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Challenge is on to keep Arran a special place

'Growth remains over five per cent and quality of life is within the top 10 per cent of Scottish local authorities'

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk



Life on Arran is still top quality despite challenges to keep it a special place, says a new report.

Chairman of the Arran Economic Group (AEG) Tom Tracey said in his annual report for 2018 that the island remains in a great position when it comes to growth and wellbeing but there was 'lots more to be done' to improve the economy.

'Growth remains over five per cent and quality of life is within the top 10 per cent of Scottish local authorities,' he said.

Island life is not without its problems, noted the report. Arran's overall population is declining while numbers of older residents are increasing.

The impact of that means a larger strain on health and social care services, although, on the plus side, it is the older population who are Arran's biggest volunteers holding the island's social fabric together, said Mr Tracey.

A shortage of working-age people on Arran is another issue needing to be taken to task, according to Mr Tracey's report, that also highlighted the need for affordable homes and finding ways to encourage more working people to stay and new workers to move to the island.

'With the North Ayrshire Council commitment to 34 houses, Trust Housing Association to 20 and Arran Development Trust's plan for 50-plus houses, we will have made a significant dent in

Continued on page two

Young poets shine at Burns competition



Primary one and two pupils smile proudly after reciting their poems at the Arran Schools Burns Verse Speaking Competition held during the 90th Isle of Arran Music Festival last week. More on the festival on page 14 and 15.

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JUST 3 REMAINING

Participants sought for Lamlash Splash training

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The Arran Open Water Swimmers (ARROWS) are inviting anyone who may wish to take part in the Lamlash Splash to join their club and to join them with their training.

This year's Lamlash Splash – a 1.3-mile swim from the Holy Isle to Lamlash Pier – will take place on Saturday September 21.

A maximum of 40 swimmers can enter the timed, but non-competitive event, with at least 10 places reserved for local swimmers.

The ARROWS have continued to swim throughout the winter months and would welcome any new members who wish to give it a go once the water temperature, currently averaging seven degrees, starts to rise. May is the usual time of year to begin training in



The Arran swimmers who completed the gruelling Lamlash Splash.

order to be prepared for the challenge by September. In order to swim in the event you must be able to swim 2.2 km non-stop in a pool, preferably front crawl as breast stroke is difficult in a wetsuit in the sea.

It is imperative that you have some open water practice prior to the event so interested parties are encouraged to join the ARROWS either at Brodick or Lamlash to gain experience of the local conditions.

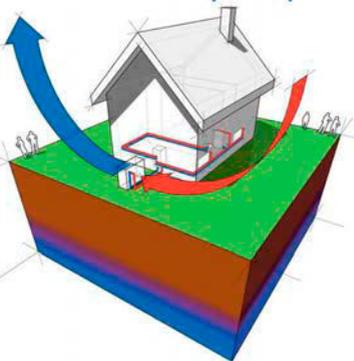
Information on practice swims can be found on the ARROWS Facebook page and further information on the Splash itself can be found on the Lamlash Splash Facebook page where an entry form can be obtained.

Further information on either the Splash or open water swimming, can be obtained by calling Ann Hart on 01770 303530 or by email at anngartconner@yahoo.co.uk

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Challenge is on to keep Arran a special place

Continued from page one
demand over the next two years,' said Mr Tracey.

Digital connectivity continues to improve on the island with superfast broadband uptake increasing. Arran Broadband, using radio wave technology, continues to expand and Lamlash and Kilmory will join Brodick in 4G by the summer.

Boats are proving more problematic though. 'The ageing CalMac fleet and the delay in our new ferry is creating both capacity and reliability difficulties but are being addressed at ministerial level,' said Mr Tracey.

Ending his report, he said Arran's economy was making good progress 'given the scale of the changes that are happening and need still to happen'.

'The basics of the economy are strong and improving. The new harbour is complete and will continue to improve.

'The Health and Social Care plan and actions are in place.

'We have line of sight of 100-plus affordable houses over the next two years. We

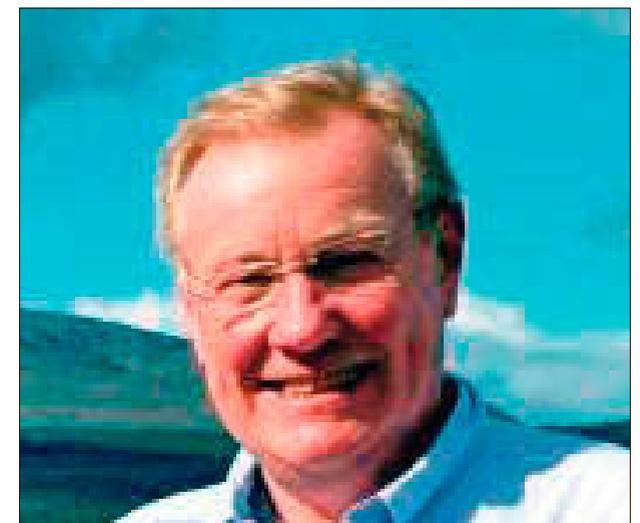
have gone from zero superfast to 100 per cent coverage and 56 per cent uptake. A bit like Christmas, 4G is coming.

'By necessity, ministerial and island focus, together with hard work, boat capacity and reliability issues will be mitigated throughout this year and next, with plans to resolve over the next two years,' he said.

Lochranna Centre, the

Auchrannie resort, Octopus Centre and the New Lagg Distillery also got a mention in the annual report for showing the private sector's 'underlying confidence' in Arran.

'So, lots being done, lots more to be done. The challenge remains the same, to do all this while maintaining the overarching principle of keeping Arran a special place,' concluded Mr Tracey.



Arran Economic Group chairman Tom Tracey.

Kayla's long locks are chopped off for charity

Six-year-old Kayla Brass has had her long locks chopped to help raise funds in memory of her granddad who died waiting for a kidney transplant, writes Kathie Griffiths.

The youngster's Justgiving page added hundreds of pounds contributing to the grand total of £1,800 in aid of Kidney Research UK raised at a spring fair in Shiskine Hall at the weekend.

Kayla's proud mum Jess who organised the fair said: 'Firstly, the biggest thank you to our daughter for offering to cut her gorgeous hair off

for the charity. Such a wee super star!' Mrs Brass added: 'A heartfelt thank you to all who turned up and supported myself and my family raise money for a cause close to our hearts, in memory of my dad! The kindness has been over whelming.'

Mrs Brass said Kayla had been growing her hair for a year and a half before having it cut off by Kate Ward at the fair as part of the fundraiser.

As well as raising hundreds of pounds for Kidney Research UK, Kayla's cut hair

has been sent off to The Little Princess Trust who make wigs for children with cancer and other illnesses.

Kayla's 'Gramps', Ricky MacDonald from Pirnmill, passed away almost two years ago while on dialysis and waiting for a kidney transplant.

'Kidney Research UK is a wonderful charity whose volunteers work tirelessly and which we are honored to be a part of,' said Mrs Brass.

A number of local businesses also showed huge support by donating prizes for the fair.



Kayla Brass before having her lovely long locks cut for charity.
Photographs: Natalie Lambie from Unfolding Moments.



Kayla's long locks before she had her hair cut in aid of charity.



Suits you: Kayla shows off her new shorter look after having her hair cut.

Castle's rhododendrons ready for festival

Rhododendrons are about to storm Arran's Brodick Castle.

The castle's gardens will be taking part in the Scottish Rhododendron Festival from April 1 to May 31.

This year's festival is geared up to be vibrant from day one as many of these wonderful plants are already in full bloom because of the recent warmer temperatures.

There are more than 50 events organised across Scotland including at Culzean Castle in Ayrshire with activities and guided walks showcasing displays in gardens, woodlands and estates.

Returning for its fifth year, the annual festival is organised by national garden tourism group Discover Scottish Gardens and supported by VisitScotland.

Brodick Castle's garden holds a collection of rhododendrons which is known throughout the world. This includes Fortune, a hybrid which has large yellow flowers and has won Best Hybrid in Show at the Scottish Rhododendron Society's annual show.

Rhododendrons are a large family of around 1,000 species from small mountain shrubs to magnificent tree-like specimens. This year, many species have been flowering earlier than usual due to higher-than-average temperatures in most parts of the country.

In February, the Met Office reported an average temperature of 6°C in the UK, which is 2.4°C above the 1981-2010 long-term average. A southerly incursion from north Africa brought

record-breaking temperatures and dry sunny weather throughout most parts of the country in the latter half of the month.

The festival was originally founded by the Glorious Gardens of Argyll and Bute and some of the most stunning rhododendron displays can be seen in the west of Scotland at gardens, including Achamore, Glenarn and Benmore Botanic Garden.

Elsewhere, Inverewe, Gordon Castle and Attadale Gardens in the north provide beautiful displays, the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, Branklyn and Glendoick Gardens in central Scotland and Dawyck, Glenwhan and Logan in the south.

To find out more go to visitscotland.com/blog/scotland/rhododendron-festival/



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ARRAN HAULAGE

All aboard for a Year of Coasts and Waters legacy

by Kathie Griffiths
kgriffiths@obantimes.co.uk



Arran is getting onboard a new tourism campaign to make the most of 2020 Scotland's Year of Coast and Waters.

VisitArran is one of 18 destination and marketing organisations across the West Coast putting money behind an ambitious initiative attracting people from all over the UK to come and experience the area both on and off the water.

Each of the organisations has volunteered funding support from £500 to £2,500.

VisitArran executive director Sheila Gilmore hopes the marketing campaign will create a lasting legacy.

'It's a great opportunity for Arran. We have a fantastic offering here, possibly more than some of the other islands. We do a lot of collaboration

work and are very good at it so it makes sense for us to work off-island where we can.'

Ms Gilmore said the legacy for Arran would include seeing an increase in leisure sailors and craft coming to the island.

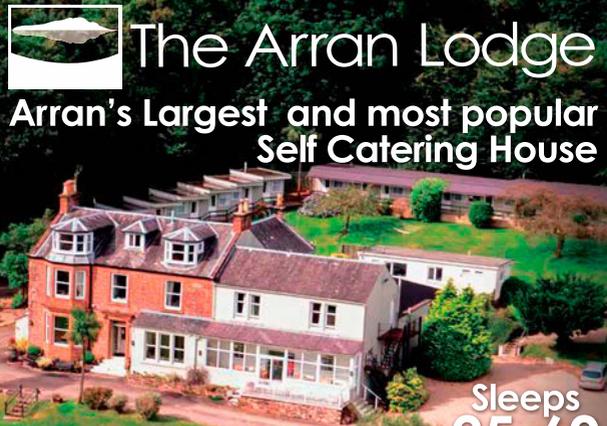
'If the offering is so good, they are going to come and make repeat visits and that in turn means more money for the island and for its infrastructure.'

Work started in 2017 scoping out what West Coast marine tourism could offer visitors and a list of 300 hubs was produced as part of the campaign, setting out what experiences are available and if they could be ready for 2020.

Out of the 300 hubs, 100 give access to a seafood experience, 120 have a castle or heritage attraction, 44 have distilleries open to the public and 106 boast top marine



Arran is one of the destinations getting set for Scotland's 2020 Years of Coasts and Waters.



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wildlife spotting opportunities. There are also about 500 operators and clubs providing sea experiences.

A steering group was set up after a summit event in Oban in January and a number of project ideas are now being developed with funding bids being submitted.

The project hopes that a VisitScotland growth fund award, if successful, will create a budget of £80,000.

Match funding from partners such as Argyll and Bute

Council is already in place and SailScotland is also getting involved. There are more than 2,000 businesses along the coast being represented.

Other projects also being developed for the 2020 celebrations include a new tourist route connecting the islands and the mainland, a baton relay, a scavenger hunt challenge and a maritime heritage interpretation of the Coast that Shaped the World.

Chief executive officer of SailScotland Daniel Steel

added: 'It has been great to see the industry on the West Coast coming together to collaborate, and to think collectively and with ambition about how to grow marine tourism.'

'We are really excited about continuing to work with all the West Coast Maritime Tourism Collaboration partners to realise the opportunities of Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters in 2020 and the legacies that will no doubt follow.'

Campaign urges keep count of alcohol

People in Arran are being encouraged to think about how their weekly drinking adds up, as part of a national campaign to raise awareness of the recommended alcohol limits.

With guidelines stating that men and women should drink no more than 14 units of alcohol a week to reduce the risk of harm, the Count 14 campaign has been developed to demonstrate what 14 units actually means in terms of alcoholic drinks.

Fourteen units is the equivalent of six pints of medium strength beer, lager or cider. For wine, it is six medium glasses, or seven double measures of spirits.

If people do regularly drink around 14 units a week, it should be spread over three

days or more with some alcohol-free days to reduce the risk of developing health problems.



Dr Joy Tomlinson, interim director of public health NHS Ayrshire and Arran, said it fully supports the Count 14 campaign.

'The impact of alcohol misuse can be devastating, for the individual, their family and loved ones and also for the wider community. We want everyone in Ayrshire and

Arran to live life to the full without suffering alcohol-related ill-health.

'The good news is that there is growing awareness of how people can reduce their risk.'

Chief medical officer Dr Catherine Calderwood added: 'The guidelines are based on scientific evidence on the short- and long-term impacts drinking alcohol has on health.'

'Regularly exceeding the recommended maximum amount can lead to serious problems, including cancer of the mouth, throat and breast. If men and women limit their alcohol intake to no more than 14 units in a week, it keeps the risk of developing these conditions low.'

Go to count14.scot to find out more.

Arran primaries get a taste of the fèis

Pupils from Arran High School and all seven primary schools on the island received a taste of the fèis earlier this week when tutors toured the island to introduce them to Fèis Arainn.

Fèis Arainn is a celebration of Gaelic culture where participants enjoy a week of learning the language and playing traditional music. Classes take place at Arran High School from Tuesday July 23 to Friday July 26 and the event culminates in a traditional concert at the end of the week.

Visiting tutor, and no stranger to Arran, the world-renowned Màiri MacInnes visited the schools with guitar tutor, Aaron Jones, where they spoke to the children and young adults about Gaelic culture, history and music.

Rousing the children with enthusiasm, Màiri and Aaron taught the children traditional Gaelic songs and after learning the verses, and the meaning of the songs, they all joined together and sang them with great gusto.

The school visits provided the children with a good idea of what to expect at the upcoming fèis and provided them with an insight into Gaelic culture, and much like the fèis itself, the entertaining and valuable skills that are on offer to all participants.



Brodick primary pupils sing a Gaelic song that they have just been taught.



The foremost name in Gaelic music, Màiri MacInnes and guitarist Aaron Jones toured around all the schools on Arran to introducing them to what Fèis Arainn has on offer.

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Arran residents urged to support the Earth Hour

North Ayrshire Council is urging residents on Arran to pledge their support for Earth Hour, which takes place this year on Saturday March 30 from 8.30-9.30pm.

Each year, millions of people around the world switch off their lights for an hour, make an environmental pledge online or organise an event – at home, in their community or in their towns or cities – to show they care about the future of our planet.

Having been awarded Super Local Authority status by organisers WWF, North Ayrshire Council will itself get behind the event by hosting its own Earth 'Lunch' Hour today (Friday) when staff will be turning out all non-essential lights and equipment in support

of the cause. Councillor Jim Montgomerie, cabinet member for place, said: 'We are proud to support Earth Hour again this year and look forward to doing our bit to help highlight the very real issues facing our planet.'

'It's important that we all work together and do what we can to make an impact on our environment, and I would ask those residents who can to please get involved and be a part of the change.'

Last year, more than 10 million people across the UK took part in the initiative. From the Sydney Opera House and the Empire State Building to Buckingham Palace and Edinburgh Castle, communities and landmarks switched out their lights in a symbolic show of support.

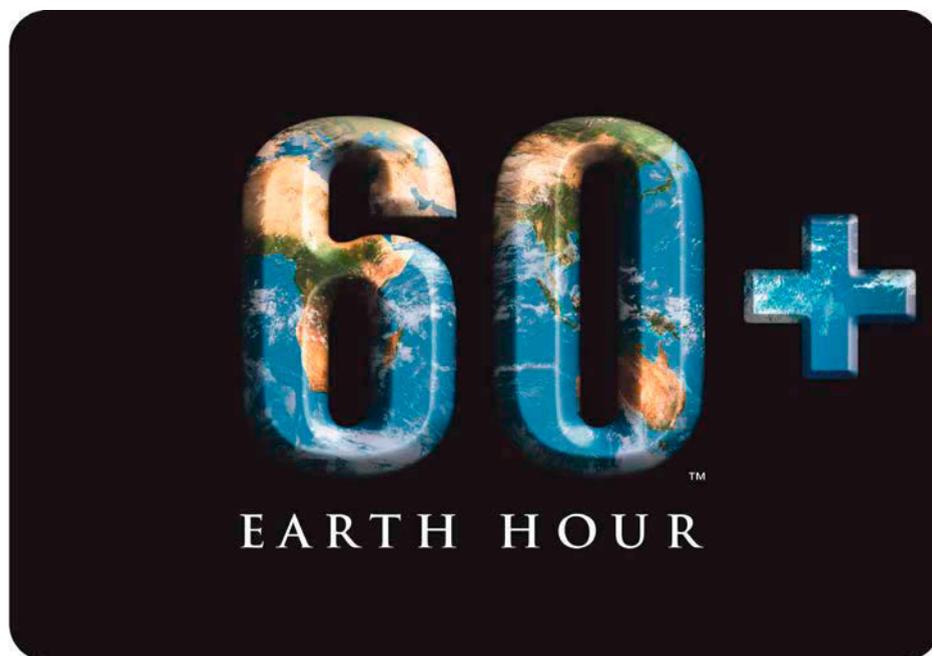
Sam Gardner, acting director of WWF Scotland, said: 'We are very pleased that North Ayrshire Council is again supporting WWF's Earth Hour.'

'It's an opportunity for us all to demonstrate in a simple way that we care about our planet and the impact climate change is having on people and nature across the world.'

'Nature needs support right now. We must act to reverse the damage and restore the environment. We have the solutions – we just need our voices to be heard.'

'That's why Earth Hour is so vital – it gives a powerful voice to people everywhere who want to put the world on the path to recovery.'

To find out more about Earth Hour visit www.wwf.org.uk/earthhour.



Earth Hour logo.

Easter party to help pave the way for Whiting Bay

An early Easter party at Whiting Bay hall will raise funds for the Whiting Bay and Districts Improvements Association and will be used for village improvements.

Children enjoy games on Whiting Bay village green which is maintained by the Whiting Bay and Districts Improvements Association.

Taking place on Sunday April 7, between 1pm and 4pm, the event will raise much-needed funds for public amenities in the village.

The Whiting Bay and Districts Improvements Association's main fundraisers are the summer fun week and many fundraising dances which all contribute towards the upkeep of the village putting green, jetty, boat slip, old bus shelters, public foot-

paths, bay in bloom flower tubs and village decorations such as the flower boat at the entrance to the village.

The party will include a raffle with prizes donated by local organisations and an Easter egg hunt will take place around the village hall at 3pm.

The hall will be decorated by organiser Kirsty Park and the ever-popular pinata – enjoyed by village children at their

Hallowe'en parties – will also make a welcome appearance.

There will also be a bake-off for best Easter-themed cake, a prize for the winner and then the cakes will be available for sale.

If there is anyone who would like to be involved with the event, or would like to donate prizes for the raffle, contact can be made on the Facebook page by searching for Whiting Bay Easter party.



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Special safety bulletin is issued for Arran mariners

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) has issued a special safety bulletin to all Arran mariners that use Global Positioning Systems (GPS) to prepare for a rollover event that may affect their ability to navigate safely.

On Saturday April 6, navigation data from some older GPS systems might become inaccurate due to the 'week number' rollover event.

This could cause stand-alone GPS receivers and systems using GPS chips, to produce data that is 19.7 years either in the past or future, therefore generating errors in both the GPS position and time.

However, if onboard equipment has been installed after August 1999, or has regular firmware updates from the manufacturer, there should be minimal risk of an error occurring.

Luke Hallett radio spectrum policy co-ordinator for the Maritime and Coastguard Agency said: 'If your GPS is more than 10 years old or it's had no firmware updates then you're definitely at higher risk of you GPS not working from Saturday April 6.'

Inaccurate

'If your GPS falls into either of those categories you need to check with the manufacturer before that date, otherwise time and position data used for navigation could become inaccurate.'

'It's important that GPS users check their systems as soon as possible to ensure that they won't be affected by the impending rollover.'

The MCA's safety bulletin is intended to help operators understand the implications of the week-number rollover and to take action to ensure all GPS updates are completed.



A safety bulletin has been issued by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency to all Arran mariners that use Global Positioning Systems.

Arran RNLI tasked to distressed kayaker

Arran RNLI crew responded swiftly to reports of a kayaker in distress in Brodick Bay last week.

At 1.35pm on Wednesday March 20, rescue personnel's pagers sounded as reports of a kayaker calling for help in the north end of Brodick Bay were reported to HM Coastguard.

Arran RNLI's volunteer crew quickly assembled and launched the inshore lifeboat Rachel Hedderwick to go to the kayaker's aid.

On arriving on scene it was established that the casualty had managed to swim ashore and

was in the care of Arran Coastguard Rescue Team.

Arran RNLI helm Brian Donlin said: 'Today's call was a fantastic example of when having the different resources available on Arran is really valuable.'

'While in the end we were not required on scene, this callout could have easily turned out differently and required the lifeboat.'

'The Coastguard team had all of the assets they needed in easy reach, which made sure a positive outcome was achieved for everyone.'



The RNLI volunteer crew aboard the inshore lifeboat Rachel Hedderwick pictured last year. 01_B35RNLI35

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LETTERS

Editorial

Economy strong but still room for improvement

With Arran on the cusp of the new tourist season, the island is no doubt bracing itself for the throngs of holidaymakers heading this way.

While footfall will bring more spending to bolster businesses, demands on the island's infrastructure and services will also increase.

The economy on the island is strong and improving, says Tom Tracey, but there is still lots more work to be done.

Tourism is relied on to sustain island life as we know it but availability of housing is also key to keeping and attracting the workers who are the backbone of the local economy all year round, not just during peak holiday times. Without them, the island's services that hold Arran's very existence together would crumble.

Rightly so, in his annual report to the Arran Economic Group, Mr Tracey also gave a nod to the older population who make up the majority of volunteers also holding the island's social fabric together.

So let us hope that, along with Arran's newest attraction Lagg Distillery due to open soon, plans for extra housing, improved health and social care, better digital communication and more reliable boats keep making the progress we want to hear more about in 2019.

Thought for the week

Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.' John 14: 6

Thank you, Arran

Sir,
Recently my husband and I travelled to Glasgow Royal Infirmary and my husband received some heartbreaking news.

At a time when you are in shock, the way people treat you, and indeed the little things that people do to help you, make a horrible time a bit more bearable.

Many, many people have indeed made this time more bearable for us in so many ways – from the kind and sensitive consultants at both Crosshouse and the Royal to the many taxi drivers and members of the public who came to our aid when we needed help, to the thoughtfulness and understanding of the crew of the Caledonian Isles and the incredible kindness, generosity of time, and offers of help and gifts from so many friends and neighbours, some taking our dog out for walks and others shopping and yet others keeping my husband company if I need to go out.

The generosity of the ladies of the Coffee Pot in Whiting Bay has been awesome and truly appreciated. Some lovely doctors are really looking after us, as are the district nurses and the whole care team.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts and a special thanks to the lovely lady who rescued me when my car broke down last Saturday and who drove me all over the place and got me home safely.

Arran is a very special island. We always knew this but it is humbling to be the recipients of so much kindness, love, and community spirit.

Yours,

**Michael and Pam Holmes,
Whiting Bay.**

CalMac Survey

Sir,
How timely that there is an invitation for comment from the public on CalMac services.

The following comments refer to the Ardrossan/Brodick route. Arran is currently experiencing the most unreliable period of service to the island in 50 years. There were fewer daily sailings in 1969 but they were run more reliably than is the case in recent years.

To conduct any business that entails the movement of goods to and from the mainland is now a cause of acute frustration and materially reduces Arran's opportunity to attract new people and business to the island. This has an adverse effect on an island's fragile economy.

Errors began when CalMac, and subsequently CMAL, on behalf of the Scottish Government, stopped commissioning replacement vessels on a regular basis as had been the norm in previous years to serve the Western Isles and the Clyde. Dependence now on an ageing number of ships has resulted in CalMac/CMAL being unable to service all routes to full capacity at any one time. This is the fundamental flaw which cannot be righted retrospectively.

Other factors which compound the problem for Arran are as follows.

Failure to maintain Gourock as an all-weather port for the Clyde.

Failure to seek appropriate ship design to make Ardrossan accessible in adverse weather or to consider that two smaller ferries shuttling would have better served the route and introducing Road Equivalent

Tariff before the infrastructure was in place to deal with the increase in traffic.

Spending around £30m on a poorly designed new pier in Brodick which is presenting problems in docking which did not exist at the old linkspan. Was this a failure to consult with real maritime experts?

Designing such a lengthy passenger access system that it deters many elderly Arran residents from travelling at all.

Launching a new ship with a fanfare two years or so ago which has never been seen since.

That CalMac crews and port staff give the travelling public an exemplary service sadly does not compensate for the situation of constantly interrupted sailings and lost sailing days with little prospect of relief from the major misjudgements of the recent past.

Yours,
**Margie Currie,
Blackwaterfoot.**

Fish farm dismay

Sir,
I read about the proposed fish farm near the Fallen Rocks with dismay. I fully agree with Sally Campbell and cannot add to her statements.

I wish to put on record my additional concerns which are for the safety of the mill stone site, the old harbour, the salt pans and the coal mines.

They are a part of Arran's heritage and should be looked after and no development should be allowed that would jeopardise their existence.

I have always felt that they do not attract enough attention to preserve them but hopefully this project

will focus heritage organisations to take care of them and prevent developments destroying them.

Yours,
**Roderick C McKay,
Forres.**

Magic Little Grants

Sir,
Localgiving is delighted to announce the launch of its latest Magic Little Grants Fund.

Through the Magic Little Grants Fund, Localgiving distributes £500 grants to local charities and community groups, with an annual income under £250,000, that support and inspire people to participate in sports or exercise, with the primary aim of improving the physical health of participants.

Magic Little Grants 2019 is funded by the players of People's Postcode Lottery thanks to an award of £550,000, making this the biggest Magic Little Grants fund to date. The funding comes from Postcode Community Trust, a grant giving charity funded entirely by players of the lottery.

As well as receiving a grant, successful organisations that are new to Localgiving will also receive a free annual membership with Localgiving worth £96 – also funded by players of People's Postcode Lottery.

This will give them access to Localgiving's online fundraising platform, regular match funding campaigns and competitions, and numerous fundraising resources. New groups can register with Localgiving and apply for a grant at <http://grants.localgiving.org/pct>

Yours,
**Izzi McLaren,
People's Postcode Lottery.**

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However, we realise that mistakes happen from time to time. If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@arranbanner.co.uk; telephoning the chief reporter on 01770 302142 or write to the Group Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB. We will try to resolve your issue in a timely, reasonable and amicable manner. However, if you are unsatisfied with our response, you can contact IPSO, which will investigate the matter. You can call IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body that deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

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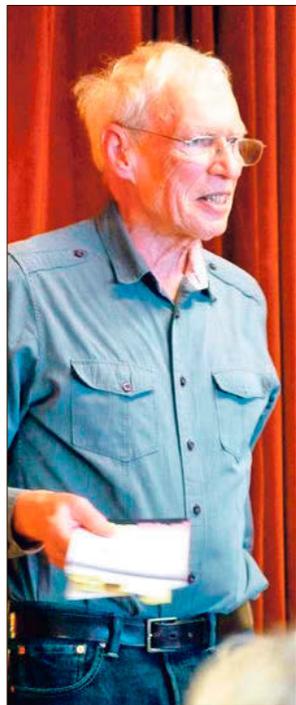
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David Underdown reads from his latest poetry collection *A Sense of North*.

Poet bids Arran farewell

Poet David Underdown is heading south after launching his latest poetry collection entitled *A Sense of North*.

A good crowd filled Corrie and Sannox Village Hall on March 17 to hear him read from his new book.

The occasion also doubled up as a farewell as Mr Underdown and his wife Claire are about to leave Arran to make a new home in Hebden Bridge.

'Let's wish them the very best of luck. They will be missed,' said Cicely Gill.

A Sense of North is available locally and on Amazon for £9.99.

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Youth charity hopes for bags of funding

Arran Youth Foundations is urging shoppers to help it bag more funding.

The Brodick-based youth charity needs shoppers to vote for it using Tesco's Bags of Help tokens.

The supermarket's community funding scheme sees grants of £4,000, £2,000 and £1,000 awarded to three local community projects.

The one with the most tokens gets the biggest grant.

Arran Youth Foundations is one of the groups on this region's shortlist and plans to use the cash to run award-winning youth work activities such as cooking lessons, guitar tuition, art psychotherapy, outdoor education and sports.

Delighted

Youth work project manager Graeme Johnston, said: 'We are delighted to be shortlisted for the vote.'

'The funds will make a huge difference to the young people of Arran and we would encourage anyone who supports the charity to cast their vote in-store.'

Voting starts in May and June with AYYF's project appearing in Saltcoats, Kilwinning and Irvine stores.

The Bags of Help project has already delivered more than £71 million to more than 23,000 projects across Britain.

Tony McElroy who is Tesco's head of commu-



Arran Youth Foundations leaders Graeme Johnston and Hollie Watkins have already picked up awards for the charity's work.

nications in Scotland, said: 'Bags of Help contributes funds to community projects up and down the country and

we've been overwhelmed by the response from customers voting in their local stores.

'We're looking forward to

seeing more projects brought to life.'

Anyone can nominate a project to be part of the in-

itiative and organisations can apply online. To find out more visit www.tesco.com/bagsofhelp.

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Arran engineering firm receives six-figure boat building contract

Kiscadale Engineering/Arran Workboats Ltd has been commissioned to build six new work boats for The Scottish Salmon Company (SSC) in a deal worth a six-figure sum for the family-run business based in Whiting Bay.

The commission will see customised work boats being designed and built by the company and delivered to SSC sites across the Outer Hebrides from Lewis to Mull between April and September this year.

Significant

Over the past two years, SSC has taken delivery of nine boats from Arran Workboats Ltd which represents a significant investment in the company's operational infrastructure.

These vessels are now central to the company's fleet and are

used for essential tasks such as transportation around the sites.

The SSC has been involved in operations on Arran for a number of years and its fish farm site in Lamlash, established more than 30 years ago, was one of the first fish farms in Scotland. SSC is currently also looking to extend its operation with a site in the north-east of Arran and is in the process of conducting a scoping report for the enterprise.

Historically, a general plastic and stainless-steel fabricator, Kiscadale Engineering has evolved in recent years to become a leading marine fabricator on Arran, helping to provide secure employment on the island. The business is



The specially designed work boats being built at the Kiscadale Engineering/Arran Workboats premises in Whiting Bay.

run by husband and wife team Iain and Sandra Monteith.

Craig Anderson, chief

executive of The Scottish Salmon Company, said: 'The Scottish Salmon Company has a long history with Kiscadale Engineering, having first worked with them over 30 years ago.

'We are committed to using local suppliers from the communities in which we live and work wherever possible. Kiscadale Engineering is a quality local business who will supply us with best in

class equipment, and our close working relationship allows us to work together to design improvements in the vessels and incorporate new technology.'

Ian Monteith, of Arran Workboats Ltd, said: 'With a history going back over 30 years of working with The Scottish Salmon Company at the Kingscross Farm on Arran, we are pleased to be awarded this contract.

'Multiple orders like this help secure employment and provide training for local young people. This contract has allowed us to create one new role and also supports four workers who are under 30. SSC demand a very high standard for their boats and we have a well-trained workforce dedicated to building the best boats of their class.

'Manufacturing businesses like this help the local economy in many ways. With the logistics of island trading we are fortunate to work with Arran Haulage who bring in our raw materials and deliver the completed boats all over Scotland.

'The cycle is completed by Arran Haulage delivering 100 per cent of our plastic waste to the state-of-the-art Recycling centre at Inchinan.

'We are delighted to be awarded this second contract for The Scottish Salmon Company and appreciate their policy of supporting local businesses throughout the West Coast of Scotland.'

For more information visit www.scottishsalmon.com.

Sculptor's invitation to visit a new dimension at Portal exhibition

Sculptor Michael Bailey will be hosting a visually interesting and dimension-defying exhibition at Arran Active over the next month with the thought-provoking theme of portals.

The exhibition, simply named Portals, will continue until the end of May and explores the idea of portals being the means whereby it is possible to travel through to another dimension or state.

Known as Mike to his friends, and for his musical talents on Arran, the retired art teacher studied art and design at Medway College of Art and Exeter College of Art.

After moving to Arran in 1976, and after retiring from teaching at Arran High School in 2012, Mike has been involved in a number of community events, mostly as a talented singer and musician, but also as an artist.

His first major work, a living environmental sculpture, the Spiral Wood, created using

silver birch, oak and rowan, can be seen at the Fairy Glen or Lag a Bheith – part of the Arran Community Woodland.

Recycled

The exhibition in Brodick features a number of his larger works and some of his smaller ones too, all are made from recycled wood, driftwood and many incorporate interesting additions, such as Tiree marble, sandstone and a number of unusual items all collected from locations around Arran.

Mike draws inspiration from varied sources and from his interests in walking and nature conservation and music.

While music plays an important part of his life, having written and performed many of his own compositions, he is happiest when spending time in his shed where he made the art works for this exhibition.

All of the exhibits on display are available for sale for the duration of the exhibition and the larger ones all come with display stands.



Some of the smaller sculptures, all made of wood, help to illustrate the various influences on the artist.

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CalMac's fleet is growing by 400 new vessels every 10 days ...

A new plastic-brick model ferry bearing the Caledonian MacBrayne logo and company colours has proven to be so popular that more than 400 units have been sold in the 10 days since its launch.

The 37cm-long model is built using 310 plastic construction

bricks and is based on MV Loch Seaforth. It includes the iconic CalMac branding and fine details such as antenna, exhaust stacks and lifeboats.

CalMac's head of customer sales, Kurt Hart, said: 'We hatched the idea when a child tried to design a model for



The model MV Loch Seaforth is available for sale and further vessels may be added to the range if demand continues.



The toy model is based on the MV Loch Seaforth.

another well-known toy company but couldn't get enough support to have the toy made.

'We wanted to respond to customer demand and provide something people really seem to want to buy when they travel with us. We

chose the Loch Seaforth as it's one of the newest vessels in our fleet, with an interesting shape and design.'

Launched

The 7,800-tonne Seaforth was launched in 2014 and carries more than 700 pas-

sengers and 140 cars between Ullapool and Stornoway.

The model is also proving to be one of the most popular talking points across the company's social media sites.

'We see this as a starting point for sales of this type. If

the demand continues to be this strong, we may look at similar opportunities for the future,' added Kurt.

The model is available in the vessel's on-board shop and also from CalMac's new online store priced at £29.99.

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Community groups celebrat



Sue Ash is from the Community of Arran Seabed Trust.

The 22 successful bids, which will get up to £1,000 each, were revealed at a special event in Lamlash.

More than 150 residents turned up at Arran High School on March 23 to find out who was getting a share of the cash coming from Local Planning Partnership grants to reduce social isolation and from North Ayrshire Green Health Partnership to help improved nature-based activities on the island.

Arran locality funding is giving £1,000 to Arran Youth Foundations, Arran Primary Schools Parent Council Group, Inside Out Art, Lamlash Events, Arran High School Mountain Bike Club, Art In Mind, Umbrella Project, Cladach Community Garden for the 2019 volunteer season, Arran Community Land Initiative, Kilmory Archive, Arran Kayak Club, Shiskine Path

Group, and Arran Amateur Football Club.

Brodick Parent Council Outdoor Community Keep Fit have received £540, Think About Plastic Arran was awarded £750 to create a free library of re-usable drinking containers for all community groups to use, and Lamlash Improvements Association got £845 to develop a village heritage trail and to help improve the public toilets.

Green Health Partnership funding awarded £596.70 to Community of Arran Seabed Trust to create 20 seashore explorer backpacks, including a beach clean kit for people to hire.

Arran High School Mountain Bike Club also got £947.28 while Whiting Bay and Districts Improvements Association-SCIO received £947.28 to help get more people to join in monthly beach cleans and path clears.

Think About Plastic Arran will buy pickers and hoops for local groups to use with its £614.28 share of the green funding and hands-on horticultural initiative Arran Community Land Initiative won £947.28 to give people seed to vegetable growing skills.

Shiskine Valley Improvements-SCIO was awarded £947.28 to bring the community together to create and maintain village planters throughout the seasons as well as creating a series of walking maps.

Councillor Louise McPhater, the cabinet member for communities, said: 'Projects such as these can really help to bring communities together as well as making Arran an even better place to live, work and grow up in, as well as promoting health, fitness and looking after the environment.'



Isle of Arran Amateur Football Club will be buying training and match-day equipment with their share of funding.



Cladach Community Garden will use the funding to help build a polytunnel.



Arran Community Land Initiative will be passing on seed to vegetable skills thanks to the new funding.

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e funding win



Jeanette Head and Lesley Wood from Whiting Bay and Districts Improvements Association.



Helen Ross at the Arran Eco Savvy group's stand.

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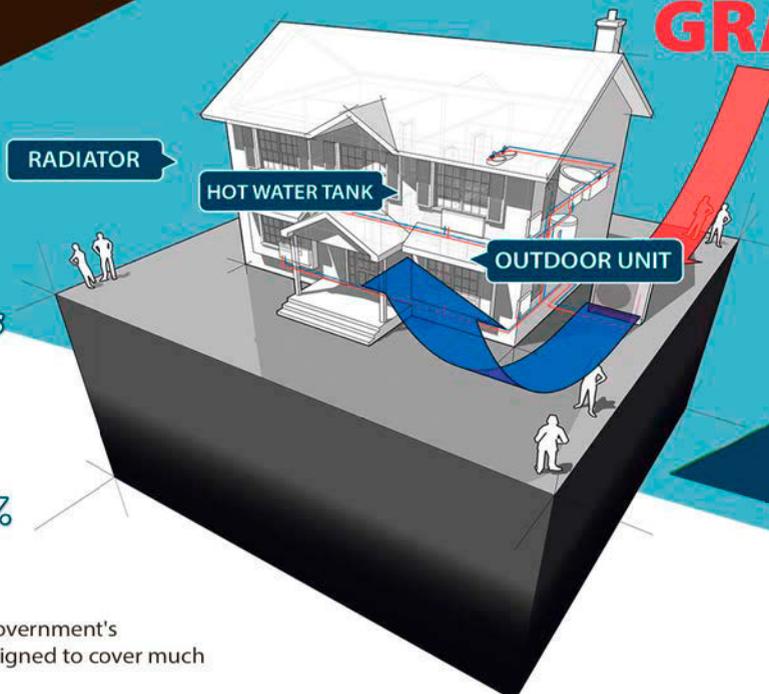
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LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARRAN

Music festival celebrates a successful 90th anniversary



Kilmorey primary perform The Fair Lullaby.

The Isle of Arran Music Festival, which is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year, once again attracted a large number of the island's musicians, vocalists and dancers to the Whiting Bay Hall where the festival took place over three days.

The event included the Lamlash Burns Club's Arran Schools Burns Verse Speaking Competition, which saw entrants from primary one all the way to a senior category.

Starting with the ever popular Scottish country dancing on Wednesday morning, the afternoon events moved on to choric speaking and verse recitation, which included primary children and entrants of

nursery age. Thursday morning was the Lamlash Burns Club's Arran Schools Burns Verse Speaking Competition while the afternoon saw musicians taking part in the pipes, drums and fiddle categories.

Concert

Friday included choirs, action songs, music groups, brass, woodwind and strings and the popular piano, vocal solos and duets, before the open section which took the form of an evening concert.

Showcasing the wealth of musical talent on Arran, the evening concert featured the talents of singers Vivace, ARCO, Rhodri and Cerys Herapath, and the piping of Andrew Earle.

The Arran Pipe Band performed a rousing set with a quartet and duet and the Taiko drummers stirred the crowds with a explosive performance along with Druma Daiko. A performance from the Arran Harp Circle returned the tempo to a more sedate level.

Adjudicators for the special 90th anniversary festival saw the return of some familiar faces with Lesley Wilson returning as the adjudicator for the vocal and instrumental categories, Jim Gibson for speech and drama and Eric Findlay overseeing the Scottish country dancing. Lorna Buchanan-Hollingworth was once again the official accompanist.

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Winners of the group music making category, Shiskine primary join adjudicator Leslie Wilson with their trophy.



Proud winner Michael Nicholl took the salver for his performance in the woodwind category.



Lamlash Primary Brass receive the trophy in the primary brass section.



Adjudicator Gillian Seaman presents Louis Henbery with a quach for winning the primary 1 and 2 category of the Burns poetry competition.



Whiting Bay primary perform Grand Old Duke of York in the group music making category.



Aiden Henderson recites the poem Nessie.



Sophia Bentley recites Twa Leggit Mice.



Penelope Tannahill recites The Snawman.



Ravyn Russell recites Nessie.



Mrs Rebecca Early introduces Lamlash Primary Brass to the stage for their performance of Morag of Dunvegan.



Louis Henbery recites A Wee Dug in the primary 1 and 2 Burns Verse Speaking Competition.



Tommy Dutton recites Countin Rhyme.



Lucy Young recites A Wee Dug.



Lexie Robinson performs Twa Leggit Mice.

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Mary Queen of Scots (15) 124 mins
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Films We Love: Leaning Into the Wind (PG) 97 mins
Documentary of the work of Andy Goldsworthy, one of Scotland's most popular artists. (£5 adults/£3 concs) 03/04 at 5.30pm

The Favourite (15) 119 mins
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Green Book (12A) 129 mins
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04/04 at 8.30pm

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Celebrate the School Holidays and Mother's Day



The Easter School holidays mark the start of the busy tourist season on Arran and this year promises to be no different with a host of activities for the family and individuals to suit all tastes and preferences whether it is a session at the Lochranza Outdoor Centre, low level or high level walking, dining out or some retail therapy Arran has it all.

Sunday is also Mother's Day and if you are stuck for ideas, we've got some inspiration and our advertisers are here to take the stress out of finding the perfect gift or experience. One of the best ways to treat mum is to take on her chores

and let her sit back and relax, give her a lie-in, remember that the clocks go forward this weekend.

Everyone knows that sometimes it is the little things that mean the most.

Many mums appreciate a bouquet of flowers or a piece of customised jewellery that reminds her of how much you love her. If you feel like splurging a bit make a reservation at her favourite restaurant. No matter what she chooses to do, make sure to keep your phone tucked away and give mum your full time and attention – after all, she deserves it!

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Lochranza Outdoor Centre

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Stags Pavilion Restaurant

Stags Pavilion restaurant, which is situated next to Lochranza Campsite and Golf Course, is run by Italian chef Rino and his Scottish wife Valerie and is well worth a visit, but be sure to book. In a wonderful friendly and relaxed atmosphere, using only the freshest and best local and Scottish produce, they offer delicious home cooked evening meals from 5.30pm every day except Wednesdays. They are not licensed so do take your own bottle. Please call 01770 830600 to book. www.stagspavilion.com

The Whins Craft Shop

Whins Craft shop is the home of the Arran Stonemen, a collection of painted stones which have been collected from around the shoreline of Arran. The stones are wonderfully sculpted into little stonemen, all with their own unique appearance and character. Situated up the North Newton track on the north side of the loch at Lochranza it is well worth a visit even if just for the stunning views. Tel:01770830650

Old Byre Visitor Centre

The Old Byre Visitor Centre in Machrie is situated just north of Machrie Golf Course, just look out for the signs. Here you will find a friendly family business comprising the Old Byre Showroom, Café Thyme and a large children's play area. The Old Byre sells quality knitwear from brands such as Fisherman out of Ireland, Scott Officer, Eribe and Harley of Scotland, it has clothing from Seasalt, Mistral, Thought, White Stuff and Didriksons, sheepskin rugs, leather bags, accessories and lots more - a haven of lovely things to try on! Café Thyme has its own wood burning oven where delicious flatbread and Pides are made to order (Turkish style pizza), lamb kofte kebabs using local lamb, homemade soups, cakes, home grown salads and over 30 loose leaf teas to tempt you. Catering for all tastes there are vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options. Open from 10am to 5pm with lunches served from noon to 3pm, it is fully



licensed and has spectacular views. From the café you can safely watch the children's play area with trampoline, large Lego style bricks, sand pit, digger den, slide, swings and a grassed area for football, basketball and

swing ball, all for only £1.50 per child to cover maintenance and upkeep. The Old Byre Visitor Centre is certainly worth a visit and is open seven days a week. Tel: 01770 840227, www.oldbyre.co.uk



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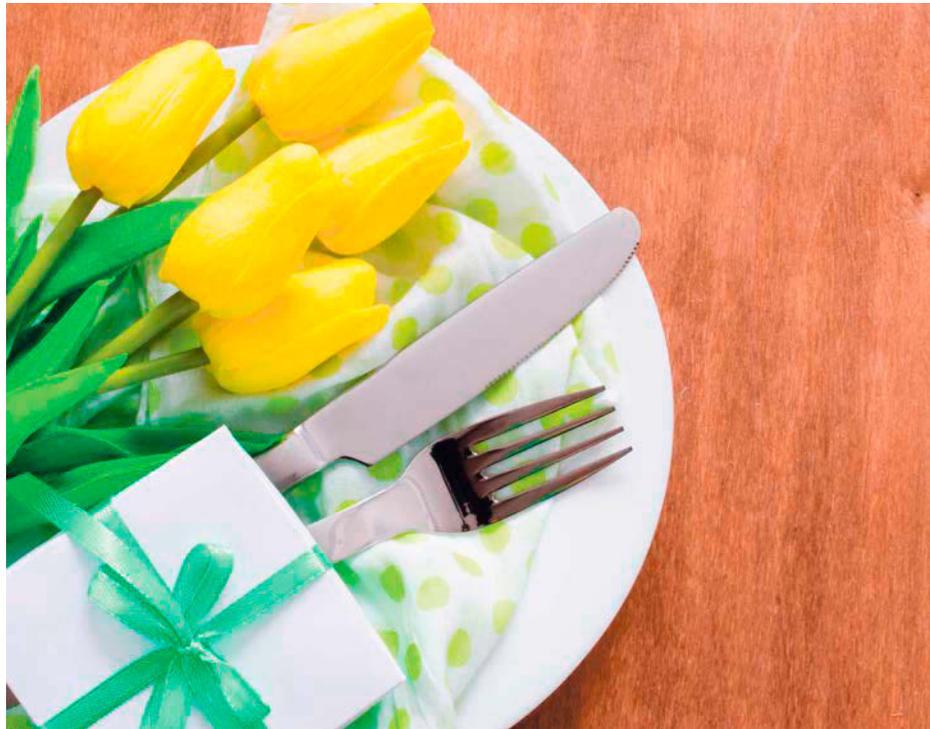
The Wineport Bar & Bistro

The Wineport is a family and dog friendly bar bistro situated at the bottom of GoatFell beside Brodick Castle and Arran Brewery. They are open seven days, serving delicious lunches from 11am. Menu options include the popular Arran battered fish and chips, their ever-requested steak ciabatta with homemade peppercorn sauce, or lighter options like crispy calamari with an Asian salad. They also have a range of seafood options, using a

variety of local produce where they can. It is the perfect place to relax in the lovely big beer garden on sunny days, or by the big roaring fire on colder days. They also serve a range of fresh homemade baking for those looking for a morning or afternoon tea option.

Mother's Day

The Wineport and Bistro will be open on Mother's Day, so go along and treat your Mum to a delicious lunch. You can book a table by phoning 01770 302101, otherwise show up and they will find you a table.



Eleanor's Flowers

At Eleanor's Flowers they pride themselves on having a large selection of the most beautiful and freshest of flowers. Receiving their flowers direct from Holland means that they are in the shop within three days of being cut in the fields. Customers are amazed at how long their flowers last. They can deliver throughout the whole island or why not pop in to the shop to choose from the ready made selection of bouquets and quality plants. Give your Mum something a bit special this year - give her Eleanor's Flowers. The Garden centre is also open with new spring stock to brighten up the garden. Tel: 01770302587

Arran Active

Arran's specialist outdoor shop has a huge amount of space and an equally large range of outdoor clothing, footwear, rucksacks and equipment. With lots of new stock having just arrived it may be worth your while to pay them a visit. However you may not be aware that they also stock ladies fashion wear, pet supplies, toys, Arran gifts and an impressive collection of whiskies and gins, perfect for Mother's Day. Art exhibitions can usually be seen upstairs and at the moment you can see 'Portals' by sculptor, Mike Bailey. Arran Active is so much more than just an outdoor shop! Tel: 01770 302113, Email: info@arranactive.co.uk

Buntys

Buntys is next door to Little Rock and The Taste of Arran shop on the site of Arran

Active and the 'famous' mini golf in Brodick. They stock gifts and home accessories inspired by coastal and countryside living. The iconic Ailsa McNicol Jewellery is also a popular seller in this treasure of a shop. They also support local businesses, are suppliers of Ballarie designs and Arran Bee products. Gift cards, gift wrap and gift vouchers make Buntys the perfect stop for Mothers Day present shopping. Tel: 01770 303970, Facebook@buntysarran

Taste of Arran Shop

Right next door to Buntys you will find the Taste Of Arran Shop which stocks Arran Dairies ice cream and other local Arran produce. If it is made on Arran, chances are you will find it at the Taste of Arran Shop. Along with Arran produce you will find a selection of gifts suitable for all ages and price ranges and is a great place to buy items at pocket money prices. The Taste of Arran Shop also stocks Joules clothing for both ladies and babies. Tel:01770302272 Facebook @ thetasteofarranshop

Bell's of Arran

Bell's of Arran have now been in business for more than four years, trading for a while as Belle's Boutique when Elizabeth Bell was in partnership with her sister. Elizabeth Bell is now a sole trader continuing to sell excess clothing from high street stores (M&S, Next, Dorothy Perkins, C&A, Debenhams, River Island, Top Shop, Mothercare, Disturbing London, DC Skate, Wrangler, Disney, etc) that would otherwise have ended up in landfill or

OLD BYRE VISITOR CENTRE
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Tel:01770 840227
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Quality knitwear, clothing & accessories, leather and sheepskin.

Teas, coffees, delicious lunches, homemade bread and pides from our wood burning oven. Home grown salads & fully licensed.

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ARRAN The Island www.visitarran.com | WiFi | seasalt | Barbour

Situated approximately half a mile north of Machrie golf course...you will find the Old Byre Showroom, Cafe Thyme, a fabulous children's play area and stunning views

Mother's Day
Sunday 31st March
COAST BISTRO
Sunday family Roast Board
Serves 4
£39.50 per board
12 noon till 3pm
BOOKINGS ONLY -
01770 700308
Free glass of Prosecco for Mum.

been destroyed. By selling excess clothing it means Bell's can get day to day clothing for all the family at reduced prices, all items are sold below the original retail price. Some of the underwear, socks, nightwear and clothing are purchased from specialist wholesalers and are still sold below the RRP. Bell's are working hard at providing day to day clothing for all and if they don't have it they will see if they can source it for you. Tel:01770 303787, Facebook@bellsfarran

Chameleon

At Chameleon Ladies Boutique you can be sure to find something to treat your Mum (or yourself). They have a wide range of fashions and accessories with prices start-

ing from as little as £20. This season they have added some new brands, Two Danes specialise in neutral coloured natural fabrics such as bamboo, linen, cotton and hemp and Spanish brands Smash and Tinta add a splash of colour.

Emreco remains ever-popular and Scottish brand Marble is fast becoming a best seller with its twists on classic cotton knitwear and fabulous stylish t-shirts and tops. The spring range of their best-selling trouser Robell has arrived and all the favourites such as Masai, Yest, B Young and summer footwear from Fly London are also in.

If you really can't decide then they can happily supply a gift voucher so that Mum can select her own special gift.

Find Chameleon in Lamlash at the old Post Office on Hamilton Terrace. Telephone 01770 600201. Summer hours start on Monday April 1, they will be open six days a week, Monday to Saturday from 10:30am to 5pm.

Coast Cafe Bistro

Small, cosy and friendly, Coast Bistro is situated in the heart of Whiting Bay and when dining in the conservatory, you will feel as if could be dining on the beach. Coast serve everything from morning coffee and home baking and lunch, to a relaxed evening dining experience with their new seafood

menu which uses freshest of local fish and seafood, combined with a variety of traditional and exotic flavours. A great selection of wines are available to accompany your meal, however, if you prefer to just relax on the sofas for a quiet drink then that is fine too. They also have a great selection of craft beers and speciality gins in addition to a full compliment of the Arran whiskies and soft drinks.

This Mothering Sunday they are offering a delicious sunday family roast board for 4, with a free glass of Prosecco for Mum, all for only £39.50. Be sure to book though on 01770 700308.





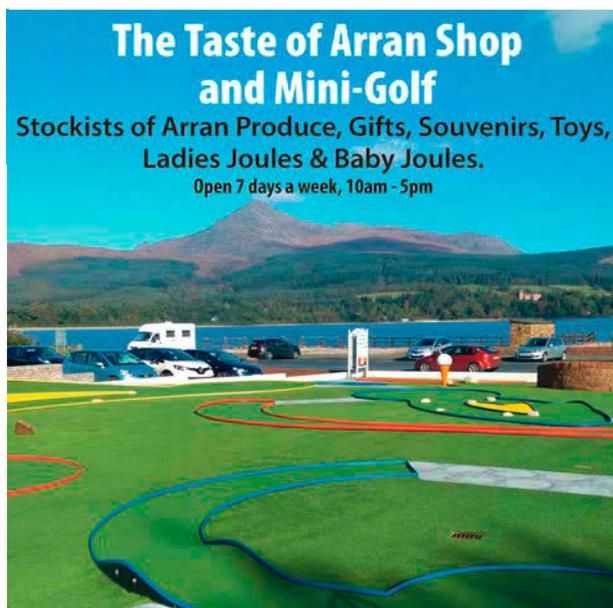
WINEPORT
CLADACH ISLE OF ARRAN
Bar-Bistro

Family Friendly Bar Bistro
The Wineport is situated at the bottom of Goat Fell, beside Brodick castle and Arran Brewery. Serving delicious lunches from 11am

CLADACH, BRODICK 01770 302101
Open 7 days, serving delicious lunches from 11.00am

Dog Friendly

The Taste of Arran Shop and Mini-Golf
Stockists of Arran Produce, Gifts, Souvenirs, Toys, Ladies Joules & Baby Joules.
Open 7 days a week, 10am - 5pm



THE WHINS CRAFTS WORKSHOP
HOME OF THE ARRAN STONEMEN
North Newton, Lochranza 01770 830650
Hand painted stone characters and animals, decorative candles and woodwork.
Handmade on the premises by working craftsmen.
Open to the public 7 days a week. 10am - 6pm.
Walking only please...signposted from Lochranza.

..and also

Lochranza Decorative Candles
Handmade candles at the Whins Crafts Workshop.
Ornate and unusual designs for gifts or your own home.
Lochranza • 01770 830650

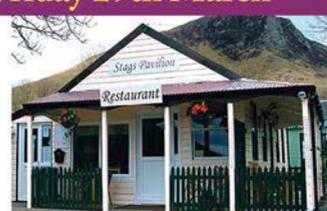
Eleanor's Flowers
Mothers Day Specials



Stunning selection of Bouquets, arrangements and plants.
Delivery or to go
01770 302587
1 Auchrannie Road, Brodick. Tues - Sat 9.30 - 5pm

Stags Pavilion
Re-Opening Friday 29th March

Open Monday to Sunday
From 5.30pm
Last orders 8.15pm



Closed all day Wednesday
Tel: 01770 830600 www.stagspavilion.com

BUNTY'S

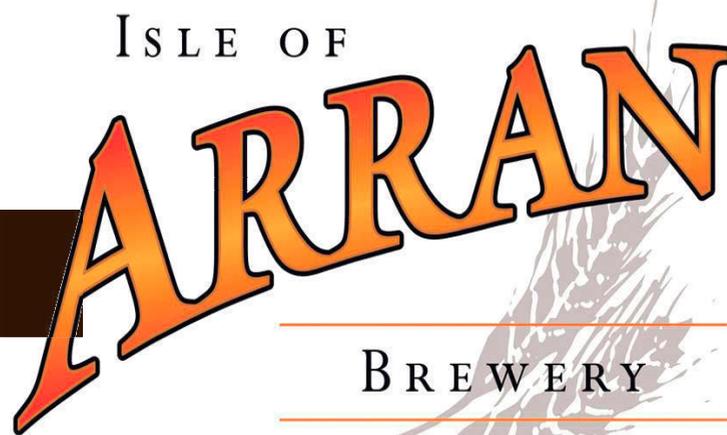


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What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Every day

Trout Fly Fishing	Loch Garbad, bank fishing
Arran Heritage Museum	Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am-4.30pm
Octopus Centre	Old Pavilion, Lamlash, centre open seven days, 10am-5pm
Octopus Centre – tennis	Old Pavilion, Lamlash, open 7 days, any time
Brodick Mini Golf	Open seven days, 9am-5pm-ish, ALL weather
Brodick Castle, garden only	Open 9am-dusk
Soap making and candle dipping	Arran Aromatics, Brodick, 10am-4pm
Public swimming	Auchrannie Spa Pool, Brodick, 10am-4pm (last entry 3pm) and 6-8pm (last entry 7pm)
Swimming lessons	Auchrannie Hotel Pool, Brodick, Monday-Thursday, 4-6pm
Arran Brewery	Open Monday, Friday and Saturday, 10am-5pm
	Tuesday-Thursday, 11am-4pm. Tours daily at 2pm
	Arran Active, 10am-5pm

'Portals' by Mike Bailey

Saturday 30th March

Flow Yoga	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Arran Heritage Museum	Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am-4.30pm
80's Aerobix Session in aid of AHS Tanzania Trip	Arran High School, 11.30am-1pm
Winter Rink Bowls	Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 1.30pm
Family games	Auchrannie Games Hall, 2-3pm
Gym Induction	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 2.30pm
Fun in the pool	Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3-4pm
Live Music – Mike Edwards	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
McNotten and Rotten	Corrie Hotel, 9pm
The Jimi Hendrix Re-Experience – spellbinding performance	The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Over-21's Disco	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

Sunday 31st March

Live Music – Mike Edwards Crofters'	Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 1-4pm
Family games	Auchrannie Games Hall, 2-3pm
The Last waltz, Grief Circle	Heather Lodge, Brodick, 2-4pm
Gym induction	Auchrannie Spa, 2.30pm
Fun in the pool	Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3-4pm
Neil Wilson, arrangements of classic blues, roots & some classical guitar	The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Brodick Church Hall, 5-6.30pm
Folk Music Session	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 1st April

Morning Fitness	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30-10.30am
Backpacker S.U. Holiday Club	Lamlash Church Hall 10am-noon
JogScotland mixed ability running group	Whiting Bay 5.30pm
Adult tennis	Blackwaterfoot, 5.30pm
Circuit training	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6-7pm
Isle of Arran Bridge Club, All welcome	Brodick Golf Club, 7pm for 7.15pm
Kildonan Village Hall AGM	Kildonan Village Hall, 7.30pm
Live Music – Tim Pomeroy	Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm
Tae Kwon Do, Adults and over 10s	Brodick Church Hall, 7-8.30pm

Tuesday 2nd April

Body Blitz (booking essential)	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30-10.30am
Backpacker S.U. Holiday Club	Lamlash Church Hall 10am-noon
Healthy Outdoors Team	Brodick Country Park Ranger Centre, 10am-1pm
Eco Savvy Energy Surgeries	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10am-3pm
Eco Social	Eco Savvy Shop, Whiting Bay, 11am-3pm
Public Exhibition by Scottish Salmon Company	Lochranza Village Hall, 1-7pm
Winter Rink Bowls	Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 1.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Easter Crafts workshop for 5-10yrs	Brodick Library, 2-3pm
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)	Brodick Golf Club, 2.30-4.30pm
Arran Pace Makers – Jog Scotland beginners' group	Ormidale pavilion, Brodick, 5.30pm
Steak Night – 2 Ribeye Steaks & bottle of wine	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 5.30pm
Gym induction	Auchrannie Spa, 5.30pm
Arran Hockey Club – juniors (5-14yrs)	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6-7pm
Flow Yoga	Corrie Hall, 6pm
Netball	Arran High School Gym, 7-8pm
Scottish Country Dancing	Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Eco Savvy Food Share	Whiting Bay Eco Savvy Hub Shop, 9pm
Trev's Pop Music Quiz	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Traditional Music Sessions	Brodick Bar, 9pm

Wednesday 3rd April

Yoga	Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
Hydrofit	Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.30-10.30am
Backpacker S.U. Holiday Club	Lamlash Church Hall 10am-noon
Brodick Gardens Volunteers	Brodick Castle and Country Park, 9.30am-1pm
Knit and Blether	Bay Wool & Crafts, Whiting Bay 11.30am-1.30pm
Chair Yoga Exercise Class	St Molios Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am
Archives and Genealogy Service	Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am-12.30pm & 1.30-3.30pm
Dog Classes	Whiting Bay Hall, 12.30pm
Parkinson's Support Group	Lamlash Fire Station, 2-4pm
Arran Pace Makers Running Group	Brodick, 5.30pm
Flow Yoga	Shiskine Hall, 6pm
Lamlash Moorings Association AGM	The Octopus Centre, Lamlash, 7.30pm
Live Music – The Sensational Biff Simpson	Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm
Tae Kwondo juniors 6.30-7.30pm, advanced juniors & adults, AHS, 7.30-8.30pm	Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	The PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
Family Pub Quiz	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Rock 'n' Pop Bingo	

Thursday 4th April

Morning fitness	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30-10.30am
Backpacker S.U. Holiday Club	Lamlash Church Hall 10-noon
Chair Yoga Exercise Class	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am
Steak Night – 2 steak dinners and a bottle of wine	Drift Inn, Lamlash, 5-9pm
Body Blitz (booking essential)	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6.15-7.15pm
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, 7-8.30pm
Arran Soul Choir	Community Theatre, Arran High School, 7-9pm
Brodick Embroidery Group	Brodick Library, 7.30-9.30pm
Eco Savvy Food Share	Brodick Ormidale Pavilion, 8.15pm
Eco Savvy Food Share	Kilmory Hall, 8.30pm
Tommy's General Knowledge Quiz	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Friday 5th April

Yoga	Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
Hydrofit	Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.30-10.30am
Backpacker S.U. Holiday Club	Lamlash Church Hall 10am-noon
Nature Play for Families	Ranger's Centre, Brodick Castle, 2pm
Gym Induction	Auchrannie Spa, 5.30pm
Soundbath	Ormidale Pavilion, 6.30pm-7.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
Tae Kwondo	Advanced (Advanced Class) Arran High School, 7.30-8.30pm
Live Music – Mike Bailey	Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm
Friday Night Quiz	Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm

Saturday 6th April

Flow Yoga	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Consultation on Clyde Regional Marine Plan	Octopus Centre, Lamlash, 11am-3pm
Winter Rink Bowls	Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm
St Bride's Ladies Easter	Fayre Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Family games	Auchrannie Games Hall, 2-3pm
Gym Induction	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 2.30pm
Fun in the pool	Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3-4pm
Consultation on Clyde Regional Marine Plan, Presentation & Q&A session	Brodick Hall, 7-9pm
Live Music – Anchor Line	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Fue Fighters, look nothing like them but sound like The Foo Fighters	The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Over-21's Disco	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm



Hundreds of athletes sign up for Arran's ultra run

More than 500 runners have already signed up for the return of The Ultra Tour of Arran challenge.

After last year's inaugural success, event organisers are bringing the 100km off-road running event back.

Rat Race Adventure Sports have set the dates for Saturday April 13 and Sunday April 14.

Entries for the fully supported and waymarked adventure around the island with an overall vertical gain of 10,679 feet, close at midnight on April 7 so there is still plenty of time to be a part of it.

Jim Mee, MD of Rat Race Adventure Sports, said: 'We are very pleased to be returning to Arran in 2019. The island has so much to offer our Rat Racers and their supporters over and above the huge variety of running terrain from north to south. It has its own whisky distillery, brewery, craft gin, artisan cheese, aromatics, quality local food and drink together with that incredibly special island hospitality.'

'What seemed to appeal most to our 2018 participants was setting sail to a stunning and dramatic location where they felt a million miles away, yet they were less than an hour from the mainland – a true adventure weekend.'

The Ultra Tour of Arran (UTA) is suited to a range of athletes from elite fell runners to amateur sporting enthusiasts with a good base level of fitness. It is an achievable step up from a marathon into ultra-running territory, for both solos and pairs, who have prepared well and put in the training miles.

David Hellard was the first to cross the finish line in 2018 after two days of tough off-road running in a time of 10:27:21. His girlfriend, Claire Briggs, was the first female to finish in a time 12:00:51. The average time for the 100km distance from 239 runners who took part over the weekend was 15:15:00.

Allie Bailey, a female ambassador for Rat Race Adventure Sports who took part in the UTA in 2018, said: 'I love Scotland and I love a challenge. It was my first time on Arran and the island is glorious. The landscape is beautiful with such a great diversity of terrain. During the race we reached many places that other people would not ordinarily see. I will be back to do it again. I enjoyed it so much.'

When signing up, runners will have the option to take on the challenge of day one only covering 45kms or the full two-day 100km ultra distance. View both routes at ratrace.com/uta/the-route/

Those taking part on the first day can expect between four and eight hours of running on quiet paths, forest trails, some boardwalk sections, some tarmac sections through villages and a lot of forest dirt roads.

Day two will demand between six and 12 hours of running and is virtually all off-road with serious mountain sections and rough underfoot. There will be several scheduled pit-stops interspersed on the route each day for a quick rest and refuel.

Mr Mee said organisers are



The route will take in coastal paths, beaches and hill tops.

delighted to have the support of EventScotland for the Ultra Tour of Arran this year, helping bring in more runners and multisport enthusiasts.

Paul Bush, VisitScotland's Director of Events, said: 'Arran is the perfect stage for such an exciting and challenging adventure run. With such a varied landscape, taking in glens, beaches, forests and more, we are sure participants, families and friends will enjoy a stunning event on one of Scotland's most beautiful islands.'

The event's base camp will be in Brodick, just one

kilometre from the island's ferry terminal. The hub will have good food and drink, great amenities, friendly and hospitable staff and Saturday night entertainment. A complimentary shuttle service from the ferry, together with camping, full serviced glamping and limited paid parking options will also be available.

Rat Race is partnered with Children With Cancer UK, the leading national children's charity dedicated to the fight against childhood cancer. Rat Racers have raised more than £1m across all Rat Race events, since the campaign began in 2015.

Any runners who raise £750 through Virgin Money Giving for Children with Cancer UK before race day, will have their entry fee returned. Go to ratrace.com/uta/run-for-charity/ to find out more.

Still time to nominate your local health hero

People from across Ayrshire and Arran are being asked to share positive experiences of their local NHS by nominating staff and volunteers for an Ayrshire Achieves Award.

Ayrshire Achieves 2019, funded by NHS Ayrshire and Arran's Charity Fund, gives local people – and staff – the chance to recognise the positive contribution of health workers and volunteers to the NHS and health and social care partnerships.

The awards aim to celebrate success, applaud excellence and innovation, and demonstrate continuous improvement in the quality of care.

Stewart Donnelly, employee director – Ayrshire and Arran NHS board, explains: 'We know our staff often go the extra mile for the people they care for. This is your chance to nominate your NHS or partnership star and give them the recognition they deserve.'

So if you know of someone who deserves to be recognised, we would be delighted to hear from you.'

Any member of the public, employee of NHS Ayrshire and Arran and partner organisations can nominate an individual or team employed by NHS Ayrshire and Arran for an award. You can also nominate a volunteer, voluntary group or charity for the volunteer's award.

There are nine award categories this year: building relationships, caring for people, caring for our staff, light bulb moments, behind the scenes, leading by example, young employee of the year, volunteer of the year, and team of the year.

The closing date for nominations is Friday May 3 and nomination forms can be obtained by calling 0800 169 1441 or by email at AyrshireAchieves@aapct.scot.nhs.uk or from the website at www.nhsaaa.net.

SCOTTISH FIELD'S APRIL ISSUE OUT NOW

Coastal special

Beautiful Crinan interior...
Coastal walks... Gerard Butler...
Aberdeenshire under the spotlight...
Diesel the fire dog... Stonehaven Banksy...
Secrets of skiff racing...

THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday March 27, 1999



Laura Muirhead of Lamlash won the Dorothy Lees Challenge Cup for the best piano solo in the festival.



Winner of the Margaret Laidler Cup for the best vocal solo, Morag Hannah.



Alix Basford with the Donald Paton Challenge Cup for vocal solo.



Nicole Bunyan with the Elizabeth Cup for the under-eight vocal solo.

Music festival special

Twenty years ago the Arran Music Festival celebrated its 70th anniversary of hosting two, three or more days of music, speech and dance competitions for the children of Arran. No small undertaking, the organising of many of the tasks, such as appointing the adjudicators, accepting entrants, promoting the event and making the programme schedule, was done by Tony Smith, ably assisted by his wife Elizabeth. Dealing with the stewards and their allocated tasks and the seating arrangements was in the safe hands of Larry Keeney, again ably assisted by his wife Cathy.

In this special edition of 20 Years Ago focusing on the Music Festival's 70th anniversary we take a look back at some of the people who impressed the adjudicators and those that took home the trophies.



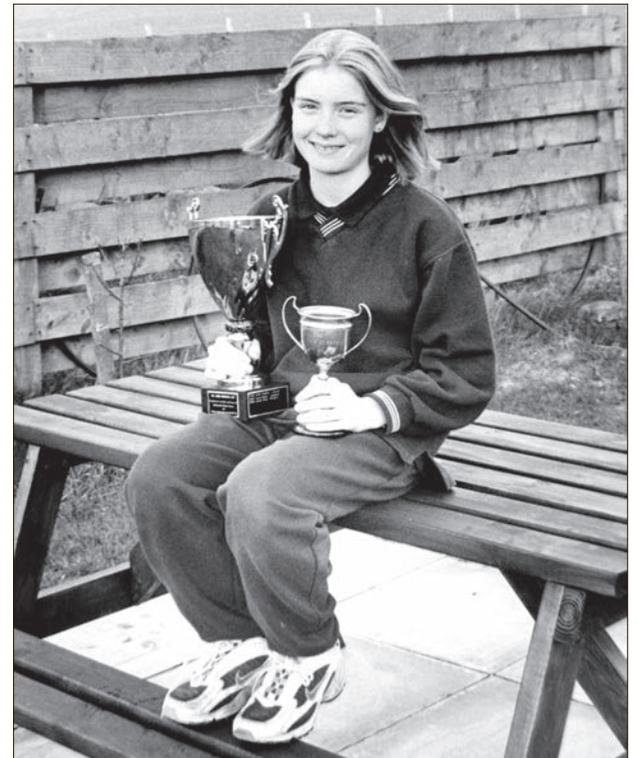
Adjudicator Mr J Butler of Kilwinning with open pipers Ross Sutherland and Damien Frame.



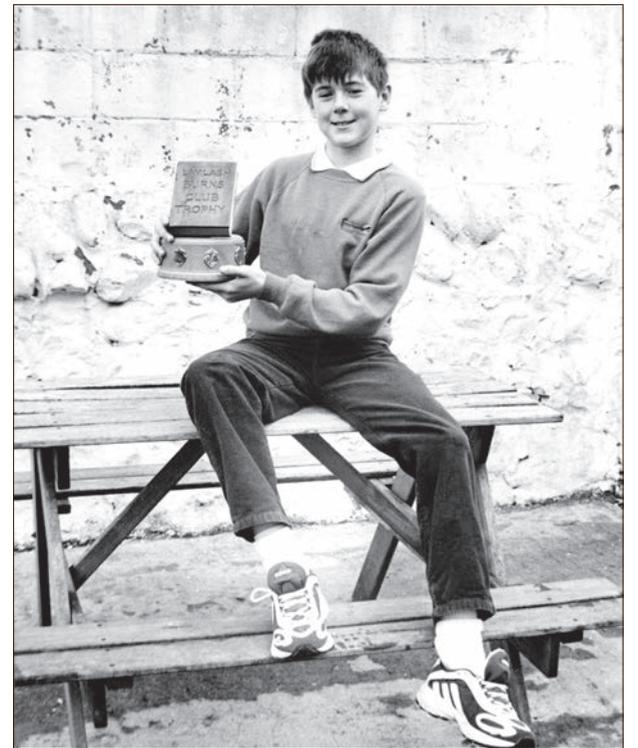
Duet singers, Lorna Basford and Laura Muirhead with the Douglas Hotel Cup.



Sam Wheeler winner of the Chris Bragg Cup for practice chanters and Calum Gilmore under-16s champion piper with the An Comunn Trophy.



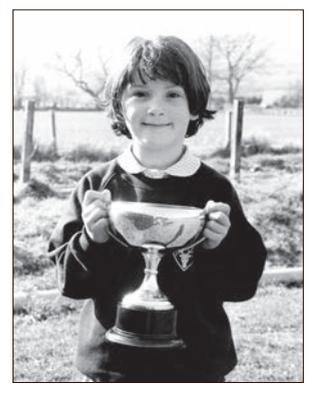
Faye Anderson of Shiskine was the top verse speaker winning the George D McArthur Cup for reciting A Vampire Strikes.



Sandy Kerr with the Lamlash Burns Club Trophy.



Fraser MacDonald with the Corrieravie Cup for beginner piping.



Alice Aries with the Alice Geddes Memorial Cup for her rendition of There Was a Wee Wife.

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Point of Lay pullets

Breeding Trio Bluebell pullets

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2 sets of new discs and break pads for Ford Transit Connect van, 02 - 09 plate. Tel: 07792 452814.

A choice of 3, as new golf sets plus bags all £50 each. Golf Trolley free to uplift with any of the golf sets.

Hillbilly Electric Golf trolley, as new - £50

A Timberpro chain saw as new, with equipment - £50

To inspect please call 01770 303968

BANNER CLASSIFIEDS
BANNER CLASSIFIEDS
BANNER CLASSIFIEDS

Consultation on draft Clyde Regional Marine Plan



18th March – 27th May 2019

The Clyde Marine Planning Partnership (CMPP) is running a pre-consultation on the draft Clyde Regional Marine Plan and is now welcoming views and feedback on this document. There will be two events taking place on Arran on Saturday the 6th April where you can find out more, see below for details.

The plan addresses a wide variety of issues across the Region, such as climate change, sea-level rise, the spread of non-native species and marine litter around our coasts and within our sea. The Plan also focusses on sustainable development including sea fisheries; aquaculture; sport, recreation and tourism; shipping, ports, harbours and ferries. This is an important opportunity for coastal communities, individuals, businesses and other organisations to contribute their feedback on proposed objectives and policies and input into discussions on plan development.

The consultation will take place from 18th March until 27th May 2019 and there will be a range of events around the region where people can learn more about the pre-consultation draft of the Clyde Regional Marine Plan and regional marine planning in the Clyde.

Join us on Saturday 6th April at:

- Lamlash, Octopus Centre Centre - Information stall, 11:00 - 15:00
- Brodick Public Hall –Presentation and Q&A session, 19:00 - 21:00

For a full list of events or to sign up to the CMPP newsletter get in touch: www.clydemarineplan.scot | info@clydemarineplan.scot | 0131 314 6782

KILDONAN VILLAGE HALL AGM

MONDAY 1 APRIL 2019
7.30PM VILLAGE HALL
EVERYONE WELCOME

Charity No.SCO16974

PUBLIC EXHIBITION: NORTH ARRAN MARINE FISH FARM, NORTH ARRAN, FIRTH OF CLYDE – Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997

The Scottish Salmon Company is proposing an Atlantic salmon fish farm at North Arran, Firth of Clyde, approximately 4.4 km north west of Sannox at a site to the East of Millstone Point. This exhibition provides an opportunity to discuss and comment on the planning and development of this site.

**The Public Exhibition will be held on:
Tuesday 2nd April 2019 from 1pm – 7pm at Lochranza Village Hall, Lochranza, Isle of Arran, KA27 8HL**

Any person wishing to submit comments can do so by contacting: arran@scottishsalmon.com by 30 May 2019.

Please note, comments at this stage do not replace the planning application process, where representations should be made directly to the planning authority.

Lamlash Moorings Association A.G.M.

Wednesday 3rd April 2019
at 7.30pm

The Octopus Centre, Lamlash
All members welcome

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- 10 Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
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- 12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

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

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

*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy & Communities) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 19.04.19. Any representations received will be open to public view.

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

19/00194/PP; Site To East Of Ciuneas, Kildonan, Brodick, Isle Of Arran; Erection of detached dwelling house.

19/00129/PP; Site To North Of Dunard, Corrie, Brodick, Isle Of Arran; Erection of detached dwelling house with attached garage.

19/00203/PP; Site To South Of Craighard, Catacol, Lochranza, Brodick, KA27 8HN: Conversion of existing derelict cottage to form 2 bedroom cottage including demolition of existing pre-fab bungalow.

Craig Hutton
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



WHITING BAY BOWLING CLUB A.G.M.

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Friday 5th April 2019
at 7pm.

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www.arran.ecosavvy.org
email arran.ecosavvy@gmail.com

01770 302 642

Closing Date Tuesday 23rd of April

Stagecoach West Scotland

We are looking for applicants to fill the following vacancies at our Isle of Arran depot in Brodick

Full Time Shunter

To fuel and clean the buses.

Applicants should hold a full UK driving Licence. A PCV licence is required for this position and training for this will be provided if necessary.

Part Time Cleaner

To clean offices and buses for approx 20 hours per week.

Apply by contacting:
Stagecoach West Scotland, Brodick Depot, The Pier, Brodick, KA27 8AU
Tel: 01770 302000
for an Application Form.

Bus Driver

Full & Part time

Based on Isle of Arran

Fancy a change of scenery?
Do you love meeting new people?

Can you go that extra mile when it comes to customer service?

You could be a bus driver - all you need is a driving licence!

We are looking for friendly, flexible & reliable drivers, who enjoy meeting people, working on their own initiative and will enjoy being part of a friendly and dedicated team.

In return, we offer a competitive salary, full training, full pension, job security and free travel on our services.

Applicants should hold a full UK licence which should have no more than 3 endorsement points on it and have had no driving bans within the last 5 years.

Apply by contacting our Brodick Depot, The Pier, Brodick KA27 8AU, Tel: 01770 302000 for an application form.

ARRAN HAULAGE

We are looking for someone to join our busy sales ledger team!

Applicants must have a friendly manner, computer skills and an ability to work within a busy environment.

Immediate start and good rates of pay.

Please send CV's by email or in writing to Rachel Armitage.

rachela@arranhaulage.co.uk
Arran Haulage Services Ltd, The Home Farm, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8DD

Kilmory Hall Cleaning Position

The Kilmory Public Hall is looking for a Cleaner to join our dynamic team. Average 8 hours per week at £9.00 per hour. Cleaning is mostly required before and after weekends, also after any functions which have taken place at the Hall.



If you would like to apply, please email Paula at kilmory.hall@btinternet.com with a CV and cover letter or call 01770 870345.

CLOSING DATE - End of Thursday 04/04/19

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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 31st March

Mothering Sunday, British Summer time begins
Lochranza Church, 9.30am Morning Worship.
Pirnmill Church, 10.45am Morning Worship.
Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship.
Brodick Church, 10.30am. Morning Worship, including the Sacrament of Baptism.
Corrie Church, 11.30 am. Prayer Meeting, 12noon Morning Worship.
There will also be a service of Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland, Charity Number: SC014005
Sunday 31st March
Worship will be conducted by Mrs Aileen Brookens, Reader, at 10.30am. Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service. All most welcome.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 31st March
2nd Sunday in Lent
Holy Communion at 11 am.
Richard Trewby
Coffee after service
ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 31st March
Rev Dr Ian MacLeod
Kilmory at 10 am
Lamlash at 11.30 am
In Lamlash:
SU Holiday Club, 1 -5 April
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 31st March
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service at 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
All welcome

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday 31st March
Sunday Worship at 11am
'Heather Lodge', Brodick
Left of the Douglas Hotel, opposite the ferry terminal.
Telephone 700346, 820 223
Everyone Warmly Invited

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 31st March
Service at 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 31st March
Shiskine at 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick at 6pm
Rev Benjamin Van Rensburg
HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Sunday 31st March 2019
Sunday Mass at 11am



Brodick Golf Club

Sunday March 17, Winter Cup Stableford, 12 played, NC. Fred Galbraith 19, 40pts, Brian Smith 13, 39pts, Bill Donaldson 16, 38pts.

Sunday March 24, Winter Cup Stableford, 11 played, NC. Ali Hume 12, 36pts, Brian Smith 13, 35pts, Bob McCrae 8, 32pts.

Fixtures: Sunday March 31, Winter Cup Stableford final round, 8.30am (note time change) and noon.

Wednesday April 3, Summer Cup, arrange own games and play any time. The Summer Cup will continue every Wednesday until September 4.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday March 26, Cup Sweep final day. 1 Ron Woods 68, 2 Reuben Betley 74, 3 Jenni Turnbull 76, BIL 6. Winner of the Winter Cup, Brian Sherwood 386. Runner up, Phil Betley 390.

Fixtures: Tuesday April 2, Peter Sutton / Lady Mary, tee off at 12.30pm.

Corrie Golf Club

Monday March 25, Winter Cup. 1 J McGovern 69-10=59, 2 L Hartley 71-9=62. Magic twos, L Hartley and A Napier.
Fixtures: Saturday March 30, 18-hole sweep, ballots at 9am and 1.30pm.

Monday April 1, Winter Cup, ballot at noon.

Lochranza Castle Golf Club

Saturday March 23, The Alistair MacVicar Memorial Trophy. 1 R Traill 49-12=37, 2 G Andrews 45-6=39, 3 J Faulkner 45-5=40. Magic twos, C Rutterford and G Stewart. Thanks for a good turnout on a very breezy day.



Willie Kelso presents Ross Trail with the Alistair MacVicar Memorial trophy at Lochranza Castle Golf Club.



Machrie Bay captain Campbell Laing presents the Winter Cup to winner Brian Sherwood.



THE EAST WALTZ

Grief Circle

Is somebody special missing? If you'd like a safe place to share memories over coffee and cake, call into Heather Lodge on the last Sunday of the month.
Next meeting 31st March 2-4pm

DEATHS

LOGAN - Thomas. Peacefully on 22nd March 2019, aged 90 years. Beloved husband of the late Amelia Logan (Millie) and much loved father of John, Fiona, Donald, William, Maureen and Jane and grandfather and great grandfather of the family

Funeral Service in Lochranza Church on Friday 29th March at 12 noon and thereafter at Lochranza Cemetery to which

all relatives and friends are respectfully invited

No flowers please but donations if desired to the Macular Society.

RODGER - Martin (Mart) clarinetist/leader of Mart Rodger Manchester Jazz, passed away 14th March in hospital. Beloved husband of Janet, proud father of Simon, Andrew, Claire, and loving grandfather.

new SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

Win!
THIS WEEK'S
JACKPOT
£2250

We have removed the shinty ball from the photograph below. Now look carefully at the position of the players and use your skill and judgement to place a cross at the exact point where you think the centre of the ball was. You may have a maximum of 20 attempts on this coupon at a cost of £1.

The game starts with a jackpot of £500 and will increase by £50 per week until it is won outright. To win the jackpot, the centre of your cross must be in the exact centre of the ball. If the crosses overlap the entry will be void. If no correct entry is received, two 'near miss' prizes of £25 will be awarded. When the jackpot is won, no other prizes will be awarded that week.

Easy to enter

Cut out your completed coupon and put your entry plus £1 per 20 attempts into a sealed envelope and post it to "Spot the Shinty Ball" Competition, The Oban Times, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll PA34 4HB by 2pm Tuesday. No refunds will be given for entries received after the deadline.

You may hand it into any of our offices - The Oban Times, Lochavullin, Oban; The Lochaber Times, High Street, Fort William; The Campbelltown Courier, Main Street, Campbelltown; The Argyllshire Advertiser, Argyll Street, Lochgilphead or the Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran by the same time. Otherwise all entries must be posted.

Competition rules

No responsibility will be accepted for entries which are delayed, mislaid or lost, and proof of posting cannot be accepted as proof of delivery.

The Company's decision is final on all matters relating to the

competition and no correspondence will be entered into. The final decision rests with the Company.

In the event of more than one correct entry, the jackpot will be shared equally between all winning entries. Any decision regarding the awarding of a prize is entirely at the discretion of the Company. The Company reserves the right to declare the competition null and void at any time, subject to its discretion and to make full refund of the price of the coupon to any person who has entered the competition at that time. Winners agree to have their photograph taken for publicity purposes. Winners' names and home towns will appear in the newspaper. Employees of Wyvex Media, their immediate relatives and any person otherwise connected with the competition are ineligible to enter. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition. Entry data will be deleted/destroyed within 30 days of the competition entry deadline and in a manner appropriate to GDPR regulations. Entrant's details will not be used for any other activity.



Please remember to enclose £1 for 20 crosses. The maximum number of attempts on this coupon is 20, but you may enter on separate coupons as many times as you wish. No photocopies allowed. You agree to abide by the rules. How to enter: Mark your crosses using a ballpoint pen. Twenty crosses may be put on this coupon for £1. Send to 'Spot the Shinty Ball' Competition, The Oban Times, P.O. Box 1, Oban PA34 4HB or hand in to any of our offices as detailed above.

Name

Address

Tel No.....

Please
tape your
£1 coin here
(only if posting)

RECENT WINNERS:

- T Campbell** Sept '18 **£2500**
- S Campbell** Sept '18 **£2550**
- L Currie** Nov '18 **£800**
- L Nicolson** Dec '18 **£3900**

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...



The two entries who got nearest the ball and each receive £25 are:
K Elder
Oban
J D MacVean
Lochgilphead



Arran Taekwondo students show off their skills that earned them a number of medals at a recent competition in Edinburgh.

Taekwondo team punch above their weight for medal haul

A small team of students and instructors have returned from an Edinburgh Taekwondo competition with a haul of 16 medals won by only five students.

The competition was attended by students from clubs from Edinburgh, the Borders, Fife, Ayrshire and Midlothian as well as from Arran.

The medal haul included gold, silver and bronze, and each of the five students won medals in all of the categories that they entered.

Great performances

Arran Taekwondo instructor John Divine said: 'Some tough opposition as always but great performances and a great result for our club.'

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Arran Ladies are down on numbers but not team spirit

East Kilbride	4
Arran Ladies	2
West District Division 3	

Travelling the following day on the 11am ferry, 10 of the Arran players prepared themselves for their second game. With no replacement for Freya in midfield, Lorraine changed a few positions around to cover the pitch with less than a full team. Leaving Ali in goal, she asked the versatile Helen to come down from right wing to defence. She then took Jenny out from centre back and asked her to use her speed and strength up forward in centre mid and on the right wing. Ellie Wood moved from right back into centre back allowing her to use her blocking skills all over the Arran defensive half. These decisions paid dividends for the team.

Jenny had one of the hardest positions to play in the game as she was covering both right wing and the empty centre mid positions. She ran almost non-stop, chasing balls and sending them up to Lorraine and Hannah. Helen sent

attacking balls back through the players time and time again with powerful rocket shots, at one point the ball travelled the entire length of the pitch – unstopped by anyone. Ellie thwarted so many East Kilbride attempts on goal that she was awarded dame of the game by the East Kilbride players for her show of ball control, cool and calm passing while under pressure, and her cheeky ability to steal the ball off the top of their attackers' sticks.

East Kilbride were able to take advantage of the player-short Arran team, however, and scored three goals in the first half of the game. Their right wing player had one of the best long shot hits the girls had seen, as she scored two of the three goals from the very tip of the 'D' finding the narrowest of angles into the net.

Lorraine, Hannah, Judith and Jenny were frustrated time and again on their attempts on goal by the East Kilbride keeper, who was around six feet tall, and had a tendency to block the goal face by laying in front of it.

Her goalie pads and kit also created a high wall of defence which proved impossible to get round in the first half.

After the half-time break, the home team were able to score their fourth goal after 15 minutes and shortly after this while trying to work her way past the very efficient East Kilbride sweeper, captain Lorraine Hewie twisted and fell to the ground. The strained ligaments she had been playing with had popped and she was now unable to run at all. Not good news for the team who, already short of players, were now without a fully functioning centre forward. However, with determination, she chose to remain on the pitch but to stay high in the attacking quarter and do the best she could.

The defence players gave her a good few opportunities by sending the balls up to Mia, Jenny and Judith who found the strength to put in some super runs past the home defenders and deliver the ball to Hannah and Lorraine. The first few balls were unsuccessful as Lorraine tired to find the best way to move

and stay on her feet, but in the last five minutes of the game she was rewarded with two goals which she lifted over the keeper's legs for the first and her head and shoulders for the second.

The end results was a 4-2 defeat for Arran and unfortunately for captain Lorraine, her torn ligaments will mean that she will be unable to play in the remaining three games of the season.

Lorraine said: 'I would like to thank the supporters who came out to cheer from the sidelines and to Pauline Reid who once again umpired the matches for the Arran Ladies, while sporting her own inflamed cartilage injury.'

Lorraine is now standing down from the coaching, administration and captaincy of the team and has invited all of the team players, old, new or anyone interested, to step forward to take over the work she has done for the team for the past five years.

The next fixture for the Arran Ladies is a home game next Saturday March 30 against Troon Ladies with a push back at noon.



Captain Lorraine Hewie will be standing down as team captain and has invited players to consider taking on the role.



Ellie Wood blasts the ball away from the Arran goal during the match with GHK.



Ali McKie swipes away a GHK attempt at goal with her padded glove.



Elyse Aitken retrieves the ball from the corner and returns it back into play.



Ali McKie shows determination in preventing a GHK goal.

Arran Ladies are down in numbers but not team spirit

Taekwondo team punch above their weight for medal haul

Arran puts up defiant fight in hockey double header

Arran Ladies 1
GHK 3s 5
West District Division 3

In a season disrupted by wind, snow and ferry problems, the Arran Ladies hockey team needed to play two back to back games last weekend, a home game against GHK 3s who are at the top of the West District 3rd Division league, and an away game against East Kilbride.

The team for both games was almost identical with Ali McKie in goals, Ellie Wood, Faith McKelvie, Jenny Stark and Elyse Aitken in defence. Judith Ross, Freya McNicol and Mia Walker covered midfield, and Hannah

McCartney, captain Lorraine Hewie and Helen Thomson played up front in the forwards positions.

In the first game against GHK, it was obvious from the first play of the ball that the girls and ladies from Glasgow High Kelvinside had practiced and trained extensively together – as their three-player formation passing was excellent to watch, but not be on the receiving end of.

Captured

The visitors scored within five minutes of the whistle, having captured the ball back from Arran's first hard press into their defensive quarter.

Arran stayed calm and constantly battled to push the ball up the field for attempts

on goal. One such attempt was a powerfully lifted ball from captain Lorraine's stick, which flew over the heads of the players in the 'D' and over the goal's crossbar to go out of play. This resulted in a chorus of 'Oooooohh' from the watching supporters.

GHK's defensive line was incredibly strong and repelled each attack efficiently, returning the ball to their own midfielders and forwards who went on to score a further two goals. Just before the half-time whistle, having dived to her left to block another GHK goal shot, Ali spectacularly launched herself off the ground and in front of the next incoming ball with a flying jump. Umpiring on



Judith Ross leads the charge towards goal with Arran players flanking her for support.



GHK players do their utmost to wrestle the ball away from Lorraine Hewie.

the sideline, Pauline Reid heard the supporters from the visiting team clapping and expressing their appreciation of the 'pure ninja skills' from the gifted goalie.

The second half was very similar to the first with GHK coming out strongly from the first ball and pressing into Arran's goal area. Notching up another two goals in 30 minutes, Arran Ladies showed grit and determination and a never-give-up attitude. With Jenny sending

a long ball from the 23m line up to Hannah, she was able to make a clean strong pass to Lorraine waiting in the oppositions half. Lorraine ran round the defenders in her path and went one-to-one with the GHK goalie, whom she wrong-footed and shot the ball past her and into the goal.

Packed lunches

The final score ended with the visitors winning 5-1. As they had no time to stay for after match teas, Andy

Bell and his kitchen staff at the Ormidale Hotel had put together packed lunches for them to take away. The Arran Ladies were able to enjoy the welcoming hospitality from Tommy and his staff though, for their own after-match refreshments there. Ali McKie was unsurprisingly voted dame of the game by GHK 3s for her amazing goalkeeping throughout the game.

More photographs on page 27



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