ther route was open to him.

Instead he went to agricultural college in Shropshire and began his working life travelling from farm to farm selling veterinary products for farm animals.

At Sale Grammar his chum throughout his teens was John Armstrong, with both boys devoted to Manchester United (before that team was top of the league). John had a sister Helen, who Howard was friendly with too, and that friendship later blossomed into romance. Howard and Helen were married in Wilmslow in 1974. The young couple lived in South Wales and later Staffordshire. Children followed - Andrew in 1977 and Stuart in 1979. But the idea of being a 'real' farmer had never gone away.

After a few holidays on Arran, the call of 'the good life' was beckoning, so much that in 1981, in partnership with his cousins by marriage, Gus and Sharon MacLeod, they purchased a smallholding at Glenscorrodale on the Ross Road from Willie McConnell. In fact, Howard and Gus, now Arran's local officer, made the decision to buy without either wife having actually seen it.

Did it offer the good life? There was no electricity, a private water supply which needed constant attention, they were in the middle of nowhere, and on top of that the partnership failed.

The MacLeods moved

out and Howard and Helen were left with a remote bed and breakfast - for which the whole family had to move into a caravan every summer - and a small flock of sheep. Howard had to become a cook for the guests but even that was not enough to support the family, so he decided he would need a job.

Late in 1984 he met John Millar, the owner/editor of The Banner and, in conversation, it was mentioned that Mo Khan, his printer, had just announced that he wanted to explore his roots in Pakistan and would shortly be leaving. Howard sensed an opportunity and offered his services, despite knowing nothing about printing. John had only recently taught himself to print and had some misgivings but, believing that attitude was more important than experience or training, he took him on for what was to become Howard's metier, in one form or another, for the rest of his working life.

Once he had mastered the rudiments of the printing press, Howard became meticulous in his search for quality. Within a few years, with the commercial printing side of the business growing, he became full time and in a couple of years a big new shiny Ryobi printing press was installed.

Howard's pride in that machine might be likened to the way some men might feel about a shiny new

sports car. It was not without problems though, and there were breakdowns, but gradually he became more and more adept at dealing with these engineering difficulties too.

Printing the first colour pictures (not common at that time) of Santa arriving at the top of the String Road with a sack of toys was a huge technical success and not only did Howard achieve that, he was also Santa.

One great source of pride to him was that there was never a week, whatever technical difficulties arose, when The Banner did not come out on time.

Meanwhile, his farming interests progressed. His sheep were a good entry into the farming community and soon he was an office bearer in the Arran Farmers' Society. He had particular skills which were very suitable for this - some of the farmers described him as 'learned'.

He also had a confident speaking voice and was an excellent public speaker. By careful application, he managed to get Princess Anne to come to the 1986 show. What a day that was for the whole island, but also for Howard who had to accompany the Royal guest round and make sure everything went smoothly. Which it did.

But it was his work at The Banner to which he became more and more attached, particularly as he realised that it covered every as-



Howard meets his hero Sir Alex Ferguson. 01_B43howard02



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and soul of The Banner



Howard on stage with Princess Anne at the 1986 farmers' show. 01_B42howard03

pect of Arran life, as well as farming. The close team there, John and Deanna Millar, Jenni Turnbull from Shiskine, and Howard, all shared the fun and the commitment to this unique job which led them all into so many unusual situations.

One was the military exercise Purple Warrior in 1987 when NATO armies descended on Arran to replay the Falklands War – the generals always fight the last war, never the next one! Howard was 'embedded' with the British troops and on the defeat of the insurgent forces, he was flown by helicopter out to HMS Illustrious to see the troops away.

Another particular memory for him was the visit of the Queen. Howard was unwell at the time but did not want to be left out and volunteered to assist, a helpful move since protocol prevented anybody overtaking the Queen on the road, so each location needed somebody already in situ. He was sent

to Lochranza and there captured the superb front page picture of The Queen thronged by Lochranza residents and the back page picture of her leaving Arran in a launch to board the Royal Yacht.

Still a supporter of Manchester United, an invitation was received for Alex Ferguson's book launch. Howard could not be restrained. Off he went wearing a Manchester United tie which Sir Alex immediately saw and wanted to know all about his support for the team as well as about The Banner. He left with two signed copies, one for son Andrew and one for chum George Tod of Glenree.

Another of Howard's strengths was his kindly and mentoring way with young people. Work experience and summer jobs meant a steady flow of teenagers spending work placements at The Banner and Howard was always willing to explain and to guide.

One area in which he ex-

celled was headlines. One of the most memorable was for the story about the then owners of Holy Isle bringing over German shooters to kill the rare breeds of sheep and goats which were resident there. He came up with 'Goats Felled'. Another was during a dispute over the building of a doctor's surgery on Brodick bowling green. Somebody had spoken in favour of the plan and that part of the story was headlined 'Surgical Support'. There were many wonderful headline ideas but some were unprintable since the Banner staff aimed to remain in business. Howard's son Andrew said: 'It was his whole life. He loved it, he lived it, he breathed it.'

In 2003 The Oban Times Ltd bought The Banner and this was an uncertain time for the staff. In November it all changed and, instead of it being 100 per cent Arran produced, the news-gathering was done on the island but the layouts were sent by computer to be printed elsewhere, initially in Falkirk.

The Millars had stood down and two years later, Jenni decided to leave, with only Howard left from the original team. He became principal reporter in what was a completely different set up, with everything being digital. Yet he steered The Banner carefully in these new circumstances, particularly with new staff and the Oban hierarchy knowing so much less about Arran.

He introduced his own touches too, not least his Where's Murphy? Although when that became Where's Archie? he found he had a much less cooperative dog to deal with. He wasn't comfortable with every change though. For example son Andrew said: 'He carried his little Olympus Trip camera everywhere because he just didn't trust digital.'

Howard became ill about 2007 and was diagnosed with cancer. After a short absence he returned to the

office and continued enjoying the many aspects of Arran life to which his work took him.

Both sons had married and moved south and Howard and Helen made plans to follow them on his retirement. They left Arran in 2013 and almost immediately his illness was found to have returned. Nevertheless he was able to return to farming and, for two or three years enjoyed a job in a farming museum, Cogs Manor Farm, where he would dress up in rustic farming togs and teach children about old, and not so old, farming techniques.

He loved this work, too, and was close to his grandchildren, although he knew time was running out.

He returned to Arran to



Howard with the new printing press of which he was very proud. 01_B42howard04

speak at George Tod's funeral and had hoped to make this year's Arran Show. He was not able to come to Arran for that, but he did make the Moreton Show in September.

Howard is survived by wife Helen, sons Andrew

and Stuart, and by three grandsons all of whom he was very proud. There will be a memorial service in memory of Howard in Shiskine Church on Monday October 29 at 11.30am.

John Millar



Howard with John and Deanna Millar and Jenni Turnbull outside the old Banner office in 1995. 01_B42howard05

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arran canine con

arran pampered pooches

A mobile dog grooming service by Laura Tulloch. Fully trained and insured. Mobile grooming offers an exclusive one to one service in the comfort of your own home, where you have the choice to be with your pet throughout the grooming process.

Laura aims to be as flexible as possible with appointment times and regularly grooms on weekends and evenings to accommodate the busy working pet owner. Services available from

Arran Pampered Pooches are also flexible to suit your needs, full grooms for your pet will include, a thorough shampoo, brush, blow dry, haircut/deshed, nails cut, ears cleaned and a sanitary trim. And for your wire haired pooches handstripping is also encouraged. All dogs need a pamper session but they don't all need the full works! Whether it be just a bath or a nail trim no job is too small.

For more information please contact Laura



arran hot dogs

Arran Hot Dogs is a mobile dog groomers equipped to pamper your pooch from the comfort of your own home.

Lead Groomer and ex college lecturer, Meghan, has been grooming for over 7 years and has experience with all breeds, behaviours and grooming needs. With full comprehensive insurance and pet first aid, Meghan works closely during a 1:2:1 pamper, ensuring an enjoyable experience for everyone.

In between spoiling her own two Lhasa Apso's, Meghan offers flexible hours

and days to suit your needs - and it's not just the hours that are flexible! One of the benefits of choosing Arran Hot Dogs Mobile Grooming is that you can become involved throughout the groom. Allowing you to see how your fur babies are groomed, loved and styled. Plus it provides you with the chance to change the haircut or style as it is happening, after all we don't want any embarrassed pooches!

For more information, contact Meghan on 07928127070 Or search Arran Hot Dogs Mobile Grooming on Facebook.



dog obedience classes

Classes have been running in current format for about 15 years. Training of this type is a very valuable tool in having well socialised dogs that do not make a nuisance of themselves, either with people or other dogs. We frame training in line with the Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme and help owners get their dogs to a level they're happy with. Over the last few years, we have seen a huge number of dogs pass assessments, which are undertaken by an independent evaluator, to either a Bronze, Silver

or a Gold level. Some folk continue to come along to maintain training post exams, or indeed, just for the social aspect of the Club. I also deal with a number of dogs with behavioural issues which are often referred on to me by the vet. We also highlight the responsibilities of dog ownership to those attending the classes, be that in terms of the health issues related to dog faeces and the importance of clearing up after your dog and disposing of the bags, not hooked to trees or by the side of the road, but in bins.

Arran Pampered Pooches

Mobile dog grooming
Laura Tulloch
 07946 831 132
 01770 700 479

arranpamperedpooches@outlook.com

Mobile Dog grooming, Isle of Arran
www.hotdogs-grooming.com

Hot Dogs grooming is a mobile groomers based on the Isle of Arran. Lead groomer, Meghan, is confident working with all breeds, ages and behaviours.

For grooming dates and bookings please get in touch.

- Level 3 City & Guilds qualified.
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- Lead dog grooming lecturer at Craven College, Skipton.
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Dog Obedience Classes
Whiting Bay Hall
 12.30 - 2.00 and 2.30 - 3.30

Enquiries, please call Margaret on 600858 or turn up to enrol

Companions



muddy paws arran

Many readers will now be aware of seeing the Muddy Paws van as it goes about its daily routine. We asked owners, Stacey and Trish to tell us a little more about how their business operates.

Stacey explained how the dogs are transported in the specially adapted van, which has 4 spacious cages in the rear, ensuring the dogs feel secure and have their own space. There is also a large area in front of this for the largest breeds, so everyone has plenty space.

Once the dogs have been collected from home its then off to various locations across the island - usually forest-

ry paths, to give the dogs as much freedom as possible, well away from public roads. They are walked for a minimum of 1 hour, and then returned home, at a cost of £8.00 per dog per hour.

With an ever increasing number of dogs on Arran, there are all sorts of people using Muddy Paws. Some, because of work commitments, or poor health which means they feel they aren't able to give their pets as much exercise as they need. Others are keen for their dogs to interact with other dogs to improve socialisation, and some just use the service when having a day on the mainland, or are attending a hospital appointment and can't take their dog with them.

However, all the dogs have one thing in common they

love their walks with Muddy Paws, and both girls agree that the best part of the job is seeing how excited the dogs are when they go to pick them up. Often, they are aware of the vans arrival before the owners are!

And it's a mixed bag of canine clients. "All shapes and sizes" says Trish. There are Labradors, collies, cockapoos, beagles, an English bulldog, a miniature schnauzer. The smallest is a chihuahua x poodle, the largest are German pointers. And no, the little ones aren't always the easiest!! The Muddy Paws gang is ever increasing and they are always looking forward to welcoming new four pawed friends to their fun filled walks, so if you feel your pup could benefit from a Muddy Paws walk please just give Stacey or Trish a call.

arran dog bakery

At the Arran Dog Bakery they take great pride in making the highest quality dog treats for the four pawed members of the family. They hand bake their gourmet dog treats using only natural ingredients and no additives, which means just pure yumminess!! The treats are all lovingly handmade on the Isle of Arran and not only comply with all strict legislation, they are also quality checked by Chica the Beagle and Myrtle the Labrador!

Arran Dog Bakery treats are available to buy at Red Door, Brodick and are always popular with the four legged visitors to the shop! Keep an eye out for the special edition Christmas Arran Dog Bakery biscuits... on sale now!



DOG WALKING SERVICE
info@muddypawsarran.co.uk
 T 01770303533 M 07900066415

A walked dog is a happy dog.

 Visit us on Facebook

Arran Dog Bakery
Gourmet Dog Treats
 Handmade on the Isle of Arran using only the finest ingredients.
 Available at Red Door Brodick

happy hound hotel

Whether you are away for a holiday or just need your furry friend looking after for a day, the happy Hound Hotel has the knowledge and experience to help. Overnight and 'day care facilities' are a speciality, although they are also happy to visit dogs in their own home to be let out, fed and cared for. At your own home any breeds are accepted (as long as they mix well with other dogs!) and they offer a fully insured service, walled garden and a hands-on approach to caring for your soulmate.

Happy Hounds are also happy to have dogs where owners have hospital appointments or if they simply need a day shopping on the mainland.

Margaret has been involved with dog training on the island for 20years, running both obedience and agility classes. She also has over 30years as a Kennel Club Assured Breeder and has actually worked for the Kennel Club, assessing breeders in terms of health and welfare

of dogs and puppies. Margaret has also undertaken a Veterinary Nursing course at Glasgow School of Veterinary Medicine which means she is experienced in and happy to follow medication regimes that dogs may be on.

"I have been doing this for years for friend's dogs and most of my own pups come back to Arran whilst their owners are on holiday. Some dogs a just much better suited to this type of environment rather than kennels.

I had a wee dog here for

several months last year whilst her elderly owner was unwell and was able to identify that there was no provision for circumstances like that on Arran.

'The Happy Hound Hotel' sort of evolved from friends referring to it as their dogs were coming here, so when it came to finding a name for the business, no other choice!"

For further information please contact Margaret on 01770 600858 or 07751 580174



DOG BOARDING & "DOG DAYS"

Anchorage Cottage, Lamash, Isle of Arran. KA27 8JY

Whether you are away for a holiday or just need your furry friend looking after for a day, the Happy Hound Hotel has the knowledge and experience to help. Overnight and 'day care facilities' are a speciality and yet we are also happy to visit dogs in their own home to be let out, fed and cared for. At our own home, we accept any breeds (as long as they can mix well with other dogs!) and we offer a fully insured service, walled garden and a hands-on approach to caring for your soulmate.

We are also happy to have dogs where owners have hospital appointments or if they simply need a day shopping on the mainland.




Prices:

Dog Home Boarding: £20 per day

Dog Day Care: £16 per day
(£9.00 for either morning or afternoon session)

Home visits for feeding or pee breaks £5 per visit

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Margaret Kay

Tel: 01770 600858 Mob: 07751 580174
Email: auchenrowanyorkies@hotmail.com

The decorated VC soldier who called Arran his second home

In August, exactly 100 years on from an act of valour which earned Lieutenant David Lowe Macintyre the Victoria Cross, a commemorative plaque was unveiled in his home village of Portnahaven, Islay.

However, as the anniversary of the end of the First World War approaches, it is worth remembering Lieutenant Macintyre on Arran too, as he had many connections with the island.

They started even before he was born when his father, Archibald Macintyre, came to teach in Shiskine School in 1879 and brought his sister Jessie as his housekeeper. She married a local, Coll Currie of She-dog. Archibald left Arran in 1881 and studied the ministry before becoming the Free Church Minister in Portnahaven, Islay, where his son David was born in 1895.

His mother died in 1908, when he was 13, and after that he came to holiday with his aunt Jessie and cousins at Balmichael Farm on Arran.

They included his cousin Jessie Ann Currie, grandmother of Charles Currie, and as a consequence they were very close and corresponded regularly before and throughout the First World War.

It was in that conflict that Lieutenant Macintyre, serving with the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, won the Victoria Cross.

Attached to the Sixth Battalion Highland Light Infantry, he was leading his men at Henin and Fontaine-les-Croisilles between August 24 and 27, 1918, when he rallied a small party and pushed forward through the enemy barrage in pursuit of an enemy machine gun detachment. They ran them to earth in a pillbox, killing three and capturing an officer, 10 other ranks and five machine guns. His party then attacked three more pillboxes and disposed of the machine gun teams inside.

Under normal circumstances, more information would have been recorded of Lieutenant Macintyre's courageous attacks and outstanding leadership.

However, the Battalion's War Diary had been written by the man himself, and, in typically Scottish fashion, he was not one to blow his own trumpet!

After the war, David returned to civilian life and in 1920 entered the Civil Service as Second Class Clerk at the (then) Office of Works at Stoney's Gate, Westminster. He was promoted to Assistant Principal Grade of the Secretariat Branch in 1926. In 1936 he became Principal of the Office of Works in Scotland and, at his retirement in 1959, he was Under Secretary Ministry of Works (Scotland).

During that time, David married Elspeth Moir Forsyth, and they had two children, Jean and Alasdair. After World War Two he renewed his acquaintance with Arran and his own family had many happy holidays there including often renting a house in the summer at Blackwaterfoot. He also stayed at Montana when run by Kate Bannatyne.

During such holidays, David and the family, including his children and then grandchildren kept in touch with Arran cousins and descendants and the family continue to visit Arran.

David retired in 1959



Lieutenant Macintyre has close connections with Arran.

and thereafter kept his Arran link as chairman of Arran Piers, the company that then ran and maintained the various piers for ferries and shipping on Arran during the 1960s.

He was appointed a Companion of the Order of the Bath in the 1949 New Year's Honours List and

died in Edinburgh in 1967, aged 72. His Victoria Cross is on permanent display at the National War Museum of Scotland in Edinburgh Castle.

Lieutenant Macintyre's family, including granddaughter Gillian Gallacher, still keep in touch with their cousins on Arran.

THE
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Visit
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Homes

Last Chance! Full details from:
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Tel: 01770 700747
Email: johnwebster@live.co.uk
Bookings close 31st January 2019

Christmas Craft Fayre
Saturday 3rd November
Arran High School. 12noon - 3pm
Lots of Local Craft Stalls!
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for Arran High Pupils
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The unveiling ceremony of the memorial to Lieutenant Macintyre on Islay in August.

What's on

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Every day

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Brodick Castle, 10am - 5pm
Arran Aromatics, Brodick, 10am - 4pm
Mon-Saturday, 10.30am - 5pm, Tours at 11am and
Sunday, 12:30pm - 5.00pm Tour at 2pm

Saturday 27th October

Flow yoga
Brodick Castle From the Outside – A guided historic tour
Halloween ghost walks
Highland dance classes, P2 and under
Highland dance classes, P3 and over
Corrie food festival
Family games
Fun in the pool
Live music – Lisa Kowalski
Live music – Fraser John Lindsay Blues Incentive
Over-21s Halloween disco

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
11.00am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm
Brodick Castle, Gardens and Country Park, 11am - 4pm
Arran High School, 11am - 12.30pm
Arran High School, 11am - 1pm
Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, 12 noon - 7pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm - 10.30pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

Sunday 28th October

Halloween ghost walks
Brodick Castle From the Outside – A guided historic tour
Mary's Meals soup and bread lunch
Live music – Introducing Arran
Coast Bistro – lunch with sensational Biff Simpson & her band
Family games
Fun in the pool
Live music – Heather Macleod & Friends
Lochranza and Catacol children's Halloween party
Eco Savvy film night
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Folk music session

Brodick Castle, Gardens and Country Park, 11am - 4pm
11.30am and 2.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 12.30pm - 1.30pm
Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 1pm
Whiting Bay, 1pm - 3pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
Lochranza Hall, 4pm - 6.30pm
Lamlash Community Theatre, 6pm
Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 29th October

Brodick Castle From the Outside – A guided historic tour
Chantraine dance class for adults
JogScotland mixed ability running group
Adult tennis
Circuit training
Isle of Arran Bridge Club, all welcome
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
Brodick Golf Club, 7pm for 7.15pm
Brodick Church Hall, 7.00pm - 8.30pm
Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm - 10pm

Tuesday 30th October

Healthy Outdoors team
Brodick Castle From the Outside – A guided historic tour
Castle garden walk
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)
Whiting Bay children's Halloween party
Arran Pace Makers – Jog Scotland beginners' group
Flow yoga
Arran Hockey Club – Juniors (5-14yrs)
Scottish country dancing
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
Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
Whiting Bay Village Hall, 5pm - 7pm
Ormidale pavilion, Brodick, 5.30pm
Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, 6pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6pm - 7pm
Brodick Church Hall 7.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Brodick Bar, 9pm
Auchrannie Spa Leisure 9.30pm – 10.30pm

Wednesday 31st October

Yoga
Hydrofit
Brodick Gardens volunteers
Arran Heritage Museum
Chair yoga
Brodick Castle From the Outside – A guided historic tour
Archives and Genealogy Service
Dog classes
Lochranza whist drive
Arran Pace Makers running group
Flow yoga
Haunted manor
Tae Kwon Do
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Live music – Halloween with Shindig
Family friendly pub quiz
Quiz night
Rock'n'pop bingo

Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am - 10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.30am
Brodick Castle and Country Park, 10am - 1pm
Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm
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
Lochranza Village Hall, 2pm
Brodick, 5.30pm
Shiskine Hall, 6pm
Brodick Castle and Country Park, from 7pm
Juniors 6.30pm - 7.30pm, Advanced Juniors & Adults, AHS, 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm - 10pm
PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
Drift Inn, Lamlash 9pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Thursday 1st November

Morning fitness
Chair yoga
Arran Heritage Museum
Brodick Castle From the Outside – A guided historic tour
ACL volunteer gardening day
Castle time travellers
Music Matters
Whiting Bay Thursday Club
Quilt Arran
Adult tennis
Isle of Arran Bridge Club, all welcome
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
Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm
11.30am and 2.30pm
Golf Course Road, Whiting Bay, 11.30am - 3.30pm
Brodick Castle and Country Park, 2pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 2pm
Whiting Bay Lesser Hall, 2pm
Firestation, Lamlash, 2pm - 4.30pm
Blackwaterfoot, 5.30pm
Little Rock, Brodick, 7pm for 7.15pm
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

Friday 2nd November

Yoga
Hydrofit
Brodick Castle From the Outside – A guided historic tour
Arran Heritage Museum
2 for 1 fish and chips
Chantraine dance class for adults
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Lochranza and Catacol Festival of Fire
Tae Kwon Do
Friday night quiz
Live music – Fatman & the Angel

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.30am
11.00am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm
Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm
Felicity's @ Eden Lodge 5pm - 6pm
Arran High School, Lamlash, 6pm - 7.15pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
Lochranza Village Green from 7pm
Advanced (Advanced Class) Arran High School, 7.30p - 8.30pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm
Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm - 10pm

Saturday 3rd November

Flow yoga
Brodick Castle From the Outside – A guided historic tour
Highland dance classes, P2 and under
Highland dance classes, P3 and over
Christmas fair in aid of Save the Children
Christmas craft fair, in aid of AHS Tanzania trip
Family games
Fun in the pool
Lamlash fireworks
Jazz Cafe Band
Live music – Legacy
Live music – Esperanza - Nine-piece ska collective from Glasgow
Over-21s disco

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
11.00am, 1.30pm and 3.30pm
Arran High School, 11am - 12.30pm
Arran High School, 11am - 1pm
Brodick Hall, 11am - 1.30pm
Arran High School, 12noon - 3pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Lamlash Green, from 7pm
Whiting Bay Village Hall, 8pm
Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm - 10pm
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm



www.arranbrewery.com

A two week frenzy of Hallowe'en fun and firework spectacles kicks off this weekend.

From a good old fashioned family friendly scare-fest at Brodick Castle to atmospheric bonfires, all the way to traditional Hallowe'en games, fancy dress and cocktails, there

really is something for everyone.

So whether you like to celebrate Hallowe'en indoors or outdoors, scared witless or comfortably ensconced near a roaring fire or in a warm pub, here is our pick of choice events taking place over the coming days.

Happy H

Haunted manor and ghost trail at Brodick Castle

In what must be one of the most fitting settings for Hallowe'en, Brodick Castle Gardens and Country Park are pulling out all the stops to ensure that their three planned events are as spectacularly spooky as their suitable setting.

Using live actors, scary music, set designs and special lighting in the forest, the scene will be set for some of the most unforgettable Hallowe'en events on Arran.

Offering something for everyone, two ghost trails will be available during the daytime which will take place on Saturday October 27 and the following day, between 11am and 4pm, and are aimed at families and children. Visitors will be able to walk along an eerie forest trail where ghosts, goblins and other Hallowe'en creatures will lie in wait for you. With spooky music, scary set designs and props, this activity is suitable for all ages but

does contain some scary content and props - please consider this when taking young children.

In addition to the ghost trails there will also be ghost tours where Hallowe'en guides will take you on an outdoor historical tour around the castle and gardens, sharing with you the darker side of Brodick Estate and even some of their own experiences with local ghosts. These too are suitable for all ages but they do contain some scary content which must be considered when taking young children.

Decidedly not for small children, or the faint of heart, the final event taking place on Wednesday October 31, during the night between 7pm and 10pm, will see the grounds transformed into a haunted manor where you follow a trail, encountering all kinds of ghosts and ghouls. Taking place on one night only, and with the live actors and music and special lighting, the event is sure to leave visitors quaking in their boots.

All events can be booked online at www.nts.org.uk where early booking is recommended due to limited availability and the popularity of these events.

Lamlash bonfire night

Taking place on the Lamlash Green on Saturday November 3 and starting at 7pm when the huge bonfire is lit, the annual Lamlash bonfire promises to be spectacular sight. With villagers and pyro-appreciators collecting wood and helping to build the fire from 11am in the morning, the family friendly event sees one of the largest bonfires on the island and is as atmospheric as they come.

As the darkness descends an impressive fireworks show starts at 7.30pm and the evening is suitably rounded off with visitors, villagers and children enjoying the warmth and social gathering, spread out around the fire as the embers die down in a fitting finish to a fiery spectacular.

Northend Festival of Fire

The Northend Bonfire Fireworks will take place on Friday November 2 at Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall, starting at 7pm. This newly established annual feature will see the castle in the bay lit up by floodlights and later in the evening, the location from where a firework show will be staged. Visitors waiting for the fireworks can enjoy bar facilities, barbecue and the 'feel the heat' bonfire on the Village Green. Special guests, who will be adding a Scottish feel to what is traditionally an American themed celebration, will be the Arran Pipe Band who will add to the musical accompaniment to an evening that is not to be missed.

Hallowe'en fun at Pierhead Tavern

This evening, Friday October 27th, starting at 8.30pm visitors to the Pierhead Tavern can get their Hallowe'en celebrations off to a rousing

Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall
presents

THE NORTHEND FESTIVAL OF FIRE

Photograph by
Glen Sloss

Lochranza Village Green
Friday November 2nd from 7.00pm

Fireworks
Bonfire
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BBQ
Music

Special Guests: The Arran Pipe Band

Lamlash Bonfire Night & Fireworks

Saturday 3 November on Lamlash Green

Contribute items for the fire

Wooden items only, please!
Bring them on the day.
Contact us to discuss collection.

11:00am - meet to build the fire
7:00pm - light the bonfire
7:30pm - fireworks

Lamlash Improvements www.lamlashimprovements.co.uk
Email: info@lamlashimprovements.co.uk Tel: 01770 600900

In LAMLASH at the

PIERHEAD TAVERN

A spooky night for adults only with
blood cocktails, apple bobbing, face
painting, pumpkin carving &
fancy dress competition led by
our very own karaoke vampire.

Friday 26th October from 8.30pm

Halloween!

start when the popular tavern in Lamlash hosts a spooky night of scary adult fun, not for the faint hearted. Their experts on fright night will be judging the best costumes after helping you paint your face, then after you've demonstrated your artistic side in the pumpkin carving the winners will be announced. With secret recipe Blood cocktails, lots of games, face painting, apple bobbing, not to mention the scary karaoke led by the karaoke vampire king Jo Dangles the evening is guaranteed to be a fitting introduction to a themed week of celebrations in warm lovely comfortable and lively surroundings. The restaurant menu is available until 9pm, bar snacks & takeaway served until 10pm.

Right: Operations manager at Brodick Castle Jared Bowers and Laurence Huddleston are pictured with a scarecrow which will be transformed into something far scarier over the following few days.

No_B42castle01

Far right: A team of actors get into character for the haunted manor event which takes place on Wednesday October 31. No_B42castle02




Halloween at Brodick Castle

Two great events



Halloween Ghost Walks

Haunted Manor

27th & 28th October –for families during the day. Ghosts tours at 11.30 and 14.30 and the Ghost Trail will be open 11am – 16.00.

31st October – big kids and adults for one night only. Are you brave enough? Space is limited so hurry and get your tickets here:

<https://www.nts.org.uk/visit/events/haunted-manor>

BRODICK CASTLE & COUNTRY PARK

brodickcastle@nts.org.uk 01770 302202

Eiders are in decline

**Bird
notes**
by Jim Cassels

September is the month for the Annual Clyde Eider Survey. Eiders are familiar birds around the Arran coast ... or at least they used to be, but their numbers are declining not only around Arran but in the Firth of Clyde as a whole.

Chris Waltho, a past president of the SOC (Scottish Ornithologists Club)

who has a passion for eiders, has organised surveys in the Clyde for more than 20 years.

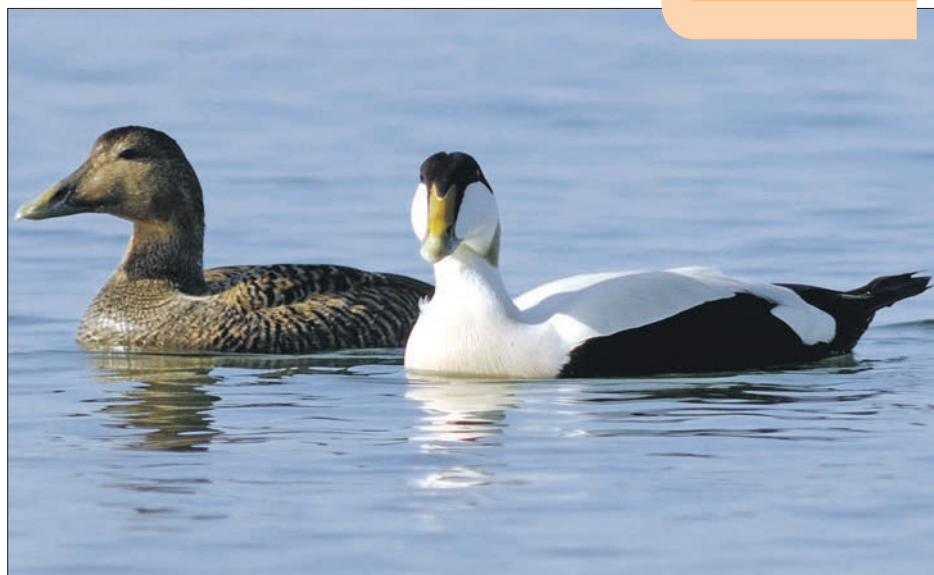
Chris's collected data clearly shows that the post breeding population of Eiders in the Firth of Clyde is in decline. Chris's report Clyde Eider News No16 August 2018 on last year's survey shows that 2017

was the lowest count ever.

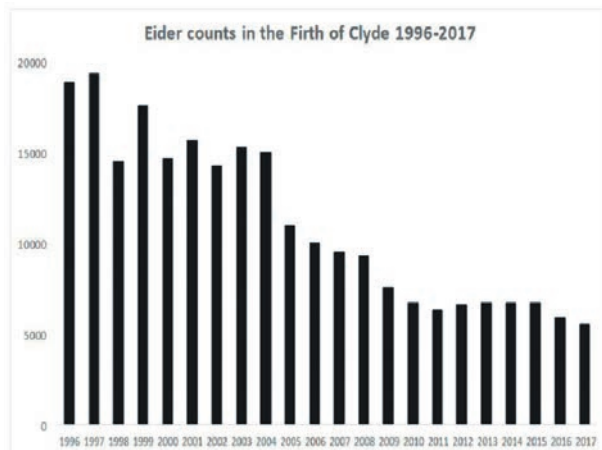
The 5,500 birds counted in 2017 is only 28.5 per cent of those counted in 1997. This represents a 71.5 per cent decline. Similar declines have been widely reported across much of Europe, from Iceland, Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland and the White Sea in Russia. The causes of declines across these areas are currently under investigation.

While the Arran trend reflects the overall figures, there has been considerable variation on the Arran September survey figures from more than 600 in 1999 to six in 2008. The figures for the last three years for Arran are 117,116 and 36. Last year was the lowest Arran count in 10 years.

This year volunteers from the Arran Natural History Society covered the coastline by foot and in some



A male and female eider, whose numbers are in serious decline. Photo Brian Couper



Eider counts in the Firth of Clyde 1996-2017.

cases by kayak to try and achieve the most accurate count of eider round our coast this September.

The number of eider counted this year was very similar to last year. The total this year was 33, so the

population trend is down.

Enjoy your birding.

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at jim@arranbirding.co.uk

I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Atlas 2007-2012 as well as the Arran Bird Report 2017 and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk

Young people are urged to check their TV licence

Young people on Arran are being urged to check they're fully covered with a TV licence as figures for evaders caught are revealed.

More than 800 people in Scotland between the ages of 18 and 25 were caught watching live TV or BBC iPlayer without a licence in the past year, according to data released by TV Licensing.

With 84 per cent of undergraduates aged 24 and under, TV Licensing is reminding students they could face prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000 if they are caught watching live TV or BBC programmes on iPlayer, on any device, without a licence.

Recent research by TV Licensing shows that the number of students taking

a TV to university has risen from 23 per cent to 27 per cent in the past year. Despite the increasing popularity of smartphones and tablets, a television is still the most used device for students watching live or recorded TV. However most watching BBC iPlayer are using a laptop, with 65 per cent watching on their portable computer and 28 per cent on their smartphone.

Awareness of knowing when a licence is needed is high, with 92 per cent of students clear that a TV licence is required to watch BBC iPlayer on a TV set. If students live in halls of residence and watch live TV or BBC iPlayer programmes in their room, they also need a licence. Students in shared houses require their own licence if

they use a TV or device in their room and have a separate tenancy agreement.

TV Licensing spokesman Fergus Reid said: 'Every year there are myths which circulate around campus about when you do and don't need a licence. As most students own at least one device capable of showing live TV or watching BBC iPlayer – such as a laptop, smartphone or tablet computer – it's important they know the law around being correctly licensed.'

'If you're watching live TV on any device, including mobiles and tablets, or watch catch up programmes on BBC iPlayer, you need to be covered by a TV licence.'

Students can easily check if they need a licence on the TVL website – www.tvlicensing.co.uk/studentinfo – or by calling 0300 790 6113.

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THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday October 24, 1998

Paths for all

Work has begun on the first six footpaths on Arran. Some of these paths will be new and are aimed at casual rather than serious walkers.

This is a project which is part of the Arran Access Initiative, a partnership of landowners and local people under the chairmanship of Scottish Natural Heritage.

The paths include Fisherman's Walk from Brodick to Cladach, the footpath to Loch Garbad and improvements on the track to Goatfell from High Corrie. The biggest path of all, over which there is still some uncertainty, may be from Brodick to Lamlash by way of the Fairy Glen.

Flood emergency

Last Friday torrential rain, high tides and swollen burns brought flooding to Arran such has not been seen in living memory.

It all happened within two hours during the late morning, yet left behind it a trail of damage which will take years, and hundreds of thousands of pounds, to put right. This week has been one of clearing up. Council workers have been clearing rock and silt from the roads, the water board have been trying to reinstate water supplies, householders have been throwing out sodden carpets and furniture and insurance assessors have been going from

house to house to give their verdicts. On Tuesday residents were told that this was a freak, a once-in-a-lifetime happening and people could rest assured that it would not happen again. Then on Thursday it did happen again. Torrential rain fell for a few hours on Thursday afternoon and again roads were being closed due to landslides, more bridges were being swept away and all of the effort of clearing up had been rendered worthless.

The forecast for the next week is more heavy rain and after what happened last week, people will look forward to the coming rainfall with much anxiety.

New engine

One incident from last Friday's flood was that one of the brand new Stagecoach buses will require a new engine costing £6,000.

It is believed that the driver contacted the depot for advice when confronted with deep water in Lamlash. That advice was to proceed through the water. Unfortunately it was too deep, the bus stopped and the engine was wrecked.

Although the driver was initially suspended, as normal practice pending an investigation, it is understood that earlier this week an inspector came over, looked at the facts, and the driver is now back on the job.



Clean-up operations take place in Whiting Bay where overflowing culverts raised the road and Tarmac which was submerged under the water. 01_B43twe01



Gillian McFadzean on Buttons and Mhairi Holmer on Anna who came first and second respectively in the Cairnhouse Challenge last week. 01_B43twe05



Alf Holliday congratulates George McGovern of Whiting Bay on his retirement from the Hydro Electric Board. George, who retired last month, has been with the board for 20 years. 01_B43twe04



Emergency tankers were drafted in to replenish supplies after damaged water pipes left island residents without water. 01_B43twe02



Ken Abernethy, chairman of Argyll and the Islands Enterprise, chats with Peter Chappell of Lochranza at the AIE Open Day which was held in the Ormidale Pavilion. 01_B43twe03

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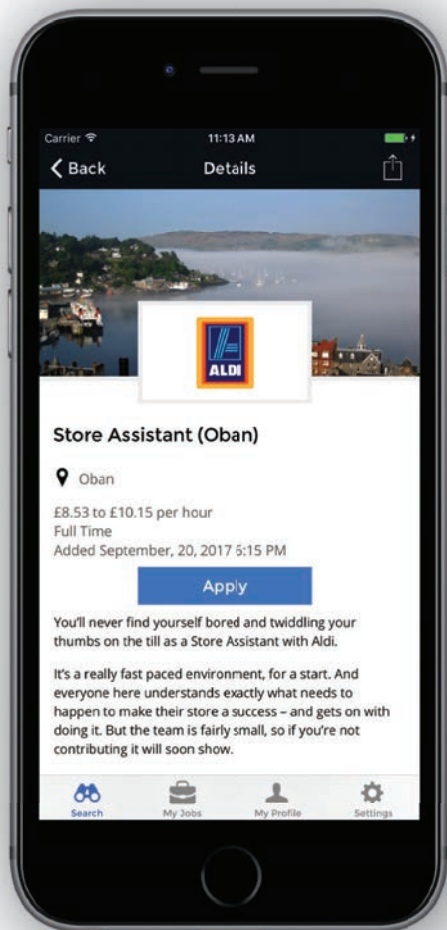

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 ACT 1997**
 Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined at Planning Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine, between 09.00-16.45 weekdays (16.30 Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk *and at The Council Offices, Lamlash
 Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy & Communities) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 16.11.18. Any representations received will be open to public view.
**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)
 18/00909/PP; Blairbeg House, Whiting Bay, Brodick, Isle Of Arran; Change of use of existing residential annexe to form separate dwelling house.**
 Elma Murray
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Arran's Nicola is riding high at Ascot

Arran's Nicola Currie, the champion jockey apprentice who is a household name in the horseracing world, has finished off her season on a high after competing at the prestigious Balmoral Handicap, the richest mile handicap in Europe, at the final flat meeting of the year at Ascot at the weekend.

Despite finishing sixth on strong contender Raising Sand, Nicola can add the race to her long list of competitive events and positions which all contribute to her moving towards becoming professional and reducing her stake claim.

An apprentice receives a 7lb claim which is gradually reduced as the num-

ber of winners increase, to lose the claim and become professional 100 winners must be achieved. Nicola reduced her claim to 5lb in January this year and this was further reduced to 3lbs when competing at Ascot. At this rate losing her apprentice 3lbs weight allowance is now just a matter of time.

Nicola, who is 24 years old, has been competing in the horse racing circuit for four years and has a string of wins under her belt. Add to this being part of the world renowned former jump jockey champion Richard Hughes' yard and representing Team GB in the European Apprentice Series, and it is clear to



Nicola Currie in the saddle.

see that Nicola is continuing her meteoric rise in the demanding and competitive world of horse racing. Mum Susie Murchie and stepdad James, who both live in Shiskine, do not get

to see her as often as they would like owing to her demanding career, however, they are able to keep up-to-date by watching her perform on televised events.

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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 28th October (End of European Summertime)

Lochranza and Pirnmill Churches together, 10.15 am. Morning Worship at Lochranza Church.

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 28th October Holy Communion - 11 am.

Richard Trewby
Coffee after service
All Welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)

Sunday 28th October 2018 Morning Service 11am

Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick

Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
ALL WELCOME

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday 28th October 2018

Sunday Worship @ 11am 'Heather Lodge', Brodick
Telephone 700346
Everyone Warmly Invited

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

Sunday 28th October

Rev Lily McKinnon
Kilmory - 10am, Lamlash - 11.30am.

In Lamlash: Praise Service
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

Sunday 28th October 2018

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 28th October

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

Sunday 28th October

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

Brodick 6pm
Rev Benjamin Van Rensburg

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 28th October

Sunday Morning Mass, 11am

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER

Holy Cross Church, Brodick

Thursday 1st November
TAIZE WORSHIP, 5.30pm
All Welcome



Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday October 11, front nine medal. 1 Jim Young 40-8=32, 2 Alan Colquhoun 38-4=34. No magic twos recorded.

Sunday October 14, Glenburn Cup. 1 Stewart McLaren 77-12=65, 2 Drew Wales 74-8=66. Best scratch Drew Wales @13th.

Thursday October 18, back nine medal. 1 John O'Sullivan 42-12=30, 2 Alan Smith 37-6=31 BIH over J Young. Magic twos Graeme Andrew @17th, Serge El Adm @13th.

Sunday October 21, Glenburn Cup. 1 John O'Sullivan 89-24=65 BIH, 2 Lee Dutton 86-21=65. Best scratch I Bremner 73. No magic twos recorded.

Fixtures: Sunday October 28, Winter Stableford

at 9.30am and 12.30pm
Thursday November 7, Yellow Medal, ballot at 11am.

Ladies' section: Wednesday November 14, AGM and annual prizegiving. Light refreshments, cheese and wine at 7pm.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday October 17, Stableford. A good turnout of 11 played the 12-hole stableford. 1 R MacCrae 25pts, 2 C Pattenden 24pts. There were two magic twos by G Sillars and C Pattenden.

Sunday October 21, Winter Cup Stableford, 14 played, NC. Brian Smith 14, 39pts, Bill Donaldson 16, 37pts, Alistair Hume 12, 36pts.

Fixtures: Sunday October 28, Winter Cup Stableford, 9am - note time change - and noon. Saturday November 3, Saturday Cup, arrange own games.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday October 20, Sweep. 1 D K Henderson 73-8=65 BIH, 2 G Andrew 73-8=65.

BIRTH



Neil & Jerry Arthur
are very pleased to announce the birth of
Maeva Eilidh Powell
on the 8th October 2018,
their second grandchild, a daughter for
Hattie & Joff and a sister for Findlay.
All well!

DEATH

DRIVER: Howard Allan. The death is announced of Howard Allan Driver who died peacefully aged 70 on 5th October 2018 at home in the Cotswolds. Much loved Husband, Father and Grandfather. Service of celebration to be held on Monday 29th October 11:30am at Shiskine Church and thereafter at The Kinloch Hotel. Retiring collection for Kate's Home Nursing.

Arran Bridge Club results

The latest results from the Arran Bridge Club are: Monday October 15, aggregate competition. N/S 1 Doug Chase and Jennifer Wales, 2 Maureen Cumming and Fiona Henderson, 3 Margaret McGill and Elizabeth McKellar. E/W 1 Tricia Martin and David Campbell, 2 Dougie and Margaret Bruce, 3 Alison Bilsland and Elaine Duncan.

Thursday October 18, aggregate competition. N/S 1 Jan and John Beattie, 2 Fiona and David Henderson, 3 Brenda Livingstone and Maureen Cumming. E/W 1 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton, 2 Jim Peacock and Jennifer Wales, 3 Libby Alexander and Jenny Macintyre.

Fixtures: Tuesday October 30, Winter Cup, tee off noon. Saturday November 2, Lochranza Hotel Cup, tee off noon.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday October 21, The Taylor Trophy, Green-some. Another elite field, no CSS, no magic twos. 1 Stan Rainey and Graeme Crichton 12.2, 62.8, 2 Kevin Jackson and David Brookens 10.8, 64.2.

Fixtures: Sunday October 28, sweep, yellow tees. One draw at 10am.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday October 23, Winter Cup, 1 Phil Betley 63, 2 Brian Sherwood 65.

Fixtures: Tuesday October 30, Winter Cup, tee off noon. Saturday November 2, Lochranza Hotel Cup, tee off noon.

Arran Golfers Association

Sunday November 4, Winter League (Duncan Trophy) at Corrie GC. Tee times will be as follows: 8.30am, 9.20am and 11.50am. Corrie v Whiting Bay at 8.30am, Lamlash v Brodick at 9.20am, Shiskine v Machrie Bay at 11.50am.

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Arran's Chris 'Babbies' MacNeil shadows his man in a challenge for possession.



An Arran attempt at goal is denied by the Kilbirnie keeper.

Defence stays strong in second-half onslaught



Continued from back page
kicks rained in but the defence stood strong throughout.

A controversial moment sparked a reaction from the Arran travelling support as John Murchie looked to be fouled at the other end, as a Kilbirnie defender came through him, but referee Brian Surgeneor played on and a good through-ball saw the pacy Ryan McLeod finish well.

Arran had a decent

chance through Grant Adamson at the death but it was not to be and a draw seemed like a fair result.

After the game manager Alan Murray said: 'It was a typical Sunday League match with no room for shrinking violets.

'I thought we stood up well and accept that we won't be able to play free-flowing football every week.

'The best thing for me is the lads in the dressing

room felt like it was a defeat which is a good mentality as many teams would take a point coming here to play. We will regroup and plan for a massive home game on Sunday.

'Arran AFC would like to thank Kilbirnie United for their hospitality afterwards in Ramages Bar and look forward to returning the favour on Arran in the new year.'

Tomorrow (Sunday) Arran host league champions

Killie Athletic in what will be another big test. The game kicks off at noon at Ormidale Park and the club hope to see a great deal of support again.

Post-match catering will be provided by Chris Parks and his team at Brodick Golf Club and the match ball will be sponsored by the Brodick Bar, which helps go towards the referee cost.

■ All photos by Tam Borland.



A Kilbirnie player is airborne during a tense moment.



Two players are down after a nasty clash.

Sand flies into the air during a fight for possession of the ball.



Arran's Ryan Armstrong uses his height advantage to secure an incoming ball.

SPORT



INSIDE THIS WEEK:
Arran's Nicola is riding high at Ascot



A stramash in the Arran goal sees players from both sides leaping into the air.

Arran settle for a draw in tough clash with Kilbirnie

Ayrshire Sunday League

Kilbirnie United	2
Arran AFC	2

League leaders Arran AFC travelled to the Garnock Campus to play their first match on a new 4G surface on Sunday.

Manager Alan Murray remained loyal to the previous week's side with the only starting XI change being David Heenan in for Stephen Judge between the sticks.

Kilbirnie United looked motivated for the game as a few meaty tackles were given out but Arran had the best of the opening chances through Archie McNicol and Toby Wingham.

It was Kilbirnie who went ahead though as a fine strike outside the box from Colin Keenan, who from 25 yards out found the bottom corner.

Arran couldn't really find their passing game and

play was scrappy for long periods. However, they found themselves 2-1 up at half-time with the league's top scorer Archie McNicol grabbing a quick-fire brace.

Kilbirnie then had two efforts ricochet off the bar as Arran were forced back in the second half. It looked like the islanders' back line would hold out, though, as multiple corners and free

Continued on page 27



Top goal scorer Archie McNicol puts the ball between the posts for one of his two goals.



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