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Lack of care staff hits Arran's most vulnerable

Refusal of care for 90-year-old leads to shortage admission

Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Health chiefs on Arran have admitted they can't cope with the demand for the care at home support needed on the island.

They have also apologised for the delays being caused because the care at home service has a long waiting list due to the far greater on-island demand.

The admission comes after the case of a 90-year-old Arran woman, whose family were refused care, was raised at First Minister's Questions last week by West of Scotland Conservative MSP Jamie Greene.

Mr Greene told First Minister Nicola Sturgeon he had been contacted by the woman's family after being told it was 'not possible' for her to receive home visits due to a shortage of staff on Arran.

Mr Greene said the wom-

an had poor eyesight due to macular degeneration, memory loss and mobility issues. As a result, he said: 'Her family requested social care at home and was told that this is not possible due to staff shortages on the island, despite having been assessed as requiring it several times a day.'

At FMQ's Ms Sturgeon said she did not know the details of the case but told Mr Greene it 'certainly raises concerns in my mind'. She urged him to pass the woman's details to her office and that of health secretary Jeane Freeman, and added: 'I can give an undertaking we can look into that as quickly as possible.'

After the meeting Mr Greene said: 'It is extremely concerning that an elderly resident in such a fragile condition was denied the

Continued on page two

Plastic fantastic for island



Members of the Think About Plastic Arran group pick up litter on Brodick beach to celebrate the island becoming the first community in Scotland to be accredited as a Plastic Free Community, in recognition of its fight against single-use plastic and marine conservation. For full story, turn to page 2.

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THE ARRAN
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HSCP admits staff shortages impacting on home visits

Continued from page one social care she needed because of staff shortages in the NHS.

'Thankfully Nicola Sturgeon has agreed to look into this matter and hopefully resolve it, but this should never have been needed to be brought to the First Minister of Scotland.

'Staff shortages are an ongoing issue in NHS Ayrshire and Arran and have a profound impact on social and health provision.

'Free social care to over-65s is a flagship of the Scottish Government and a core manifesto commitment that isn't being delivered. I will continue to press this issue in parliament until it is resolved.'

The care at home service on Arran is the responsibility of the North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership.

A spokeswoman said: 'While we are unable to comment on individual cases, we are really very sorry for any delay that people experience in accessing care at home support.

'Regrettably, our care at home service has a waiting list for services on Arran. The waiting list is reviewed on a daily basis by senior partnership staff to ensure that all available capacity is used to support people appropriately on Arran.

'Additionally, our care at home service receives a high volume of referrals each day, and the requests on Arran are far greater than the capacity available. We are continually recruiting for care at home staff on Arran to help meet the on-island demand.

'Please be assured that

senior partnership staff will continue to review new referrals and waiting lists on a daily basis.

'Our sincere apologies for any distress being caused to people on Arran, and their families, due to delays being experienced in receiving care at home.'

A Scottish Government spokesman added: 'We are working with North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership to identify how the needs of this elderly lady can be satisfactorily met.

'We also continue to work with local authorities to look more widely at workforce issues and planning in island or rural communities.'

Talk to us

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



Plastic fantastic

Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Arran has become the first community in Scotland to be accredited as a plastic free community in recognition of its fight against single-use plastic and marine conservation.

Joining a network of more than 436 communities across the UK, the accreditation by the national marine conservation charity Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) highlights the work being undertaken by community groups in tackling the issue of throw-away plastic and their measures to reduce dependency on unnecessary plastic use.

Think About Plastic (TAP - Arran) was formed in February last year with the intention of tackling plastic waste in the sea and to create a focus for the campaign's work.

Since then the organisation has pulled together key organisations and

businesses on the island to put in place SAS's five-point plan. The objectives included; setting up a community-led steering group, getting commitment from North Ayrshire Council, signing up local businesses as allies, and reaching out to community groups and individuals to spread the word and minimise the amount of disposable plastics they use.

Accreditation

Chairwoman of TAP Helen How said: 'Having gained this accreditation from SAS, we will continue to expand the campaigning to include more businesses and get the message out to the many visitors Arran attracts. Arran's residents are proud of their environment and we want everybody to know that we care and take positive action to protect where we live.

'We are delighted by the support we have experienced from residents and

businesses. Everybody can take simple and effective action to minimise usage of single use plastic items.'

Rachel Yates, SAS plastic free communities project officer, said: 'It's great to see the work that Arran has done to reduce the availability of avoidable plastics, raise awareness and encourage people to refill and reuse.

'We have more than 400 communities across the UK working to reduce single use plastic and the impact it has on our environment. Every step those communities and the individuals in them take is a step towards tackling the problem at source, challenging our throwaway culture and encouraging the habit changes we need to see.'

Further information on TAP - Arran and the work that it is undertaking can be found on its website at www.thinkaboutplastic-arran.co.uk

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Council budget dispute erupts into war of words

An angry war of words has erupted after leader of North Ayrshire Council Joe Cullinane accused Cunninghame North MSP Kenneth Gibson of misleading the public over the council's budget.

He also challenged the MSP to a public debate on the issue.

Councillor Cullinane, when quantifying the budget, described a revenue budget gap of £22.5 million in 2019/20 following a 2.3 per cent cut to its core revenue cut from the Scottish Government, while Mr Gibson described the allocation as an increase of £23.2 million - 8.3 per cent increase.

Describing the calculations as 'questionable', the

Labour council leader accused the SNP MSP not only of combining revenue and capital grants but also including flood defence funding associated with the increased cost of the Millport Flood Scheme and the return of capital grant that was removed from the Local Government settlement in 2016/17 but was promised to return by 2019/20.

Councillor Cullinane said: 'This is the worst budget settlement North Ayrshire Council has received in recent years and yet Mr Gibson is trying to tell his constituents the budget is increasing by 8.3 per cent.

'Council services impact on people's lives every day

and that is why I am asking Mr Gibson to publicly debate with me. Local people deserve to know the truth when it comes to the future of their local services.'

Responding on Wednesday, Mr Gibson said: 'I debate such matters with Labour colleagues in the Scottish Parliament on a regular basis.

'The figures I quote are always accurate and provided independently by the Scottish Parliament Information Centre.'

North Ayrshire Council have set Wednesday February 27 as budget setting day when the Scottish Government funding is allocated and set for the year.

Bargains galore as ArCaS gets new floor



One of the most popular shops on Arran has been given a major makeover to face the challenges of 2019 in raising more money for cancer care.

The charity shop of Arran Cancer Support Trust (ArCaS), located at Brodick ferry terminal, reopened on Monday following a month-long closure for some essential works to be completed and a redesign of the shop.

But the charity quickly became a victim of its own success and has had to temporarily suspend donations while volunteers sort out the huge amount of goods which have poured into the shop since it reopened.

The store has a brand new laminate floor, replacing the worn carpet, as well as newly painted walls and a new counter area.

Shop manager Lisa Rem-

mington said: 'I can't thank the volunteers and the small band of community-minded people who came in and helped with the refurbishment.

'The shop looks so much brighter and spacious, and the wooden flooring makes a lot more sense considering the footfall the shop gets, especially during the summer months.

'I would like to thank our customers for their patience and let them know that we are open again. Unfortunately we are unable to take any more donations at the moment as we are fit to burst, but we will let people know as soon as we can.'

One customer said: 'It's great to see the shop reopen. I realised how much I missed it when it was closed.'

Funds raised from the sale of donated goods help provide services for cancer patients on the island, including transport to and from hospital appointments on the mainland and on Arran, free ferry travel for patients and a companion, and complementary therapies and counselling.

Established in 1989, the well supported charity shop has been located at the pier since 2001 and is open from 11am to 4pm from Monday through to Saturday.



Fresh stock has been pouring into the shop since it reopened. 01_B04arcas03



The new bright and spacious ArCaS shop. 01_B04arcas02



Volunteers, left to right, June McLean, Ruth Thompson, Emily Gillson, Cameron Rennie and Alan Thompson behind the new-look shop counter. 01_B04arcas01

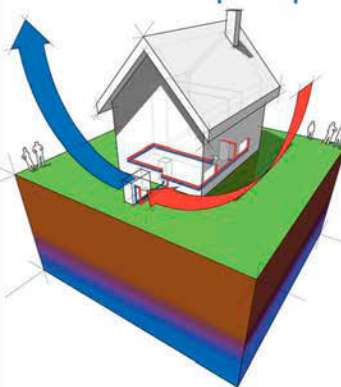
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Arran Distillers toast the Bard

Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Isle of Arran Distillers is taking part in a national initiative, celebrating and promoting Robert Burns in a series of podcasts led by world-leading Burns expert Dr Pauline Mackay.

In celebration of Burns Night tonight (Friday), *Tae the Bard* is a five-part podcast that will feature artists, poets, chefs, singers and whisky experts, including Arran Distillers' marketing manager Jaclyn McKie.

A lecturer at the Glasgow University Centre for Robert Burns Studies, Dr Mackay is also the secretary to Burns Scotland: The National Burns Collection and has written many books and studies on the subject. She is currently working as part of a team of scholars on editing Robert Burns for the 21st century.

In episode three: A Toast Like No Other, Jaclyn joins Graeme Littlejohn of the Scotch Whisky Association to talk about how whisky has become an integral part of Scottish culture and the part that it



Tae the Bard podcast host and leading Burns expert Dr Pauline Mackay, above, and Isle of Arran Distillers' marketing manager Jaclyn McKie, right.



plays in Burns Night celebrations.

The campaign also features a collection of poetry, Burns night events, supper and Burns night guides, an app and an image gallery.

The podcast series is free to listen to and further detail on all of the campaign's offerings can be found at www.scotland.org/events/burns-night/tae-thebard-podcast-series

Former Arran police sergeant dies

A well-known former Arran police sergeant, who many will remember for his work on the island in the 1980s, has passed away, writes Colin Smeeton.

Retired chief inspector John Beck died at the Ayrshire Hospice on

Friday January 18 after a long illness. He was 67 years old.

Cadet

Mr Beck joined the Ayrshire Constabulary in 1968 as a police cadet stationed at Troon. On being appointed constable, he served at Saltcoats and

in Ayrshire's Support Unit.

When the force became Strathclyde Police, he was appointed the sergeant on Arran, which he and his wife described as the best years of his service.

Following his promotion to inspector, he served in Glasgow's 'F' Division,

complaints and discipline, force HQ and staff officer at 'R' Division, Ayr.

His last posting was to Saltcoats, from where he retired in the rank of chief inspector in 2000.

John is survived by his wife Joyce, son Gary and daughter Lynne.



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Sunday social attracts Savvy crowd

Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Arran Eco Savvy's Short Film Sunday Social event was a resounding success with a large number of people attending Corrie and Sannox Village Hall to take part in the event last weekend.

Starting with a welcoming hot drink, visitors then enjoyed a short film called Earthships which provided inspirational ideas for reuse and sustainability in housing.

Following an informative talk by guest speaker Scott Harwood about living off grid and being environmentally aware, visitors had the chance to talk with like-minded people and through information board, learn about some of the many projects that Eco Savvy

are currently involved in. These included the popular Co-op food share initiative and the upcoming eBike scheme which is to be introduced shortly.

During the afternoon, visitors were treated to soup and baking from Ferghan Mhor B&B in Sannox and a further selection of short films with themes of consumerism, waste and the consequences of unsound ecological practices.

Eco Savvy project manager Jude King said: 'We were delighted that so many people turned up to be a part of the event and share ideas and enthusiasm for Eco Savvy's existing projects, as well as potential future ones. Feedback collected from the event shows how powerful education and awareness around the climate change issue can be. A lot of people



Top, the friendly faces of Arran Eco Savvy; above right, Scott Harwood entertained the visitors with a talk on living off grid and in an environmentally aware manner; above left, the afternoon provided opportunities for a catch-up and discussions on Arran projects.

have been motivated to make a lifestyle change because of it.

'Thanks to our guest speaker Scott Harwood for sharing his interesting experiences of living off grid, directly relating to the Earthships film that was shown, and to Ferghan Mhor B&B for providing delicious vegan treats.

'Alongside short film screenings, the event provided opportunity to engage with Eco Savvy's many ongoing projects, including the Eco Savvy Energy Challenge, as well as the Food Share Scheme that Eco Savvy is currently piloting in conjunction with the Co-op.'

The Co-op Food Share initiative is a nationwide scheme that enables local charities and community groups such as Eco Savvy

to intercept surplus food before it reaches landfill. This is food that is at the end of its 'use by' or 'best before' date and is destined for the bin, so

efforts are made to redistribute it to any folk that might be able to use it.

Focusing on food waste and not circumstance, the initiative has already helped to ensure that 412kg of food has been eaten rather than wasted.

Jude continued: 'This is a new project for Eco Savvy and one that we hope to scale up in April if an existing funding bid is successful to facilitate a food coordinator role and get an outdoor community fridge and freezer in place, as well as many other things.'

The current days and locations of the Eco Savvy Food share are: Tuesday, from 9-9.30pm, at the Eco Savvy shop in Whiting Bay; Thursday, from 8.30-9pm, at the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick.

The Short Film Sunday Social event is one of many events held by Arran Eco Savvy. Further information on future events and all current projects are also available on its social media sites and are regularly advertised in the Arran Banner.

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Drawing up shortlist for 2019 civic pride awards

With the deadline for nominations now passed, the difficult task of shortlisting for the provost's civic pride awards 2019 is now under way.

Nomination forms have been going in since November, and on Monday Provost Ian Clarkson began the process of poring over accounts of the amazing achievements of North Ayrshire's unsung community heroes in a bid to select finalists for each category.

Provost Clarkson said: 'Yet again we have been humbled by the inspirational stories behind each and every one of the nominations we have received.

'The response from the public has been overwhelming and I'd like to thank everyone who has taken the time to tell us about the great work being done by individuals and groups in their communities.

Challenge

'It is always a challenge when it comes to deciding on finalists and this year will be no exception, as every nominee deserves recognition for their year-round hard work and dedication.

'However, there are only three places available in the final for each category and we look forward to announcing the shortlist next

week before opening up the vote to the public later this month.'

Joining provost Clarkson on the judging panel this year are depute provost Robert Barr, councillor Donald Reid, councillor Jean McClung, councillor Louise McPhater, councillor Timothy Billings and councillor Tom Marshall.

Finalists will be announced next week, then it will be down to the public to vote for their winner in each of the following categories: Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Arts and Culture Award, Community Group Award and Sports Award.

The winners will be an-



The judging panel pour over the entries at Cunninghame House this week.

nounced at the prestigious annual awards ceremony at the Portal, Irvine, on Friday March 15. Now in its

ninth year, the event has raised more than £155,000 for charity since its inception, thanks to the generos-

ity of local businesses who have taken tables, donated prizes and signed up to sponsor awards.

Restaurant doubles the love for Mary's Meals



Brodick Bar and Brasserie will host the charity dinner. 01_B04meals01

Talk to us

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

The Brodick Bar and Brasserie is hosting a charity dinner for Mary's Meals which will see all proceeds from the event being matched by a government initiative doubling the amount of money donated.

Taking place on Wednesday February 6, owner Graeme McKinnon will be offering patrons a three-course dinner for £25 with every penny of the money raised going to the charity.

The government funded Double The Love Campaign, which runs until the end of February, will match donations, up to £2 million, to help provide hungry children across the world with a daily meal at school.

Doubling the impact that his donation will have,

Graeme has wanted to host a Mary's Meals fundraiser since taking over ownership of the restaurant and bar last year.

After getting in touch with Arran's Mary's Meals ambassador, Alison Page, a plan was put into action that will see the charity taking home all the profits from the dinner, allaying concerns some people have about their charitable donations being reduced by the fundraisers themselves or charity executives.

Mary's Meals commits to 93p in every £1 donated being spent on charitable activities although in their published accounts for 2017 they exceeded this. It said: 'Continuing a trend from recent years, we again significantly exceeded this commitment during

2017, with 99 per cent of donations generously given by our supporters being spent on our charitable work.'

Graeme said: 'As we are involved in the food industry ourselves we have been extremely moved by the good work that Mary's Meals is doing. We are delighted to be able to support this fantastic and worthwhile cause as we do with many local charities.'

Argyll-based Mary's Meals was founded in Dalmally and through its schools feeding programme it aims to feed children in some of the poorest areas of the world by providing a daily meal at school.

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Ayrshire Growth Deal talks reach final stages

The ambitious campaign to secure new jobs and investment for Ayrshire has taken a major step forward.

At a special event in London last week, the three leaders of East, North and South Ayrshire councils were joined by politicians and partners from the public and private sector involved in delivering the £300 million Ayrshire Growth Deal proposals.

The Growth Deal team highlighted the transformational nature of Ayrshire's proposals and the broad-range of projects which will deliver significant growth for the Ayrshire, Scottish and UK economies.

Following the event, attended by Scottish Secretary David Mundell, the Growth Deal team will continue to work closely with both governments to finalise the value of governments' support and conclude the associated heads of terms which would pave the way for investment in 2019.

To date the UK Government has committed more than £1.1 billion to City Region Deals right across Scotland, and good progress has been made since the prime minister first announced support for the Ayrshire deal in March 2018.



The participants in the Ayrshire Growth Deal negotiations at Dover House.

North Ayrshire Council leader Joe Cullinane said: 'We are extremely ambitious for our area and this investment would help us realise the enormous potential available to us.'

Transformational

'We have worked extremely hard on this and the projects we have developed will be transformational.'

'They would have a huge impact on the communities of Ayrshire and contribute also to the wider Scottish and UK economies.'

'The meeting at Dover House was positive and importantly another opportunity to articulate our am-

bitions for our region and our communities. Over the next few weeks we will finalise arrangements with both governments so that we are all able to sign the Ayrshire Growth Deal. This will allow us to get started on some really exciting projects.'

The Ayrshire Growth Deal partners include the three Ayrshire Councils, UK and Scottish governments and national agencies, with support from the private sector and is primed to deliver around £300 million of public sector investment in key assets and sectors that will not only positively impact Ayrshire but the Scottish

and UK economies too.

The Scottish Conserva-

tive Group on North Ayrshire Council has wel-

comed the news but says it is disappointed that, in spite of this being partly a UK government initiative, the council's Labour administration refused to include a Conservative councillor in the membership of the Ayrshire Regional Joint Committee that will oversee the Growth Deal.

Councillor Tom Marshall said: 'The sum of money from the public purse of £300 million is only equivalent to approx £6m per year per council over the 15 years of the deal.'

'Our strong view is that the current Labour administration (and the previous SNP one) should realise that real growth must come from private companies.'

NHS board is looking for members

If anyone is interested in a challenging and rewarding role which will have a lasting impact on the delivery of healthcare across Ayrshire and Arran, then becoming a non-executive member of Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board could be just the job.

NHS Ayrshire and Arran is looking for a non-executive member to join its board from Monday April 1, 2019. The board isn't involved in the day-to-day running of the organisation, but it provides leadership, guidance and direction.

Being a non-executive board member shows ongoing commitment and it asks members for a few days of time a month.

Martin Cheyne, chairman of Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board, said: 'This is a great opportunity for anyone with an interest in their local health service to become more involved in decision making

and in ensuring the accountability of the executive board members. I would urge anyone who is keen to make a difference to consider applying.'

For an application pack and full details of these and other public appointments, please visit the website at www.appointed-for-scotland.org.

Contact

If anyone would like to find out more about the role, they are welcome to contact the chairman Martin Cheyne by calling the Corporate office on 01292 513628; or by emailing AA-UHB.ceo@nhs.net.

All completed applications must be received on or before Friday February 1, 2019. Appointments to the Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board are regulated by the commissioner for ethical standards in public life in Scotland.



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Editorial

Care concern

There must be real concern among the elderly and their families on Arran at this week's story about the crisis in the care at home service.

Health bosses have admitted that the high volume of referrals every day means that the service simply cannot cope and have apologised for delays.

It is a pity it took the plight of a 90-year-old on the island being raised at the Scottish parliament for this to come to light.

To ease the pressure the health chiefs say they are 'continually recruiting' care at home staff to meet the on-island demand – but just how many qualified people are out there to take up these positions? And are they attractive enough to those suitably qualified?

It is no secret Arran has an ageing population and clearly the pressure on the services is beginning to show.

Plans are already being put in place for the partnership to run all health and social services on the island in a new joined-up approach. It is to be hoped that the necessary funding will be made available to meet the increasingly challenging conditions facing the services in the coming years ahead.

Thought for the week

'Abide in me, and I will abide in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.' John 15:4

February detox

Sir,
This is a call out to all chocoholics, cocoa bean lovers and confectionary enthusiasts! A suggestion, a plea, an idea that will exercise willpower and strength whilst helping those in Scotland who are living with heart and circulatory diseases.

Detox! I'm asking the people of Scotland to forget the ordinary New Year detoxes, which attempt to banish all pleasure during the darkest months of the year, and instead just cut one beloved item from your pantry throughout the month of February – chocolate.

Each year, heart and circulatory diseases kills one in four people in the UK, 15,300 of who are from Scotland. Money raised by those brave enough to take on the challenge will go towards the British Heart

Foundation's (BHF) life saving research into heart and circulatory diseases. Last year, we saw more than 18,000 chocolate lovers raise an astounding £1 million towards vital research, but with your help, we think we can raise even more in 2019.

We're all familiar with the struggle of saying no to the left over Celebrations sitting on the coffee table. But by standing up to heart and circulatory disease and saying NO to chocolate this February, we'll be one step closer to beating heart-break forever! Sound like a battle you want to be a part of? Sign up here: www.bhf.org.uk/dechoc

Yours,
Adrian Adams
Detoch warrior at the BHF

Memorial day

Sir,
This weekend, at more than

11,000 events across the country, hundreds of thousands of people will gather to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day on Sunday January 27.

Holocaust Memorial Day is a time to remember all those affected by the Holocaust and Nazi persecution, as well as genocides which have taken place more recently in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. As well as remembering what happened, we also find ways to take positive action and make sure they can never happen again.

The Holocaust threatened the fabric of civilisation and has implications for us all. Without a basic understanding of this recent history, we are in danger of failing to learn where a lack of respect for difference and hostility to others can ultimately lead. With a rise in reported hate crime in the UK and on-going international conflicts at risk

of genocide, our world can feel fragile and vulnerable. We cannot be complacent.

Each of us has a responsibility to know what happened. Thankfully, more people than ever before are taking part in our annual commemorations to learn lessons from genocide and help create a better future.

For more information on how you can get involved with this year's events, go to www.hmd.org.uk

Yours,
Olivia Marks-Woldman
Chief executive of the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust

Talk to us

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

How to contact us

Arran Banner,
Brodict,
Isle of Arran,
KA27 8AJ
Phone: 01770 302142
News editor
Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Reporter
Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Advertising
Cecilia Paul
adverts@arranbanner.co.uk

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



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At The Arran Banner, we endeavour to ensure all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO).

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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PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



This flock of Scottish Blackface sheep in Glen Sannox appear to pose for a photograph having come down from the higher hills due to the snow this week with Suidhe Fheargais or Fergus's Seat, which rises to 2,081 ft, in the sunshine behind them.

Photograph: Jamie McKinnon



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

Rescue team ready to face 2019 challenges



Arran Mountain Rescue Team (AMRT) members have taken part in their first training of the new year, which was a night navigation exercise in the north of the island.

The team divided into two groups which both navigated their way to a pre-determined location in Catacol, one group setting off from Lochranza and the other from Thundergay.

Appropriate

A spokeswoman from AMRT said: 'A great night was had practising and brushing up on skills with map and compass, sat-map and choosing appropriate route choices.'

At their last training exercise at the start of December last year the team undertook scene management and stretcher handling training in the Merkland

area where various scenarios were set up. Team members gained a great deal of hands-on practise going over first aid, casualty care, CPR and extracting casualties safely.

Continuous training is an integral part of AMRT, whose members are on-call 365 days a year and are all unpaid volunteers. The bulk of the 33 members are all experienced hill-walkers and mountaineers with many of them having served the organisation for a number of years.

'The year just finished was a fairly steady year for the team with more than 20 callouts over the 12 months,' the spokeswoman said.

'We have welcomed a few new team members and now have three fully qualified mountain rescue

dogs in the team. We also have an extra 4x4 vehicle to transport team members and kit more efficiently to callouts.

'There is also an extension to our team base planned and we are very honoured and lucky to have all these things which make our lives much easier on every call-out we attend.

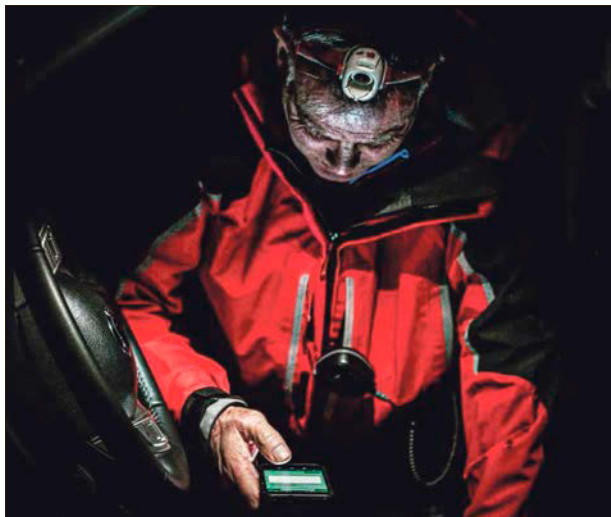
'We would like to thank the public and local community for all their amazing support to the team throughout the year and wish everyone a happy, healthy and safe 2019.'

AMRT is a registered charity and is funded by a combination of grant-aid, public donations and a number of fundraising activities that are held throughout the year.

Photos: AMRT



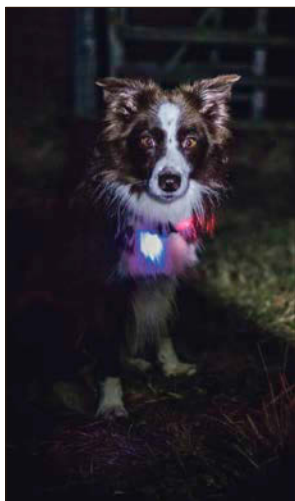
AMRT members discuss their strategy in the pouring rain.



Team members make use of modern technology in planning out their route selection.



Darryl Urquhart-Dixon and search and rescue dog Ruby prepare to set off for the night exercise.



Search and rescue dog Caileag joined members navigating to Catacol.



Getting back to basics, AMRT members use 'old fashioned' map and compass to navigate.

GET READY FOR THE SEASON

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Row over proposal to bring back peak fares on ferries

Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The new independent community board, set up by ferry operator Caledonian MacBrayne, has expressed alarm and dismay at potential ferry fare increase proposals without any consultation with island and other communities.

The board said it was disappointed only to hear through the media at its meeting in Gourock last Friday of a proposal to manage capacity issues on west coast and islands ferry services by increasing fares on some routes.

The issue was raised by transport minister Michael Matheson the previous day when he admitted that as part of the Scottish Ferries Plan – which sets out the future of services until 2022 – price increase pro-



The independent community board chairman Angus Campbell.

posals were included, adding that it was looking at the possibility of trying to manage demand, particularly on routes that have got Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) in place and which have seen an increase in demand.

He told Holyrood's rural economy and connectivity committee: 'What we've said is that that allows us to look at a number of different options. So for ex-

ample, it could be the option of higher fares at peak times or it could be the option of incentives at off-peak times, where there's capacity on the ferry.

'Is there a way in which we can try to shift some of that demand to utilise the resource much more effectively? So there's a variety of different things we could look at there to try and help to deal with some of the additional demand.'

Arran has two representatives – community council chairman Bill Calderwood and VisitArran chief executive Sheila Gilmore – on the community board set up in 2017 to provide an insight into the issues affecting island and rural communities for ferry operator Caledonian MacBrayne.

In a statement the board said RET had been a huge success in both increasing economic activity and creating jobs but also in starting to address the cost inequalities for ordinary people who live on the islands.

It stated: 'Bearing in mind the continuing demographic challenges faced by our island communities, it is surprising to think of damaging that success by curtailing demand by increasing prices rather than addressing the core issue

of investment in fleet capacity and resilience.

'This increased economic activity has significantly contributed to the Scottish economy and increased the tax revenues from our islands.

'The board questions whether such a propos-

'The board questions whether such a proposal has been island-proofed.'

al has been island-proofed against the legislation contained in the Islands Act 2018 which is designed to prevent further disadvantage to our island communities.'

The board says it has consistently offered to work with Transport Scotland, CalMac and CMAL,

not only to explore ways of dealing fairly with the immediate challenges but also to help develop a new long-term ambitious Ferries Plan to help grow the islands and communities to the benefit of all.

Board chairman Angus Campbell added: 'The board is therefore disappointed that a proposal has been made that may have an adverse effect on the communities that are being served by CalMac without any consultation with those communities. The board recognises that there is a need for urgent action to address the capacity constraints on the ferry network but does not believe that this proposal is an acceptable solution.'

The Arran Ferry Committee has previously been assured that this policy would not be applied.



Scottish weddings... Jenny Colgan...
Romantic getaways... Ayrshire
insights... The life of Robert Burns...
Inside Myres Castle... Dame Sue
Black... Spinach recipes...

News imminent on C

An announcement is expected within days on a revised timetable for the completion of the much-delayed new Arran ferry, writes Hugh Boag.

Transport Secretary Michael Matheson last week admitted at the rural economy committee in Holyrood that the new Arran ferry might see further delays.

In response to a question from John Mason MSP, Mr Matheson said: 'I think it remains a challenging timeline for it [Ferguson shipyard] to meet.'

After a year of delays, the £48.5 million ferry was due to be delivered by Clyde shipyard Ferguson Marine to Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) next summer coming into service later in the year. A second sister ship is also under construction at the Port Glasgow yard.

However, there is in-

creasing speculation that it will be 2020 before the ferry comes into service on the Ardrossan to Brodick route.

A spokesperson from CMAL said: 'Ferguson Marine Engineering Limited provided a delivery timeline of summer 2019 for MV Glen Sannox, and spring 2020 for Hull 802. As it is now 2019.'

'We have requested an update on the delivery timeline from the shipyard, and we are waiting for a response. We hope to receive this within January 2019, as all stakeholders will need to be fully appraised of progress.'

West of Scotland MSP Jamie Greene said: 'When asked whether there would be further delays to the completion of the new Arran ferry, the transport secretary quite clearly was not confident the delivery date still is the actual delivery date. The ferries are

already one year late, it is simply not good enough.

'Both mainland and islands residents have had to endure more than 12 months of delays, disruptions and cancellations because of issues with the current ageing vessels. After already having been pushed back by a year, people will be dismayed to learn that the new vessels could be delayed even further.

'This is a lifeline route for people on both sides of the shore, many rely on the service to access key public services such as healthcare and education, farmers need it to move livestock and businesses rely on dependable connections.

'The SNP has quite simply let the Arran community down and it is a shameful admission that it still has no idea when the new ferry will be in action.'

16 page pull out & keep supplement

THE ARRAN
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self build & renovation

Your comprehensive guide to self build and renovation, from finance to furnishing

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How important our homes are

At times of uncertainty our homes are our best bet

This newspaper is going to press at a moment in time when we are all wondering: what on earth happens next.

Are we Brexiting, going for a second referendum, or indyref2, general election, a hard border, a soft border, a border collie or what?

You just want to go home at the end of the day, shut the door, close the curtains and get away from it all by enjoying your family and your home.

We are not talking 'we're all dooooooomed'! Far from it. Think back over the last century – two world wars, the Cold War, the very edge of nuclear war over Cuba, and any other piece of political brinkmanship or financial depression you care to name.

We have ridden them all out and always will thanks to the comfort and practical support that only our home can give.

Our homes are our biggest asset not just financially but in terms of quality of life, nurturing and supporting our families.

Right now, more than in a very long time, we need our homes for comfort and reassurance and as a financial fortification.

Property always reflects the times in which we live. If we were in the business of social and economic forecasting – or had a crystal ball – we

Self-build makes sense

Self-build has always been the most popular choice in the West Highlands and Islands and today's home-building industry is more geared up for it than ever before. The range of kit homes and materials used in them now never ceases to impress.

A report published by the Scottish Government this month, Planning Economy, Place, says the majority of development in the UK and Scotland is now delivered by private sector developers and investors.

Since the global financial crisis in 2008, there has been clear risk aversion by development markets in the UK.

The consequence is that developers and investors typically seek proven housing markets, or committed (pre-let or pre-sold) developments which are mainly found in larger cities.

Private house builders operate a build-and-sell model which is dependent on development viability and often seek an early 'exit' through sale of a completed and occupied building.

Self-build in our part of the world makes sense in terms of finance and choice.

Enjoy planning your new home or new look home.

would predict that in coming decades more families will revert to two or three generations under the same roof. Think about it – that has always been the social model until the 20th century.

Also that more of us will return to the tradition of a family vegetable garden to supplement our diets and keep costs down.

These are two common-sense traditional approaches to housing and feeding the family unit.

A modern take on much older problems: warmth, water and waste is also com-

ing to the fore. It has been a long time since we have had to worry about these things; we expect always to flick the switch, turn the tap, pull the plug and get what we want to happen at a price we can afford. You can see the solutions filtering into our thinking and our home designs already: more bathrooms, the addition of utility rooms, energy efficiency, water recycling and renewable energy.

These are all factors to plan into your new home or the plans you are making when you extend your home, or renovate an old one.

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THE SELF BUILD LOAN FUND

HERE TO HELP THOSE STRUGGLING TO SECURE
SELF BUILD FINANCE

ABOUT THE SELF BUILD LOAN FUND



The Self Build Loan Fund (SBLF) was established by the Scottish Government to support and encourage the self build market at a time where securing mainstream finance can be difficult. The Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust administer the fund.

Now available across Scotland, self builders can borrow up to £175,000 to help them during their construction period.

 @SelfBuildFund

KEY FACTS

- Borrow up to £175,000
- Must be able to demonstrate that you have been unable to secure mainstream self build finance
- Used to financially support the construction of your home and then repay your loan with a traditional mortgage on completion
- Fees and interest apply
- Must own a house plot, with planning consent in place

For more information visit our website:
www.hscht.co.uk/scotland-self-build-loan-fund
Or get in touch:

 selfbuild@hscht.co.uk  01463 572030



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

We have also recently launched a new website dedicated to providing self and custom build news and information. You can view it here: www.selfandcustombuild.co.uk.



Scotland's
Self & Custom
Build Portal

Get the cash and funding right before you start

Before you pick your architect or choose your kit home or even contact your friendly local planning officer there is one person you need to meet: your financial advisor.

He or she is the key to everything that follows; you could say that they – or rather the result of their work – will have the biggest impact on your new home, extension or renovation project.

When you decide to build your own home, instead of buying, you will get more house for your money, that is a well-known fact but what is the best way of raising that money in the first place?

An important point to remember is that you need more money up front to build a house than to buy a ready-built property; you will al-

ways be working 'in arrears'. You need to buy the land and get the first stage completed on site before the mortgage starts up and cash arrives to fund the next stage. (Though some 'advance' mortgages can be found where the cash is paid at the start of each stage.)

It is worth remembering that a self-build mortgage may also be suitable if you are taking on a renovation, conversion or extending your existing property.

Many building societies or banks will loan up to 80 per cent of the total cost of the land and construction costs or valuation, whichever is the lower, making the whole build process more flexible but some will only loan money on a fixed-price contract, or on an all-trades

basis under the direction of a suitably-qualified project manager

The good news about 'package deals' where you buy a kit house and building services from an existing company – and perhaps even the land – is that they often offer, or source, financial packages. This can save a lot of leg work and grief.

Not all lenders deal in self-build mortgages and that is where a financial advisor comes in; you will benefit from having someone who knows how to hunt down those who do, and those offering the best deals for your circumstances and ambitions.

Finding the right mortgage can be as vital to a self-build project's success as finding the right plot of land.

Get the VAT back

The government has funds and grants available for self-building and renovating some properties but make sure that it is the government giving you the cash and not the other way round.

In short remember to keep on top of your paper work and claim back VAT where

eligible.

There are circumstances where you qualify for zero-rated VAT; and a reduced VAT rate at source if any VAT registered business should supply labour, or labour and materials.

Once the project is completed you can reclaim any VAT

paid on qualifying materials bought at 20 per cent VAT along with any five per cent VAT invoices.

The rules and regulations can be daunting and there are specialists you can hire to help you through the process. Applying for a reduced rate VAT certificate helps.

Freedom from worry and value for money

You could build a new home without an architect but would you want to?

When you hire an architect you get 'freedom from worry and value for money'.

That is what the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland (RIAS) will tell you. An architect brings to your project:

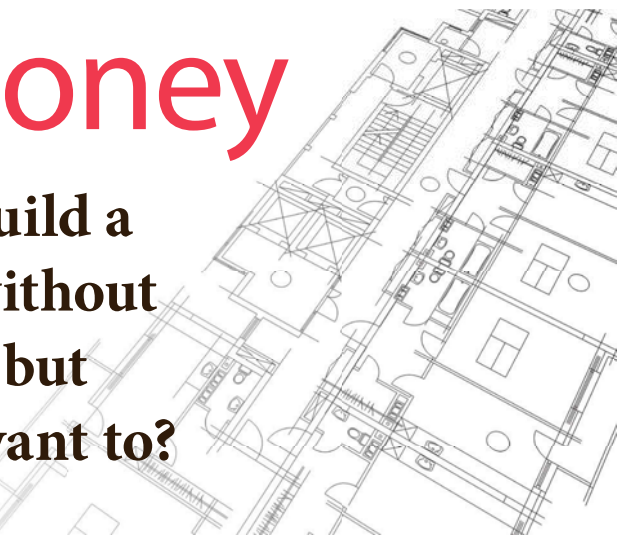
- Seven years of studying; the longest training period in the building industry
- A member of a professional chartered body; RIAS or FRIAS, the Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland, and RIBA, Royal Institute of British Architects.
- Members must carry professional indemnity insurance and uphold the reputation of the profession.
- A professional who can steer you through planning and building legislation.

A good architect listens to what you need the property to do for you and your family and how you want it to look. It is their professional experience that will make sure you get the best for you out of what you have; creating as much home as possible from a plot, materials and construction costs. This will save you money in the long term.

Sustainable construction
Chances are you will not have heard of Sandy Halliday, but the manufacturers of the house kit you are buying or your architect will have.

Tonight at the RIAS Bookshop in Edinburgh she will be giving a short talk followed by a question and answer session.

Sandy, AKA Professor Sandy (Sandra) Halliday BSc(Hons) MPhil CEng MCIBSE FRSA wrote the book, literally; the event tonight is to celebrate



A property in the West Highlands was named the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) House of the Year for 2018. Lochside House, West Highlands, the work of Haysom Ward Miller Architects, dazzled the judges. Comments included 'The care in the design and in the building of this house makes it an exemplar of its genre.' 'The scale, material choices, use of the setting and integration into the landscape were all excellent.' 'A sustainable building making good use of wood.' (Photo: Richard Fraser)

the launch of the second edition of one of her work, Sustainable Construction.

The Royal Incorporation of Architects in Scotland says the book 'provides a master-class on the principles and techniques involved in the design and delivery of practical, affordable, high quality sustainable buildings'.

The review continues: 'It presents precedents, theory, concepts and principles alongside 120 wide ranging case studies that highlight current best practice and encourage implementation.'

Prof Halliday is part of Gaia Research an organisation that provides specialist advice on sustainable design and continuing professional development for clients, project managers, engineers and architects striving to create sustainable strategies for the built environment.

Perhaps the most well known example of their work

in the West Highlands is Acharacle Primary School.

Calculating the cost

Architects' fees are part of the overall cost of any project and usually calculated in three ways. You and your architect should decide in advance whether expenses will be included within the agreed fee or charged separately.

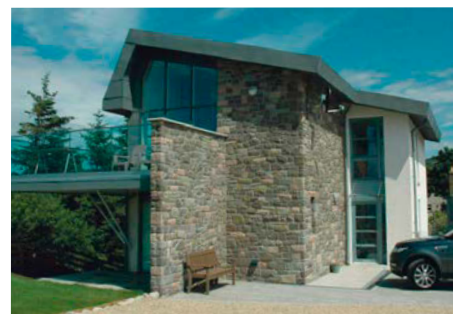
Percentage is based on the total construction costs in the building contract including site works; agreement is needed on the services provided, nature of the work and an approximate construction budget.

Lump sum fees work best when the project can be clearly defined right from the start and there are no surprises for either side.

Time charged is the flip-side of that coin and best where the amount of work cannot 'reasonably' be seen; an agreed upper limit is needed and fees are often staged.

John Lamb – Designing Bespoke Homes on Arran

Your new self-build home is probably the culmination of years of ideas, the realization of a dream, and one of the biggest investments you will ever make. So why settle for something "off the peg" instead of working with an architect to make the most of your plot, taking full advantage of the views and sunlight as well as fulfilling all your own requirements? John Lamb has been designing bespoke homes on Arran since 2005 and can guide you through the project from start to finish, making it YOURS, not somebody else's.



JOHN LAMB
Architect

0141 644 2777
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DESIGNING
BESPOKE
HOMES
ON ARRAN



A helping hand for self and custom builders...

Scotland's Self and Custom Build Portal has been created to provide advice, guidance and support to those interested in building their own home in Scotland.

How and why was this portal created?

It began with the Scottish Government creating the Self and Custom Build Housing Pilot Challenge Fund. The Challenge Fund was created to test new models for increasing self and custom builds in Scotland. The Challenge Fund was open to all and looking for those who could provide an innovative approach to encouraging and supporting self and custom builds across Scotland.

There has been a significant decline in high street lenders providing self-build mortgages and as a result has made it difficult for people to finance self-build projects and decreased the amount of work available for the construction and architectural industries. The Scottish Government have recognised these issues and are putting

new initiatives in place to try to reinvigorate the self-build sector, including the Challenge Fund.

The Highlands Small Communities Housing Trust (HSCHT) decided to submit an application for the Challenge Fund with their idea of a new self and custom build portal for Scotland. The portal would be an innovative hub for people to get advice, guidance, funding options and help buying and finding plots. HSCHT were also able to demonstrate their experience in the self-build industry as they have previously helped aid a number of self-build projects. They have led the way in creating new finance models and mechanisms to make self build an easier route to build a home. HSCHT were successful with their application and thus was the beginning of Scotland's Self and Custom Build Portal.

Who is the portal targeted at?

The portal has been set up to help anyone who is considering undertaking their own self or custom build project. The portal provides information on the different self-build routes and finance options available. The interactive 'Getting Started' function allows people to assess their house plans and finances and give an estimated cost of how much their project may cost.

The portal can also help landowners who are looking to sell their plots by utilising our 'Plot Finder' feature. The Plot Finder lets people view different plots that are available in Scotland. If you are a landowner and would like more information on how you can advertise your plot on the Plot Finder.

contact
hello@selfandcustombuild.co.uk



www.selfandcustombuild.co.uk

Planning to succeed

It has never been easier to navigate the system, thanks to online help and the pre-application services



Main Street, Tobermory in one of Argyll and Bute's 32 conservation areas where extra planning permission approvals are needed.

Make sure you get your planning application and building warrants right, right from the start and you will save yourself no end of time and money – not to mention stress.

Ask any planning officer or councillor and they will tell you the same: talk to your local council's planning department first of all.

Before you begin – when your new home or extension is just a twinkle in your eye and a sketch on the back of an envelope – your first step is to take advantage of the pre-application advice offered by councils.

When planning a self-build project or a major renovation, remodelling or repair, you can save boost your budget by doing the applications for planning permission and building warrants yourself.

Pre the internet revolution few people would have even considered taking this role out of the hands of their architect or agent but times have changed – and so have resources.

Scotland now has eDevelopment.scot – an online service available for anyone to use to prepare and submit planning permission and building warrant applications.

It caters for construction professionals and public alike and links to your local council.

The first step in a planning journey is planning permission in principle, formerly known as outline planning permission.

Approval of matters specified

What's permitted...

Small alterations and extensions can go ahead without applying for planning permission, but how small is small?

The Scottish Government website's planning and architecture pages have all the details, including easy-to-follow flowcharts which talk you through the rules covering everything from sheds, sun loungers, greenhouses and garages, and decking and access ramps, right up to extensions of more than one storey.

...and what's not

We live in a country with an incredible landscape and history; people come from all over the world to see it so it is important that it is protected.

Remember that if you live in a conservation area or if your building is listed in any way you will need to apply for extra permission.

It does not matter if you are building from new, or extending, converting or renovating an existing property you will need consent for all external work and inside if you are altering the historic fabric of the building.

Scotland has 40 areas designated as National Scenic Areas covering 13 per cent of the country. Your plans must take this into account if you are in one of the areas and there are also areas classed as Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Ignore this legislation at your peril.

in a condition then goes on to approve the conditions involved in the planning permission in principle; work should only begin when this approval is in place.

Remember also that it is an offence to start building work or demolition without a building warrant. If you do, you could be fined. The rules for building warrants and building regulations in the rest of the UK vary significantly and can lead to expensive mis-

takes – so if you have moved to Scotland from England, Wales or Northern Ireland make sure you are aware of the differences and the impact this might have on your plans and work flow.

You usually won't need to ask your local council for permission to carry out minor work, but you should check with them to make sure. You can be fined and ordered to remove any new building work if you need a Building Warrant and don't get one.

Kit yourself out!

Kit homes are one of the most popular ways to build your own home there in the Highlands and islands and they come in all shapes, sizes and materials

How the times have changed when it come to kit homes.

They first saw the light of day in the post Second World War era as a way of boosting the nation's depleted housing stock and wartime neglect.

Back then, when your grandparents or parents were buying their first kit home it was far more primitive than our contemporary computer-designed and constructed homes; the technology available today would make their heads spin.

It was a case of struggling to get the house weatherproof on site during the vagaries of the Scottish climate. Today, entire rooms can arrive, sealed, on site; the hard work has been done undercover in the factory and the time spent on site getting the property weather-tight is minimal.

In the old days it was very much a 'one-size-fits all' scenario. Today's technology means that a kit home is totally customisable. Want to flip the interior lay out? No problem, think the porch would be better over there?

Today's kits have flexibility built in as standard and some kit home manufacturers have the ability to take your architect's drawings and use their production techniques to build your home from start to finish and give you a bespoke service.

The one proviso for a timber frame home design is making sure that you know

what you want at the design stage. Alterations once the kit has been constructed will be costly. That is one point where brick-built wins; you can move a window or door or wall during the construction phase. Try doing that to a timber frame and it will mean a trip back to the drawing board and the factory and that will prove expensive.

Kit homes are the most popular way to build a home in the West Highlands and Islands and some of the leading kits come from manufacturers in the region.

One advantage of having a kit home supplier build your home for you is that they will have their own team of proven tradesmen and women who have worked together before and they know this product inside out – literally! You are saving on time but you are paying for expertise and experience.

You might decide to put the work in the hands of a building firm you know and trust; in the West Highlands the chances are that good building companies will have worked on all the big name companies' kits and have a proven knowledge and understanding of the product.

Or you are in the building trade yourself and can put together your own team. Job done.

You might decide to project manage the build yourself



and hire in the trades and skills as needed. This could save money but most people who go down this route will tell you that the demands on your time will be far greater than you anticipate.

Flexibility truly is the key word. They create and build many different styles of home for many different people and so the choice of bathrooms and kitchens and flooring reflects that wide range; you can even source fittings from other suppliers if you have your heart set on a particular style or type and they will carry out the installation.

Timber frame

The house has a basic wooden frame, covered in waterproof material (like stone or bricks). A number of companies sell timber frame 'kit homes', which are house styles that have already been designed and just need to be put together. This remains one of the most popular choices in the West Highlands.

Steel frame construction

Once the steel frame is built, panels are attached to it. These are coated, or made waterproof in some other way. Building a steel frame house on-site can be quick as much can be made in advance off site.

Alternatives

Across the West Highlands and islands you will find many interesting alternative styles of building; eco friendly and energy saving ideas; turf roofs, insulated concrete form work; water recycling and energy generation.

They are fascinating and use many pioneering techniques. Perhaps the only thing holding people back from experimenting this way is that traditional lenders will not give mortgages.

The best thing about a kit home is that many of these elements and your choices of heating and energy efficiency can be incorporated into your kit.

All types of timber fencing commercial and domestic, general building timbers, contract sawmilling, contract machining, pressure treatment, oak frames & oak beams, garden seats & benches, woodchip for biomass larch cladding and shingle.



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Building your own home?

Sustainable Construction you can rely on...



MACLEOD

CONSTRUCTION LIMITED

Whether you want MacLeod's to build your whole home from start to finish, or you just need to pick and choose the specialist trade services they offer, they will work alongside you wherever and whenever required in the process.



Stylish, spacious, affordable homes customised just for you



MacLeod Construction... ready to go!

MacLeod Construction is the largest timber frame design and manufacturing company in the area with 40 years' experience and a proven track record in quality timber frame construction. Using the very latest methods and materials they design every frame and panel with the innovative software before manufacturing the kit with an automated frame-maker. It's quick, easy and accurate.

Business Development Director Greig MacLeod tells us 'We are a family run business and passionate about what we do. We offer a lot of services, but house building is our speciality. Our homes are stylish, spacious and affordable and can be customised to your exact requirements. Building a kit home is faster, easier and less wasteful than a traditional build. Our kits are highly insulated and come with double glazing



Building sand

- mortar
- floor screeds



Type 1

- road and footpath construction
- sub base for slabs



40mm angular crushed

- garden landscaping
- decorative driveways
- car parking areas
- drainage construction



Large round stone

- 120-250mm
- large scale ground formations
- decorative garden landscaping

to help keep your heating bills down. All our kits have been designed to accommodate the latest renewable heating systems'.

MacLeod Construction is able to offer a full range of services from obtaining planning permission and building warrant right through to completion.

To help streamline your build-process you can pick and choose trades from any of their extensive service division:

- **Plumbing & Electrical**
- **Windows & Doors**
- **Conservatories**
- **Roofing**
- **Refurb & Joinery**
- **Building Aggregates (sand and stone)**

Working together with you, they can help make your future dream home a reality.

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01546 602989



Economical heating systems

Beautiful custom built homes to turn your dreams into reality

Small...but perfectly formed

Wouldn't we all like a beautifully designed home with character and charm? How about lower bills and a more sustainable, less stressful existence? All that can be yours thanks to the rapidly-growing small house movement, giving you the opportunity to live big with the associated cost savings. What's more, a small but perfectly formed home could be yours in a matter of weeks.

Willie and Jane Coghill did just that, choosing The Wee House Company to design and construct their dream custom build home.

Perched on the edge of Scotland, in Caithness, the Coghills opted for a 2 bedroom bespoke design that would make the most of the stunning scenery around the plot.



With an internal floor area of around 80m² this Wee House, lovingly named Bluebelle Cottage, has been optimally designed to take advantage of the panoramic views from the site. As well as an open-plan living/dining area, the house includes a sun room; creating an additional relaxation area for the family. Opening the French doors creates an unexpected feeling of space in the house, while closing them over gives the couple the option of a cosy, peaceful retreat.



The Wee House Co.

The heart of Bluebelle Cottage is the kitchen, featuring a beautiful palette of cream and wood finishes, offset with traditional pewter finish handles. The generous oak-style worktop makes it an inviting space for food preparation and clever use of all available space means there are plenty of cupboards for storage.



Managing a build project of your own can be extremely challenging and that's one of the reasons The Wee House Company is so popular – they take the stress out of the self-build experience. Everything from applying for planning consent and a building warrant to ground works, construction and service installation is taken care of by their dedicated team.

The Wee House Company founder, Jennifer Higgins said, "Our Wee Houses are designed and constructed to achieve the highest standards in safety, sustainability and energy efficiency and we pride ourselves on our exceptional customer care."

"Our clients are really varied. We've built homes for couples looking to downsize, we've helped families stay close together by building in their garden plot and we've built Wee Houses which have become very successful holiday lets. The houses are mortgage eligible so it's also an affordable option for first time buyers struggling to get on the property ladder."

If you've always dreamt of a loch side getaway, a romantic forest retreat or an island escape, it's never been easier – or quicker. The Wee House Company can construct, transport and build a Wee House on your plot in as little as eight weeks!

The company have been designing and building small homes since 2013 and use over 50 combined years of experience in construction and smart design to maximise the functionality and liveability of a smaller floor area. For more information, please visit www.theweehousecompany.co.uk

**Prices start from £99,000 for a 2 bed Wee House*

The Wee House Co.

Modular cottages built on your plot, anywhere in the UK



"I was offered guidance at every stage of the process. The Wee House Company handled everything to do with the planning and building warrant applications. They also took care of all the ground works that were required to get our Wee House into the site and connected to services."

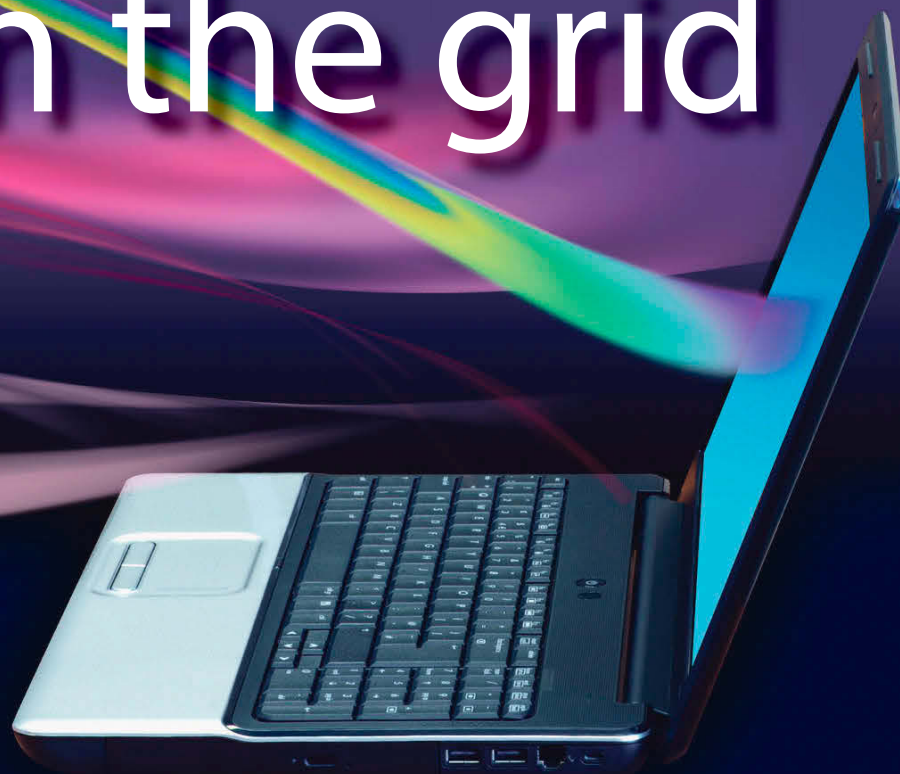
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Two Bedroom Wee House, Dalduff Farm, South Ayrshire

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www.theweehousecompany.co.uk

Getting your new home on the grid

As far as your kids are concerned broadband and a mobile signal are essential, never mind about mains water!





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APPROVED INSTALLER




Our great-great-grandparents' memories of the Tilley lamp, the earth closet at the end of the garden and the water pump alongside the big stone sink are slowly fading from memory.

There are very few people left alive today who can recall them – though chances are many of us still have a few Tilley lamps on standby for power cuts.

The utilities we expect today were luxuries back then and some of what we consider basic utilities now were just plain unheard of, luxury or not.

Electricity, water and sewerage are just expected to be available and if we are too far away from mains water or drains or power lines then the technology exists to provide them. 'Town gas' in our major population centres is backed up with gas or oil tanks at our homes

outwith the gas supply areas. We also expect landline and mobile telephones and television and broadband as standard utilities laid on in our homes.

When self-building many plots will already be connected to services, or be close to them.

It is a good plan, early on, when looking for a plot to buy to ask about the ease of connecting up to services and the cost; for some budgets this could be a decisive factor in whether to go ahead with the purchase or not.

It goes without saying that getting services on site as soon as possible is an important step. Builders will need power tools and water right from the start.

Ask your children what they would think of living in a house with no, or painfully slow, wi-fi, with no mobile

network and in a shadow unable to pick up satellite television or Freeview via terrestrial television. To youngsters, these services are basic utilities they cannot imagine living without.

Ask some families what they would rather have: a dining room where they can sit and eat together and talk, or a media room where they can watch Sky or Netflix or play games on a massive, wall-covering television with a sound system that rattles the triple-glazing. You know what the answer is going to be.

So it makes sense to check these services out. You might be pleasantly surprised because of the amount of investment in broadband for remote and rural locations by the government. Remember mobile signals can be boosted via broadband.

Energy and renewables

Building a new home means you can benefit from the latest energy-saving technology from the day you move in

Installing green technologies in your self-build offers the chance of energy savings and might also qualify for government schemes or

loans. Organisations like Home Energy Scotland can provide free, in-depth advice custom-designed to your style of home and circumstances.

They can talk you through the options for energy saving and generating your own energy for heating

or electricity. Though there have been changes in recent years, renewable heat incentive schemes still exist and so do feed in tariff schemes for the use of small small-scale, renewable and low-carbon technologies to generate electricity.

Heating Bills Too High?

Make sure you do not miss out on very generous Government Grants to help reduce them.

This week marks the second anniversary of T K Murray's first air source heat pump installation on Arran.

Since then another 64 systems have been added with help and assistance from the Governments Renewable Heat Incentive and the Energy Saving Trust.

As well as seeing savings of as much as 42% all are now enjoying warmer cosier homes with plenty of piping hot water.

The benefits of air source heat pumps

- Lower fuel bills, especially if you are replacing conventional electric heating
- Help with the costs from UK government's Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)
- Lower home carbon emissions, depending on which fuel you are replacing
- No fuel deliveries needed
- Can heat your home as well as your water
- Minimal maintenance required

Are You Building or Renovating Your Home?

T K Murray not only install heat pumps.

We offer these services:

We provide a range of electrical services from our time served electricians. Electrical services are one of our core business areas and all our electricians meet the highest qualification standards required. We do not subcontract out any work.

From simple oil or LPG boiler replacement through to full central heating systems. Contact us today for expert advice and a competitive quote
Building or renovating a property? Give us a ring for a free expert consultation and quote. We can advise on what Government help you can apply for.



What our customers say about us

"We have now had our air source heat pump over a winter. Not only has our electricity bill come down by 42% we now have a warm and comfortable home and all the hot water we need for our young family" Marty and Claire Whiting Bay.

"Very easy to work with, they answered all our questions honestly and helped us through the process step by step. The installation was incredibly quick and organised (1 and a half days) which meant there was very little disruption. One day we had a house that we could only heat specific rooms at a time and where there were vast differences in temperature depending on where you were, the next day we had a house which had a constant temperature throughout and was easily controlled."

Martin Wood Lamlash



Arran heat pump case study - Lamlash Bay Hotel

Serge and Meg El Adm owners of the Lamlash Bay hotel purchased their house during the summer of 2017. Over the colder autumn and winter months it became obvious their storage heaters and immersion unit for hot water was expensive, hard to control and was not providing comfortable living conditions. We first went to see them in November 2016 and after a full survey provided them with a Home Report recommending replacing the system a Mitsubishi Ecodan Coastal heat pump with twelve radiators and 210 litre hot water cylinder.

'We are impressed and delighted by the professional services in relation to installing our Air Source Heat Pump. They showed up exactly when they said they would and 2 days later everything was back to normal with all the new radiators and machinery installed and the system up and running. It is great now to have the whole house at an ambient temperature which can be easily and quickly adjusted. Solar panels we also installed as part of the project and as a result of this and the greener heating system, we have noticed a considerable reduction in our energy bills'.

To find out exactly how this system works and to arrange a free no obligation report and quotation call us today on **01236 730 579** or email us: info@tkmurray.co.uk

Don't delay. Government incentive grants for pumps will not be around forever.

- No installation on Arran has taken more than two days
- The grant is available to anyone and is not means tested.
- Claim up to £10500 from the Government
- Don't miss out on this opportunity. **Contact us today!**



T K Murray Electrical Ltd

Contact Norman Paterson on:

07912 346360

2 U.P. Road, Kilsyth, Glasgow, G65 0BH.

Telephone: (01236) 730 579

FAX: (01236) 730 579

E-mail: info@tkmurray.co.uk



Thinking about a self-build project?



Your self-build plans need approval by your local authority planning department and will need to meet Scotland's energy efficiency requirements. For many this will mean home renewables. Home Energy Scotland's specialists are ready to give you tailored and impartial advice on suitable renew-

able technologies, typical running costs and available financial support. Working with your plans, we'll provide bespoke modelling and compare the running cost of different technologies. Our advice covers a lot more too: maintenance costs, getting the best out of systems, Feed-in Tariffs, the

Renewable Heat Incentive and accredited installers. We also provide ongoing support to help you through the installation process, applying for funding and giving advice once your renewables system is commissioned. To find out more call us free on 0808 808 2282 to speak to one of our advisors.

Milligan Transport: Delivery problem solved

No matter how remote your delivery in the West Highlands and Islands, Milligan Transport can do it. This Mallaig-based company specialises in land and sea transport. They delivered an alligator to the Isle of Rum to act in a television documentary, so your kit home or building materials will be all in a day's work. The star of the show is the landing craft Spanish John

2, actually the third vessel to carry the name; the original, a Navy-surplus vessel was legendary in West Highland waters. This incarnation was Clyde-built in 2003 at Alexander Noble and Sons of Girvan. Sitting at 20m long and 6.5m wide, deck cargo can be up to 40 tons. Power comes from twin 236 hp Daewoo engines. Loading can be either via the 3.6m wide bow door ramp, or with a 23t per metre Palfinger

hydraulic crane operated by radio remote control. They deliver equipment and feed to fish farms daily. Plant and diggers are regular cargos and so are sand and aggregates, council skip lorries with refuse and recycling skips, towing fish farm cages. She has also been a platform for movie making and also featured in the new Ford Eco Sport advert that has just started airing on television.



For all your Highlands and Islands transport logistics...



Milligan Transport is a family run company based in Mallaig, specialising in the movement of freight, by road and by sea including the famous Spanish John 2

Craigard, Mallaig, Inverness, PH41 4RG

Tel: 07900 564 475 Email: greigmilligan@btinternet.com

Spanish John www.milligantransportltd.co.uk



THINKING ABOUT A HEAT PUMP IN YOUR HOME?

Beneath the surface Scotland is a warm place. However, is a heat pump the right option for you and your home?

We can give you free, impartial and in-depth advice on the best renewables options. We can also provide information on financial support available, including an interest free loan of up to £10,000 from the Scottish Government.

Speak to a renewables advisor at Home Energy Scotland on 0808 808 2282.



HOMEENERGYSCOTLAND.ORG
0808 808 2282
FUNDED BY THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT



Is your renovation your great innovation?

Which renovator are you? The one who has bought an uninhabitable shell to turn into a home or the one who wants to breathe new life and space into the home they have loved for so long.



There you were, searching for the perfect plot of land upon which to self-build your dream home and suddenly there it was: the wreck you knew you had to rescue.

The roof is all but gone, you can see the rafters; one wall has buckled in, the others are only standing out of force of habit but you can see what it can be once again.

Friends think you are crazy and that it would be cheaper just to bulldoze the entire site and start again, but you know differently.

It is all down to the 'three Rs' of renovation, restoration or remodelling. What needs to be done?

Renovation is renewing what you already have in place and adding new parts where necessary, whether it is floor boards or an entire wall. Restoration returns a room or home back to its former glory, respecting the original, or period, features. Remodelling changes the actual structure or use; like ripping out a wall,

moving the kitchen to the other side of the house, or adding an extra bathroom, sunroom or annexe.

The chances are that you will probably be doing a mixture of all three.

If the property is a listed building, or in a conservation area, you must apply for the necessary permissions.

A house that is run down and in need of repair can be a potential bargain and be the best way to put your finances to work and get more home for your money.

For a start they will almost always have road access, water, electricity, sewerage and mains gas, where available making it easier, quicker and cheaper to get connected to the services.

Take into account that in more rural spots when there is a septic tank this might need renewing or repair and if there is a private water supply it might not comply with the latest standards or pass the newer health tests

without some major work being carried out.

You will need a surveyor's report. Remember that if it is a major endeavour, comparable to building a new home, an architect will prove just as valuable on this project.

If it is a very old and decaying property the first jobs will be to stabilise it and stop any further decay.

Planning permission and building warrants will be needed for a major rebuild or remodelling, but if you can keep within permitted development rights this will save more money. These rights can vary and what might have been fine where you lived before in the UK might not be the same in your new location.

Once again this is where planning officers can advise you.

Though they are becoming more rare, there can be grants or VAT concessions available for certain costs. It is worth checking to see if you qualify.

New year.....New kitchen

The Eco friendly way to have a beautiful new kitchen

If your kitchen base units are in good order, it does not make environmental or financial sense to rip them out and replace with a completely new kitchen. Renew Kitchens would recommend renewing the doors, drawer fronts and worktops etc to achieve a beautiful new kitchen without disruption or expense.

The Eco benefits are numerous. Less materials are required to be manufactured and transported as well as labour on site, as work is usually completed in two days.

They also design and install beautiful new kitchens and fitted bedrooms in all the latest styles and colours.

Now on Arran, so call today for a free survey and quotation.

Tel: 01770 820675

www.renewkitchendoorcompany.co.uk



Call us now for a **FREE SURVEY.**
Tel: 01770 820675/
0800 592259

NEW YEAR...NEW KITCHEN

Let us refurbish your kitchen for half the cost of a new one.

See us at the Caravan and Camping Show (SECC) 7th - 10th February.



Keep your existing units and replace doors, drawer fronts and worktops.

Choose from a vast range of styles.

Less disruption. Huge savings.

We provide the full service including new appliances and sinks.

www.renewkitchendoorcompany.co.uk

Living on site

With a self-build property more money is needed up front to get the project started and many families decide to sell their homes and live in a caravan on site to free up their capital.

The good news is that as a tourist area the West Highlands is never short of good quality second-hand static caravans to buy and there will be a market for the home once you come to sell.

You also have another asset, the plot itself, to help keep your costs down; it can hold a shipping container or two for your possessions thus reducing storage fees. It can even make financial sense to build your garage or large garden shed before your home for additional space; that is if you

know exactly where you want it to go and it will not impede work on the house.

A second mobile home or a demountable Portakabin-style building can be a good investment for your washing machine and tumble drier, bikes and big pieces of family kit.

The trouble with living on site is that you are living on a building site and it can mean plenty of mud, which combined with kids and dogs is not a good mix especially when the doors on static caravans lead straight into the kitchen or living space. If you know you are going to be over-wintering or the building process might have to halt on occasions for finance then a built-on timber porch does not look like an

extra expense but an essential.

Inside, a good collection of micro-fleece throws for the fixed upholstery, which can be quickly washed and dried is a good idea as are Turtle-style doormats and runners – the better condition the soft furnishings are in the better price you will get when selling on and there are plenty of professional cleaners with equipment to help put a sparkle on it all when your new house is ready.

And just remember that you are going to want an extra helping of sense of humour; down-sizing your average family and their possessions into such a compact space will produce plenty of times when you are going to need it.



Time for your new home to blossom

Take the indoors outdoors and bring the outdoors indoors to make the most of your garden throughout the year

Your new home needs the perfect setting; it is time to reach for your wellies and pull on your gloves.

If you have renovated instead then chances are you inherited a garden with established trees and plants along with the property which will all need a major overhaul and a fresh look at the garden layout. Here's some advice from people who have been there, done that and now got a lovely lawn to prove it:

Decide what you want from your garden when you are designing your home; it is never too soon to start. A garden room with sliding glass doors and a patio or decking, all with carefully placed heating indoor and out, will keep your garden in play nearly all year round.

It is never too early for action. Knowing where you want external power points for garden lighting and heating and pipes for taps or water features makes it easier and more economical to install when the house is being built. The same applies to garden paths, hard standings for sheds and summer and greenhouses and locations for decking.

Do a bit of snooping; check out neighbouring properties and see what plants are thriving there

Decide early on if you will need extra top soil; your builders will probably have good contacts for supplies.

Once your house is up and the interior is being worked on, go outside and take photographs of the house from all

sides, from the road and looking out of the windows and, when the stairs are in from all the upstairs windows.

Print out copies and set to work doodling and planning your planting.

A garden truly is another room; coordinate the look of door fittings, lights both on the house and in the garden, timber paints and stains and ornaments and planters.

You are not the only one who will be using your garden; make sure there are plenty of bee and butterfly-friendly plants and lots of berries for birds come wintertime.

Gardens, like Rome were not built in a day. Take your time and remember: no one ever planted too many snowdrops.



Caledonian Isles' return delayed after rudder damage discovered

Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The MV Caledonian Isles, which is currently undergoing her annual overhaul at the Garvel dry dock in Greenock, will be returning to service later than scheduled owing to the discovery of corrosion on her port and starboard rudder stocks.

Originally scheduled to return on Sunday January 25, the vessel will not now return until Saturday February 2, if repairs and the resulting sea trials are successful.

The MV Hebridean Isles has been serving the Ardrossan to Brodick route during the absence of MV Caledonian Isles, with the assistance of MV Isle of Arran, which has been experiencing difficulties herself recently and operating on a reduced service due to

technical difficulties with a lifeboat, which restricted passenger capacity. This has now been repaired.

On Saturday January 26 when the Ardrossan to Brodick route is scheduled to revert back to a single vessel service, the MV Hebridean Isles will continue to serve the route until MV Clansman arrives the following day to replace the delayed MV Caledonian Isles.

A CalMac spokesperson said: 'The MV Caledonian Isles' return to service from dry dock has been delayed due to unforeseen additional work which is required to replace the port and starboard rudder stocks. The rudder stocks were found to have corrosion when inspected at the start of her refit. As a result the two rudder stocks have had to be removed and sent to



Preliminary works under way at Ardrossan harbour.

Denmark for specialist repairs. The vessel is now not expected out of dock until January 30, with a planned return to service, subject to successful sea trials, on February 2.'

Passengers have endured a fair amount of disruption recently, caused by the weather, technical issues

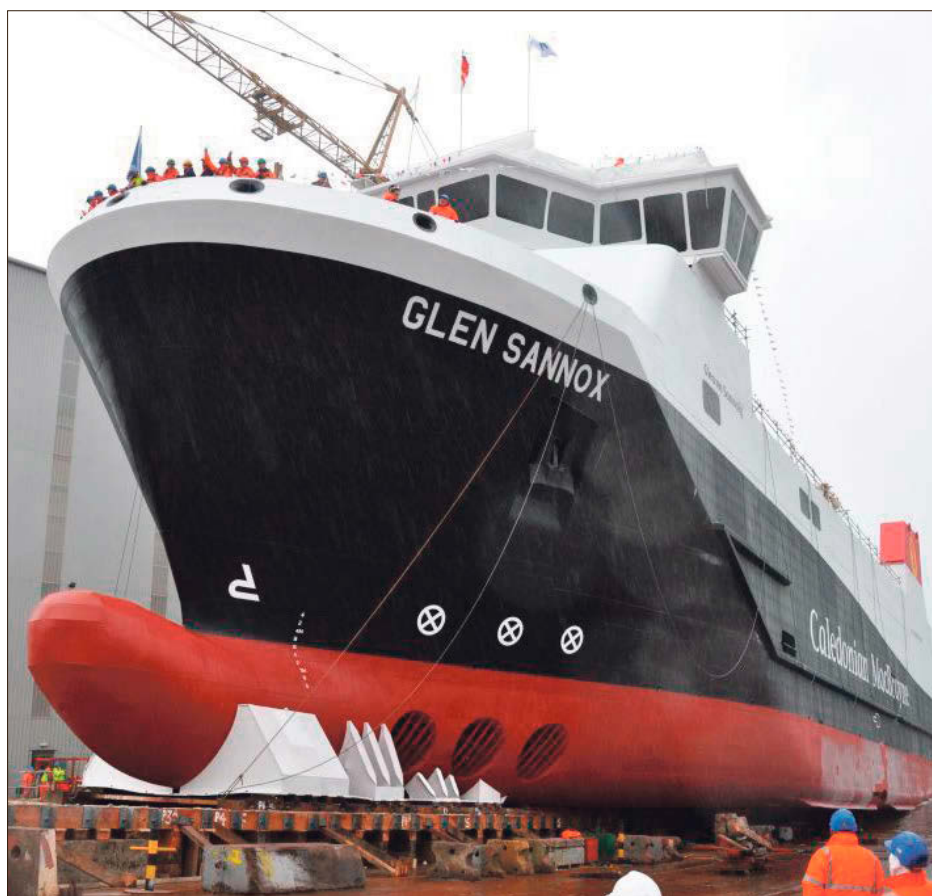
and a brief breakdown of the passenger access system. And there have been further problems at Ardrossan harbour, with foot passengers having to board and exit via the car deck

during preliminary development works which are scheduled to last until the end of month at the Arran berth before moving on to the Irish berth and Winton pier.

The work involves drilling boreholes, trial pits and taking various scans across the harbour site ahead of improvement works which have yet to be finalised.

Details of all changes are available on the CalMac website at www.calmac.co.uk and passengers are being advised that unavoidable changes have had to be made on other routes such as the Lochboisdale to Mallaig route which will divert to Oban two days earlier than planned, and timetable changes are also being made to the Oban to Coll to Tiree service.

Glen Sannox delivery



The MV Glen Sannox being launched at Port Glasgow in November 2017. 01_B47front01

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FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question:
Where do Kylee source their ethical beef from?

Must be booked in advance. Subject to availability. Prize cannot be part redeemed and must be used during one stay. Prize includes a 1 night stay in a luxury 5 star, self-catering apartment and a 3 course meal in Kylee for 2 people. Drinks are not included.

To enter, send separate entries (in the same envelope) with your name, address, telephone number and email address to **Scottish Field Competitions, Fettes Park, 496 Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL** or enter at www.scottishfield.co.uk. Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is 28 February 2019. **Winners drawn from all competitions also enter a prize to win a bottle of Berry Bros. & Rudd Islay Reserve Whisky.**

Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Scottish Field, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Usual Scottish Field rules apply. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition - your name, address, telephone number and email address. If you wish to receive news and offers from the third party running the competition, then please mark the words 'OPT IN' on your postcard entry. If you enter various competitions on one card, you will be opting in for every competition running. Unless you opt in to receive further marketing information we will only contact you if you win a prize in the competition. Scottish Field (Wywex Media) will retain your information for a maximum of 3 months after the competition closes and then it will be deleted. If you have opted in to receive third party information, the data you have supplied will be passed to the third party company running the competition. This may be used for the purposes of the third party contacting you regarding new products and services for a period of 3 months, unless you agree to an extension with the third party company at a later date.

Market report

United Auctions at Stirling had forward 1,087 store cattle, 186 cast cows and 7,283 sheep at their sale on Wednesday January 16.

Leading prices were:
AAX hfrs - £1,115, 206p Claulchlands, £710, 216p Hillhead, £520, 200p Glenkiln. AAX blks - £1,025, 200p Claulchlands, £770, 234p Hillhead, £600, 226p Glenkiln. HEX hfrs - £990, 205p Altgolach. LimX blks - £1,025, 200p Claulchlands, £630, 235p Hillhead. TexX hfts - £95 Moor, £73 Craighdu and Springfield. Easy care hfts - £95 Moor. Cross hfts - £77 Altgolach, £73 Sheddock. BF hfts - £65 Altgolach and North Sannox, £55 Springfield. TexX ewes - £92 Bridge, £89 Springfield, £77 Moor, £68 Craighdu. Mule ewes - £55 Springfield. BF ewes - £46 Springfield. Cast rams - BF £52 Altgolach, £41 Glenkiln, £49 Whin.

Green credentials put Arran on the map

Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A self-taught Arran-based graphics designer has created an interactive map of Arran that highlights organisations on the island that focus on environmental conservation and small scale producers who contribute to sustainability.

Known as the Arran Green Map, the online directory features nearly 40 organisations, businesses and initiatives that play a part in Arran's cultural heritage and identity, and those that represent green values.

The creator, Simon Ross-Gill, identifies the three core values of the Big Green Map as:

Local – supporting local

businesses and sourcing materials locally.

Sustainable – aiming to regenerate biodiversity and natural ecosystems on flora and fauna to support the local economy, making it sustainable and self-sufficient in food, energy and resources.

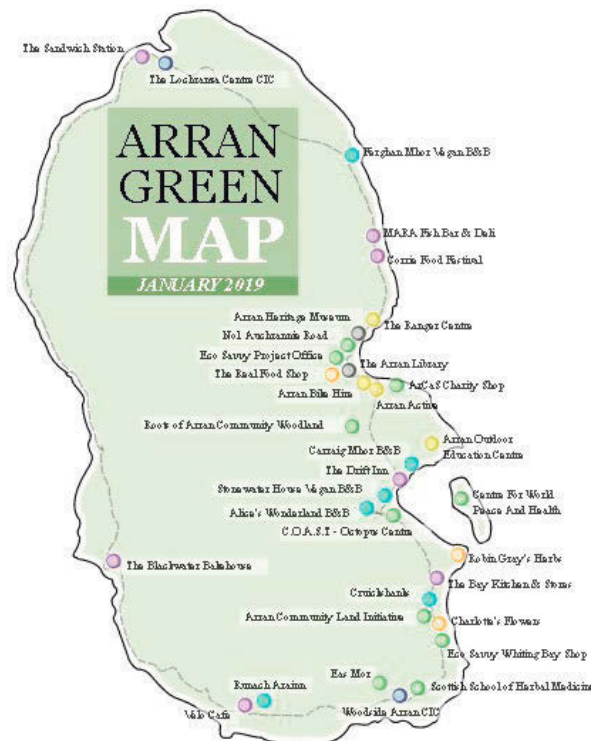
Small scale – promoting hand made goods and involving skilled artisanship and craftspeople within a circular economy.

Simon said: 'The map is a combination of my love for Arran, and my determination to protect our natural environment and to regenerate biodiversity here, not to mention my love of drawing maps.'

'This would not be possible without all of the great

people behind each of the projects listed.'

Inclusion on the map, which is available at www.arrangreenmap.co.uk, is free of charge and further details on each of the organisation's green credentials and contribution can be accessed by clicking on the map.



The Arran Green Map which has been produced to highlight Arran's green credentials and sustainable ethos.

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* Additional P&P charges will apply to EU/ROW

Creating art to make attractive cycle ways

ArtRoots funding of up to £5,000 is being made available to community groups on Arran towards artistic and visual improvements to the National Cycle Network which runs from Brodick to Lochranza, writes Colin Smeeton.

Improvements

The ArtRoots project, funded by Transport Scotland and delivered by Sustrans Scotland, seeks to empower communities in creating and implementing improvements to make journeys on the National Cycle Network more attractive and enjoyable.

The fund supports local enterprise and culture, and aims to encourage community groups to participate in shaping their local environment and increase their levels of physical activity.

Throughout 2018, ArtRoots funding has enabled many communities throughout Scotland to improve the visual amenity of their local area and



Community group East Haven Together secured ArtRoots funding to commission this sculpture.

to raise its public profile. Community groups on Arran which would like to take advantage of funding of up to £5,000 are encouraged to submit an online

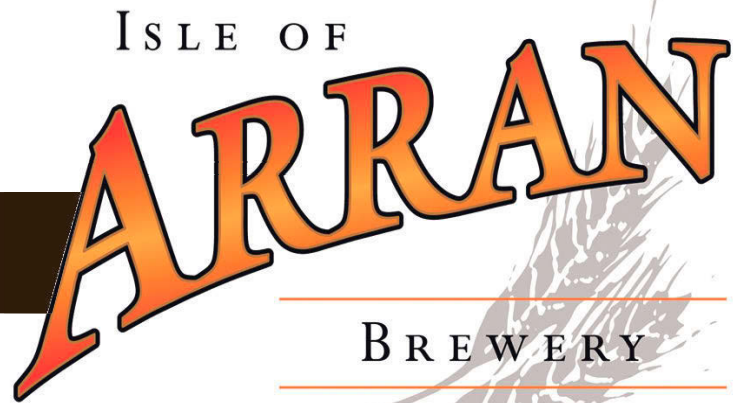
expression of interest form through the Sustrans website at www.sustrans.org.uk where more details and guidelines for applications are also available.

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What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Every day

Octopus Centre	Old Pavilion, Lamlash, Centre Open seven days, 11am - 3pm
Octopus Centre - Tennis	Old Pavilion, Lamlash Open seven days, any time
Brodick Mini Golf	Open seven days, 9am - 5pm-ish, ALL weather
Brodick Castle, garden only	Open 9am-dusk
Art Exhibition, artist Jane Nichol	Isle of Arran Distillery, Lochranza, 10am - 4pm
Soap making and candle dipping	Arran Aromatics, Brodick, 10am - 4pm
Arran Brewery	Open - Mon, Friday & Saturday, 10am - 5pm
	Tuesday - Thursday, 11am - 4pm. Tours daily at 2pm
Public Swim	Auchrannie Spa Pool 10am - 3pm
Public Swim	Auchrannie Spa Pool 6pm - 8pm

Saturday 26th January

Flow Yoga	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Winter Rink Bowls	Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 1.30pm
Family Games	Auchrannie Games Hall 2pm - 3pm
Fun in the Pool	Auchrannie Spa Pool 3pm - 4pm
Lamlash Burns Club, Annual Burns Supper	Lamlash Golf Club, 7pm for 7.30pm
"Souled Out" Concert, Arran Soul Choir	Arran Community Theatre, Arran High School, 7.30pm
Live Music - The Sensational Biff Simpson	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Over 21s' Disco	Ormidale Hotel, 10pm

Sunday 27th January

Open Mic - enquire with Crofters' to play	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 1pm - 4pm
Family games	Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm - 3pm
Fun in the pool	Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm - 4pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
Folk Music Session	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 28th January

JogScotland mixed ability running group	Whiting Bay 5.30pm
Adult Tennis	Blackwaterfoot, 5.30pm
Circuit Training	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6pm - 7pm Live
Music - Arran Dawn	Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 6.30pm
Isle of Arran Bridge Club, All welcome	Brodick Golf Club, 7pm for 7.15pm
Tae Kwon Do, Adults and over 10s,	Brodick Church Hall, 7pm - 8.30pm

Tuesday 29th January

Healthy Outdoors Team	Brodick Country Park Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm
Eco Savvy Energy Surgeries	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10am - 3pm
Winter Rink Bowls	Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 1.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)	Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
Arran Pace Makers - Jog Scotland Beginners Group	Ormidale pavilion, Brodick, 5.30pm
Steak Night - two ribeye steaks and bottle of wine	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 5.30pm
Arran Hockey Club - Juniors (5-14yrs)	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6pm - 7pm
Arran Community Council	NA local council offices, Lamlash 6pm
Flow Yoga	Corrie Hall, 6pm
Scottish Country Dancing	Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Trev's Pop Music Quiz	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Traditional Music Sessions	Brodick Bar, 9pm
Body Blitz	Auchrannie Spa Leisure 9.30pm - 10.30pm

Wednesday 30th January

Yoga	Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am - 10.30am
Brodick Gardens Volunteers	Brodick Castle and Country Park, 9.30am - 1pm
Coffee Morning	St Bride's Church, Brodick, 10.30am - 12noon
Knit and Blether	Bay Wool and Crafts, Whiting Bay 10.30am - 12.30pm
Arran Heritage Museum	Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm



Chair Yoga Exercise Class	St Molios Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am
Archives and Genealogy Service	Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 3.30pm
Dog Classes	Whiting Bay Hall, 12.30pm
Arran Pace Makers Running Group	Brodick, 5.30pm
Flow Yoga	Shiskine Hall, 6pm
Live Music - Tim Pomeroy	Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 6.30pm
Tae Kwon Do Juniors 6.30pm - 7.30pm, Advanced Juniors & Adults, AHS, 7.30pm - 8.30pm	Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
Family Friendly Pub Quiz	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Rock 'n' Pop Bingo	

Thursday 31st January

Morning fitness	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
Chair Yoga Exercise Class	Ormidale Pavillion, Brodick, 10.30am
Arran Heritage Museum	Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm
A.C. L. I. Volunteer Gardening Day	Golf Course Road, Whiting Bay, 11.30am - 3.30pm
Music Matters	Lamlash Church Hall, 2pm
Steak Night - 2 steak dinners and a bottle of wine	Drift Inn, Lamlash, 5pm - 9pm
Isle of Arran Bridge Club, all welcome	Little Rock, Brodick, 7pm for 7.15pm
Badminton, all welcome	Shiskine Hall, 7pm
Arran Hockey Club - Seniors (12 yrs +)	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm - 8.30pm
Arran Soul Choir	Community Theatre, Arran High School, 7pm - 9pm
Brodick Embroidery Group	Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Body Blitz	Auchrannie Spa Leisure 9.30pm - 10.30pm
Tommy's General Knowledge Quiz	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Friday 1st February

Yoga	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
Arran Heritage Museum	Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am - 3.30pm
Soundbath	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6.30pm - 7.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
Tae Kwon Do	Advanced (Advanced Class) Arran High School, 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Live Music - Shindig	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, 7.30pm
Friday Night Quiz	Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm

Saturday 2nd February

Flow Yoga	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Winter Rink Bowls	Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 1.30pm
Family games	Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Fun in the pool	Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Live Music - Charlie Gorman	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Over 21s' Disco	Ormidale Hotel, 10pm



www.arranbrewery.com

Young film-makers sought for competition

SCOTTISH SPCA
Scotland's Animal Welfare Charity

The Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SSPCA) has launched its first primary and secondary school film competition for Scottish schools and is inviting young film-makers on Arran to get involved.

Scotland's animal welfare charity visits schools every year to deliver its free prevention-through-education programme, encouraging pupils to become responsible animal citizens. The programme links in with many areas of the Curriculum for Excellence and aims to encourage empathy and compassion towards animals.

Primary and secondary

schools have been invited to submit a short film that educates the public, and in particular their peers, on key animal welfare issues that the Scottish SPCA regularly has to tackle.

The competition gives schools the opportunity to engage their students in a creative activity with the opportunity to win prizes for both themselves and the school.

The judging panel will be looking for innovative and creative methods of conveying a key message to the public, in particular to other school students.

Scottish SPCA head of education and policy Gilly Mendes Ferreira said: 'We

are thrilled to be launching this competition for both primary and secondary schools and hope that this continues to encourage children and young adults to be #AlwaysAnimalAware.

'We truly believe children are the key to making a real difference to animal welfare in Scotland.'

Further information, including topics, consent forms, terms and conditions and the closing dates for submissions, can be found on the Scottish SPCA website at scottishspca.org/education/

The winning films will be announced in June 2019.



Scottish SPCA officers aim to instil empathy and compassion towards animals with their prevention-through-education programme.



An example of Margot Sandeman's work showing a figure in an idyllic nature setting.

Artworks go on show in Glasgow

Work by artist Margot Sandeman, who was a well-known Arran visitor, is to go on display at an exhibition at Cyril Gerber Fine Art in West Regent Street, Glasgow.

A selection of paintings and drawings gifted to Margot by friend and fellow artist Joan Eardley will also be on display. Margot and Joan, who became lifelong friends while they were both students at Glasgow School of Art, made many painting trips to Corrie, which was the Sandeman family's summer base.

Born in Glasgow, Margot was the daughter of Archibald Sandeman, 1887-1941, an accomplished artist and Muriel Boyd Sandeman,

1887-1981, an internationally famous embroiderer who trained with Jessie Newbery at Glasgow School of Art.

A prolific painter, Margot continued to work until the end of her life in 2009, aged 87, leaving a substantial number of paintings and drawings in her studio. The exhibition in Cyril Gerber Fine Art is a further selection of some of these idyllic scenes of figures in nature, still life and drawings and includes some previously unseen works.

Cyril Gerber said: 'One feels that if Margot Sandeman were not a painter she would have been a poet. For her, the thought, the idea, the atmosphere of beautiful trees,

shady lanes, sheep as part of the shape of the landscape, are rare, pure and magical things.' Winner of the Guthrie Award, 1964; the Anne Redpath Award, 1970; the Scottish Arts Council Award, 1970 and the Laing Competition, 1989, her work is represented in numerous private and public collections in Scotland and further afield, including the BBC, the Scottish Arts Council, Contemporary Art Society and the City Art Centre, Edinburgh.

The exhibition at Cyril Gerber Fine Art will take place from Thursday January 31 to Saturday February 23. More information at <http://gerberfineart.co.uk/2014>


Selling your Whisky Cask?

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 ATOM BRANDS

Council leads the way

A study of Scotland's 32 councils has named North Ayrshire Council as one of the top performing with regard to its youth engagement and participation.

Called 'Being Heard: helping to create the next generation of civic leaders in Scotland', the 64-page document describes North Ayrshire and North Lanarkshire councils as examples for others to follow.

The report, by Orkney councillor and journalist John Ross Scott and St Andrew's University student Kristopher Leask, has been commended to members of the Scottish youth parliament (MYSPP) as a guide to improve engagement between young people and council decision makers.

Outlining how the council achieves a child-centred approach, the report notes: 'North Ayrshire Council has young people from its executive youth council attend every education

committee in a non-voting capacity. The deputy leader of the opposition is the youth champion and he meets with the executive youth council on a regular basis and also has monthly one-to-one meetings with the lead officer for youth work.

'A North Ayrshire young people strategic group was established in 2018 which has an equal amount of young people to elected members.

'The group is chaired by a young person with an elected member as vice chair. There is a work programme established and young people are leading on the three work streams – health and wellbeing, poverty and voice and influence'.

In addition youth engagement in the young people's shadow cabinet, community planning partnership and locality partnerships are highlighted, as is the youth



Authors of the study Kristopher Leask, left, and John Ross Scott meet with Minister for Children and Young People Maree Todd MSP.

work modern apprenticeship programme.

Councillor Scott said: 'We hope our report will assist MSYs – both in the current wave and the next one – to bring about meaningful change in the way young people engage with decision makers.

'Scotland is ahead of the rest of Europe when it comes to engaging with young people, but while there is great work going on, it is not always coordinated or shared.'

Kristopher Leask added: 'The experience of produc-

ing "Being Heard" has not only been rewarding but also an eye-opener to what has not been produced on the subject to date, leaving engagement for some young people across Scotland.

'Hopefully our work will go some way to rectifying that and allow local authorities to learn from one another and the Scottish Government to co-ordinate best practice to ensure youth engagement is not a passing fad but a concrete legacy for the Year of Young People.'

Recent Arran Bridge Club results

The scores for the first two weeks of 2019 at the Arran Bridge Club were: Monday January 7, aggregate competition. N/S 1 Trish Martin and David Campbell +4,120, 2 Jan and John Beattie +2,930, 3 Maureen Cummings and Fiona Henderson +2,480. E/W 1 Margaret McGill and Elizabeth McKellar +310, 2 Douglas and Margaret Bruce -750, 3 Ellie Jones and Elaine Duncan -1,690.

Thursday January 10, aggregate competition. N/S 1 Trish Martin and Douglas Hamilton +4,310, 2 Pat

Adamson and Brenda Livingstone +4,160, 3 Maureen Cummings and Jennifer McArthur +1,840. E/W 1 Jan and John Beattie -1,740, 2 Douglas and Margaret Bruce -2,030, 3 David and Fiona Henderson -2,710.

Monday January 14, match points competition. 1 Trish Martin and David Campbell 152, 2 Jan and John Beattie 130, 3 Anne McKelvie and David Henderson 125.

Thursday January 17, aggregate competition. N/S 1 Jim Peacock and Elaine

Duncan +1,910, 2 Maureen Cummings and Jennifer McArthur -860, 3 Gege Kroner and Andy Martin -2,310. E/W 1 Fiona and

David Henderson +2,860, 2 Trish Martin and Douglas Hamilton +2,700, 3 Janie Maclure and Anne McKelvie +1,780.

ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

Scottish Charity Number SC002089

Rosaburn, Brodick, Open Wed - Fri 11am to 3.30pm



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Archive and Genealogy researchers welcomed

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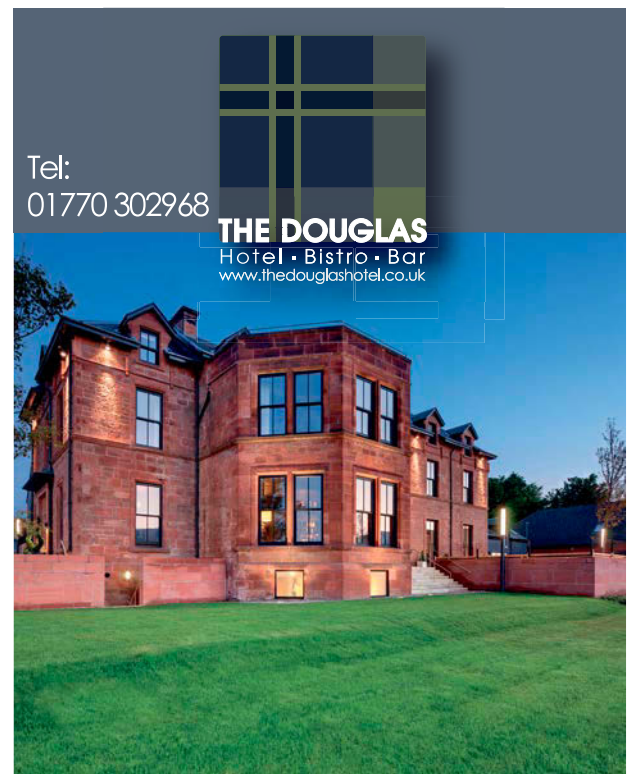
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THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday January 23, 1999

Fuel for thought

The Council of Voluntary Services is to approach the oil companies to ask why we pay so much for petrol on Arran. At least that is the implication in a survey which they prepared on Arran petrol prices. It concludes that it is not right to blame local garages for us having to pay the highest prices in Scotland. Mike Lunan, who prepared the survey, spoke to Blackwaterfoot Garage which gave its price of unleaded as 78.6 per litre. Ribbecks petrol costs 76.9 per litre.

The survey says that Arran's oil is supplied by Scottish Oils to both BP and Shell garages. Murray Small of Arran Oils explained that many garages pay from the same scale of charges as those on the mainland.

The problem is that the amounts bought by Arran garages are so small that they pay the top price. An island allowance of 0.8p per litre for Arran hardly sets the balance right and one can hardly blame people for filling up their tanks on the mainland where many suppliers are hovering around the 60.9 per litre price.

Illustrious trio

The Arran Banner frequently hears of stories which, while fascinating, have no further detail to shed any light on the matter. One such story is from a reader Jean Sut-

ton who, while perusing a book called *The Makers of English History*, discovered a picture of Churchill, Asquith and Lloyd George visiting Arran in 1913.

They are all seated with an un-named woman behind a Keep off the Grass sign with a timber and thatch building behind them. Jean wondered if the picture was taken in the grounds of Brodick Castle and if the building was the one that is located near the gates. It is certainly a fascinating bit of history and we too wonder what the purpose of visiting the island was for, for such an illustrious trio. Was it a holiday for the politicians or a summit meeting?

Road rage

That Arran's roads are a mess is generally agreed. Long a cause for complaint, the recent gales and torrential rain have taken further toll on them, leaving some in a terrible state with gaping potholes and other completely unusable.

The closure between Kilpatrick and Corriecravie might now be the straw to break the camel's back. It will be closed for a period of up to two weeks and, for some, will alter a 12-mile journey to work into a massive 60-mile journey.

Outrage is also being expressed about damage to wheels and tyres by potholes; the sudden closure of the A841 road without notice, and insufficient repairs being undertaken on damaged sections of road.



Joining the search and rescue team for a training exercise in a Sea King helicopter, the Arran Banner's Howard Driver and Jenni Turnbull join Petty Officer Jon Hounsome and Captain Kel Jeffries for a pre-flight photograph.



Donald McQueen of Lamlash has worked as a postman on Arran for the past 15 years. In recognition of this he was presented with a long service award by James Jack, Royal Mail Sector Operations manager.



A great many interested people visited Levenorrach to witness a threshing machine from the past. The machine is owned by Geoff and Sally Brookes who bought it at Torrylin at a dispenishment sale.



Alex Raeburn and Hector perform admirably at the Cairnhouse Winter Points competition.



All the pupils of Kilmory Primary School join Conor McKellar and Michael Jenks in presenting a £300 cheque, which they raised with their Christmas pantomime, to John Fitzpatrick who is receiving it on behalf of Kilmory Hall.

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Please email or post your CV and references to:
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LONG LET IN LAMLASH
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Modern 2 bedroom, balconied house. 50 meters from shore in centre of village. Well furnished - suitable for 2 adults. £600 per month plus CTAX.

References required. Sorry no pets or DHSS.
Tel: 01770 600 795

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For Sale £300k + stock
 Due to an ageing fleet new wheels are being sought to move this iconic island business forward.

Contact: Mrs Aileen Thomson 01770 302648 (day)
 01770 600227 (night)

Trade Classifieds

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decorators

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Personal Notice

WEDDING



SHELLEY HESTER & LEE COLEMAN

The families of Shelley Hester and Lee Coleman are delighted to announce their recent marriage which took place at Western House Hotel, Ayr. The day was perfect and many thanks to all who joined us to make it such a special day. Especially, thanks to the Ladies at Janies , the three Bridesmaids (and families) all made a great effort to spend the weekend with us on the mainland. Many thanks also to Julie at Bay Pet care for taking care of Poppy and Kizzie . After a honeymoon in London the couple plan to renovate their new house on the mainland and live there happily ever after.

Public Notices

EARLY LEARNING & CHILDCARE REGISTRATION WEEK

Parents are advised that registration for the early learning and childcare intake in August 2019 takes place from Monday 28 January 2019 - Friday 1 February 2019. Children with dates of birth between 1 March 2015 and 28 February 2017 can be registered with Local Authority Early Years establishments or Partner Providers of early learning and childcare in North Ayrshire during this time. Parents wishing to register their child for early learning and childcare should apply directly to the class/centre of their choice. A list of all Local Authority and Partner establishments can be found on the North Ayrshire Council website, www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk (Education and Learning pages). The child's birth certificate should be produced at the time of registration. It is not always possible to place all children in the early year's class/centre of their choice. You will be asked to state your second and third choice of establishment. Please note: there are no 'catchment areas' for early years class/centres and parents can choose to send their child to the most suitable class/centre, if a place is available. Attending an early years class within a primary school does not influence whether your child will be able to transfer to that school in Primary 1. Please note that North Ayrshire Council operates an Admissions Policy which clearly describes priorities. Further information on North Ayrshire Council's Admissions Policy and Early Years places can be found on the North Ayrshire website, www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk
Caroline Amos, Head of Service (Inclusion), Education & Youth Employment

Classifieds

UNDER £50

B16 Bale Hay, £15. Buyer collects. Telephone 700371.

One black glass TV table, 33 x 21", £10. One bathroom cabinet 13 1/2" b x 20 1/2", £10. One pale gold standard lamp and shade, £10. Telephone 01770600123.

IKEA Ektorp 3-seater sofa bed, deep blue, in serviceable condition. £30 including delivery on the island. 07775680891

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PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE TUESDAY 4.00pm
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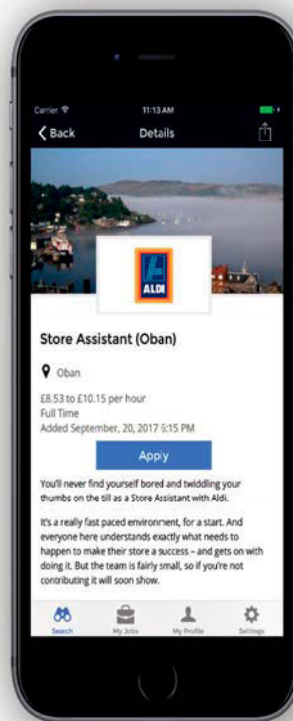
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CHURCH NOTICES

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 27th January

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

Shiskine Church 12noon Morning Worship.
 Brodick Church, 10.30am. Morning Worship,
 Corrie Church, 11.30 Prayer meeting, 12noon
 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 27th January
 Holy Communion 11 am.
 Richard Trewby
 Coffee after service
 ALL WELCOME

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)

Sunday 27th January
 Morning Service 11am
 Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
 Evening Service 6.30pm
 5 Glen Road, Brodick
 All welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
 "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 27th January
 Mrs Sharon MacLeod
 Kilmory - 10 am
 Lamlash - 11.30 am.
 All welcome, including families; children's area
 Scottish Charity SC015072

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland, Charity
 Number: SC014005
Sunday 27th January
 Worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am.
 Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service.
 All most welcome.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday 27th January
 Sunday Worship at 11am 'Heather Lodge', Brodick Left of the Douglas Hotel, opposite the ferry terminal
 Telephone 01770 700346 or 01770 820223
 Everyone Warmly Invited

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 27th January
 Service 11am
 Ormidale Pavilion
 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 27th January
 Shiskine 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
 Brodick 6pm
 Rev Benjamin Van Rensburg

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 27th January
 Sunday Mass 11am

DEATH

HAMILTON - Mary. Peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital on Sunday, 20th January 2019 after a short illness, surrounded by her family. Mary, aged 88 years, loving aunt of the family and friend of the community. Funeral service at St Molios Church, Shiskine on Friday, 25th January at 11:30am and thereafter to Clachan cemetery to which all are welcome. Family flowers only please.

Scottish Grand National is fourth biggest race

The Coral Scottish Grand National, always a popular day out from Arran, is the richest horse race to be run in Scotland and is officially the fourth biggest race in Britain in terms of betting shop turnover.

Figures published by bookmaking giants Ladbrokes and Coral last week have the Ayr race only behind the Grand National, the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Derby in a list of top 40 betting races.

All the other races run at the Cheltenham Festival plus the Oaks, St Leger and 1,000 and 2,000 Guineas lag behind the Scottish National and there is no other race run north of Aintree in the top 40.

The last few years have seen the Saturday of the festival sell out.

To book tickets go online at www.scottishgrandnationalfestival.co.uk or call 01292 264179.

Dramatic sky over Corrie



A heavy snowfall earlier this week provided stunning views from Corrie Golf Club's second tee over towards the peaks of Cioch na h Oighe and Suidhe Fhearghais. Photograph: Colin Smeeton 01_B04corrie01



Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday January 10, Yellow Medal. 1 Ian Bremner 64-4=60, 2 Hugh McLelland 81-18=63 BIH, 3 Allan Colquhoun 71-8=63. Magic twos Allan Colquhoun and Jim Young @13th.

Thursday January 17, Yellow Medal, 1 Graeme Andrew 74-9=65, 2 Allan Colquhoun 74-8=66, 3 Ian Bremner 71-3=68. Magic twos G Andrew and Barry @13th.

Sunday January 20, Glenburn Cup, 1 Paul Jameson 72-11=61, 2 Scott Campbell 79-17=62. Best scratch P Jameson 72. Magic twos P Jameson and Hugh McLelland @ 16th.

Fixtures: Sunday January 27, Winter Stableford 9.30am and noon starts. Thursday January 31, Yellow Medal, 11am ballot.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday January 20, sweep. Nine played in this non-counting sweep from the yellow tees. On a day of conflicting weather forecasts and, unbelievably, the optimistic one was wrong.

Despite a constant light drizzle, scoring was good with the worst returned score being a net 65 and even that included a last hole disaster.

The runaway winner, however, was David Brookens, who recorded a scratch 64 to win by seven from Stan Rainey.

Result: 1 David Brookens 12, 52, 2 Stan Rainey 11, 59, 3 Tom Paterson 0, 62 ACB and lowest scratch. Magic two Tom Paterson @4th.

The sweep being a non-counter for handicap purposes there was no CSS applicable.

Fixture: Sunday January 27, Stableford, yellow tees, one draw at 10am.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday January 16, Wednesday Cup.

Four played. Magic twos, D Robertson, J Green, D Roxburgh and Dougie won with a good score of 27 points.

Sunday January 20, Winter Cup Stableford, 15 played, NC. Bill Donaldson 16, 38pts, Chris Pattenden 15, 37pts, ACB, Douglas Robertson 19, 37pts, ACB.

Fixture: Sunday January 27, Winter Cup, 9am and noon.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday January 22, Winter Cup. 1 Reuben Betley 63, 2 Brian Sherwood 65, 3 Campbell Laing 69. Magic twos, Hamish Bannatyne and Brian Sherwood.

Fixtures: Tuesday January 29, Winter Cup, tee off at noon. Saturday February 2, Lochranza Hotel Cup, tee off at noon.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday January 19, sweep. 1 G Andrew 68-9=59 and scratch. Magic twos R Burke @8th.

Fixtures: Saturday January 26, 18-hole sweep, bal-

lots at 9am and 12.30pm. Monday January 28, Winter Cup, ballot at noon.

Lochranza Castle Golf Club

Fixture: Saturday January 26, Lochranza v Shiskine Golf Club, draw at 1.30pm. A good turnout is requested to support your local team.

Arran Golfers' Association

Fixture: Sunday February 3, Winter League, Duncan Trophy at Shiskine Golf and Tennis Club.

Shiskine v Lamlash, 8.30am, start at the 13th, last six holes first.

Corrie v Brodick, 9am, start at the 13th, last six holes first. Machrie Bay v Whiting Bay, 11.10am, start at the 1st, regular 18 holes.

Please advise your team of these tee off times as it is different from AGA fixture list.

Table after round three; Lamlash 6pts, Whiting Bay 4pts, Brodick 4pts, Machrie Bay 3pts, Shiskine 1pts, Corrie 0pts.

SPORT



INSIDE THIS WEEK:
Arran golf
round-up



Ruaridh Lindsay-Smith won the S1 boys' race with Archie Gunyadi finishing second.



Beth McCarthy who took third place in the S1 girls' event.



Finishing first and second are James McCarthy and Milo Godwin on the podium after receiving their medals.

Arran pupils on podium at schools cross country

A total of 22 youngsters from Arran took part in the first race of the North Ayrshire schools cross country league on Saturday January 19.

The youngsters had great fun and also achieved some excellent results with several top-10 finishes as well as a number of notable podium places.

The Arran primary

schools team also won the primary 5 boys' team award.

P5 boys: 1 Fergus West, 3 Jake Early. P6 girls: 1 Rhea Webster. S1 boys: 1 Ruaridh Lindsay-Smith, 2 Archie Gunyadi. S1 girls: 3 Beth McCarthy. S2 boys: 1 Andrew Bunting. S3 boys: 1 James McCarthy, 2 Milo Godwin.

The full list of partici-

pants was: P5 Ewen Southwick, Gregor Gunyadi, Fergus West, Jake Early. P6 Andrew Currie, Ben McCarthy, Logan Park, Myles Lindsay-Smith, Rosie Wilkinson, Rhea Webster, Niamh Gosman, Rosie McNamara. P7 Harriet Lucas, Ruby Wright.

S1 Archie Gunyadi, Ruaridh Lindsay-Smith, Beth McCarthy.

S2 Andrew Bunting, Julie Hamill, Laila Webster. S3 Milo Godwin, James McCarthy.

Also last Sunday four youngsters from Arran represented North Ayrshire Athletics Club at the Kilmarnock Harriers cross country festival.

This was the first time any youngsters from Arran had taken part in this race,

competing over distances of 1,500m (under 11) and 3,200m (under 13).

The youngsters competed against others from clubs all across the west of Scotland from Airdrie to Ayr in wet and very cold conditions.

This is hopefully the start of a strong and enduring link between Arran High School, Arran Junior Tri-

athlon Club and North Ayrshire Athletics Club and the youngsters acquitted themselves very well on the day.

Under 11: Myles Lindsay-Smith (7 min 26s), NAAC 3rd place team prize, Rhea Webster (9 min 12s).

Under 13: Ruaridh Lindsay-Smith (12 min 30s), Laila Webster (17 min 42s).

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