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No. 2124 Arran's Weekly Newspaper

THE ARRAN 



80p

www.arranbanner.co.uk

Saturday 20 April, 2019 Your guide to the Arran eggstravaganza starts on page 17

## ner won't sell site for affordable homes

#### by Hugh Boag editor@arranbanner.co.ul

Proposals to build affordable houses in Brodick will not now go ahead after the landowner refused to sell the site.

The 20 new homes for rent, which were earmarked for Springbank were first announced 18 months ago to complement the 34 new council houses being built nearby by North Ayrshire Council.

This development of mixed sized homes is still going ahead, behind the existing Brathwic Terrace, but the start of work has been delaved.

There is a chronic need for more affordable housing on Arran given the urgent need to get more young working families to come and live and work on the island. Young islanders are also being priced out of the housing market with a quarter of all island properties now second homes.

But the Trust Housing Association says its proposed development at Springbank Farm is no longer possible

due to the reluctance of the owner to now sell the land for affordable housing.

Arran Development Trust (ADT) director Tom Tracey said: 'Trust Housing has reneged on its commitment to build 20 homes on Arran. We need to get it to fulfill its commitment or get the funds allocated for Arran to be used on Arran.'

Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson has written to the chief executive of Trust Housing to ask it to fulfill its commitment one way or the other.

David McIndoe, director of asset management services at Trust Housing Association, said: 'Trust has been in discussions with the owner of Springbank Farm, Brodick, for some time, and unfortunately we were advised in early 2019 that the site was no longer for sale for affordable housing by the landowner.

'We are now exploring alternative options to deliver similar numbers of affordable homes on the island."

It is understood Trust is now looking at an alternative site at Benlister Road, Lamlash Continued on page two

## Now that's a rat run



Quite a sight as 500 runners pour along Brodick shorefront at the start of the 100km Rat Race Ultra Tour of Arran early last Saturday morning. They were making their way from Brodick green out of the village for their first 45km run of the two-day event. Full report pages 4 and 5.



## 2 NEWS

## Arran abuzz with **Easter excitement**

Arran is gearing up for a bumper Easter weekend with visitors flocking to the island.

A holiday atmosphere has taken over and, thankfully too, a system of high pressure in the region promises to provide a spell of good weather for those taking part in outdoor pursuits and pleasures this Easter weekend.

Businesses have been preparing for the increase in visitor numbers in what is traditionally viewed as the start of the summer tourist season, and they have prepared a variety of special offers, events and occasions for the welcome influx.

A detailed list can be found in our five-page Easter feature - starting on page 17 - and provides visitors with a selection of events that are taking place and ideas for places to visit and things to do. For such a relatively small area, Arran provides



Visiting from London and enjoying the spring sunshine on Arran are Abi Walker and Natalie Redford with youngsters Billie De Moraes and Rex Redford. 01\_B16easter01

good value and packs a punch commercial perspective but with a gargantuan amount of activities over the Easter weekend. Not only from a

also in its natural offerings. After a series of ferry disruptions last weekend - mainly

to the MV Isle of Arran sailings - a full two-ferry service should be in operation until Monday.

## Arran's need for housing discussed at Holyrood

The Arran Develpment Trust (ADT) is pressing ahead with its plans to build 60 affordable houses on Arran by 2021.

ADT, represented by directors Tom Tracey, Sheena Borthwick-Toomey, Bill Calderwood, recently met Housing Minister Kevin Stewart MSP and Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson at Holyrood to discuss its proposals.

The objective was to update the minister on some of Arran's unique problems and what the trust was doing about them and how he could help. It was a productive meeting and followed on from a positive meeting last month at Cunninghame House between the trust, Mr Gibson and North Ayrshire Council chief executive Craig Hatton and housing head of service Yvonne Baulk.

Afterwards chairman Tom Tracey said: 'We were looking for his support ahead of us providing final feasibility input. He gave us his support but emphasised it would be down to the detailed feasibility review. That is all we could expect at this stage.

'Arran is an accessible, high growth, high quality of life island. On the downside NAC forecasts a 47 per cent reduction in working age population by 2025. Primary cause is the chronic lack of affordable housing threatening the sustainability of our Island. Fortunately, with NAC and the minister's support, we will have a partial solution by 2021.'

The Arran Banner

Saturday 20 April 2019

The push for affordable housing comes as new figures emerge that the number of second homes on Arran has risen from 22 to 25 per cent. House prices are 43 per cent above the North Ayrshire national average.

As a result the Arran Development Trust was created, as the operational arm of the Arran Economic Group, and has already identified three sites to develop 60 affordable houses in Brodick and Lamlash.

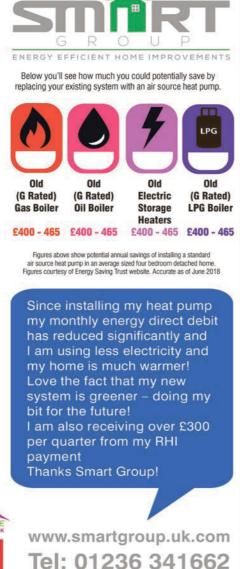
Mr Tracey added: 'Arran has economic growth and high quality of life. Both are threatened by a chronic lack of affordable housing. With work and determination to succeed by all involved, we can solve this problem and open the door for other communities.

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Remaining stored heat is used for baths, showers, taps etc

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Which?



## **Owner won't sell site** for affordable homes

Continued from page one which can accommodate a similar number of homes and are in the process of submitting a revised proposal to North Ayrshire Council for inclusion in the Strategic Housing Investment Plan (SHIP).

This alternative site could make up the shortfall arising from Springbank Farm within a similar timescale, subject

to its financial viability. North Ayrshire Council confirmed the council house development in Brodick, the first to be built in more than 30 years, was still going ahead, with work now expected to start after the summer.

A spokeswoman said: 'A consultation event was held in September 2018, where draft plans for the Brathwic Terrace development were

discussed. The next step will be to hold a final plans consultation event, which is expected to take place during this summer.

'The feedback on the updated plans will be reviewed, with any final adjustments to the proposals made prior to a 'meet-the-builder' event for residents.

'Construction work will commence thereafter.'



The Springbank Farm site which has now been abandoned. 01\_B16spring01

## Chameleon changes colours but still remembers its past

'Being the current custodian I love the ambience the shop has and its historical past. Heather's piece is wonderful and will be proudly displayed inside the shop for all to see'



Chameleon, the ladies' boutique shop located in the historic Hamilton Terrace in Lamlash, has put on display a unique commissioned artwork which pays homage to the building's history as a post office.

Having bought the old post office three years ago, Lynn Mignon Walker began refurbishing the building and while doing so she uncovered a number of interesting artefacts and objects that help to tell some of the story of the building's past and its previous occupants.

When replacing old wood, in what is now a large bay window, she uncovered the frame of three early posting boxes and found a number of signatures, possibly from the joiners at the time it was constructed in 1932.

Below old floorboards and behind drawers she unearthed a variety of pre-decimal coinage – including an old penny from 1917 – and a few relics relating back to the time when the rear of the post office acted as a shop. An old grocery order form from 1964 was discovered and an old hat pin provided some clues about the people that might have visited or worked in the shop in years gone by.

Regularly receiving visitors

in the shop enquiring about the building's history and wanting to have a look at the historic site, Lynn enjoys telling them all about the history of the terrace.

Humbled by being the present custodian of such a historic building and placing great value on the historic artefacts she uncovered, Lynn approached Heather Macleod of Heatherhill Frames to ask if she would be able to help bring the pieces to life and display them for all to see.



Artist Heather is well known on Arran, and beyond, for her 3D artworks which make use of old musical instruments, clock pieces, engine parts, wood, copper and brass and a number of engineered items to create a style that is known as Steampunk in the art world.

Combining all of the elements that Lynn found, and sourcing photos, postcards and telegrams from community members, Heather created a striking artwork that now adorns the shop wall. Lynn said: 'Being the current custodian I love the ambience the shop has and its historical past. Heather's piece is wonderful and will be proudly displayed inside the shop for all to see. We will also have a story board of key dates beside the frame to enable people to learn about the story of Hamilton Terrace and the village post office.

'My thanks go to Stuart Gough for his time and vast knowledge of all things post office and for helping me pull together some of the old pictures, telegrams and post stamps. Thanks also to Andy Grents for confirming the last date of trading at Lamlash Post Office – September 30, 2015 – and thanks also go to Heather for her amazing artistic talent in bringing the old to the present.'

Hamilton Terrace was constructed in 1893 to accommodate Arran Estate workers. The building where Chameleon is situated was used as the village sub-post office. Having always served as a commercial property the address has also been the home of a grocery shop, hairdresser and for a while the Lamlash telephone switchboard was located in the upstairs.

The building changed hands in March 2016 and reopened as Chameleon Ladies Boutique in August of the same year.



A journey through time – the artwork by Heather Macleod features a number of artefacts and ephemera telling the story of the history of the building.



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## 4 NEWS



Runners make their way along the forestry track above Whiting Bay.



Time to take in the spectacular views, runners stop for a quick photo opportunity above Lamlash Bay.

The Arran Lodge

Arran's Largest and most popular Self Catering House

H

## Rat race has i DDea

There was a real international flavour to the second Ultra Tour of Arran which took place over two days last weekend.

The weather was kind to the event with two days of dry, bright weather and so pleased were the organisers with the outcome of the event that they already plan to bring the ultra tour back for a third time next year.

With entries up 50 per cent on last year the island welcomed around 500 hardy adventure runners who competed in the challenging 100km off-road race.

The event, staged by Rat Race Adventure Sports, attracted just 55 Scottish entrants with the rest from other parts of the UK, Denmark, Netherlands, Dubai, Germany, France, USA, Canada and Belgium. Establishing a base camp

Well organised and structured, the two-day, fully-supported and waymarked, off-road adventure run afforded runners spectacular mountain and coastal views of Arran with an overall vertical gain of 10,679 feet. Dirt roads Day one saw entrants

at Ormidale Park, entrants

taken care of with camping

accommodation, hot food,

bar, therapeutic massage,

entertainment and live music.

well

were exceptionally

running from Brodick to Kildonan and back on quiet paths, forest trails, boardwalk sections and some tarmac through the villages, but mostly forest dirt roads.

Day two, also starting and ending in Brodick, saw entrants ascending Goatfell and taking in the north of the island, around the Cock of Arran and returning

via North Sannox back to Brodick.

Rat Race Adventure Sports also hosts a number of adventure running events throughout the United Kingdom. In July the Man vs Lakes event





Making the race more treacherous, runners navigate their way through boggy terrain.



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## nternational



A large number of runners set off from Brodick beach on the first day of the event.

will see runners take on a 28-mile event in the Lake District while The Wall, held during June, will see runners taking part in a 69-mile run along Hadrian's Wall.

This event is now in its 8th year and is held prior to the gruelling 22-mile ascent of Snowden with 5,055 feet of altitude gain. Rat Race is partnered with

Children with Cancer UK and over the last three years has helped to raise more than £1m for the charity. *Photos: Leo Francis Rat Race Adventure Sports* 



The early front runners have a long trail of competitors behind them as they head along Brodick shorefront early last Saturday morning. 01\_B16rat10



A competitor makes her way through the forest towards Kildonan.



High in the mountains a runner makes his way over large boulders.



Competitors are dwarfed by the large mountains of the Northern mountain range.



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## Funding up for grabs for food initiatives

Individuals and groups from across North Ayrshire are being offered the chance to bid for up to £1,250 to help fund initiatives that improve access to food in their communities.

The Fairer Food participatory budgeting scheme will allow communities to decide which of the projects they think most deserve the funding, with a decision day event planned for Saturday June 10 at Eglinton Park where the public can go along, hear all about the projects then vote for their favourites.

Voting will be open to anyone aged eight and over who lives, works or volunteers in the North Ayrshire.

Funding was originally capped at £1,000 per winning bid, however, thanks to North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership this has now been increased to £1,250. Councillor Louise McPhater, cabinet member for communities, said: 'Sadly, food poverty is something which affects many families and individuals across the UK for a wide variety of reasons.

'Access to nutritious food is crucial for good health and well-being, and in the right environment food can also be a powerful tool in bringing people together and helping to reduce social isolation.

'We would urge any individuals or groups who are currently running such a project, or have ambitions to start one, to please get in touch and submit an application.

'We will then open it up to the public who will vote for the schemes they feel would most benefit from the funding.'

# Corey takes prize in national art contest

Corey McConnell, a P6 pupil at Whiting Bay Primary, is a runner-up in a national art competition. The John Byrne National

Drawing Competition was judged by a panel including the artist himself.

A winner and 30 runners-up were selected from more than 7,000 entries this year. The judges were looking for imaginative drawings. Corey received a specially designed certificate at an award ceremony recently held at the Tannahill Centre in Paisley.

Artist John Byrne said: 'This year we judged more than 7,000 entries and the level of talent and imagination was outstanding.

'I'm encouraged by the

standard of all the artwork submitted and I hope pupils across Scotland will continue to show us their artistic skills and love for drawing.'

The competition is run in partnership with Education Scotland and is open to pupils across Scotland from P4 to S3.

Alan Armstrong, strategic director for Education Scotland, said: 'Art and design are important parts of the Scottish curriculum.

'For years, this competition has encouraged many thousands of children to use their artistic talents to create inspiring and unique drawings. Education Scotland is proud to support the competition and its ethos of keeping the art of drawing alive.'



Corey's imaginative drawing.



Corey with his specially designed certificate.



The SNP government has launched a consultation giving islanders an opportunity to help shape Scotland's first national islands plan and island communities impact assessments.

The plan will set out how the SNP government, local authorities and other public agencies will work to improve outcomes for island communities. Scottish ministers will report back to Scottish parliament every year on progress towards the goals included in the plan.

The government is keen to hear people's experiences, especially their views about what can be built on and done differently.

The consultation aims to give people a chance to shape the national islands plan in a way that responds to their interests and aspirations.

Islands minister Paul Wheelhouse MSP said: 'I firmly believe that the development of the first National Islands Plan represents a genuine opportunity to shape the future.'

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'This consultation allows a say in Arran's future and I hope many islanders will contribute to it.'

One of the key measures in the Islands (Scotland) Act 2018 is to require everyone who makes or designs new polices, strategies or services to consider how these will impact on islands.

Guidance will be developed on how these impact assessments will operate and input to this consultation will help. Visit the Scottish Government website and follow the link.



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#### The Arran Banner Saturday 20 April 2019

# £500,000 worth of road repairs in one month

south of Lamlash, will be

resurfaced on Tuesday June

4 and in Glenrosa a section of

roadway between Mill House

and Heather Cottage will be resurfaced from Thursday

The estimated cost for

these works is in the region

June 6 over two days.

#### by Colin Smeeton editor@arranbanner.co.uk

More than £500,000 is to be spent on the roads of Arran in just one month.

A slightly delayed programme of carriageway resurfacing works, which will see road closures across the island, is due to start next month as part of the Arran Roads Programme 2019/20.

The roadworks are badly needed with the Arran roads taking another pounding over the winter months leading to many potholes, broken verges, and makeshift repairs to keep them useable.

Following discussions with contractors and CalMac, which have planned the logistics in bringing equipment, materials and personnel to Arran, a revised programme of works has been issued by North Ayrshire Council.

The works are now con-

firmed to start on Tuesday May 7 with a revised completion date of Friday June 7.

There will be no works carried out at weekends, public holidays or during the Whit week to minimise the impact on the island's tourism businesses.

Work will start at Blackwaterfoot, from Tigheanfraoch Farm to junction C147 and simultaneously at Sliddery from Bennecarrigan farm road to Sliddery bridge.

On Thursday May 9 work will start in Lagg from Clachaig Cottage to just past Clachaig Farm.

From Friday May 10, for four days, work will be undertaken at Kilmory near the Wishing Well before various sections of road are repaired in Kildonan lasting from Wednesday May 15 until Tuesday June 4.

The Ross Road, a section of £510,000, with Kildonan



Potholes at the Brodick ferry terminal exit on Market Road which are due to be repaired.

requiring £226,000 alone and the A841 between Corrie and Sannox costing £87,000.

Market Road in Brodick and the A841 between Corrie and Sannox will also be resurfaced but the dates for these are unconfirmed and will cost a further £120,000. A spokesman for North Ayrshire Council said to road users: 'I apologise for the inconvenience that these works will cause and thank you for your continuing patience and cooperation.

'Due to the existing road widths it is necessary for all works to be carried out under road closures, with works taking place during the working day between the hours of 7am and 6pm to meet the timing of material vehicles.

'Unfortunately, due to the road layout, surfacing equipment and material cooling periods, it will not be possible to open the road during the working day to accommodate through traffic at the planned locations.'

However, it is believed the start time for works may be put back to 8.30am to allow the tar lorries to get to the locations.

All works are subject to alteration or delay from unforeseen issues such as weather, ferry bookings and a number of days have been allocated for contingencies.

Details of roadworks and road closures can be found on the council website at www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/ roads-and-travel/roadworks. aspx

## North Ayrshire prepared for Euro election

Preparations are well underway to ensure North Ayrshire is ready for the European Parliamentary Elections on Thursday May 23 and a Notice of Election has been published by North Ayrshire's returning officer Craig Hatton.

It had previously been unclear if the UK would be required to take part in the European elections while Brexit negotiations were underway. Following last week's developments, it became clear an election would be required unless the UK reaches an earlier agreement to exit from the European Union.

Along with counterparts across Scotland, the returning officer and his team in North Ayrshire have been aware of the potential for these polls for some months and have been preparing behind the scenes.

Mr Hatton said: 'We have a good track record at successfully delivering elections at relatively short notice – most recently with the UK Parliamentary General Election in 2017.

'The team has been laying the groundwork for a number of weeks now in the event that



## NORTH AYRSHIRE

we would be required to take part in the European elections, so we are well placed for Thursday May 23.'

Following on from the publication of the Notice of Election, prospective candidates can pick up their nomination packs and must submit them before the deadline on Thursday April 25.

The deadline to ensure those eleigible are registered to vote in the European elections is Tuesday May 7.

New postal vote and postal proxy applications, and for changes to existing postal or proxy votes, must be made by 5pm on Wednesday May 8. The deadline for receiving new applications to vote by proxy (not postal proxy or emergency proxies) is 5pm on Wednesday May 15.

If anyone hasn't already registered to vote, go to www. aboutmyvote.co.uk to find out how to register online.

The European Elections will be held between 7am and 10pm on Thursday May 23, with the count being held on Sunday May 26, and the results announced thereafter.



Northern Isles under the spotlight... Game hunting on Mull... Beautiful Argyll interiors... Secrets of the Shetland Bus... Olympic treasure Liz McColgan... Rhubarb recipes...

### **8 YOUR VIEWS**

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## **LETTERS**

## **Editorial**

#### **Home truths**

It will be a disappointment to everyone that the plans for affordable housing in Brodick will not go ahead as had been proposed.

The island is crying out for homes at prices both islanders and people who want to live and work on Arran can afford.

A lot of work is being done to try to help the situation by the new Arran Development Trust (ADT), which has already earmarked three sites for 60 affordable homes by 2021. It is also working quietly behind the scenes trying to find the owners of many empty houses on the island to try to bring these back onto the housing market.

North Ayrshire Council, meanwhile, is pressing ahead with its plans for 34 new council houses, the first to be built on the island in more than 30 years.

And while the Brodick development by Trust Housing Association may be dead in the water, it at least appears to remain committed to a project on the island, probably in Lamlash.

No one should be in any doubt that affordable housing is a major issue for the island - given the ageing population - if the economy is to grow and prosper.

#### Thought for the week

'On the first day of the week the disciples went to the tomb and they found the stone rolled away from the tomb.' Luke 24: 1

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#### **Action group** needs support

Further to the public meeting in Brodick Hall last week, we would like to extend our grateful thanks to the very many who attended and made such a positive contribution. The debate has very much confirmed the view that our ferry service and infrastructure are not fit for purpose, and that a fresh and more determined approach is required to demand action going forward.

We feel we have been given a clear mandate to progress matters, and a steering committee is now in place, and working hard to arrange an inaugural AGM. This will formally constitute an elected new body as soon as practical, which can then begin to tackle the many problems, you the public, have identified.

One thing we clearly need however is your support. Without public opinion on our side, we cannot hope to influence and convince the powers-that-be that we are speaking with one voice as an island community. To this end, you will shortly have an opportunity in local shops and online, to record your support by adding your name to our list of supporters. Please consider signing up so we can act together to demand both a proper service, and an end to the poor investment decisions that are being made on our behalf. Yours.

Gavin Fulton. Steering committee chairman

#### Blacksmith wanted

Sir, As many of your readers will

know the Arran Heritage Museum at Rosaburn in Brodick has a wonderful working smiddy. In fact that was the first part of the museum when it opened to the public 40 years ago.

For many years the museum was able, fortunately, to have blacksmiths demonstrating their skills from time to time, but sadly for the last few years it has not proved possible to find anyone to do this.

In this its 40th anniversary year the museum is very keen to have the smiddy, which is still in full working condition, hosting demonstrations again. Shoeing horses was one aspect of the work done there, but other iron work was also done on the forge. So, if there is anyone out there with the requisite abilities who could volunteer to help out on a few occasions this summer, the museum would love to hear from them.

Simply ring up 01770 302636, write, or call in and leave your details at museum reception and someone from the museum will contact you. Thank you.

Yours,

Brodick

#### **Book of ArCaS** Sir.

This year it is the 30th anniversary of the formal inception of ArCaS (Arran Cancer Support Trust). It has been a very interesting journey to bring us to the organisation we are now and many people have contributed to this. I feel it is important not to lose this heritage and to this end, am writing a 'Book of ArCaS' documenting the activities since the start.

I have the formal documents e.g. minutes, accounts etc. but they give only a hint of the interesting times and events

which make up ArCaS's history. I am particularly interested in hearing about the experiences of patients, carers and others who have used the ArCaS services. It is, after all, the human stories which make a work interesting.

Any comments or tales you would like to share with us, please send them to me via the contact button on our website, or letters can be sent to the charity shop at the pier with my name on. In view of our policy of strict confidentiality, I don't expect you to put your name on it unless you absolutely wish to.

Thank you very much for your co-operation and I look forward to hearing from you. Yours,

**Elizabeth Ross** 

ArCaS treasurer arcastreasurer@gmail.com

#### Flailing concern

Sir. As a recent visitor to Arran I was shocked by the extent to which flailing of hedges and road side trees has been used alongside the island's roads and paths. Not only is this practice damaging to trees and wildlife it is visually intrusive and indicates a lack of concern for conservation and natural habitats. The view of such damaged

roadside verges is detrimental to the wonderful visual attraction of Arran to those who visit and live on the island. We walked up to the Glenashdale waterfall- a popular place for visitors - along what appeared like a war-zone with many damaged trees and hacked branches and stems left lying. Flailing is suitable for hedges and shrubs and a crude, damaging and indeed unnecessary means to cut back trees.

I understand that there is sometimes a need to cut back

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

roadside vegetation for safety purposes but would suggest that in future this is done by more careful cutting and only in places where it is really necessary. Yours,

Karen Clarke, Edinburgh.

#### Lost lives Sir,

Re members of His Majesty's armed forces who died in service between 1922 and 1939.

I write to enquire whether, among your readers, there is anyone who, in the period indicated above, lost a family member, friend or colleague serving in the armed services, or a fellow airman, sailor or soldier, and whose family and home were in Glasgow or Lanarkshire at the time of their death.

Since that time, of course, families may well have moved elsewhere.

This request for information is for the purpose of commemorating the deaths of those serving in the armed forces in the period 1922-1939. All information provided will be treated in the fullest confidence both by myself and South Lanarkshire Council to whom the information will be conveyed and who will contact all respondents.

Should any reader wish to communicate with myself my contact details are below. Alternatively, he/she may wish to get in touch directly with the chief executive of South Lanarkshire Council by writing to the Council HQ, Almada Street, Hamilton ML3 1AA or by telephoning the council bereavement services there on 0303-123-1016. Yours,

E Allan (ex-RAMC), 94 Franklin Place, Westwood, East Kilbride G75 8LS.

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John Lauder

#### **The Arran Banner** Saturday 20 April 2019

## NEWS 9

## PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK





The seas around Arran have again been busy with warships in the past few days as Exercise Joint Warrior draws to a close.

Banner reader Peter Yates of Catacol sent this picture with the caption: 'Residents of Catacol woke to find we had a new neighbour this morning. HDMS Thetis taking part in Exercise Joint Warrior anchored in Catacol Bay.'

The following day he discovered the frigate had been joined by HNoMS Hinnoy and mine sweeper FGS Dillingen in the bay.

## Arran musicans help band take top award

#### by Colin Smeeton editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Two pupils at Arran High School were celebrating this week after being part of a band that scooped top honours at a national festival.

Cerys Herapath and Freya Campbell are members of the North Ayrshire Schools' senior concert band which won a platinum award, the highest accolade on offer, at the National Concert Band Festival (NCBF) held at Manchester's Northern College of Music last weekend.

#### Impressed

The senior band took to the stage on Sunday and impressed the judges with a tough programme consisting of Choreography, by Robert Sheldon, Just As You Are, by Rob Wiffin, and Arabesque, by Samuel Hazo – a demanding selection with a variety of styles presented within each work.

Matthew Chinn, musical director of the senior band, said: 'I have had the pleasure of conducting the band at seven NCBF national finals in successive years, but the performance on Sunday

#### GP and pharmacy Easter opening

NHS Ayrshire and Arran is urging Arran residents to familiarise themselves with GP and pharmacy opening times to be prepared for any medical concerns and requirements over the Easter holiday period.

Doctors' surgeries on Arran are open today (Friday) and, in the only



The North Ayrshire Schools' senior concert band pictured with their platinum award the day after their Manchester performance.

evening at the RNCM stands out for me as being really quite special.

'The performance given on the day was bursting with energy, emotion, control, colour and musical interpretation well beyond their years.

'The platinum award is testament to the countless hours of individual practise, ensemble rehearsals, commitment and determination of every one of the young musicians.'

The junior concert band lifted a gold award at the festival after they gave impressive performances

departure from normal opening hours, will be closed on Monday April 22. Tomorrow (Saturday) all pharmacies will be open as normal, except Arran Pharmacy, Shore Road, Whiting Bay. On Easter Monday the following pharmacies will be open on the island: Arran Pharmacy, Lamlash, Arran – open 9am-3pm; Arran Pharmacy, Shore Road, Whiting Bay, of At Twilight, by Tyler S Grant, Infinity and Beyond, by Philip Sparke, and Fires of Mazama, by Michael Sweeney the previous night. Caroline Amos, head of service (inclusion), education and youth employment, said: 'We would like to congratulate our junior and senior concert bands on these most impressive results at the weekend.

'We have a wealth of musical talent in North Ayrshire's schools, and events such as this one give young people the chance to shine and receive the recognition they truly deserve.'

Arran – open 11am-2pm (pharmacist 1pm-2pm only); Arran Pharmacy, Brodick, Arran – open 9am-3pm.

#### New dog classes

The next session of dog obedience classes will start on Wednesday April 24 at 12.30pm in Whiting Bay village hall. Anyone who wants more information can call Margaret Kay on 600858 for details.



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### 10 **NEWS**

## New book of Arran tales is a soaraway success

by Colin Smeeton editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The newly published book Arran: Travels, Treasures and Tales is proving to be a huge success.

A large number of people bought a copy at the first book signing and talk by the author at Auchrannie Spa Resort in Brodick on Tuesday.

Author Ian McMurdo gave a talk to the audience and provided them with some insight into his inspiration and reasons for compiling the book.

Not just an Arran wide tour of the island – seen through the eyes of the author – the book also contains the stories of many of Arran's characters



and life-long residents. The expansive narrative covers interesting topics, ranging from ancient historic battles, outrageous pranks, unsolved murders to drunken sea-fishing exploits and a number of humorous, and some slightly bizarre, tales that have passed into Arran folklore.

A further book signing session at the Book and Card Centre showed further demand for the increasingly popular book, and readers eager to get their hands on a copy can get theirs signed today (Friday) at 2pm at the Brodick Co-op where Ian will be happy to inscribe it.

A final book signing will take place on Thursday April 25 at 5pm, in the Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot. Copies can also be bought

from Amazon or www. carnpublishing.com Author Ian McMurdo talks the audience through his inspiration for the book. o1\_B16book02; Edinburgh visitors Fiona and Gary McGregor purchase two books. 01\_B16book01.





Cutting the ribbon on a refurbished quiet room are Pamela Gibson, left, project lead; Susan Thompson, charge nurse Ward 2F; Robert Leggate, chairman of the Crosshouse hospital volunteers; Angela O'Neill, associate nurse director; and Ann McArthur and Vicky MacRae of the project team.

## Quiet rooms will be visitors' sanctuaries

NHS Ayrshire and Arran has launched a project to overhaul the relative rooms at its hospitals at Crosshouse and Ayr into comfortable and peaceful quiet rooms that can act as a sanctuaries for visiting families.

The project has been financially supported by the hospital volunteers on both sites and the staff lottery fund. The project is being led by Angela O'Neill, associate nurse director and a project team, supported by senior nurses, estates services, and health and infection control teams.

Together they have planned a large-scale improvement project to create quiet, non-clinical rooms that will be a safe haven for families, friends and carers who wish to spend precious time with seriously ill loved ones in hospital. The first room to be completed is attached to Ward 2F at Crosshouse. Flooring and ceiling tiles have been replaced, walls have been redecorated, along with the installation of air conditioning and dimmer lights in order to give a home-

ly feel. Furniture in healthcare friendly fabrics has been put in, including an armchair that pulls out into a single bed. There will be some more finishing touches added by senior charge nurse Susan Thompson, including wall canvases, furniture and scatter cushions. The quiet room door plaques, which will identify the rooms, have been hand-crafted by the team at Acorn Furniture Workshops at Ailsa Hospital.

Angela said: 'Our existing relative rooms were not meeting the needs of our families at what can be a difficult time for them. We really wanted to use this project and the funds we have so kindly received from the hospital volunteers and the staff lottery fund to renovate the quiet rooms on a large scale.

We hope that they will be a private, peaceful place for families and carers to stay if they need to be close to a loved one, and a comfortable, calm place for our health care teams to talk with families.'

Most wards in the hospitals have access to quiet rooms, which can be used for a few hours or even a few days, depending on circumstances. A total of 25 rooms will be refurbished during the course of 2019.

## Temporary repair should ease Brodick noise issue

Scottish Water has carried out temporary repair work to underground pipes on Brodick shorefront which will help reduce noise for neighbours.

There have been increasingly complaints over a temporary pumping station on the shorefront at Brodick – opposite Arran Active – which has been there for more than six months. The unsightly diesel generator was also due to be removed this week ahead of the Easter holiday weekend. Scottish Water says that

one of the problems is that pipework, some of it 23ft (7 metres) underground, has



The yellow top of the electric pump can just been seen at the foot of the 20ft well. 01\_B16water01

moved making repairs difficult. But two weeks ago the water authority admitted to the Banner that the work was taking longer to repair than it had hoped. However, last Friday workmen completed the installation of an electric pump and, while temporary, it should reduce noise and allow the surface equipment to be removed.

Scottish Water Α spokeswoman said: 'We have recently replaced the temporary pump on the shorefront in Brodick with an electric pump that is much quieter when in operation. This temporary measure has been taken to address some local concerns about noise. We would like to reassure residents that the permanent repair work will be completed as quickly as possible and thank them for their patience and understanding.'



Scottish Water staff undertaking repair works in Brodick.

## Geology talks at museum

Arran Geopark geology ranger Bob Gooday works with the team which is preparing the bid for Arran to become a recognised geopark. Every alternate Wednesday this summer he will be giving a short talk on Arran's unique geology at the Arran Heritage Museum.

Held in the museum's Geology Room, starting at 1.30pm, and repeated again at 2.30pm, each talk will last about 30 minutes. A very capable communicator, in that time he will provide his audience with a brief introduction to the unusual geology of the island which attracts so many students of the subject year after year.

There is no special charge for these events other than normal museum entry charges. These are opportunities not to be missed, and the first of the talks will be on Wednesday April 24.

**GETINTOUCH** email us at editor@arranbanner.co.uk telephone 01770 302142

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### 12 **NEWS**

# Kayak club's open day is a success

Novices had the chance to get their feet wet at Arran Kayak Club's open day held last Friday at the yacht club in Lamlash.

The day attracted a lot of interest with dozens of experienced kayakers from the mainland also making the trip with their boats to join in the fun over the weekend. They included former junior world champion marathon kayaker Danny Matthews. He gave those who turned up to give the sport a go a training briefing which included the use of the club's latest piece of training equipment, The Landlubber, which was christened on the day. He also took to the sea to give a demon-



Andy McNamara on The Landlubber gets some encouragement from Danny Matthews. 01\_B16kayak03

Danny Matthews pops the champagne at the naming of the club ergo, christened The Landlubber.



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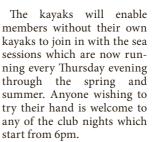




Two novices give the sport a go under the watchful eye of an experienced kayaker. 01\_B16kayak04

stration in his impressive boat. Novices then had the chance to try out a variety of boats on the water, which was a little choppy for beginnners, using the club's three new sea kayaks as well other boats the club and members own, including some they have just been given by Arran Outdoor Centre.

There were also stalls, refreshments, gourmet burgers and a programme of activities, including yoga-for-kayaking sessions given by Gillian during the day.



The weekend of events was supposed to include a sea rescue exercise with Arran RLNI on Saturday, but this had to be cancelled because of the weather. However, some kayakers got the chance to



Fellow kayakers watch Fiona Clarke at the flare demonstration. 01\_B16kayak06

set off some live flares in a training exercise on Lamlash beach. Two sets of kayakers then set off on expeditions around the Arran coast with one group heading for North Sannox and the other round to Pirnmill.

The club now has 60 members and is going from strength to strength due to the recent merger of Arran Kayak Club with the yacht club.

The weekend events were organised by club chairman Andrew Rigby and vice chairman Luke Furze, who put in a huge amount of work, but Andrew said it had been worth it as it had been an excellent weekend and something the club hoped to repeat, hopefully on a bigger scale next year.

'We would like to thank Kari-Tek for bringing over kayaks to try and to the Arran Outdoor Centre for the gift of the new boats. Club nights are now being held every Thursday and anyone interested is welcome to come along and have a try,' Andrew said. Award-winning Family Butchers Established 1870 Retail • Wholesale • Frozen

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Mrs Buchan, Lamlash





Arran was famous for its livestock, and when the staff of AJ Wilson came over to set up the Livestock market in 1979 they brought with them, Jimmy McDowall to buy Prime Cattle for his shop in Paisley. "Jimmy" was well known for his hospitality but above all his butcher meat and service to the island has never been forgotten. When Jimmy retired his two sons Gordon and Graham continued to grow the business in Arran but when Gordon was taken

ill they decided to sell the business to help preserve the family name. Iain and Alison Telfer had sold

their Farm and Farm shop in 2014 and they had already set their sights on McDowalls. When they managed to acquire the business in 2015 they were very

well qualified for McDowalls. With many years of experience as Farmers and Butchers and accumulating 32 Golds and 16 Silvers for their Ready to Eat, Ready Heat and Ready to Cook Products they seen McDowalls as a great opportunity to extend their ambitions and bring more awards to this great business. Since acquiring the business they have already won several SFMTA Awards including their highest achievement, winning the 2017 Diamond Award for Scotland with a "McDOWALLS" Steak and Sausage Steak pie.

Operating as the "McDowall Brand" Iain and Alison have taken the Business Forward by investing into the wholesale and retail sectors of their business. With a good team of Qualified Butchers including their son Cameron they are working together to ensure



"McDowalls" remains an Arran household name for years to come.

That is why this year McDowall Butchers are celebrating 40 years of supplying Arran. Catering for Residential Houses, Care Homes, Resteraunts and Hotels. All stock bought is "Scottish Farm Assured". Quality meat from Ayrshire Farms. Unfortunately there is only a limited supply of Prime Cattle on the island but with Arran in Ayrshire, McDowalls deliver a high standard, keeping the Providence that their customers expect.

To help us celebrate this major achievement we want to offer to every reader of the Arran Banner a 10% discount on their first order with us and if you like and share our Facebook page you can have a chance to win a  $\pounds 50$  meat pack of your choice.





## **LEISURE &** YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARRAN ENTERTAINMENT Modern retake on Greek myth staged in Brodick

A Brodick performance of the Greek myth Achilles has been included in the Company of Wolves' present tour of Britian and will take place in the Brodick hall next month.

Following a sell-out Edinburgh Fringe run, the heart-stopping solo, a fusion of storytelling, dance and song which re-imagines the Greek myth, has been on tour since the end of last month and will continue until the start of June.

Created and performed by Ewan Downie, the Brodick performance of Achilles will be a new take on the classic that is woven together with ancient Greek song, text and movement.

It tells the story of the greatest hero of the Greeks during the Trojan War, how his best friend is killed by the champion of the Trojans, and his desperate grief, and his terrible vengeance.

Ewan, who performed in Song of the Goat Theatre's

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Fringe First and Herald Archangel winning Song of Lear, said: 'I've been fascinated by the Greek myths since an early age, and in particular by the story of Achilles.

'His rage at the killing of his best friend, his failure to face his grief, and his bloody revenge have always struck me as deeply disturbing and at the same time deeply human.

'We live in a time where the public display of rage is a daily sport.

'Achilles shows us where this particular rabbit hole goes.

"When we snuff out our empathy and give primacy to our hurt emotions, each one of us is capable of great destruction.

'The piece has been made in layers, laid down like sediment over time, and although the layers relate to each other, they don't necessarily give the same perspective on the story. 'T've tried to leave gaps

for the imagination, for the

audience to fill in their own versions of the story.'

Tickets for the performance on Saturday May 4 are available online at www.arranevents.com or at the door on the evening at Brodick hall.

The show starts at 7.30pm and costs  $\pounds$ 12, but is free for young people of school age.







at BRODICK HALL

Saturday 27th April 11.00am - 3.00pm To book a table please contact Kat: 01770 600110 Email: katsock@yahoo.co.uk

## **Brass Fusion visits Arran**

Everybody likes a brass band – the music puts a spring in the step, gets feet tapping to the rhythm and the tunes are uplifting. Now Arran can look forward to the arrival of Brass Fusion, one of the best brass combos in the land – coming to the island for a short tour next month.

Its players are steeped in the tradition of brass bands but its music also looks to extend the experience of the audience by providing a wide variety of musical styles from light classics to pop, traditional brass and virtuoso music – enjoyable and fun to listen to and watch.

#### Great brass band

The band can be heard at the Old Byre Visitors' Centre, Machrie on Saturday May 18 at 11.30am to 1pm followed by a performance at the Arran Distillery, Lochranza from 2pm to 3.30pm.

Sunday May 19 sees Brass Fusion at the Arran Heritage Museum, Brodick – marking the opening of the museum's summer season – at 2pm to 3.30pm and after that, at the Douglas hotel on its splendid patio at 4pm.

Brass Fusion won't be charging a fee, although contributions will be welcome, members just play for their satisfaction and everyone's enjoyment.

Don't miss them, it is a great brass band.

### LEISURE 15

## **Bird report flying off the shelves**

With a great team effort, the Arran Natural History Society has got the annual bird report in outlets throughout the island for the Easter holidays.

With a stunning photograph of a Red-breasted Merganser by Alex Penn on the front cover, it is yet another eye-catching annual report.

The Arran Bird Report 2018 is a must for anyone interested in the birds of Arran.

It includes information on all species seen on Arran, a month by month summary of what was around last year, the impact of weather on birds, information on ringed birds, reports on some of Arran's bird projects plus some wonderful photographs. The uniqueness of Arran is reflected throughout the report, including the number of UK protected birds that share our island with us, as well as the differences between here and the adjacent mainland.

More than 300 contributors sent in more than 18,000

records on 152 species, one of which had only been recorded for the third time on Arran, namely little egret.

This is the 13th annual report that I have compiled. The first one was compiled

by Maggie H Dunn in 1980. There have been many changes over the years. For example the first report was five pages long, cost 25p and had contributions from 45 people who recorded 141 species, including king eider and roseate tern, neither of which appear in the latest annual report. There has been a bird report every year since then. The complete collection of

annual reports is available for access from the archivists at the Arran Heritage Museum. Maggie Dunn did the reports from 1980 until 1991, the last two years were jointly with Tristan ap Rheinallt. Tristan did it himself in 1992. From 1993 until 2005 Audrey Walters compiled the annual reports. I took over in 2006.

This year will be the 40th consecutive annual Arran



The new 2018 Arran Bird Report is out now.



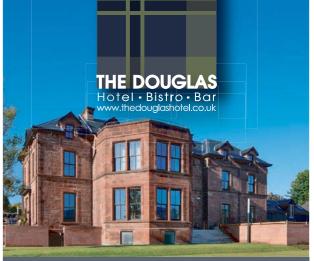
Maggie Dunn, who compiled the very first bird report, now lives in Corriedoon. 01\_B16bird02

#### Bird Report. That is quite an achievement. In contrast the production of annual bird reports from adjacent areas is becoming problematic. For example, the last Clyde

report was produced in 2015 and that was for 2008 and the last Ayrshire report was produced in 2017 and that was for 2014. Hopefully with the on-going support of its many contributors, both residents and visitors, the Arran Bird Report will continue.

This latest version of the annual bird report is now available from shops and other outlets throughout the island for the bargain price of £5 or through the Arran Natural History Society by contacting arrannaturalhistorysociety@gmail.com Make sure you get your copy as only a limited number have been produced.

Jim Cassels



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## Corrie Film Club presents ...

Happy End (2017, Germany, 100 mins, Cert 15)

Corrie Film Club's April offering by master director Michael Haneke is 'as gripping as a satanically-inspired soap opera, a dynasty of lost souls'.

When her mother falls ill under mysterious circumstances, young Eve is sent to live with her estranged father's wealthy relatives in Calais. Trouble is brewing however as a series of inter-generational back stabbings threaten to tear the family apart.

#### Infidelities

Meanwhile, distracted by infidelities and betrayals, they fail to notice that their new arrival has a sinister secret of her own. This biting satire on middle class family values is set in the shadow of the European refugee crisis and has a cast of top acting talent including Isabelle Huppert and Toby Jones.

See this film on Sunday April 28 in Corrie and Sannox village hall at 8pm. Anyone is welcome. Members please note change of date.

### **16 LEISURE**

## What's or in association with Isle of Arran Brewery www.arranbrewery.com

#### **Every day**

Trout Fly Fishing Brodick Castle and Gardens Octopus Centre Octopus Centre - tennis Brodick Mini Golf Soap making and candle dipping Public swimming

Swimming lessons Arran Brewery

'Portals' by Mike Bailey Heritage Museum

### Happy Easter

#### Saturday 20th April

Flow Yoga Cadbury's Easter Egg Hunt Arran Malt Rugby Sevens Lamlash Early Years' Spring Fayre Teddy Bear Picnic The Lifeboat Shop **Rink Bowls** Daffodil Tea Family games Gym Induction Fun in the pool Pop-up Evening, BYOB (bookings only) Live Music – Michael Clark Jazz Café Band Live Music - Trongate Rum Riots Over-21s' Disco

### Sunday 21st April Live Music – Michael Clark

Cadbury's Easter Egg Hunt Handmade Easter Craft Fayre and Lunch Special Offer Tee Room, Shiskine 12.00 noon -3.30pm Teddy Bear Picnic Eggstatic Easter, Kids Easter Egg Hunt The Lifeboat Shop Eggstatic Easter, The Big Bunny's Treasure Hunt Family games Gym induction Fun in the pool Live Music - Trongate Rum Riots Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Folk Music Session

#### Monday 22nd April

Morning Fitness Cadbury's Easter Egg Hunt Teddy Bear Picnic Live Music - Mic Clark Adult Tennis JogScotland mixed ability running group Circuit training Live Music – Fatman and the Angel Tae Kwon Do, Adults and over 10s

#### **Tuesday 23rd April**

Body Blitz (booking essential) Healthy Outdoors Team Eco Savvy Energy Surgeries Eco Social **Rink Bowls** Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Bridge class (beginners/improvers) Arran Pace Makers - Jog Scotland beginners' group

Loch Garbad, bank fishing Open 10am-5pm Old Pavilion, Lamlash, centre open seven days, 10am-5pm Old Pavilion, Lamlash, open 7 days, any time Open seven days, 9am - 5pm-ish, ALL weather Arran Aromatics, Brodick, 10am-4pm Auchrannie Spa Pool, Brodick, 10am - 4pm (last entry 3pm) and 6pm-8pm (last entry 7pm) Auchrannie Hotel Pool, Brodick, Monday -Thursday, 4pm-6pm Open Monday, Friday and Saturday, 10am-5pm Tuesday-Thursday, 11am-4pm. Tours daily at 2pm Arran Active, 10am - 5pm Arran Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am - 4.30pm

> Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am Brodick Castle, 11am - 4pm Ormidale Park, Brodick, 11.30am Lamlash Church Hall, 11.30am - 2.30pm Brodick Castle, 1pm - 2pm Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall, 2pm - 4pm Auchrannie Games Hall, 2-3pm Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 2.30pm Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3-4pm The Shore, whiting Bay from 6pm Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm Whiting Bay Hall, 8pm - 11pm The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

> > Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 1pm-4pm Brodick Castle, 11am - 4pm Brodick Castle, 1pm - 2pm Lochranza Centre, 1.30pm Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm Lochranza Centre, 2.30pm Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm-3pm Auchrannie Spa, 2.30pm Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm-4pm The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm Brodick Church Hall, 5pm-6.30pm Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

> Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am-10.30am Brodick Castle, 11am - 4pm Brodick Castle, 1pm - 2pm The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm Blackwaterfoot, 5pm Whiting Bay, 5.30pm Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6pm-7pm Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm Brodick Church Hall, 7pm-8.30pm

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am-10.30am Brodick Country Park Ranger Centre, 10am-1pm Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10am-3pm Eco Savvy Shop, Whiting Bay, 11am-3pm Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm Brodick Church Hall, 2pm Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm-4.30pm Ormidale pavilion, Brodick, 5.30pm

Steak Night - 2 Ribeye Steaks and bottle of wine Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 5.30pm Gym induction Auchrannie Spa, 5.30pm Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6pm-7pm Arran Hockey Club - juniors (5-14yrs) Flow Yoga

ISLE OF

Netball Scottish Country Dancing Eco Savvy Food Share Trev's Pop Music Quiz Traditional Music Sessions

#### Wednesday 24th April

Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am-10.30am Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.30am-10.30am Yoga Hvdrofit Brodick Castle and Country Park, 9.30am-1pm Brodick Gardens Volunteers Coffee Morning Archives and Genealogy Service St Bride's Church Hall, Brodick, 10.30am - 12noon Arran Heritage Museum,10.30am-12.30pm & 1.30pm-3.30pm St Molios Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am Chair Yoga Exercise Class Knit and Blether Bay Wool and Crafts, Whiting Bay 11.30am-1.30pm Whiting Bay Hall, 12.30pm Arran Heritage Museum,1.30pm and 2.30pm Dog Classes Talk introducing Arran's Unique Geology Arran Pace Makers Running Group Brodick, 5.30pm Shiskine Hall, 6pm Flow Yoga Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm juniors 6.30-7.30pm, advanced juniors & adults, AHS, 7.30pm-8.30pm Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm Live Music - Tim Pomeroy Tae Kwondo Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Family Pub Quiz The PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm Rock 'n' Pop Bingo Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

#### **Thursday 25th April**

Morning fitness Chair Yoga Exercise Class Lamlash Church Hall, 2pm Scottish Episcopal Church, Whiting Bay, 3pm - 4pm Blackwaterfoot, 5pm Music Matters Arran Churches Together Prayer Group Adult Tennis Steak Night - two steak dinners and a bottle of wine Body Blitz (booking essential) Badmington, all welcome Arran Hockey Club - Seniors (12 yrs +) Eco Savvy Food Share Eco Savvy Food Share The Drift Inn Quiz Tommy's General Knowledge Quiz

#### Friday 26th April

Yoga Hydrofit Coffee Morning Adult Tennis Gym Induction Number 16 Restaurant 'Pop-up' s only) The Shore, Whiting Bay from 6pm Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm Advanced (Advanced Class) Arran High School, 7.30pm-8.30pm Pop-up Evening, BYOB (bookings only) Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Tae Kwondo Live Music – The Sensational Biff Simpson Friday Night Quiz Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm

#### Saturday 27th April

Flow Yoga Katstock Crafts presents Craft Fair Pirnmill Primary Spring Fayre Rink Bowls Family games Arran CND group meeting Gym Induction Fun in the pool Goatfell Torchlight Charity Challenge Number 16 Restaurant 'Pop-up' Pop -up Evening, BYOB (bookings only) Live Music – Nicola Evans Live Music – The Sixth Note Over-21s' Disco

Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am-10.30am Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.30am-10.30am Corrie and Sannox Village hall, 10.30am Blackwaterfoot, 11am Auchrannie Spa, 5.30pm The Arran Lodge, Lamlash 5.30pm - 9pm Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30-10.30am

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6.15pm-7.15pm

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm-8.30pm Brodick Ormidale Pavilion, 8.15pm Kilmory Hall, 8.30pm

Ormidale Pavillion, Brodick, 10.30am

Drift Inn, Lamlash, 5pm-9pm

Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Shiskine Hall, 7pm

Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9pm

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am Brodick Hall, 11am - 3pm Pirnmill Primary, 12noon - 2pm Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm Auchrannie Games Hall, 2-3pm Ormidale Pavilion, 2.15pm Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 2.30pm Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3-4pm Rangers Centre, Brodick Castle, 5.15pm The Arran Lodge, Lamlash 5.30pm - 9pm The Shore, Whiting Bay from 6pm Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

Corrie Hall, 6pm Arran High School Gym, 7pm-8pm Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm Whiting Bay Eco Savvy Hub Shop, 9pm Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm Brodick Bar, 9pm

BREWERY

The run up to Easter this year has already proven to be a particular busy one with most of Arran villages experiencing an early influx of visitors who are populating restaurants, visiting local attractions and making good use of the facilities on offer.

Ensuring that visitors have plenty to see and do, businesses on Arran have been preparing well in advance to make sure that visitors and locals will be spoiled for choice when it comes to activities and events to enjoy over the Easter weekend.

With so much on offer across Arran, planning your Easter itinerary will be remarkably simple for individuals, families, sports fans, thrill seekers and foodies, not to mention an unexpected surprise or two.

Starting the Easter celebrations the newly reopened Brodick Castle and Country Park have two popular and fun filled activities taking place every day from today, Friday April 19 to Monday April 22. The well known Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt, that takes place from 11am to 4pm, will allow for children and adults to explore the extensive gardens and castle grounds while searching for clues to be in line to win a chocolate prize. Between 1pm and 2pm a more sedate teddy bear picnic will allow visitors to enjoy a picnic lunch in relaxing surroundings with storytelling and games on offer.

Saturday April 20, is sure to have visitors attending a number of events across the island with three major activities all taking place on the same day.

Starting in Brodick the historic and well attended Rugby Sevens will be taking place at the Ormidale sports grounds starting at 11.30am. Competing for the Arran Society of Glasgow Cup will be the Isle of Arran Rugby Club and seven other rugby teams from across the west of Scotland who will all help to secure an entertaining afternoon of rugby.

Nearby, at Lamlash, between 10.30am and 4.30pm the Community of Arran Seabed Trust will be hosting their annual Easter Eggstravaganza with Curly's Easter Hunt at the Octopus Centre. Children will collect clues and, after solving a puzzle, will be able to win a bag of Easter treats.

Next door the Arran Coastguard Rescue Team will be hosting their open day, where children can see some of the equipment that is used in conducting rescue activities as well as meeting the crew who use them. The Arran Coastguard team are currently recruiting and their open day might be enlightening for anyone who may be interested in joining the team or even for anyone that has an interest in what they do to save lives and keep our coastline a safer place.

While just along the road the Lamlash Early Years spring fayre is being held from 11.30am to 2.30pm in Lamlash church hall. There will be great selection of local stalls along with homemade soup, sausage rolls, tea/coffee and baking and there will also be a raffle.

> Also for Easter a daffodil tea is being held in Lochranza and Catacol village hall on Saturday from 2pm to 4pm with lost of children's activities, as well as tombola, cards, gifts, home baking, table tops and a raffle - not forgetting the famous Lochranza cream teas.

For those for whom religion plays an important part in Easter celebrations, a number of religious services will be held across the island for all denominations. Further details of these can be found in the church section of the Arran Banner.

In addition to all of the large organised events a number of retail shops and outlets will also be hosting special menus, Easter offers and special events over the Easter weekend. Our selection, with further details can be found over the following few pages.



### Shiskine Golf Clubhouse Grill & Tee Room HANDMADE EASTER CRAFT FAYRE & LUNCH SPECJAL OFFER

Sunday 21st April 12.00-3.30pm A selection of makers sharing their handmade gifts

**20% OFF ALL MEALS** A lovely way to spend a few hours.....

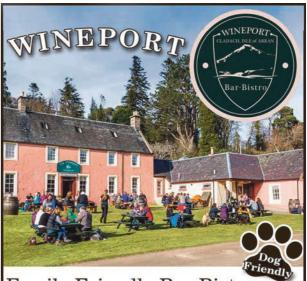


Scottish Charity Number SC002089 Telephone 01770 302636

Archaeology, Social History, Clearances, etc., and visit the 19th Century Cottage, the 1940's Schoolroom, the Blacksmith's Forge, and lots more.

Archive and Genealogy researchers welcomed (on Wednesdays only from 10.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm or by appointment).

Children's Quiz and Play Area. Riverside Picnic Area. Gift Shop. Lovely Snacks and Meals at Café Rosaburn.



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

#### **Arran Rugby Sevens**

Following last year's Festival of Rugby, Isle of Arran Rugby Club return to their usual Easter weekend format of hosting an annual seven aside tournament at Ormidale Park on Saturday April 20. Besides the home team, competing for the much coveted Arran Society of Glasgow Cup first presented in 1982, will be Marr RFC, Ardrossan Academicals RFC, Garnock RFC, Glasgow Academy RFC, Irvine RFC, Bishopton RFC and Strathaven RFC. Festivities commence at 11.30am with a beer tent and hot food available from noon. This event is well worth visiting to support your favourite team and to enjoy what promises to be an entertaining afternoon of rugby.

#### **Brodick Castle**

Brodick Castle and Country Park have two fun-filled activities happening every day this Easter weekend from Friday April 19 to Monday April 22. The Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt takes place from 11am to 4pm where visitors can take their whole family to treat their loved ones to the magic of the Cadbury Easter Egg Hunt. Follow bunny's clues and complete your adventure to win a delicious chocolatey prize. The price is only £2 per child but property entry fees apply to non-members. Pre-booking is not required.

In the afternoon, between 1pm and 2pm, the Teddy Bear Picnic is open for families and children to take their favourite teddy bear and a blanket along to this fun family event. They also have some special activities planned, including storytelling, photo opportunities with their resident teddy bears, games and more. Bring your own picnic or pick up supplies in the café. This event is free with country park entry and pre-booking is not required.

#### 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 a week, serving delicious lunches from 11am. Menu options include the popular Arran battered fish and chips, the ever-requested steak ciabatta with homemade peppercorn sauce, or lighter options like the Skipness hot smoked salmon and crispy caper 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 after climbing Goatfell, or by the big roaring fire on colder days while sampling the local beer. In addition to alcoholic beverages they also serve tea, coffee and a range of fresh homemade baking for those looking for a morning or afternoon tea option. If you would like to book a table you can phone them on 01770 302101 or email info@wineport.co.uk

#### **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) that would otherwise have ended up in landfill or been destroyed. By selling excess clothing it means Bell's can get day to day clothing for all the family at reduced prices with all items being sold well 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 renowned for providing day to day clothing for all and if they don't have it they will try and source it for you. You can find Belle's of Arran on Facebook or by telephoning 01770 303787.

#### **Arran Active**



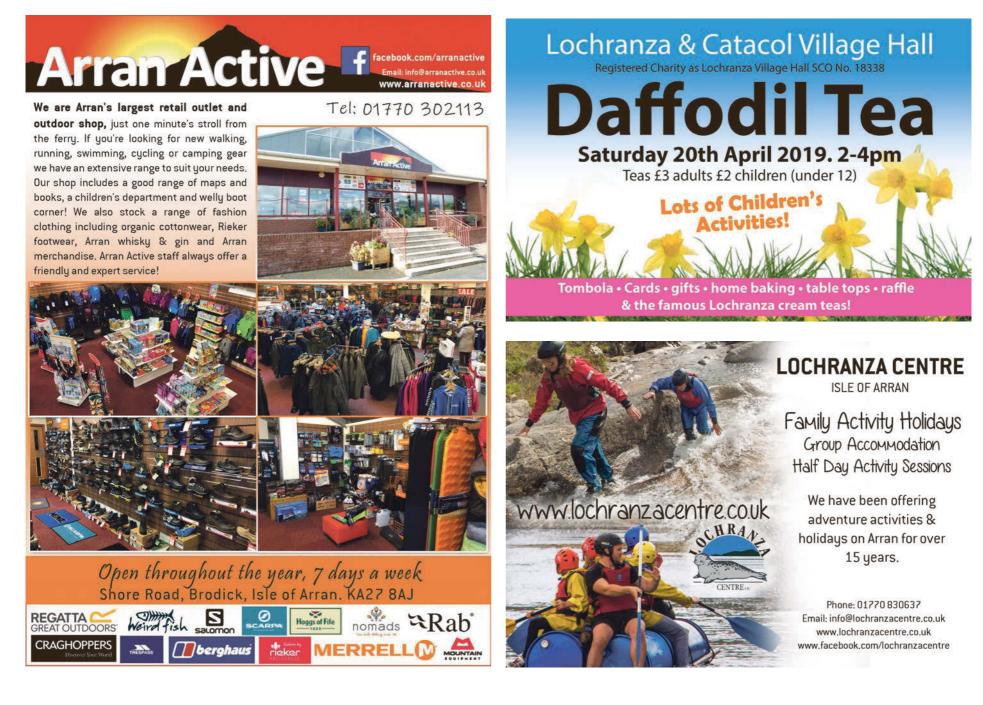
Arran's specialist outdoor shop has a huge amount of space and an equally large range of outdoor clothing, footwear, rucksacks and equipment. With a great deal of new stock having just arrived it may be worth your while to pay them a visit. In addition to the expected range of active items they extend further than just that and also stock ladies fashion wear, pet supplies, toys, Arran gifts and an impressive collection of whiskies and gins, perfect for any occasion. 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

#### **Taste of Arran Shop**

Right next door to Buntys you will find the 'famous' mini golf in Brodick and 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

#### Buntys

Buntys is next door to Little Rock restaurant and The Taste of Arran Shop and Arran Active. 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 gift shopping. Tel: 01770 303970, Facebook@ buntysarran

#### Arran Coastguard

HM Coastguard is responsible for the initiation and coordination of civil maritime search and rescue within the United Kingdom search and rescue region. This includes the mobilisation, organisation and tasking of adequate resources to respond to persons either in distress at sea, or





to persons at risk of injury or death on the cliffs or shoreline of the UK.

The Coastguard Rescue Service provides a national coastal network of professional Coastguard Rescue teams made up of volunteers and managed by full time staff. The teams are available 24/7 and all teams are trained and equipped to deliver search and rescue operations including casualty care, water safety and rescue, rope rescue and mud rescue

If you have ever thought of a future in search and rescue they will be hosting an open day on Saturday April 20, between 10.30am and 4.30pm where you can meet a full time Coastguard officer to find out more about what they are responsible for and what they do to make our seas and coastline a safer place. You can also meet your local Coastquard Rescue Team and learn about some of the techniques and equipment they use to carry out coastal search and rescue and how you can get involved.

#### Chameleon

At Chameleon spring has well and truly arrived. They have a shop packed full of comfortable stylish fashion brands for ladies of all shapes and sizes, with many at very affordable prices.



## tags

**Open Monday** to Sunday From 5.30pm Last orders 8.15pm All major credit cards accepted



Tel: 01770 830600 www.stagspavilion.com

In addition to their wide selection of clothing they also have a range of sandals and seasonal shoes from leading footwear brand Fly London, plus scarves and other accessories.

If you have a special occasion coming up this summer why not visit to see their range of co-ordinates. They can take the stress out of finding that perfect outfit without any need to leave the island. The helpful staff at Chameleon will help you put something together that will make you truly unique on the day but that you can also enjoy again and again.

Whether you like to just browse uninterrupted or need some help they would be delighted to welcome you. Find them in Lamlash in the old Post Office on Hamilton Terrace where they are open six days a week, Monday to Saturday, from 10:30am to 5pm. Tel: 01770 600201.

#### **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. There 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



Ever thought about a future with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency? Come along and meet a full time Coastguard officer to find out more about what the MCA is responsible for and what we do to make our seas and coastline a safer place. Also meet your local Coastguard Rescue Team and learn about some of the techniques and equipment we use to carry out coastal Search & Rescue and how you can get involved. For information call – 01770 600622 or 07768 083466 In the event of a coastal emergency always dial 999 and ask for the Coastguard

## Easter Weekend at **Brodick** Castle!





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 or visit www. oldbyre.co.uk

#### **Crafts and Company**

The Tee Room at Shiskine Golf Club will be hosting a Crafts & Company Fayre featuring a wonderful range of handmade gifts made by talented artisans over the Easter weekend. They are also offering a 20 per cent discount on all meals so it is an ideal time to visit and a picturesque place to spend some quality time this Easter weekend.

#### Lochranza **Outdoor Centre**

Lochranza Centre CIC offer courses and accommodation for everyone. You can book in for a short B&B stay or an all inclusive family activity holiday. They also offer guided walks, adventure activities and education studies for schools, youth organisations and general interest groups.

Their Geology and Landscape Visitors Room, part of the Arran Geopark, will be open over the Easter weekend from Thursday April 19 to Monday April 22 from 9am until 5pm. On Sunday April 21 go and join the Easter Bunny for their Egg Hunt at 1.30pm and the Big Bunny's Treasure Hunt at 2pm. They also have a fantastic interactive sandbox for the kids.

You can pop into Lochranza Centre anytime and pick up their information sheets and maps for some orienteering, geocaching or a mystery trail through the village. After some initial instruction they will point you in the right direction and off you go. Cost is £5 per family and a prize is won every time.

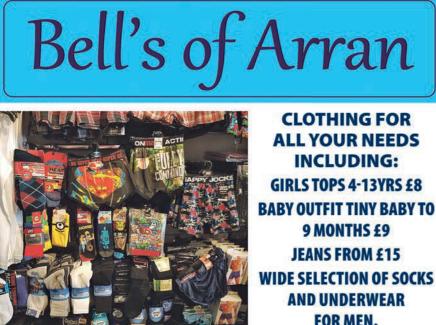
Lochranza Centre CIC can be contacted on 01770 830637 or by email at info@lochranzacentre.co.uk

#### **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. 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 and be sure to book ahead of time. Please call 01770 830600 to secure your desired date and time. Further information about this much loved local restaurant can be found at 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





FOR MEN.



Shore Road, Brodick. KA27 8EN Tel: 01770 303787 Find us on facebook @bellsofarran



Opening Hours: Monday - Saturday 10:30 am - 5 pm 28 HAMILTON TERRACE, LAMLASH Find us on **f** 01770 600201 WWW.CHAMELEONARRAN.COM

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: 01770 830650

#### COAST

ti s

Join COAST for their annual Easter Eggstravaganza -Curly's Easter Hunt at the Octopus Centre, Lamlash, from 10:30am to 14.30pm, for a suggested donation of £2 per child.

On Saturday April 20, Curly the Octopus will hide pictures of himself around the grounds and in the centre. Hunt them down, find the letters they hold, and spell out an Easterthemed word to win a bag of eggcellent treats.

A visit to the educational and fun Octopus Centre is sure to be a highlight for children this Easter and it can be combined with a visit to the Arran Coastguard station where the HM Coastguard Rescue Team are hosting their open day next door.

#### **Arran Heritage Museum**

Whether you are a first-time visitor or one our regulars, the Arran Heritage Museum at Rosaburn on the outskirts of Brodick must surely come top of your list of places to visit this Easter. This year is its 40th year of opening to the public.

Spread over a large site with a children's outside play area, picnic area and café, there is so much to see that you could easily spend a family day here, and entry is not expensive.

The 19th century cottage, the 1920's schoolroom, the blacksmith's shop, farm implement shed, archaeology room, and the room explaining Arran's unique geology, are only a few of the many attractions.

Time spent at the museum will quickly help you to appreciate so much more about our lovely island and its past and present. It's open seven days a week from 10.30am to 4.30pm.

#### Lochranza Daffodil Tea

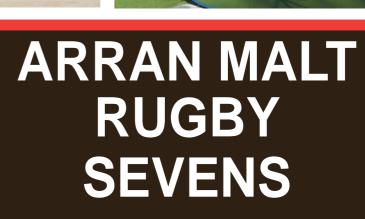
With glorious yellow and white daffodils in full bloom wherever you look, this year's Lochranza Daffodil Tea is all set to welcome visitors and mark the end of winter. Go along and join them for Arran's best and most colourful celebration of spring. The afternoon will be as lively and action-packed as ever, offering treats for the whole family. There are stalls with mouth-watering home baking, tempting gifts, the fun of finding the very thing you didn't know you needed from the serendipity table, hand-made greetings cards, the suspense of the tombola stall, an exciting raffle, and of course the world-famous Lochranza Cream Tea of freshly baked scones lavishly topped with cream and jam. Take your family, take your friends. The Lochranza Daffodil Tea will take place at the Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall on Saturday April 20 between 2pm and 4pm. Tea is £3 for adults and £2 for children under 12.

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





Saturday 20th March Starts 11.30am Hot food & Beer tent



Quality knitwear, clothing & accessories, leather and sheepskin.

**OLD BYRE VISITOR CENTRE** 

Machrie Isle of Arran KA27 8EB Tel:01770 840227

www.oldbyre.co.uk



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



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

### 22 HERITAGE

## THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO Saturday April 17 1999

#### **Corrie hall**

Corrie is the latest village to make use of Millennium grants to do up the village hall, which is nearing completion.

It is spending around £150,000 putting a new roof on the existing premises and extending the front which will see the rooms at the side incorporated into the main hall, giving a much bigger space.

A large extension is also being built at the north side to house a new kitchen and committee rooms.

In addition to these is a doctor's surgery, which will have its own entrance and be self-contained, although the waiting room will be in one of the hall rooms.

#### **Same price**

Buy a small car and you will pay less on the ferry, but not for much longer. For quite soon all cars will cost the same, be it a Mini or a stretch limo.

This came out at the AGM of the ferry committee on Tuesday, which was open to the public. In fact two members of the public were actually there, quite a lot considering they have been kept at arms length for so many years.

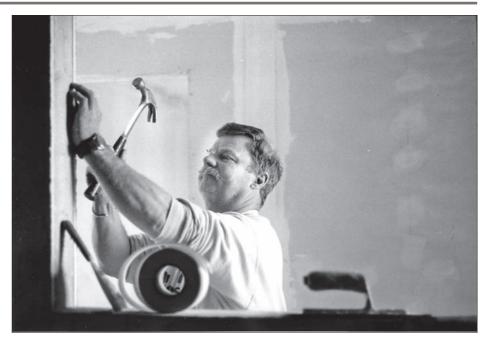
What it means is that there will be one car price up to five metres, which includes virtually every car. Those people with small cars will have to pay more and, perhaps those with big cars may be paying less. The standardisation is being rolled out across the network with Arran one of the last to have it implemented.

#### **Boathouse blues**

An appeal to the secretary of state by Roy Moss that the Boathouse in Brodick be allowed to expand to two and half times its size and operate a fast food outlet has this week been turned down.

The Scottish Office reporter in summing up said he had taken into account that the fast food outlet across the road had closed. He also said it was not his place to comment on the fact that the Boathouse was built on sand, but he did imply that this prevented it from being considered a permanent structure.

He concluded that the North Ayrshire Council planners had originally refused the extension for good reasons and he upheld that decision.



Keith l'anson of John Corbett Construction works on Corrie hall where refurbishment is nearing completion. 01\_B16twe01





In the finals night at Blackwaterfoot Squash Club Jamie Murchie beat Alexander Judge 3-1 in the boys' final, while Shiona Murchie beat Leah Turnbull 3-0 in the girls' final. 01\_B16twe04 and 01\_B16twe05



Gary Borland, Tim Francis and James Burns help load up the island's contributions to be sent to Kosovan refugees. 01 B16twe02



Neil Hewson, right, on the flugel horn with Arran Brass and David Thornton, on the left, in concert last weekend. 01\_B16twe03

### **ADVERTISING 23**

## CLASSIFIEDS

#### PAINTER AND DECORATOR



## Private sales

#### free listings for items under £50

Garden equipment DOUBLE CORDED PETROL STRIMMER, any reasonable offer. Please contact 01770 700388

Sports equipment POWAKADDY FREEWAY **ELECTRIC** GOLF TROLLEY. Second hand in good condition. C/w 36 hole battery & mains charger. Brolley holder

fitted £49.00. Also avail spare used 36 hole battery to suit. Good condition. £15.00. Tel 07889 491020

#### Outdoors

SUZUKI 5HP OUTBOARD - £375 Adult kayak £175 Please call 07704 857341 or 01770 860257

## PUBLIC NOTICES

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

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

Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy Et Communities) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 10.05.19. Any representations received will be open to public view.

#### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) 19/00250/PP; Silverbank, Whiting Bay, Brodick, Isle Of Arran; Subdivision to for dwellings, including erection of extension to rear and alterations dwellings, incluc to outbuildings.

Craig Hatton Chief Executive Cunninghame House IRVINE KA12 8EE



## BANNER CLASSIFIEDS



## litho and digital printing 01586 554975

Main Street/Longrow South, Campbeltown email: staff@krispprint.co.uk www.krispprint.co.uk

## **Exchange Wanted**

PROPERT

From 2 bedroom house in Lamlash to a 1 bedroom house in Brodick. Please contact: Arran Banner PO Box 44, Douglas Centre, Brodick, KA27 8AJ

#### Office to Let

Lamlash **Newly Refurbished All Facilities** Parking Wifi The Old Havbarn

, Park Terrace



#### South Kiscadale - By Whiting Bay



Approximately 4.97 acres (2.01 Ha) of equestrian grazings with a purpose built timber field shelter / hay store / tack room on a concrete base. Water supply and drinker. Lovely setting and easy access from main road. Offers over £35,000.

Tel. 01786-833800. www.bairdlumsden.co.uk



### **24 RECRUITMENT**

## RECRUITMENT IN ASSOCIATION WITH

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT IN THE ARRAN BANNER:

TELEPHONE: 01770 302142 Lines open: Mon to Fri 9am- 5pm

FAX: 01770 302021

lease remember to give your name, address, postcode and phone number



#### Exciting opportunity to join our team at Brodick Castle!

We have several Part-Time and Full-Time positions available on our Catering/ Admissions and Education/Retail teams.

Please see the link below if you're interested or

know someone who might be!

https://www.nts.org.uk/Charity/Vacancies/

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YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited. Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications. 1 Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes. 2 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.

reasonable notice. 4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax

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7 The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any deriver caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any deriver ission does not materially detract from the advertisement.
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Publisher. All adventising on a credit basis titles be agreed with the Publisher in advance. 11 Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.

been raised with the original invoice. 12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions





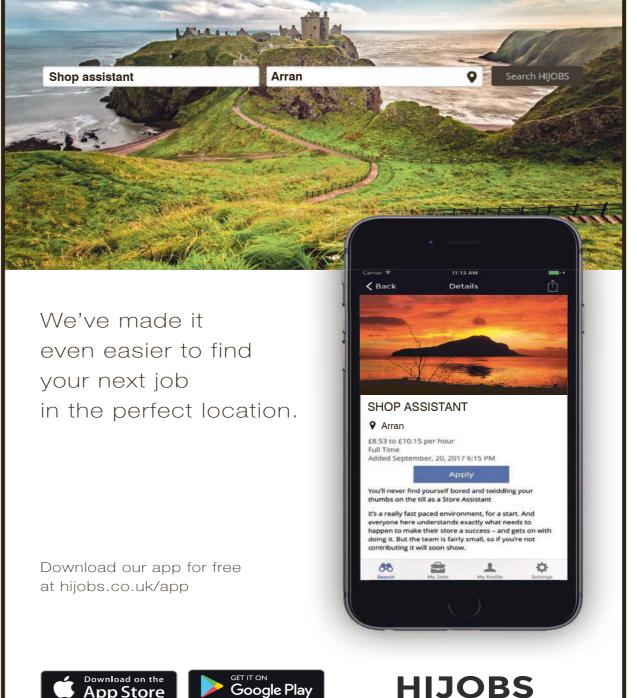
#### John Thomson Construction

#### **HGV Driver Class 1 Required for timber haulage**

Experience with timber loading equipment would be an advantage but not essential. Training will be given as required. This is a full time position with overtime available and excellent earning potential.

John Thomson Construction Ltd Tel: 01770 600242 Email: mail@thomsonconstruction.co.uk





#### **CHURCH NOTICES**

**ARRAN CHURCHES** TOGETHER Friday 19th April **Good Friday** Walk of Witness Service 2pm. Holy Cross Church followed by procession through Brodick to Brodick Parish Church. Thursday 25th April Prayer Group, St. Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church, Whiting Bay, 3pm - 4pm.

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 21st April **Easter Sunday** Lochranza and Pirnmill Churches a Joint Easter Service together at 10.15am at Lochranza, praise led by ARCO string group. Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship. Brodick Church, 10.30am Morning Worship Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer Meeting, 12noon Morning Worship There will also be a Service of Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland, Charity Number: SC014005 Good Friday - 19th April There will be a short service of quiet reflection led by the Prayer Group at 7pm Tea and coffee will be served after the service. Sunday 21st April Easter Sunrise Service at 5.50am, for an expected sunrise of 6.02am, there will be a short service to celebrate Christ's resurrection down on the beach at Sandbraes. Breakfast will be served in the Church Hall immediately afterwards. All welcome

Family Worship for Easter Sunday will be conducted by the minister. Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am. Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service. All very welcome to celebrate this most wonderful of days. There will be a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm

#### ARRAN FREE CHURCH **OF SCOTLAND** Sunday 21st April Shiskine at 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie) Brodick at 6pm

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH (Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church) St Margaret's, Whiting Bay. **Good Friday - 19th April** Liturgy of the Passion at 10 am Peter Hemming Holy Saturday - 20th April The Vigil of Easter at 6pm Easter Sunday - 21st April Sung Eucharist at11 am Revd Adrian Fallows Coffee after service All Welcome

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND** (continuing) Sunday 21st April Morning Service at 11am Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick Evening Service at 6.30pm 5 Glen Road, Brodick All welcome

#### CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share' Sunday 21st April **Easter Sunday** Mrs Liz Clarke Kilmory at 10 am Lamlash at 11.30 am All welcome, including families; children's area Scottish Charity SC015072

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF** FRIENDS (QUAKERS) Sunday 21st April Sunday Worship at 11am 'Heather Lodge<sup>7</sup>, Brodick Left of the Douglas Hotel, opposite the ferry terminal. Telephone 700346, 820223 Everyone Warmly Invited

#### ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH Minister: Rev Vince Jennings Sunday 21st April Breakfast at 10am before Service at 11am Ormidale Pavilion Tea and coffee after the service Wednesday at 7.30pm Home fellowship group for bible study and praver. Telephone 600222 Everyone warmly invited

#### HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC **CHURCH**

Good Friday - 19th April Walk of Witness Service at 2pm Liturgy at 7pm Holy Saturday - 20th April Polish Blessing of Food at 11am Easter Vigil at 9pm Sunday 21st April Easter Morning Mass 9.30am and 11am





The all-weather tennis courts at Blackwaterfoot



#### Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday April 4, Summer Cup, CSS 66. 1 Allan Colquhoun 71-8=63, 2 Paul Jameson 77-11=66, 3 Stuart Campbell 73-6=67. Best scratch, Dougie Macfarlane Magic twos, Allan Colquhoun and Paul Jameson at 16th, Stuart Campbell at second, Alan Smith at 13th. Magic twos ballot, hole 13 drawn, winner Alan Smith.

Sunday April 7, Carpenter Rose Bowl, CSS 63. Winner, Serge El Adm 78-15=63, runner-up, Alan Smith 78-11=67. Best scratch Ian Bremner 76. Magic twos Alan Smith @16th. Magic twos ballot, hole four drawn, no winner.

Thursday April 11, Summer Cup, CSS 64. 1 Andy Smith 80-16=64, 2 Stuart Campbell 71-6=65, BIH, 3 Dougie Macfarlane 65-0=65 BIH over Paul Jameson and Scott Campbell. Best scratch Dougie Macfarlane 65. Magic twos Dougie Macfarlane @13th, Norrie MacIntyre @14th, Callum Rae, Andy Smith, Jim Young all @16th. Magic twos ballot, hole 16 drawn, three winners.

Sunday April 14, Hugh Hutchison Greensome. Winners, John O'Sullivan and Graeme Andrew 79-15.0=64, runners up, Ian Bremner and Andy Smith 82-10.6=71.4.

Ladies' Section: Wednesday April 10, Medal round one, CSS 64, PAR 65, 10 played. 1 Jackie Winship 64, 30, 2 Anne MacVicar 66, 19, Sheena Murchie 68, 15. 3

Scratch Sheena Murchie 83. Fixtures: Saturday April 20, Glenisle Mixed Fours, choose own pairings and arrange time with starter. Sunday April 21, Easter Mixed Texas Scramble, noon ballot. Thursday April 25, Summer Stableford, arrange own groupings.

#### Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday April 10, Summer Trophy. A good field of 26 played in the latest round of the Summer Trophy and despite it only being April, it felt very much like summer. Cloudless skies and a light breeze made for enjoyable golf on a course that is really coming on, with dry fast greens really starting to exert themselves.

Conditions were reflected in the scoring with a bunch of players returning scores in the low to mid 60s. Perhaps surprisingly CSS stayed at 63. 1 Ben McGregor 11, 60, 2 Jamie Macpherson 5, 61 and lowest gross, 3 Scott Murray 11, 62, ACB, 4 Wayne Dale 28, 62. Magic twos David Brookens at the second, Danny Head at the third and Jamie Macpherson at the 11th.

Sunday April 14, Medal. A total of 16 played on yet another fine April morning. A chilly east wind made for a day on which to move briskly and scoring was equally brisk with CSS coming down to 62 and 11 cards returned in the net 60s. 1 Jamie Macpherson 5, 60 and lowest gross, 2 Kevin McAleney 12, 61, 3 David Brookens 12, 63, 4 David Morrison 11, 64 ACB. Magic twos Kevin McAleney at the 13th, Danny Head and Jamie Macpherson at the 17th.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPORT 25**

## Anyone for tennis?

Anyone looking for junior tennis coaching need look no further than Shiskine Golf and Tennis Club in Blackwaterfoot where the season is back in full swing.

Junior tennis coaching will start from Wednesday April 24, P1-3 4.30pm to 5.15pm , P4-7 5.15pm to 6pm and costs f1.50 a session.

Outdoor club sessions have also started again for the season and players meet from 5pm on Monday and Thursday evenings and at 11am on Friday mornings. Everyone is welcome - 50p per session for members, £3.50 for non-members.

The club has just sadly had to say goodbye to its club chairman and star player Benjamin van Rensburg, who's off to Mauritius – he will be missed but the club is still going strong.

If anyone wants more details of the coaching or the club nights, they should contact Fiona Clarke on 860454 or 07983 535836, or email clarkefm@hotmail.com

Fixtures: Sunday April 21,

Captain's Prize, yellow tees

Stableford with one draw

at 10am. Cards for games

outwith the draw to be in for

the prize-giving in the club-

house at 2.30pm. Wednesday

April 24, The Richard Parfitt

Stableford, all-day compe-

tition with optional draw at

Summer Cup, 39 played,

CSS 65. 1 Iain MacDonald

68-7=61, 2 Charlie O'Neill

82-18=64 ACB, 3 Iain Keen

75-11=64 ACB. Scratch Ewan

Sunday April 14, British Legion 36 holes, 11 played, CSS round 1 64, round 2 65.

1 Gordon Hendry 67+65=132

ACB, 2 Ali Hume 65+67=132,

Fixture: Sunday April 21,

British Legion Cup, notice

Wednesday April 10, Summer

Cup. 1 G McKelvie 69-10=59,

10=63, 3 A McDonald 78-

board or 8.30am and noon.

**Corrie Golf Club** 

scratch, 2 A Napier

3 Brian Smith 63+73=136.

April

10.

**Brodick Golf Club** 

5.30pm

Wednesday

McKinnon 66.

14=64 BIH. Magic twos, four but none magic.

Saturday April 13, 18 Hole Sweep. 1 D Logan 71-11=60, 2 A Smith 74-11=63. Magic twos, D Logan.

Fixtures: Saturday April 20, Sweep, ballot at 2pm. Wednesday April 24, Summer Cup, ballot at 5pm.

#### Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday April 9, Peter Sutton/ Lady Mary sweep. 1 Phil Betley 64, 2 John Pennycott 66, 3 Ron Woods 71.

Fixtures: Tuesday April 23, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary, tee off at 12.30pm and 5.30pm. Tuesday April 23, Ladies Kiscadale. Thursday April 25, Ladies Kiscadale. Saturday April 27, Ladies Kiscadale, to be played at Brodick.

#### **Arran Golfers Association** Friday April 26, Seniors Bowl

at Machrie Bay Golf Club.

Friday May 3 and on Friday May 10, all at 5pm. The draw is as follows: Lochranza v Whiting Bay, Shiskine v Lamlash, Corrie v Brodick. Machrie get a bye in the first round.

#### Volunteer race stewards needed

73-

If anyone can spare a couple of hours next Sunday (April 28) the Isle of Arran Ormidale 10K needs help.

Orghanisers are looking for more volunteer race stewards to man the course for the race which more than 80 runners will take part in starting at noon at the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick.

The race is run on public roads and the course is basically an out-and-back on the A841 northwards to Merkland Point, with a short diversion up the Knowe Road at the start, to get the distance exact.

Because it is run on public roads, stewards are required, mainly to warn traffic at junctions, and also to marshal runners. If anyone can spare two hours on the Sunday lunchtime to assist with marshalling, please contact Tommy Gilmore on 01770 302246.

## 26 SPORT



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.

If you wish to have more attempts, you must enter on separate coupons.

**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 adline

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

#### **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

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

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

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

decision resis 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





The goalkeeper has no chance with this shot. 01\_B16camp07

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I I Т Т The children were encouraged to colour their hair for the final day of camp. 01 B16camp05





The goalkeeper is poised to save the penalty - which he did. 01\_B16camp03



Waiting their turn to take a penalty kick. 01 B16camp06



Lots of activity going on during the training camp. 01 B16camp08



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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.

Address
Tel No.

#### **RECENT WINNERS:** LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...

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



The two entries who got nearest the ball and each receive £25 are:

**G** Milliken Glasgow **K MacInnes** Oban

# Battling Arran end season with a tough fought draw

Arran Ladies Stathclyde Uni 2s West District Division 3

Arran Ladies travelled to Glasgow for their final, and much re-arranged, match of the hockey season on Sunday.

Thanks went to Ali Mckie as match secretary for all the work she put in to organise the game with all the multiple changes it had incurred over the 12 weeks from when it was scheduled to be played, and the other 19 games on Arran's fixture list for the 18/19 season.

Captain Lorraine Hewie led a less-than-full squad onto the pitch in Glasgow, with only seven fully fit players and two players sporting injuries – herself included with badly strained ligaments. These nine ladies went up again 13 young women from Strathclyde University with the hope that they could keep the goal difference below five, to make it worth not conceding the game.

Lorraine was clear with her team that most would be covering two positions and her mid-field players would have to play their socks off in order to get the ball up to the opposition's 'D', with two players missing on the pitch to help them. Unable to run rings round the defenders, twist and turn as she usually did, Lorraine told her team mates she would only be able to move into the goal area and wait for the ball to get to her before trying for goal.

The Arran ladies took their positions with a determination to not let themselves or Lorraine down, as their captain in her last match.

Facing the full university team of 20-somethings, was a daunting task but from the first whistle Arran showed what they could do – against any odds. The solid defensive line Lorraine had planned from the start came under attack immediately as the home side took the first pushback.

However, they only got as far as Helen Thomson, covering the right back and right mid positions as she blocked the first running challenge and sent one of her fabulous rocket-shots back up the pitch, to young Mia Walker on the right wing, giving her the opportunity for Arran's first challenge on goal.



Judith Ross finds herself surrounded by three Strathclyde Uni players in the reverse fixture held last November. 01\_B46hockey07

Time and again the young ladies on the home team tried to break through Arran's back line for a chance on goal. Ellie Wood, playing centre back and centre mid, linked so well with Hazel Malakoty, playing centre mid and centre forward, that it was hard for the opposition to work out who was covering which part of the pitch at any one time. Ellie stopped passes, stole the ball off the end of attackers' sticks and smacked it away from Arran's goal area with her usual excellent stick skills and calm and controlled attitude.

#### Formidable

Any ball coming down the left-hand side of the pitch was met with the formidable pairing of Jenny Stark as left-mid/forward and Elyse Aitken in left defence and left-mid. Both girls were fast and efficient at obtaining the ball, with speed and strength from Jenny, who when she was on the ball rarely lost it in any challenge. Elyse kept close watch over her area and anticipated many a forward pass from the home team's mid-fielders, getting to the ball before its intended player. Never losing control, even when two of three players were pressing towards her, Elyse found the spot she wanted the ball to get to and sent it there to be collected by her team mates further up the pitch.

With 18 minutes gone in the first half, Ellie cleared the defensive line, sending the ball past a wall of Strathclyde Uni girls to the top of Hazel's stick. Hazel ran the ball into the defensive quarter and passed to Jenny who had moved into an attacking position in front of the opposition's goal. With a flick of her stick she sent the ball past the wrong-footed goalkeeper and put Arran in the lead in this most incredible game. What a boost to the morale of the Arran Ladies, who realised that losing the match was not a foregone conclusion. With a quick take from the reset whistle, the Strathclyde forwards pressed hard towards the Arran goal. Any ball which did break through was soon repelled by goalkeeper Ali Mckie, who was as efficient on the floor and she was on her feet in sending the ball back out of her 'D'.

With five minutes to go, the home team were awarded a

penalty short corner and although their first attempt was thwarted by Ali's excellent saving skills, the returned ball came in repetitively from the numerous Strathclyde players positioned around the goal. Their efforts were eventually rewarded, as with some slick switch passing, they managed to even the score to 1-1.

#### Confident

Lorraine's half time team talk was full of congratulations to her team for all their efforts in the first half and to keep on doing the same in the next half. Encouraging Ellie, Elyse and Helen to come further up the pitch to help out in mid-field was certainly appreciated by Jenny, Hazel and Mia. She felt confident that between Ali in goals and Pauline Reid as sweeper club umpire and former goalkeeper herself - covering the 'D' this would be a safe move.

It certainly helped the flow of the game and although the home team did score the first goal in the second half 10 minutes from the whistle, Arran came back with a strong press forward, getting the ball to Mia, who was waiting on the right wing to send a cracking pass into the opposition's 'D', past several defenders and straight to Lorraine's stick, who was able to deflect the ball towards the goal and under the foot of the Strathclyde keeper.

Not happy with 2-2, Arran repeated their first goal play, with Ellie belting the ball up-field to Hazel and Hazel onto Jenny and Jenny swiping the ball past the goalie to take Arran back into the lead once more with 10 minutes to go.

It was such a good goal one of the Strathclyde team was heard to say, 'Arran deserved that goal' as she asked her own team to step up their efforts.

The Arran Ladies fought for every ball, but with the two Strathclyde subs being able to give their team mates a break, allowing the home team to field rested and refreshed players to go against the tiring visitors, little errors began to creep in.

This in turn allowed the home forwards to press strongly towards the Arran goal in the last five minutes of the game and score the equaliser from an advantage play in the Arran goal. The game ended 3-3 but the Arran Ladies felt jubilant in coming away with an additional point and another three goals to take them to fifth place in the Division Three table.

It was a game they never expected to win with so few able-bodied players, but just goes to show how well they supported each other on the pitch on the day.

Hazel Malakoty was awarded dame of the game again for her outstanding efforts in mid-field by the Strathclyde team. Pauline had been able to play as Santa was able to umpire for the team in her place (AKA David Mackie from Clydesdale Hockey Club – but the team prefer Santa!) It certainly was a gift of a game to play in, she said, as she thanked him for stepping in to help out.

The Arran Ladies are now resting from competitive games over the summer, but have a couple of friendlies lined up, so training will still be going on throughout the summer months.

Anyone who would like to go along and join this positive friendly club, who train both male and female players, is welcome on a Thursday night at the Ormidale Astroturf pitch from 7pm to 8.30pm.

## THE ARRAN **NRT**

#### **INSIDE THIS WEEK:**

Season is back in full swing at Shiskine Golf and Tennis Club

Battling Arran end season with a tough fought draw



The youngsters who took part in the camp with the SFA coaches. 01\_B16camp01

## Youngsters put through their paces at Easter camp



Young footballers were put through their paces at the SFA Easter camp last week at Arran High School during the school holidays.

The three coaches were Adam Munro, Stuart McCall and David Coperwheat, who enjoyed their first camp

A youngster prepares to strike a penalty as the others wait their turn. 01 B16camp02

experience on Arran. The camp was well attended with 45 children in attendance ranging from P1s to P7s with several high school pupils also helping out.

During the week the children got to take part in small sided matches, penalty shoot-outs, fun challenges and exciting football games with many turning up with the traditional coloured hair on the final day.

More photos on page 26



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