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SATURDAY 24 NOVEMBER, 2018

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Santa's Sparkle

New timber slipway plan for Imachar

'RDS Forestry has been looking to find a solution to sustainable timber harvesting and haulage from properties on the west side of Arran'

Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A new bid is being made to create a timber slipway on the west coast of Arran – a year after planners rejected a similar proposal.

A private forestry firm is looking at sites to transport timber from the island by sea, with a site at Imachar the preferred location.

Stirling-based RDS Forestry Ltd has already had talks with council officials, as well as forestry and community groups, and is currently undertaking a marine assessment of the site.

Owner Robin Dixon said: 'RDS Forestry has been looking to find a solution to sustainable timber harvesting and haulage from properties on the west side

of Arran. The aim is to reduce the pressure on the local public road network by limiting timber lorry movements, and believe that an alternative pier site would bring long-term benefits.

'We were very disappointed that, after around four years of meetings, surveys, negotiations and more meetings, the Forestry Commission proposed slipway at Machrie was refused planning permission by North Ayrshire Council in November 2017.

'Our proposal for a slipway at Imachar has been discussed with North Ayrshire Council, Ayrshire Timber Transport Group, which includes Arran in its catchment area, and a group from the Arran Com-

munity Council. We hope to provide more detailed plans and drawings shortly,' he added.

It is believed the shore at Imachar has been chosen as a new road could be extended along the shore from the existing main road and there are natural inlets to store the wood for shipment. The new slipway would be used to ship timber felled in the west of the island by the Forestry Commission, from Dougarie Estate and the RDS own section of forest at Wee Machrie.

The proposal for the £300,000 slipway at Machrie was thrown out by planning officials last November.

Continued on page two



Staff at Arran Aromatics take time out from their hectic Shop Arran weekend to pose for a photo under the shop Christmas tree with their new advent calendar. They are, left to right, manager Hazel Robertson, Katie Smith, Sue Walker and Mags Hamilton-Bulger. See more coverage of Shop Arran on pages four and five. 01_B47shop09

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End of the day for Catacol Bay

The Catacol Bay Hotel has shut its doors for the last time.

The northend hotel, which closed at the end of September, was run for nearly 40 years by owner Dave Ashcroft and his family before its sale.

However, it has now emerged that the new owners have no plans to reopen the hotel and are seeking planning permission for a change of use back to a residential dwelling house as

it was originally built. The application is in the name of Mrs Ann Turner-Swan who have hired Ayr-based Edesign Architecture and Planning Ltd to assist the process with North Ayrshire Council planners.

The new owners say that they originally planned to operate the hotel.

However, following a further review of the upgrading works required, the view has been taken to convert the building back

to a five-bedroomed residential property.

The history of property shows that the original use of the building was as a manse house and it was subsequently converted to a hotel.

The original house name of Craigard is also being restored.

A statement, supporting the application says: 'The Catacol Bay Hotel has been operating as a hotel since the early 1970s un-



Catacol Bay Hotel.

der one owner. However, more recently the business has suffered a clear decline in trade and this impact on trade has been unsustainable, resulting in the owners making the difficult decision to cease trading and retire.

'This decline in business was compounded by the level of investment required to undergo a relatively comprehensive scheme of upgrading works in order to modern-

ise the hotel and its facilities. The hotel and business was subsequently actively marketed for a period of two years, with little or no interest from any potential purchasers.

'These proposed alterations are minimal internal alterations with external visual improvements to the building's form, such as the removal of the existing flat roof to the front porch area and replacement with a mono pitched slated roof

and the removal of large upvc windows to the front and replacement with new vertical proportioned windows.

'Other smaller alterations include the removal of the fire escape stairwell to the gable elevation and the removal of large extraction systems from the existing kitchen area.'

The change of use application is currently under consideration by North Ayrshire Council planners.



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New timber slipway plan for Imachar

Continued from page 1

Forest Enterprise Scotland wanted to create a timber stacking yard and slipway on a site to the north of Dunedin at Machrie. The plan was to use the slipway to ship 3,000 tonnes of trees a month to the mainland, which are to be felled on the west side of the island, to avoid the need to

transfer all of the wood over the String Road to Brodick.

However, the proposal met stiff opposition from residents and businesses in the area claiming the semi-industrial development would spoil the tranquillity of the area and harm the environment and tourism.

There was also concern that dozens of timber lorries would have to cross the main road to get from the stacking yard to the slipway when the barges were being loaded.

Planning permission is expected to be sought from North Ayrshire Council for the Imachar site in the new year.



The natural inlets on the shore at Imachar where a timber slipway could be built.

ACVS is first carer positive employer

Arran Community and Voluntary Service (CVS) has been presented with the island's first Carer Positive award in recognition of its policies and ideals which support staff who are also carers.

Manager of the Carer Positive awards Sue McIntock made a special trip to Arran's first recipient to present CVS manager Carol Kane with the award at its office in Lamash.

Carer Positive is a Scottish Government funded employer recognition

scheme which aims to raise awareness of the growing number of carers in the workforce. It recognises employers with a supportive working environment for staff who may be caring for an elderly, sick or disabled family member or friend.

One of the key messages behind the award is that supporting employees who are carers is not only beneficial to individuals and their families but also to employers, by helping to attract and retain skilled and valuable mem-

bers of staff. The recognition means CVS joins more than 130 organisations across Scotland - accounting for more than 320,000 employees - as Carer Positive employers.

Sue said: I would be more than happy to talk to other local organisations and businesses who may be interested in becoming Carer Positive employers or who simply want to find out more about what is involved.

'It is free to participate and support is provided as required.'

Groups get bumper cheques at Co-op celebration day

Two Arran community groups will receive bumper cheques from the Co-op today (Saturday).

During a celebration day at the Big Co in Brodick, cheques totalling more than £40,000 will be handed over from money raised by Co-op members at the island's three stores, who have contributed one per cent of their spending on own-brand products to local causes.

The groups to benefit are Arran Mountain Rescue Team (AMRT) which will get £21,810.44 and Feis Arainn which will collect £19,881.10.

Community member pioneer Mark Harwood said the Co-op was especially pleased to support the Feis, which can now fund the attendance of young people for years to come.

AMRT will use the funds

to build cover for two more vehicles, which in turn will help them cope with increasing demand for their services.

On the day, AMRT will have a display and the Feis people will provide music and good vibes, both from 1pm till 4pm. Mark, himself, will provide some

of the warm-up entertainment.

Mark said: 'A big thank-you to all the Co-op members at the three stores who contributed one per cent of their spending on own-brand products to the local causes. Please come along to the Big Co and join in our day of celebration.'

Lost walker is rescued

A walker lost in fog, and then benighted as darkness fell, was rescued last week by the Arran Mountain Rescue Team.

The were called out at 4.15pm last Tuesday to search for a male walker who had become lost descending Goatfell as darkness fell. Thankfully the team could minimise their search area after establishing that he was somewhere along a deer fence in the area after making contact by phone with the lost walker.

Team members set off at various locations along the fence line below Goatfell and by a stroke of luck rescue helicopter, Coastguard 199, was training in the area at the time and provided assistance.

After a short while, Rescue 199 located the male in the Glenshant area and, while a bit distressed, he was able to walk off the mountain with assistance.



Sue McIntock presents Carol Kane and staff at Arran CVS with their Carer Positive award.
01_B46care01



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Shop Arran is a sparkling success

Shops on Arran were bustling with festive cheer last week and the tills were ringing too.

The annual Shop Arran weekend was held two weeks earlier this year and shoppers and shopkeepers alike seem to agree that the move was worthwhile.

There was a real Christmas atmosphere in the shops and adding to the merriment were glasses of

fizz, mulled wine, nibbles and sweets.

The general opinion is that earlier was better as people had not done their Christmas shopping yet and holding the event in mid-November meant it did not clash with other events as it had previously.

Saturday was the busiest day out of the three and organisers were lucky with the weather as it brought

people out and moving around the island.

It was also a North Ayrshire holiday weekend, but not on Arran, which brought a lot of visitors from the mainland, some of whom stayed overnight, giving a boost to hotels and guest houses as well.

The Elf on a Shelf pebble treasure hunt was popular with children, and shoppers were eager to collect

six stamps to they could enter the big Christmas prize draw.

Organiser Lorna Mansfield said: 'Some customers feedback was interesting as they said they hadn't realised what all was available on the island and at such competitive prices. We're keen to promote shopping locally all year round, not just at Christmas.'



Tom McGarrigle was promoting his new Arran Gift Box business in Arran Active. 01_B47shop02



Buntys owner Lynn Raeburn with Saturday assistant Anna Wilkinson. 01_B47shop05



Shoppers browse in Buntys. 01_B47shop04



It was a busy weekend in Arran's Cheese Shop. 01_B47shop07



Anne Hume shows a customer her jewellery display in her Brodick workshop. 01_B47shop06



Emma MacDougall from Fairlie makes a purchase at Arran Aromatics. 01_B47shop08



In festive spirit at Arran Active are Pete Doubleday, Marion Logan, Lisa Morrison and shop owner Andrew Walsh. 01_B47shop03



Arran Active is busy with shoppers. 01_B47shop01

MP takes Waspi pension fight to Westminster

Local women fighting pension injustice were at Westminster this week where North Ayrshire and Arran MP Patricia Gibson led a three-hour debate on Thursday night.

Mrs Gibson had secured the debate on the rise in state pension age for women born in the 1950s from 60 to 65. Lack of sufficient information and communication meant that many women did not find out about these changes until relatively recently, leaving them with little time to prepare.

The accelerated timetable for pension equalisation, set out in the 2011 Pensions Act hit women hard. Campaign group Waspi (Women against state pension inequality), estimate that 3.8 million women born in the 1950s must wait up to six years more to

receive their state pension. Mrs Gibson is the only MP who has spoken in every single Waspi debate and is determined to keep this issue on the agenda. Waspi Ltd groups from around the country, including members from the Ayrshire and Arran Waspi group, were at the debate.

Denied

Mrs Gibson said: 'Women born in the 1950s justifiably and reasonably expected to benefit from their state pension when they reached 60. Not only has this been denied to them, as a result, household incomes for these women have fallen by 12 per cent and the poverty rate has gone up by 6.4 per cent, according to Age Scotland. 'Many have been unable to continue working due to ill health, caring responsibilities or unemployment.

In my North Ayrshire and Arran constituency 4,800 women have been affected and I have heard first-hand the hardship and difficulties many face as a direct result of these changes.

'These women are simply asking the UK Government to pay out what they have paid in and what they have every right to receive. My debate keeps this issue on the agenda, as Waspi women continue fighting for a fair deal. My SNP colleagues and I will continue to work with them to secure pension justice,' she added.

If you are a woman born in the 1950s and would like to join the fight for your pensions then please contact the official Waspi group for Ayrshire and Arran at cunninghame waspi@outlook.com in the first instance.

Your cash back in your pocket



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

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

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Singers rally to save carol concert

For the first time in well over 30 years, there will be no John Dick carol concert in Lamlash this year.

Traditionally held on the first Monday of December, the concert has been a fixture on the island's festive calendar since the early 1980s, but a number of events have conspired together to result in the organisers taking a break this year.

But fear not! Thanks

to the efforts of many of Arran's singers and musicians, there will still be an island carol service on that first Monday of December. This year, it is to take place in Brodick Church and will feature carol singing from vocal groups Vivace, Ain't Misbehavin' and the Arran Singers, as well as music from Arran Brass and local string group Arco. There will be a strong emphasis on congregational sing-

ing so everyone will get a chance to sing their favourite Christmas carols.

'When we found out that there was to be no carol concert in Lamlash, we felt saddened so decided to see if we could pull something together in its place,' explained co-organiser Andrew Walsh who is helping stage the event with Susan Dobson and Katy Penn.

'The board and session at Brodick Church were very

quick to offer their support, and everyone we have approached to take part has been very positive. We look forward to welcoming Christmas on Arran with a traditional carol service and a good sing,' he added.

The island carol service takes place at Brodick Church at 7.30pm on Monday December 3. There will be a collection in aid of CLIC Sargent.

■ See letters page.



Vivace, performing in Lamlash last year, will be taking part in the Brodick concert. 01_B49carol05

Lamlash stage all set for Sound of Music

The Arran hills will be alive with the Sound of Music from Thursday to Saturday, December 6 to 8, at the community theatre in Lamlash.

Producer Maureen Smith has assembled a cast of more than 40 this year,

with many new faces among them, and they've all been working very hard to try to do justice for this classic show.

The much-loved show, being staged by the Lamlash Drama Group and friends, replaces the tra-

ditional Christmas pantomime this year.

Maureen told the Banner: 'We are delighted to see a welcome return of Kelly Henbery (Donnelly) to the Arran stage and this time she has been upgraded from playing Liesl, to the principal role of Maria.

'There will be some familiar and some new faces among the seven Von Trapp children and, with many costume changes and great songs, they are sure to delight audiences.

'Additional choral support is greatly appreciated from some of the ladies from the Arran Soul Choir who have agreed to "Dedicate" themselves as

the nuns of Nonnberg Abbey. The staging has been a challenge but hopefully the crew will have every nail in place and the paint dry before opening night. We are extremely grateful for all their additional help as without them we'd be performing on a dull stage.'

To make sure of your seats, drop into the Book and Card Centre, Brodick, and pick up your tickets.

There is still a family special on offer – two adults and two children, so hurry along so that you too can Climb Every Mountain with a Lay-dee odlee o or a Doh a Deer.

So Long, Farewell ... see you there!

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Major repairs completed at landslide-hit bridge

Work has been completed on a major bridge and road repair project on one of Arran's busiest roads.

Following a sustained period of torrential rain earlier this year, the Brodick bridge and underlying structure became undermined, causing a partial landslide on the A841, just a short distance from Brodick ferry terminal.

The incident in April led to many weeks of single-file traffic on the main road to Lamlash as North Ayrshire Council undertook detailed engineering studies before an extensive rebuilding programme started in July.

This has now been completed, with a new retaining wall erected to ensure the integrity of the road for years to come.

Councillor Jim Mont-

gomerie, cabinet member for place, praised the work which was carried out, saying: 'This was a major and complicated project and the end result is fantastic.'

'The landslide happened after a sustained period of heavy rain which resulted in slippage of a masonry retaining wall.'

Undermined

'This caused the road and footpath to be undermined, with a large volume of masonry, soil and vegetation material falling into the ravine below.'

'Our roads team immediately set about drawing up plans to repair the road and we're delighted to confirm that work is now completed.'

'I'd like to thank the community on Arran for their patience while this project was ongoing and I'm sure

they will be pleased with the outcome.'

Following the landslip, temporary traffic lights and a partial closure were put in place until a permanent solution was found. As a precaution to prevent any further damage to the road surface during the construction works, a temporary 15m-long steel vehicle bridge was installed to ensure the A841 road could remain open at all times.

The complex nature of the project saw the area excavated before the retaining wall was reconstructed. The existing parapet was then rebuilt and the road resurfaced.

The works progressed as planned with the temporary bridge removed in September before the final rebuilding works were completed in the past few weeks.



The roadside wall has been rebuilt to blend in with the original structure.



The completed bridge after the extensive repairs.



The landslide which occurred following heavy rains earlier this year.



Work gets under way on building the retaining wall underneath the Brodick bridge.



The temporary bridge which allowed traffic to continue to use the road with temporary traffic lights.

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Editorial

Imachar plan

Just when it looks like the long debate over a timber slipway on the west side of the island is over, along comes another plan.

This time the location is not Machrie but further up the coast at Imachar. The Forest Commission put a huge amount of effort into the proposal for the Machrie slipway, which it considered the ideal solution to take timber off the island from the west coast forests by sea instead of trailing timber lorries across The String road to Brodick.

But planners disagreed and threw out the plans, which had met stiff opposition. They said the 'scale, siting, operations and visibility' of the proposals would have a detrimental impact on landscape; that was contrary to the Local Plan and ruled it was an industrial operation within a rural location.

So how is Imachar any different? For one, there would be no need for the timber lorries to repeatedly cross the main road when the barges are being loaded, which was a concern at Machrie.

Secondly, it would be assumed the private plans may not be on the scale of the Forestry Commission's proposals, but we will have to wait and see. What is clear is that the desire for a west coast timber slipway is not going away.

Thought for the week

'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.'
Matthew 5:1

Roles need clarified

Sir,
Campbell Laing's rather disappointing letter in last week's Arran Banner appears to have missed the real point of the published article, which was that the community council members are starting to be made to feel that their role is becoming undervalued and their potential constrained by the local authority's perceived support for Locality Planning, as the representative body for the Arran community views. The letter also contains quite a number of factually inaccurate statements.

Arran Community Council has, over many years under a number of chairmen, including Mr Laing, a good record for proactive participation on many topics such as roads, planning and many other key areas for the island.

The much misunderstood Locality structure has only been established since September 2016 and the facts speak for themselves.

Interestingly, North Ayrshire Council has so far chosen not to challenge the CC's claims. The author may wish to speak to other representatives on the Locality to get their views and experiences over the past term.

One organisation, Arran Community Council, is made up from volunteers from around Arran representing all villages and areas, who meet 11 times per year and work together to lobby the various cases which the community bring to our attention.

The other, the Locality Planning Partnership, is a top down politically ap-

pointed and directed organisation which the local authority is compelled to support despite its reservations.

In today's world where 'democracy matters', it has to be challenged which structure delivers the intended outcome.

The author may also note that the CC representation is up to the CC members with 'chair or such community councillor as shall be nominated' in the standing orders. A change Arran CC fought to amend in the furtherance of 'democracy' to address other criticism of having the 'same face' representing at every committee.

The views expressed in the initial press article were a reflection of the group's views and it can only be hoped that, on reflection, Mr Laing can recognise the CC's role as the first level of local governance in its apolitical aim to represent the Arran community and set aside whatever his preferences were that may have driven his letter.

Pending the outcome of any review resulting from the Islands Bill, the present structures must co-exist for the benefit of the community at large, albeit that their roles and funding may have to be clarified.

Yours,
Jim Henderson,
Secretary,
on behalf of Arran
Community Council.

Road closure

Sir,
In your article covering Arran's services of Remembrance in the Banner of November 17, you state that the service in Brodick took place at 10am due to the 'infeasibility of closing

the (A841) at 11am when the ferry departs'. I fail to see the logic in such a decision.

First, the scheduled departure time of the ferry is 11.05am. Secondly, at the time of the road closure on November 11, people heading for the 11.05am ferry from the northend, west coast, Blackwaterfoot and Shiskine would be travelling trying to comply with CalMac's latest check-in criteria of 10.35am for vehicles. Those foot passengers travelling by public transport from the above areas would have been scheduled to arrive at the ferry terminal by 10.38am, passing Brodick's war memorial on the way. Finally, by 10.55am, even foot passengers need to have boarded the ferry and at 11am would be, hopefully, observing a two-minute silence prior to departure, as requested over the ferry's public address system.

Would it not be more logical for the road to be closed after the closing vehicle check-in time, and after scheduled public transport had passed the war memorial, say 10.45am? Passengers arriving in Brodick on the 9.45am ferry from Ardrossan could be advised by the public address system/notices on the ferry not only that, but also when, the A841 would be closed for the service of Remembrance, a luxury not afforded to those 'not in the know' travelling to catch the 11.05am sailing. Further, the people of Brodick could observe the protocol of the Remembrance Day silence if not at, then closer to, the 11th hour.

Yours,
P W Yates,
Catacol.

Carol concert cancelled

Sir,
The carol concert, which has been held on the first Monday in December and which, to many, heralds the start of the Christmas season, cannot be held on that date this year.

This is because the high school and Lamlash Primary are using the community theatre for Christmas events, and so the dress rehearsal for The Sound of Music, which is replacing the pantomime this year, has to take place on December 3, a week earlier than normal. This means that many of those who would have taken part in, or attended, the carol concert cannot do so.

As a result, it has been agreed that the concert could not achieve the same variety and success of last year, and that reluctantly the concert has been cancelled, but it is hoped that the problem can be rectified next year.

Everyone will be welcomed at the various Christmas events in all the churches, and in Lamlash Church there will be the traditional service of readings and carols on December 9 with ARCO, and with a special collection for CLIC Sargent (Scotland).

The decision to donate to this fund was made when the concert was set up by John Dick, church organist and head of music in the high school in the early 1980s in memory of a music student who passed away as a result of leukaemia while still at school.

Yours,
Ian Watt,
Session Clerk,
Lamlash Church.

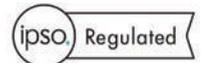
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However, we realise that mistakes happen from time to time. If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@arranbanner.co.uk;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

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THE EDITOR welcomes letters for publication on this page. The Editor reserves the right to shorten, amend or to refuse to print them. Names and addresses MUST be supplied to indicate good faith, although these details can be withheld from publication. Telephone numbers, if available, should also be included. Anonymous letters will not be considered. Please write to: Letters, The Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ. Fax: (01770) 302021. Email editor@arranbanner.co.uk Emailed letters can only be considered if they have a name, full address and phone number.

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A wonderful weekend of music



A wonderful weekend of music and dance is being held on Arran to celebrate St Andrew's Night.

The weekend will begin on Friday November 30 with a concert featuring the renowned piper Fred Morrison, who will be performing at Brodick Church Hall.

Although born and raised near Glasgow, it is the celebrated Gaelic piping tradition of his father's native South Uist, in the Outer Hebrides, that forms the bedrock of his intensely expressive, uniquely adventurous style.



Top accordion player Grant McFarlane will be performing at the ceilidh.

His outstanding technical prowess saw him winning many top competition prizes while still at school, meanwhile being inspired by pioneering acts like the Bothy Band and the Tannahill Weavers. Although his first-love instrument remains the great Highland bagpipes, over the years his mastery has expanded to encompass whistles, Scottish smallpipes, or reelpipes – Morrison being a pivotal populariser of this once-rare variety – and Irish uilleann pipes.

He was also one of the first Scottish artists to forge dynamic links with his Celtic cousins in Brittany and north-west Spain, adding further to his repertoire of influences and tunes, and has long been renowned as an outstanding tune composer.

Each year in November, Fred packs his instruments into the car and sets off on a solo tour of Scotland, playing in intimate settings the length and breadth of the country.

The winter tour has be-



Fred Morrison will be playing in Brodick next weekend.

come a permanent fixture in Fred's schedule.

He said: 'It's great to see how the Celtic music scene has expanded throughout the world, with all the huge festivals, but I do love coming back to perform and share music and stories in all the amazing venues at home, some in very far-flung places.'

Playing mostly his own compositions, the mix of heart-warming music and great stories make for a great winter night's entertainment for music lovers of all ages.

The concert will be opened by Arran Music School youth pipers and will be in Brodick Church Hall at 8pm.

Tickets are available from arranevents.com, the Book and Card Centre or at the door. Tickets £12, concession £10 and under-18s £5. BYOB

The celebrations will continue on Saturday December 1 with a Fèis Arainn family ceilidh in Brodick Public Hall at 7.30pm

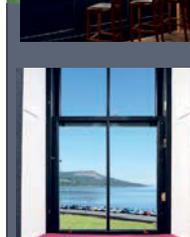
Featuring top accordion player Grant McFarlane and Graeme Connel on drums to drive the dancing along and with performances by young Fèis participants.

Tickets available from arranevents.com, the Book and Card Centre or at the door. Adults £8, children £4, families £20. BYOB and juice bar.

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FÈIS ARAINN ST ANDREW'S NIGHT
Friday 30th November
Fred Morrison in Concert
Arran Music School Youth Pipers.
Brodick Church Hall 8pm BYOB
Tickets £12:00, £10 & £5.00.

FÈIS ARAINN FAMILY CEILIDH
Saturday 1st December
Grant McFarlane & Graeme Connel
Young Fèis participants
Brodick Hall 7:30pm BYOB Juice Bar
Tickets Adult £8.00 Child £4.00 Family £20.00
Tickets from:
www.arranevents.com, The Book and Card Shop & on the door
Fèis Arainn is a registered charity. Scottish Charity No. SC021446
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RAZORS EDGE

9pm Saturday 24th

?ub Quiz
Weds 8.30pm

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Lochranza waiting room could stay open in winter

The new ferry terminal at Lochranza could be kept open all winter.

A review is under way looking at how to best use the newly refurbished passenger waiting room over the winter months when there is just one sailing a day to Tarbert.

At the moment the terminal is open for use but there are discussions over how best to open and close it. Ironically it means the village is now well served with toilets after the community took over the former council toilet block across the road after they were closed down.

The dated facilities, which

were previously seldom used, have been transformed into a modern and bright, albeit small, waiting room for CalMac customers. The waiting room now has passenger toilets, including an accessible facility, together with a baby changing station.

The work by CMAL has seen the building clad in grey fibre cement weather-board cladding, which will reduce the maintenance requirements and will maintaining the building's appearance for longer.

This external finish is in keeping with CMAL's standard building brand that has already been rolled



The new waiting room at Lochranza. 01_b33wait01

out at Largs and Fishnish. The inclusion of full height windows and external canopy will allow passenger to enjoy the view while keeping warm and dry.

As part of CMAL's ongoing commitment to sustainable buildings, the waiting room uses an air source heating system to reduce running costs and

fuel consumption. This follows the inclusion of a biomass boiler and photovoltaic solar panels in the new terminal building at Brodick.

A CalMac spokesman said: 'Winter opening arrangements are under review to see how we can make best use of this facility.'

Club seeks new members

The Arran Horticultural Society garden club, which was formed about 15 years ago, is urgently seeking new members to allow the club to continue into 2019.

If you are interested in joining the club, or even if you wish to offer your assistance in any manner, Carol Vella-Boyle can be contacted on 07733 833075.

The club's 2018 season will conclude with their winter social and annual general meeting on Thursday November 29 at the Brodick Castle Ranger Centre at 7.30pm. All visitors are warmly welcomed.

Olivia's sleep out raises £600 for the homeless

Shiskine P6 pupil Olivia McNeice chose to celebrate her 10th birthday sleeping outside and in the process helped to raise more than

£600 for the Social Bite Fund.

Taking part in an initiative called the Wee Sleep Out - which is a youth

aligned initiative similar to Sleep in the Park which raises funds to end homelessness in Scotland - Olivia slept out from 9pm on Friday until 7am on Saturday, on one of the coldest nights of the year.

Making a fun event of it, Olivia was joined by her school friends Rhea Webster, Ben McCarthy, Sophie Turner, Andrew Currie, Emma Henderson, her sister Ava and cousin Beth.

The Wee Sleep Out is aimed at eight to 16-year-olds and runs alongside Social Bites Sleep in the Park which last year saw 8,000 people joining the world's

largest sleep out in Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh, and raising £4 million for the charity.

All of the children

thanked everyone who has donated to them and are delighted to have raised a total of £622.50 for the charity.



Olivia McNeice, bottom right, is joined by her friends who all helped her celebrate her 10th birthday sleeping outdoors.



The boys and girls enjoy a fun pillow fight before settling down to sleep for the evening.

Selling your Whisky Cask?

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 ATOM BRANDS

Santa gets a new sparkle and a torchlight parade

Santa is on his way to Lamlash this weekend.



There's a whole new look to Santa's Sparkle which kicks off Christmas in Lamlash today (Saturday).

The event has a new venue and will end with a torchlight parade through the village to light the community Christmas tree.

Recent poor weather on the day means that this year the event will take place in Arran High School which will be drier and warmer than last and Santa has confirmed that he will be available to visit Arran again this year. He commented that the atmosphere was so good last year, he wouldn't miss it!

Santa's arrival and the parade, which everyone is welcome to join starts from the Old Pier at 12noon, where Santa will be travelling in style thanks to the Arran Cheese Shop. Once you have arrived at the High School you can visit Santa at

various times throughout the day and get your photograph taken with him! Santa will be in his Grotto from 12.30pm to 1.45pm, 2pm to 3.45pm or between 4pm and 5pm.

While Santa is having his tea and mince pie break there will be lots of fun activities for children including story telling by Alison Page and games of pass the parcel. Other activities available on the day will be face painting and hair braiding, letters to Santa, children's treasure hunt, giant Jenga and giant dominoes and if name the chance to win a fabulous cuddly toy if you get their name correct.

The hugely popular Christmas market will again be an important part of the day with many of the stalls from the islands amazing crafters as well as great Christmas themed stalls.



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Saturday 24th November in Lamlash



Santa's Sparkle

Presented by
**Lamlash Events
Community
Organisation.**

This year at **Arran High School**

Arran Gift Box specialise in all things Arran and will be there with their fantastic range of Arran themed Gift Boxes which contain special treats and range Arran's finest produce. With a box to suit all budgets these hampers are a must for any Arran lover.

Unfolding Moments also have a stall displaying her beautiful Arran Scenes. Now's your chance to purchase one of Natalie's lovely calendars. Why not treat someone to a Photoshoot packages which include £30 including 10 Christmas

Cards, £40 including a 18 x 8 inch print, £60 including 60x40cm canvas print or £70 which includes 60 x 40 cm acrylic print or perhaps a gift voucher?

Arran Studio The multi-talented Heather Macleod will be at there with her, candles, cards or crafts, silk prints detailed and in vivid colours. Any of these wonderful items would make an ideal as present why not spoil yourself?

Looking for the latest Christmas toys, then pay a visit to **The Boathouse** which has a range of carefully selected toys

and other goodies to suit every child's Christmas wish.

Food and drink will be available from the **Arran Hog Roast Company** who will be serving delicious warming fresh soup and yummy Mac and Cheese tubs with German Bratwurst toppings as well as tea and coffee. A treat not too be missed!

Arran Gin Company will be on hand to serve you their delicious gin which is made with 'locally sourced and sustainable botanicals', Especially for Santa's Sparkle they are offering a 20cl bottle at only £15

and their 70cl bottle will only be £35 and if you fancy a wee tippple then their gin and tonics will be available for £5.

The Pierhead Tavern in Lamlash will also be there serving a selection of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, including Mulled Wine, Prosecco, a selection of gins and a real ales well as the usual suspects. Along the road in the Bar they are offering one free child's meal for every under 14 accompanied by an adult eating a main meal in their premises on Saturday between 12 pm and 7pm.



Santa leads the parade at a previous Sparkle on a pony-drawn carriage.



Santa and his entourage in his grotto.



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Santa's Sparkle Event timetable

12.00: Santa arrives at the Pier and rides down to Arran High School - Come give him a wave!

Children's Activities

12.30 - 13.45: Santa in his Grotto, with the wonderful photographer Marbeth Nix on hand

13.45 - 14.00: Pass the parcel (room next to the Grotto)

13.45 - 14.00: Santa's Tea & Mince Pie Break

14.00 - 15.45: Santa in his Grotto, with the wonderful photographer Marbeth Nix on hand

14.00 - 14.30: Storytelling with Alison Page (another great Corrie's Caper story) room next to the Grotto

14.30 - 14.45: Pass the parcel (room next to the Grotto)

15.30 - 16.00: Storytelling with Alison Page (another great Corrie's Caper story) room next to the Grotto

15.45 - 16.00: Pass the Parcel (room next to the Grotto)

15.45 - 16.00: Santa's Tea & Mince Pie Break

16.00 - 17.00: Santa in his Grotto, with the wonderful photographer Marbeth Nix on hand

Main Theatre

12.30: Druma Daiko

13.00: Soul Choir

13.45: Arran Dawn

14.20: Young Fiddlers

14.50: Utter Nonsense Pan Pipe Orchestra

15.00: Shindig

15.30: Biff Simpson

16.00: Brown Noise

16.20: Druma Daiko

16.50: Santa's Sparkle Raffle Draw

Torch Parade and Tree Lighting

17.00: Meet by the School Entrance entertained by the Trumpet Quartet

17.15: Torch parade organised by Lamlash Improvements to Lamlash Green

17.30: Tree Lighting on Lamlash Green with the Brass Band playing

17.45: Fireworks to finish off the day!

Activities throughout the day

- Face painting and Hair Braiding
- Letters to Santa
- Children's Treasure Hunt - get your form from the Raffle desk, follow the clues to win a prize!
- Giant Jenga and Giant Dominos (in the Theatre)
- Name the cuddly toy- please go to the Raffle desk

Please note all timing are approx. and due to the nature of the event, are likely to be a bit fluid, but we will do our best to stick to the times.



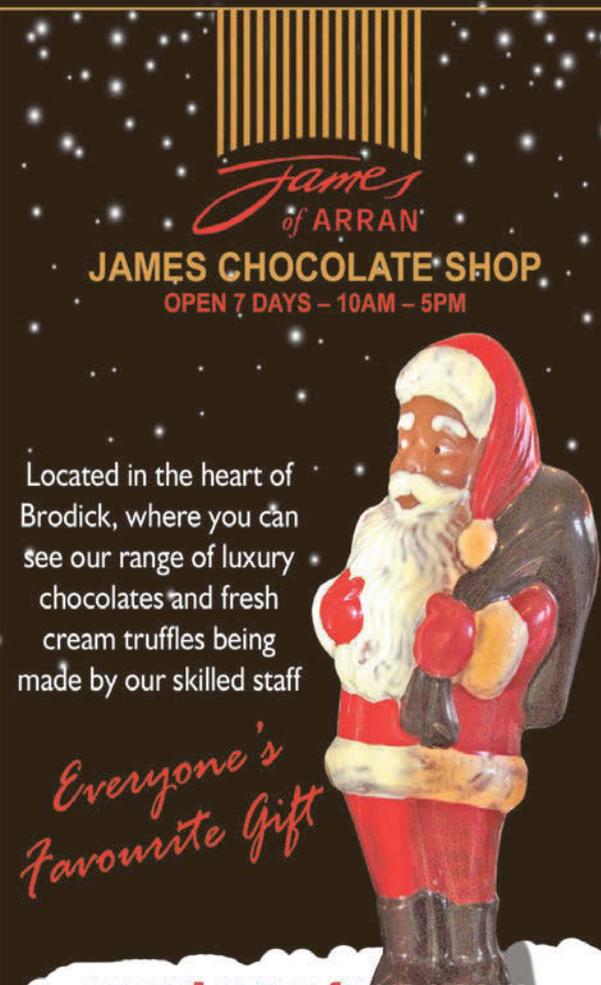
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2019 Calendar

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SAT 24th

Santa's Sparkle 12-5pm, Arran High School
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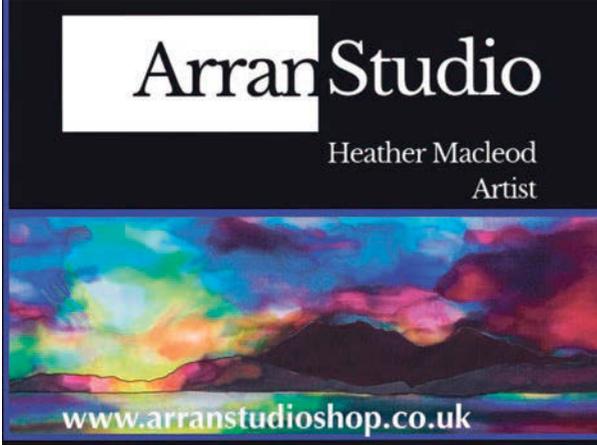


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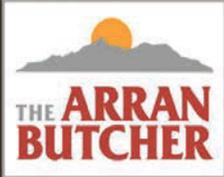


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Liz from the Big Co-op has helped deliver Santa's presents and which are currently sitting at Santa's Sparkle HQ.

In the main theatre you will be entertained by a variety of talented and musicians starting with Druma Daiko, our very own from the taiko drumming group on the island. Arran Soul Choir, conducted by the one and only James O'Neil will be on next. Arran Dawn featuring Heather Macleod and Stuart Farrar will continue the afternoon's music extravaganza. The Young Fiddlers are up next and they will be followed by the Utter Nonsense Pan Pipe Orchestra. Shindig with Nicky, Finlay and Sean are up next with a mix of country to modern classics and then some



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The Sparkle cheerleaders perform to a big crowd at a previous event.

The drama of a torch light parade will bring people from the Sparkle along to the village green, where they can enjoy the lighting of the tree, Arran Brass band, and the Sparkle's fireworks.

Torches are available on www.LamlashImprovements.co.uk, as well as during the afternoon. You don't have to have a torch to join in the parade; come along with your children dressed in battery powered fairy lights or carrying glow sticks.

A truly family friendly event to kick off the Festive season!



Arran souvenir tea towel

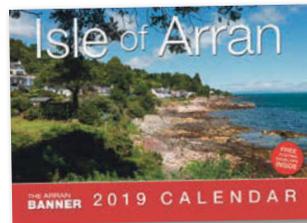
The beautifully illustrated Arran map tea towel is available from www.krispcards.co.uk

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*other towns / areas available

wonderful jazz from the Sensational Biff Simpson. Brown Noise continue the afternoon's entertainment before it is rounded up by another performance by Druma Daiko. Don't forget Santa's Sparkle raffle draw!

As the light fades on the daytime fun the lighting of Lamlash Improvement's Village Christmas tree which has been part of Santa's Sparkle for many years will take place.

The Arran Banner 2019 Calendar



The beautifully photographed Arran Banner 2019 Calendar is available from www.scottishcalendars.co.uk

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Arran is definitely the place to be for all things Christmas!

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What's on



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Every day

Octopus Centre
 Octopus Centre – tennis
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Old Pavilion, Lamlash, Centre Open 7 days, 11am - 3pm
 Old Pavilion, Lamlash Open 7 days, any time
 Open 7days, 9am - 5pm ish, ALL weather
 Open 9am-dusk
 Arran Aromatics, Brodick, 10am - 4pm
 Open - Mon, Friday & Saturday, 10am - 5pm
 Tuesday - Thursday, 11am - 4pm. Tours daily at 2pm

Saturday 24th November

Santa's Sparkle
 Flow yoga
 RNLI Christmas shop
 Winter rink bowls
 Family games
 Fun in the pool
 Mad Ferret Band, BYOB
 Live music – Charlie Gorman
 Live music - Razors Edge
 Over-21s disco

Arran High School, Lamlash 12noon
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
 Santa's Sparkle, Arran High School, Lamlash, 11am - 4pm
 Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 1.30pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
 Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
 Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
 The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

Sunday 25th November

Arran Young Farmers' Club, car treasure hunt
 Brodick Castle From the Outside – A guided historic tour
 Live music – Charlie Gorman
 Family games
 Fun in the pool
 Live music
 Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
 Folk music session

Ormidale Pavilion Car Park, Brodick, 11am
 11.30am and 2.30pm
 Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 1pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
 The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 26th November

Arran Skinnymalinks – Seek a Star
 Arran Skinnymalinks – Seek a Star
 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 – The Sensational Biff Simpson Trio
 Health and Social Care meeting, all Welcome

Shiskine Church Hall, 5.15pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 5.15pm
 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 & Bistro, 7.30pm
 Brodick Hall, 7.30pm

Tuesday 27th November

Healthy Outdoors team
 Eco Savvy energy surgeries
 Winter rink bowls
 Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
 Bridge class (beginners/improvers)
 Arran Pace Makers – Jog Scotland beginners' group
 Arran Hockey Club – juniors (five-14)
 Scottish country dancing
 Trev's pop music quiz
 Traditional music sessions
 Body Blitz

Brodick Country Park Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10am - 3pm
 Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 1.30pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
 Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
 Ormidale pavilion, Brodick, 5.30pm
 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 28th November

Yoga
 Hydrofit
 Brodick gardens volunteers
 Knit and Blether
 Arran Heritage Museum
 Archives and Genealogy Service
 Dog classes
 Lochranza whist drive

Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am -10.30am
 Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.30am
 Brodick Castle and Country Park, 9.30am -1pm
 Bay Wool & Crafts, Whiting Bay 10.30am -12.30pm
 Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm
 Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am -12.30pm & 1.30pm - 3.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 12.30pm
 Lochranza Village Hall, 2pm



Arran Skinnymalinks – Seek a Star
 Arran Pace Makers running group
 Author talk – Barb Taub, Life Begins when Children Leave Home
 Arran Soul Choir
 Tae Kwon Do
 Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
 Live music – Tim Pomeroy
 Family friendly pub quiz
 Rock'n'pop bingo

Lamlash Church Hall, 4.15pm
 Brodick, 5.30pm
 Arran Library, Brodick, 7pm
 Community Theatre, Arran High School, 7pm - 9pm
 Juniors 6.30pm - 7.30pm, Advanced Juniors & Adults, AHS, 7.30pm -8.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
 Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm
 PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Thursday 29th November

Morning fitness
 Arran Skinnymalinks – Seek a Star
 Arran Heritage Museum
 ACLI volunteer gardening day
 Castle time travellers
 Quilt Arran
 Music Matters
 Whiting Bay Thursday Club
 Christmas craft club (aged five-12) – Wreaths
 Isle of Arran Bridge Club, all welcome
 Arran Hockey Club – seniors (12 yrs +)
 Brodick Embroidery Group
 Body Blitz
 Tommy's general knowledge quiz

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am -10.30am
 Brodick Church Hall 10am - 10.30am
 Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm
 Golf Course Road, Whiting Bay, 11.30am - 3.30pm
 Brodick Castle and Country Park, 2pm
 Firestation, Lamlash, 2pm - 4.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 2pm
 Whiting Bay Lesser Hall, 2pm
 Arran Library, Brodick, 3.30pm - 4.30pm
 Little Rock, Brodick, 7pm for 7.15pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm - 8.30pm
 Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Auchrannie Spa Leisure 9.30pm – 10.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Friday 30th November

Yoga
 Hydrofit
 Coffee morning
 Arran Heritage Museum
 Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
 Tae Kwon Do
 Live music – St Andrew's Night; Arran Dawn & Joni Keen
 Friday night quiz

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
 Auchrannie Hotel Leisure, 9.30am
 Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, 10.30am
 Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
 Arran High School, 7.30pm - 8.30pm
 Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm
 Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm

Saturday 1st December

RNLI Christmas shop
 Winter rink bowls
 Family games
 Whiting Bay Christmas tree lights switch-on
 Fun in the pool
 Live music – Shindig
 Live music – The Skunnered return due to popular demand
 Over-21s disco

Lamlash Pier, 10.30am - 12.30pm
 Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 1.30pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
 Whiting Bay, 4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
 Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
 The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm



www.arranbrewery.com

Students look at cheaper heating options on Arran

A group of engineering students are examining if a district heating system would be feasible in Brodick.

The seven Glasgow University students are taking part in the project, in conjunction with North Ayrshire Council, to explore ways of reducing the cost of heating on Arran by using a district heating network supplied by heat pumps.

The students have already visited Arran to see how the proposal might work. They have also leafleted households in the Springbank area with a community response survey asking



The engineering students during their visit to Arran to look at how the heating proposal might work.

ing for their opinion on the proposal and any concerns anyone may have about it. They want to know if, hypothetically, householders would want to sign up, and say responses can be as short as long as desired.

One of the students, Mikkel Caschetto-Bottcher

told the Banner: 'The project is in its very early stages, but the concept is to develop a district heating system for Brodick which would involve a network of pipes underneath the streets which distribute heat to each home.'

'We are carrying out this survey so that we can create a proposal that people living in Brodick would understand and support.'

If you would like to help the students the on-line survey is available at: <https://goo.gl/forms/zEbVHuk1nVHEBrt2>.

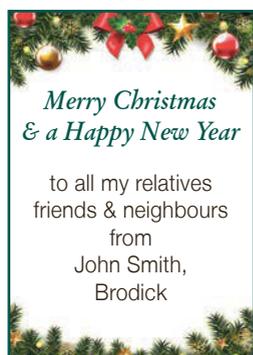
Or email 2191586L@student.gla.ac.uk or call 07857 837812.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

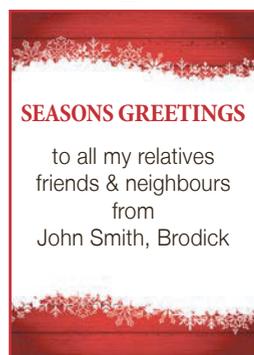
Published on 15th December

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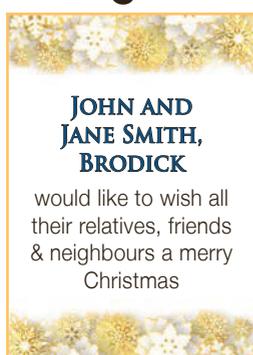
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Festival show support for Nepal

At the Arran Mountain Festival annual general meeting, organisers continued their support of the Kalaa Jyoti charity by presenting Gordon Davidson with

a £100 donation towards helping underprivileged children in Nepal.

Having spent nearly a decade raising funds, hosting events and rolling up

his sleeves while working with children and young adults in Nepal, Gordon Davidson and the Kalaa Jyoti organisation have transformed lives by providing children with access to education, art classes, guidance, support and opportunities that were previously out of reach.

The Arran Mountain Festival committee and Gordon Davidson have a long-standing and symbiotic relationship. Gordon, a local artist, has previously hosted exhibitions of his works during the mountain festival period. With such a wealth of tales of adventures and experience gained on his regular trips to Nepal, the Arran Mountain Festival committee have also collaborated with Gordon by inviting him as a guest speaker at their fundraisers.

Arran House was named in recognition of all of the donations and support from local businesses, especially the Isle of Arran Distillery, who all helped to make the venture possible and ensured its, and the children's, survival. More information on Kalaa Jyoti and Arran House can be found on the website at www.kalaajyoti.org



Jackie Kemp presents Gordon Davidson with a donation for the Nepalese charity Kalaa Jyoti. 01_B46AMF01

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Brodick ferry terminal is designated a 'safe space'

Brodick ferry terminal has been accredited as a 'safe space' as part of a network of places where disabled, elderly and vulnerable people can go to if they are lost, scared, need assistance, are victims of a crime or are experiencing a mental health concern.

The refuge designation is an initiative – known as Keep Safe – by Police Scotland and I Am Me, a community-led charity which aims to raise awareness of, and prevent, disability hate crime.

Training session

As part of the initiative, Caledonian MacBrayne staff underwent a training session with PC Colin Johnson and PC Mark Mason of Police Scotland Pre-

vention and Intervention, North and South Ayrshire respectively, in order to better understand and appropriately deal with any occurrences.

Among these are effective communication methods and support and care factors and circumstances to be aware of.

Port manager Colin McCort said: 'We are delighted to be taking part in this initiative, which we hope will afford vulnerable people the confidence to venture out and explore, knowing that if they need help, whether it is by calling the police, an ambulance, a friend or carer, or even just a seat and a drink in a place where they know they will be safe and supported.'

Along with advertising on the building which will display the Keep Safe logo demarcating it as a safe space, the terminal will also be listed on the Keep Safe app which will allow service users to plan out routes and places of refuge should they require it.

Hate crimes

The app will also direct them to their nearest Keep Safe space and will allow users to report hate crimes directly to the police if they have been a victim or have witnessed an incident.

For further information on the initiative, details are available on the Renfrewshire-based I Am Me charity webpage at www.iammescotland.co.uk or on the Police Scotland website.



PC Colin Johnson and PC Mark Mason of Police Scotland Prevention and Intervention with port manager Colin McCort and some of the staff who undertook Keep Safe training. 01_B46safe01

Could you help give a child a loving home?

Providing a home for a child who has experienced disadvantage in their short lives can be an enriching, fulfilling experience.

To coincide with Adoption Week Scotland, the authorities in North Ayrshire are looking for people on Arran to provide a loving and stable home for children through considering adoption as a route to providing the stability they need and fulfilment as they grow and develop.

Currently, there are more than 100 children being cared for by North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership foster carers and some of these children are urgently looking for permanent, adoptive families.

The children who are in need of a family can be as young as two years old, with some sibling groups, as well as older children too. The children may have experienced negative events and trauma in their lives as well as facing separation from their birth family.

We encourage individuals from a variety of backgrounds to consider adoption, you don't need to own your home and can be single or in a stable relationship with a partner. You also don't need to have any special qualifications either.

Adopters with North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership will receive help and guidance while going through the process and will continue to receive support after they have given a child their forever home.

Councillor Robert Foster, cabinet member for health and social care, said: 'I'm sure that there are many people who have often thought about adoption but think that they wouldn't qualify or that the process is too complicated.'

'However, most of the time these concerns are unfounded – we try to make the journey as smooth as possible and provide a huge amount of support to the adoptive family.'

'So we would encourage all people who have an interest in adoption to get in touch with us before ruling themselves out.'

'Adopters have the chance to give those children who are unable to live with their own families the permanent care they need to make sure they can reach their potential in life.'

'If you think you can make a difference, please get in touch.'

If you are interested in finding out more about adoption, North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership's dedicated Family Placement Team can be contacted either over the phone or through its website. They always encourage people to get in touch and ask any questions that they might have, even if it is just to explore the possibility.

If you are interested, please telephone 01294 311505, email adfos.enquiry@north-ayrshire.gov.uk or visit www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk

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Call to artists and crafts people

Following the success of the first two years of the all-year-round Arran Art Trail, any artists, photographers or crafts people not signed up are invited to get involved.

The aim of the trail is to promote Arran's arts and crafts throughout the year and to enhance the annual Open Studios weekend which takes place each August. The feedback from visitors to the island in the first two years has been excellent.

Please contact the trail organisers by the end of November if you would like to find out more. Email arranarttrail@gmail.com or call Ann Hume on 07975 589432 or Angela Elliott Walker on 01770 303906 for more details.

The very successful Arran Open Studios event, offering many more studios to visit, will run from August 2 to 5, 2019.

Sculptor draws on ancient archaeology for new exhibition

Arran-based stone carver and artist Tim Pomeroy has opened a one-man exhibition at the Fine Art Society in Edinburgh.

The exhibition, which began last Friday and runs until Saturday December 22, showcases 25 works in traditional sculptural materials of stone, wood, slate and marble which lend their name to the exhibition simply titled Marble Slate Wood.

The forms, shapes and ideas are both contemporary and ancient. The Neo-

lithic archaeological finds of Arran inspire Tim and they lend his work a mysterious and precious quality and hint at otherworldliness.

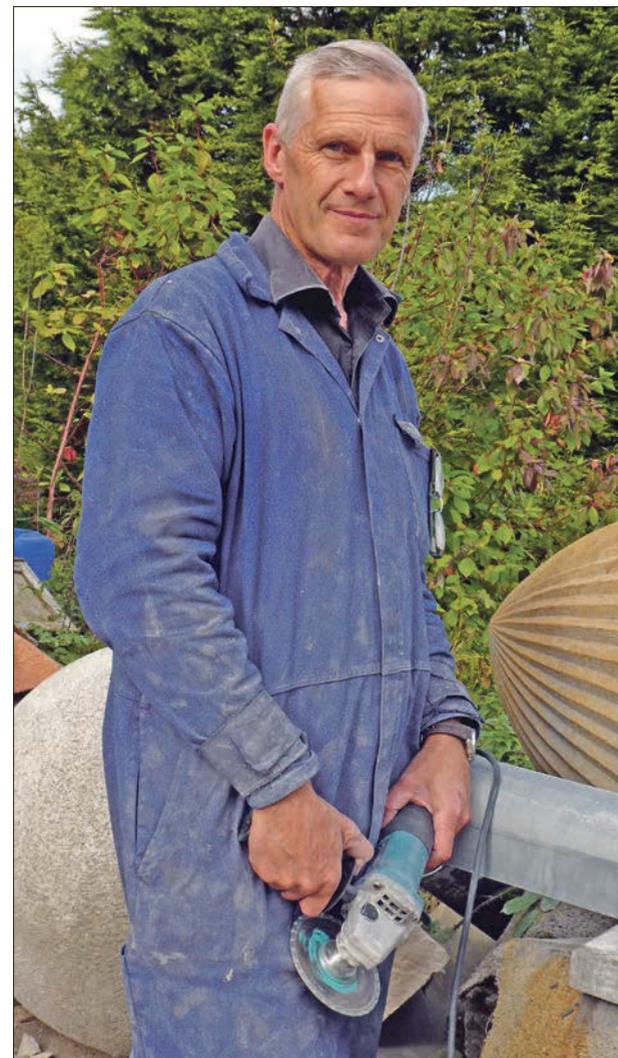
Hosting his third exhibition, the first in 2014 and then in 2015 and 2017, the Fine Art Society in Dundas Street is one of the oldest and most respected galleries in the art world whose history dates back some 142 years.

Speaking about the exhibition title, the Lamlash sculptor said: 'It repre-

sents the principal materials that will be displayed. But, of course, that's not the full story. What the work is about, intellectually, spiritually as it were, is a whole other question, a question that an exhibition like this invites the visitor to answer. Any other title for the exhibition, hinting at the nature of the work, sounded pompous or pretentious. Art poses many questions and often there is no definitive answer. It's not like maths. Because art exists and draws on so many influences and references it's multi-layered like any good art form ... theatre, poetry, music. It defies the singular because it is so pluralistic in its nature.'

The Fine Art Society describe Tim's work simply as: 'The forms, shapes and ideas are both contemporary and ancient. The Neolithic archaeological finds of Arran inspire Pomeroy. They lend his work a mysterious and precious quality and hint at otherworldliness.'

Equally succinctly Tim describes his work as: 'My current works draw on natural form, archaeology, the man-made environment. And more. My experiences of all these leave recognisable marks on my sculptures. And because I am inspired by so many things the work can appear diverse. But look closely and you will see the same artis-



Working from his studio near Lamlash, Tim's sculptures are inspired by archaeological finds.

tic DNA pervading all the works. It just takes time to see it. I took a long time making it – that's how I know.'

Tim, who was born in Hamilton, trained at the Gray's School of Art from 1976 to 1981 and his work can be found in both pri-

vate and public collections. His work can be seen at the Whiting Bay Art Gallery and on his website at www.timpomero.com or on the Fine Art Society gallery website at www.fasedinburgh.com, where further details of the exhibition can also be found.



Works including this marble crescent and hatched whorl are on display at the exhibition.

Brodick Bar & Brasserie

Christmas Menus

Tuesday 4 - Saturday 22, 28 & 29 December

Christmas Lunch Menu - 2 courses and a glass of wine/half pint of beer or soft drink £18.00.

Add a dessert for £4.50.

Christmas Early Bird Menu

(5.30 - 6.30pm) - 2 courses £21.50.

Add a dessert for £4.50.

A la Carte menu available every evening

New Year

Hogmanay Celebration Dinner

Monday 31 December 5.30 & 8pm

5 courses, £55 to include a glass of Prosecco on arrival

New Year's Day Lunch

Special roast dinner menu 12 - 3pm,

2 courses £19.95

add a dessert for £4.50

Please note we will be closed from 23 - 27 December and open on Hogmanay, New year's Day and all through that week.

Distillery is best visitor experience

The visitor centre at the Isle of Arran Distillery at Lochranza has picked up yet another award by going the extra mile to make visitors feel welcome.

The Association of Scottish Visitor Attractions (ASVA) has presented the distillery and visitor centre with the best visitor experience award for 2018, beating off some strong competition.

Recognising excellence in the visitor experience provided by ASVA member organisations, the award was presented at ASVA's Going Back to the Future conference.

Entries for the award, sponsored by the Royal

Yacht Britannia, were received from visitor attractions across Scotland, all of which were then visited by members of Britannia's management team to see if they were delivering what they promised in their entry forms. Following this initial assessment, a shortlist of three attractions was drawn up. The three finalists, which also included the Clydeside Distillery and the Famous Grouse Experience, were then visited by the judging panel chaired by Bob Downie, chief executive of the Royal Yacht Britannia.

Commenting on their win, Mr Downie said: 'Isle of Arran Distillery offers

a truly great visitor experience, delivered by proud and passionate staff in a beautiful location.'

Visitor centre manager Gerard Tattersfield said: 'We are absolutely delighted to have won this prestigious award from ASVA.'

'Despite being one of the most visited and highly rated distillery visitor experiences in the whisky industry, we have retained our small-island feel and our team has always been enthusiastic and gone the extra mile to make visitors feel welcome – whether offering them a bespoke tour, spending extra time explaining and taking customers through our range



Tour guide Jim Douglas presents the award to master distiller James MacTaggart at Lochranza as the distillery and visitor centre team look on.

as though they have had a truly authentic Scottish experience, we have done our job'.

ASVA chairman Douglas Walker said: 'This win demonstrates the commitment and desire of the entire team at the distillery to work together to provide a world-class experience that doesn't just meet, but exceeds, visitor expectations. Encouraging improved customer service through awards such as this is just one of the ways ASVA supports visitor attractions throughout the country.'

of whiskies, or even giving them a lift back in time to catch their ferry when they miss the bus.

'Many of our visitors come from overseas and we take pride in welcom-

ing them to our corner of Scotland and making sure that they leave with only the most positive memories of their trip to Scotland and the Isle of Arran. If they can leave feeling



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S 2 ND 1PM ROB MUIR	M 17 TH 7.30PM JONI KEEN	
M 3 RD 7.30PM FATMAN & THE ANGEL	W 19 TH 7.30PM FATMAN & THE ANGEL	
W 5 TH 1 PM LITTLE FIRE	F 21 ST 7.30PM THE SAGGIES	
F 7 TH 7.30PM CAMS CAMPBELL	S 22 ND 7.30PM THE SENSATIONAL BIFF SIMPSON TRIO	
S 8 TH 7.30PM MIKE EDWARDS	S 23 RD 1PM HINGIN' BY A THREEED	
S 9 TH 1PM MIKE EDWARDS	T 25 TH CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY	
M 10 TH 7.30PM TIM POMEROY	W 26 TH 7.30PM ACOUSTIC BUTTERFLY	
W 12 TH 7.30PM ARRAN DAWN	F 28 TH 7.30PM SHINDIG	
F 14 TH 7.30PM THE SENSATIONAL BIFF SIMPSON TRIO	S 29 TH 7.30PM TIM POMEROY	
S 15 TH 7.30PM MIKE BAILEY	S 30 TH 1PM ROB MUIR	

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Tagging and tracking of Clyde gulls

At the November monthly meeting of the Arran Natural History Society, Haley Douglas gave an outstanding insight into the life and migrations of the lesser black-backed gull from her findings having fitted satellite trackers to 15 gulls in the Clyde region.

Hayley talked the audience through initially her work as a ranger at Muirshiel Park and her interest in birds and bird ringing. It was when visiting a conference and listening to a talk on satellite tracking of ospreys that Haley became interested in this method and wondered if there was a bird she could apply this technique to for studying, at the park she worked at or

area she lived in. The lesser black-backed gull was chosen and Hayley decided to see if she could get these birds some good press for once.

Hayley explained how she initially obtained funding to buy the trackers, which cost around £1,000 each, and training on how to fit them. From catching the gulls at various venues, which even included the rooftop of the police station in Greenock, Hayley went on to show on maps the gulls' initial movements through the breeding season that the trackers revealed, explaining their fondness for earthworms from farmland and fish scrapes from trawlers

and not the discarded remains of fast food from humans. She pointed out that research shows that human food is not good for gulls, as it reduces their reproductive success and is a poor substitute for their normal diet.

The members were astonished at how far the gulls travelled to their winter quarters, most leaving the Clyde area after breeding and many travelling over to Ireland and then across the sea to Spain and Portugal or even onwards to Morocco, with one gull wintering as far south as Mauritania. Hayley explained that the satellite trackers also monitored the speed and height that the birds trav-



A tag ring on the leg of a gull.

elled at and she showed how quickly they returned to their natal breeding areas in late spring.

Since fitting the trackers last year, Hayley and her fellow ranger have made more than 450 presentations to mainly school children but also various

societies, showing and disclaiming the fact that gulls are not aggressive pirates of the sky. The members present were captivated by her presentation which was both fascinating and humorous.

At the end of her presentation the range of ques-

tions she received indicated the level of interest that she had stimulated. It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening. The next meeting is on Thursday December 6 starting at 8pm in the Rangers Centre in Brodick Country Park.

Terry Southall

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Saturday November 21, 1998

The price you pay

With a litre of unleaded petrol last summer costing 77.4 pence, Arran still has virtually the most expensive fuel in Scotland. Only a rural Western Isles location and Dornoch are a fraction more expensive. Most remote rural locations are at least 10 pence a litre cheaper and in Edinburgh a litre costs 65.9 pence.

This is one of the findings of the most recent Rural Scotland Price Survey. Arran comes out of it as being one of the more expensive places to live. In general, the islands are more expensive and this is naturally put down to ferry costs. But some unlikely places are even more expensive.

For example, a basket of food which costs £53.08 in Aberdeen, costs £59.49 on Arran but £64.08 in a remote Ayrshire

village. On balance, Arran comes across as being one of the more expensive places but, given its size and closeness to the mainland, it is more expensive than more remote islands.

Arran art

Occasionally the island of Arran stirs from her cultural slumbers and brings forth an event which would do justice to a metropolitan venue in Glasgow, Edinburgh or London.

One such event occurred in the summer of 1961 when an exhibition was organised at a derelict little church in Whiting Bay.

To this day, at least outwardly, it has not changed in its appearance. Couch-grass and ivy still inhabit the gutters and the doors are seasoned by salt spray, and doubtless the fishing nets still festoon the nave to catch falling plaster.

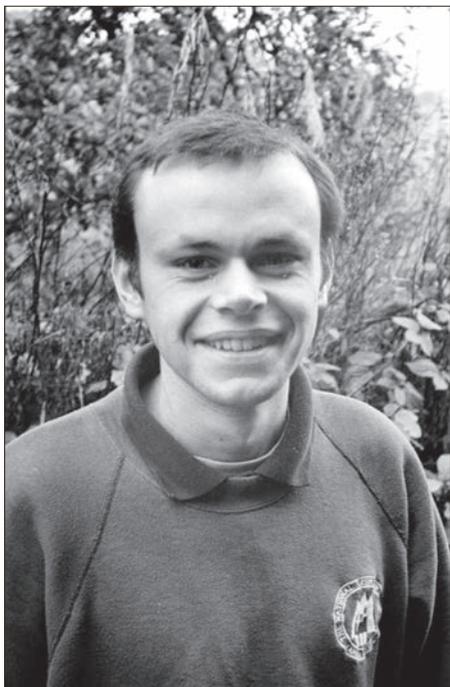
It was here that brothers Nick and Steven Gill had invited a number of west coast artists to exhibit, including Carol Gibbons, Steven Gilbert, James Gorman, Alasdair Gray and a remarkable collection owned by Tom Alexander, among other eminent British artists.

This was a groundbreaking event which is still remembered with some pride by those with long memories on Arran. On par with that was the recent Corrie, Past and Present exhibition which brought together from private collections a galaxy of works by painters and writers who had lived and worked in the village, such as Jessie M King, E A Taylor, McLaughlin Milne and Joan Eardley and others who had visited the area in the past – most notably Charles Rennie Mackintosh.

Lights out

A fault at Carradale in the electricity supply line to Arran meant that the whole island was without power for about half an hour on Thursday afternoon.

Following frequent power cuts, Arran has had a very reliable supply until recently. Electricity cuts appear to be more common now than they have for several years.



New seasonal ranger at Brodick Castle is Clelland McCallum of Auchenleck. Clelland has worked at Dean Castle, Kilmarnock, and, along with Emma McKechnie of Whiting Bay, is the back-up team for Duncan Stevenson this winter.



Geoffrey Botterill and Antony Butterworth proudly display the MacAllan Taste of Scotland certificate for Country House Hotel of the Year in the drawing room at Kilmichael.



Prize-winners, with guest of honour Margo Crawford, at Lamlash ladies' golf dinner and prize-giving evening last Friday.



Teachers, parents and playgroup leaders, with twine and cups, learn new activities for children at the North Ayrshire organised Childcare Day at Lamlash Community Centre.



Joined by a cellist, pupils in Veronica Halstead's violin class at Lamlash quickly learn the strings.

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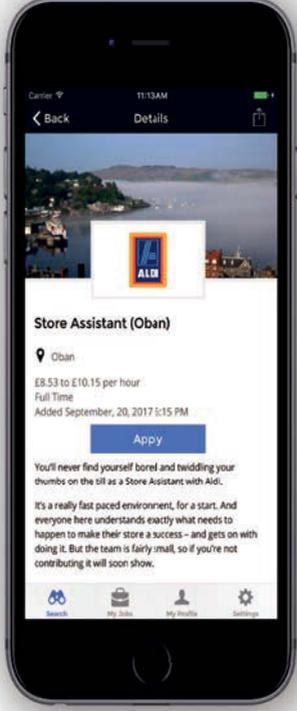
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Property

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Interested parties are asked to contact the following E-mail address for further information no later than Thursday 29th November 2018:
ayrshirebsu@scotland.pnn.police.uk

Public Notices

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

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

*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy & Communities) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 14.12.18. Any representations received will be open to public view.

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

18/00995/PP; Strabane Cottage, Brodick, Isle Of Arran, KA27 8DD; Erection of replacement 1.5 storey detached house with temporary planning permission for static caravan during construction of dwelling house.

18/00999/PP; Catacol Bay Hotel, Lochranza, Brodick, Isle of Arran; Alterations and change of use from a hotel to dwelling house.

Craig Hatton
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



**Arran Riding Club
AGM**

Arran High School

Wednesday 5th December 2018. 7pm

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CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran, Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill 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 25th November
Pirmill and Lochranza Churches Church, 10.15am
Morning Worship at Pirmill 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 25th November
Holy Communion – 11 am.
Richard Trewby
Coffee after service
All Welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 25th November
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 25th November
Rev Lily McKinnon
Kilmory - 10am
Lamlash - 11.30am.
In Lamlash: Praise Service
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday 25th November
Sunday Worship at 11am
'Heather Lodge', Brodick
Telephone 700346
Everyone Warmly Invited

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

Sunday 25th November
Worship will be conducted by Mrs Sharon MacLeod, Reader of the Church of Scotland, at 10.30am.

Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service.

The Church Christmas Card, to be sent to all members, will be available to be signed, and all proceeds will go to the Glasgow City Mission.

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 25th November
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

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 25th November
Shiskine, 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick 6pm
Rev Benjamin Van Rensburg

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 25th November
Sunday Morning Mass, 11am

DEATH

MARSDEN: James Frederick (Jim) passed away peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital on Friday 16th November, three days before his 88th birthday, after a short illness. A loving partner to Marianne, dearest dad to Angela, Pamela and Linda, father-in-law to Dereck and Patsy, granddad to Amber and Ava, he will be fondly remembered and sadly missed by his family and friends. A service will be held at Lamlash Church on Thursday 29th November at 11.30am and afterwards at the Drift Inn. All welcome. Family flowers only please. A collection will be taken for the benefit of the Isle of Arran Hospital Supporters League as a thank you to the Arran War Memorial Hospital who looked after Jim so well.



Lamlash Golf Club

This year it was decided to combine the ladies' section AGM with the annual prize-giving on Wednesday November 14, with what turned out to be a very enjoyable wine and food interlude separating the two.

Retiring captain Mary Adams handed over to Sheena Murchie who welcomed Alison Heron as her vice-captain. Ruth Hardy succeeded Ellie Jones as secretary while Jenny Patten remained as treasurer and Kate McAdam continues as handicap secretary.

Club champion this year is the unstoppable Sheena Murchie, who also won the LGU silver medal, the Marella Trophy, the Fleet Cup, the Stroke Quaich, the Eclectic Trophy and the Centenary Tray.

To underline her almost total dominance, Sheena won the two-ball Grace Cannon Trophy with Gay Mackay and the Island Mixed Fours with her husband Ian.

Other winners were: Ann Cook Tray – Ellie Jones; LGU bronze medal – Ali-



The main prize-winners at Lamlash ladies prize-giving with club captain Mary Adams seated on right. Missing are Kate McAdam and Gay Mackay.

DEATH

ROBERTSON: Kerr. Kerr Robertson MBE, passed away at home on 14th November 2018. Much loved husband of Maureen and father of Brian, Derek and Wendy, with five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Funeral service at Clyde Coast and Garnock Valley Crematorium on Tuesday, 27th November at 10:00am. Coach supplied at Ardrossan from 8:20am Brodick sailing and will return for the 12:30pm sailing. A wake will follow at Brodick Golf Club at 1:30pm, all welcome. No flowers please. Donations, if desired, to your chosen cancer charity.

STOBBS: Bernard. Peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital on Friday, 16th November 2018. Bernard, aged 93 years, beloved husband of the late Cecile, father of Carol, David, the late Raymond and Colin and loving grandfather of Beth. Funeral service at Clyde Coast and Garnock Valley Crematorium on Tuesday, 27th November at 1:00pm to which all are welcome.

son Heron; Kilbride Tray – Yvonne Brothers; Glenkiln Rosebowl – Gay Mackay; Winter Stableford – Liz Sinclair; Macgill Cup – Kate McAdam.

Congratulations to Sheena on a fantastic season playing with new clubs and a new hip. We must all try harder.

Other results. Thursday November 15, Yellow Medal. 1 John O'Sullivan, 86-24=62, 2 Ian Bremner, 70-7=64. Magic twos Q J Young @7th, Ian Bremner @16th.

Sunday November 18, Lamlash v Whiting Bay at Lamlash. Stableford results 1 Stan Rainey 37pts, 2 Alan Smith 35pts, 3 Dougie MacFarlane 34pts. Magic twos Stan Rainey @17th, Dougie MacFarlane @13th, Dave Brookens @13th and 16th, Wolfi Kroner @13th. Scratch Dougie MacFarlane 34pts. Lamlash beat Whiting Bay 2.5 to 1.5.

Fixtures: Sunday Novem-

ber 25, Winter Stableford, 9.30am and noon. Thursday November 29, Yellow Medal.

Shiskine Golf Club

Saturday November 17, Alan C Bannatyne Quaich and Lochranza match, 20

played. Sweep: 1 Campbell Laing 28pts, 2 Colin Dair 26pts, 3 Graeme Andrew 24pts.

Colin Allison was the winner of the dominoes and the Quaich. C Laing won nearest the pin at the 4th, and B Sherwood at



Colin Alison with the Alan C Bannatyne Quaich.



Colin Allison (centre) presents the Jim Allison Trophy to Joe Faulkner and Willie Kelso.

the 10th. Lochranza beat Shiskine by 3 to 2.

Sunday November 19, 25 played for the Jim Allison trophy and it was great fun. Result was the spoils being shared between Missionaries (Joe Faulkner) and Natives (Willie Kelso). Colin Allison was on hand to help with the presentation. Nearest the pins: 4th and 7th C Allison, 10th R Crawford, 12th H Bannatyne.

Fixtures: Ladies' match every Thursday at 10am, Saturday November 24, gents 18 hole medal, noon.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday November 18, friendly v Lamlash. An absolutely beautiful winter's morning met the seven players from each club that made up the field for the first of the season's friendlies at Lamlash. Stan Rainey of Whiting Bay ran out the winner of the individual Stableford on 37 points but honours in the team matches went to the host club with a narrow 21/2 to 11/2 victory.

Congratulations to them and our thanks for the usual generous clubhouse hospitality after the golf. On now to the next game at Whiting Bay on Sunday December 16.

Fixtures: Saturday November 24, annual prize-giving evening in the clubhouse at 7pm.

All welcome and food and drink available from 6pm.

Sunday November 25, Winter Cup rd 2 (rescheduled from November 11).

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday November 17, 18-hole sweep. 1 R Burke

77-12=65 BIH, 2 A Burke 77-12=65 BIH, 3 L Hartley 80-15=65. Scratch S Beardsley 75, magic two R Burke.

Monday November 19, Winter Cup, 1 R Burke 73-12=61, 2 L Hartley 78-15=63. Scratch A Smith 72.

Fixtures: Saturday November 24, 18-hole sweep, ballots at 9am and 1.30pm. Monday 26th November 26, Winter Cup, ballot at noon.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday November 13, Winter Cup, 1 Brian Sherwood 63pts BIH, 2 Phil Betley 63pts, 3 John Penrycott 64pts BIH.

Tuesday November 20, Lochranza Hotel Cup, 1 David Brookens 38pts, 2 Phil Betley 36pts, 3 Jenni Turnbull 35pts.

Fixtures: Tuesday November 27, Winter Cup, tee off 12noon. Saturday December 1, Lochranza Hotel Cup, tee off noon.

Brodick Golf Club

Sunday November 18, Winter Cup Stableford, 16 played, NC. 1 Alistair Hume (12)38pts, 2 Bob McCrae (8)35pts, 3 Iain Sillars (16)33pts acb.

Fixture: Sunday November 25, Winter Cup Stableford, 9.00am and noon.

Arran Golfers Association

Fixture: Sunday December 2 Winter League (Duncan Trophy) @ Machrie Bay GC. Tee Times will be as follows: 8.30am, 9.20am and 11.50am. Machrie Bay v Corrie 8.30am, Lamlash v Whiting Bay, 9.20am and Shiskine v Brodick, 11.50am.

Doonhamers go home empty handed

Arran Ladies	3
Dumfries Ladies 2s	1

Don't let the scoreline fool you because last week-end's match against Dumfries was a hard-fought, tight game. We have met every season since joining the league so are on first-name terms with a few of the team, but as soon as the whistle blows it's down to business.

Arran's starting line was slightly altered again this week with Cerys and Hannah taking the left wing position between them, backed up by Susie in the left mid and Elyse as left back. Centre forward was Lorraine with Freya taking on the centre mid position for the first time, which she took to like a duck to water and had a fantastic game.

She was ably supported by Faith at centre back and Cat as sweeper. Down the right flank we had Nelly returning from her stint as defender with magnificent Mia as her mid and Ellie as back. Last but by no means least was Ali (ninja) goalkeeper, without whom the scoreline would have read very differently.

From the first whistle Dumfries pushed forward with a strong attack down the midfield and immedi-

ately put Arran defence under pressure. Their precise passing got them into Arran's D, but their defence stood strong and thwarted this early attack.

With only eight minutes played and against the run of play, Arran broke down the Dumfries defence – a long ball from midfield was collected by Freya who took it to the top D before passing a strong ball to Lorraine who slammed it into the back of the net.

This goal gave Arran a bit of breathing space and confidence to settle into their own game, therefore it only took until the 16th minute for goal number two.

Stick flick

Collecting the ball in midfield, Lorraine made a run up the left wing. Finding herself in the D, surrounded by defenders, she did a reverse stick flick to Freya who hit the ball into the bottom right corner of the goal, giving Dumfries goalkeeper no chance to save.

Dumfries were not prepared to give up and after numerous shots on goal and penalty corners, which Arran defence cleared time after time, they scored 15 minutes before half-time from a penalty corner.



Susie Murchie gives a determined chase for the ball. 01_B47hockey01

The second half was a lot more balanced as far as possession goes. The pace was as fast as the first half and Arran had to dig deep to keep Dumfries at bay.

Both teams had plenty of penalty corner chances, all of which were either blocked or saved. With five minutes remaining, and a lot of tired legs, Arran managed to capitalise with a much-practiced penalty corner set piece – injector (Lorraine) to mid-back (Susie), back to Lorraine who fired the ball into the right-hand corner.

Arran played well, with determination and great team spirit. The younger members are to be applauded for embracing their ever-changing field



Ellie Wood in command at the back. 01_B47hockey3

positions. This is no easy task, but all of them are growing in confidence with every match, and this gives the team going forward a great advantage with having such versatile players. Special mention has to go to Freya who played a blinder, and to ninja Ali who very deservedly was voted dame of the game.

As always, thanks to Pauline Reid for umpiring and organising the delicious match teas, the Ormisdale Hotel and our faithful supporters, particularly Diesel for barking instructions from the sidelines with his not-so-well-behaved owner!

The team have an away game today (Saturday) against GHK 3s with a 2pm pass back. All supporters are welcome.



Freya McNicol had another fine game. 01_B47hockey05

SPORT



INSIDE THIS WEEK:
Doonhamers go home empty handed



Irvine Celtic score a 40-yard screamer. Photos: Tam Borland

Arran go down but not without a fight



Ayrshire Sunday League

Irvine No 1 CSC 3
Isle of Arran 2

Arran got off to a terrible start at Kilwinning Academy on Sunday against a plucky Irvine Celtic side which saw them fall 3-0 behind after just 20 minutes. A troublesome, glaring low sun caused David Heenan problems in goal and Celtic took full advantage, in-

cluding a fine 40-yard free kick. However, as the half progressed, Arran came back into the game and a good finish from top scorer Archie McNicol before the interval gave the visitors some hope. Another goal from the speedy striker shortly into the second half meant it was game on again.

Number 99 Johnny Sloss was unlucky not to grab a

point after a good combination with Ryan Armstrong and, despite numerous corners and free kicks towards the Celtic goal, it was not to be for the islanders as they fell to only their second league defeat of the season.

Tomorrow (Sunday) sees the last game before the winter break against Galston SAFC to be played at Saltcoats St Matthew's pitch with a 2pm kick-off. A win would keep Arran top of the Q&L Skips Division 1 over the festive period and seal a solid start to mainland amateur football. They have also still to play in the quarter-final of the Go Vending Cup come February.

To purchase tickets for the club's fundraising disco/raffle at Brodick Golf Club on Saturday December 15 please pop into the club shop or bar.



Two goal Archie McNicol flying down the wing.



Ryan Armstrong is surrounded by green shirts.



Johnny Sloss is determined to get first to the ball.



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