



Scottish tapas and locally inspired cocktails in a relaxed, fun environment.

open for dinner Thursday - Monday

for reservations call 01770 302234 or book online at www.eighteen69.co.uk

THE ARRAN BANNER

Arran
ESTATE AGENTS

THE OLD POTTERY, KINGS CROSS
GUIDE PRICE £330,000
01770 302310
arranestateagents.co.uk

Zoopa
rightmove

Find the man who can

ARRAN TRADESMAN SPECIAL STARTS ON PAGE 11



All day street light mystery is solved

Residents ask why there is a light that never goes out

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The mystery of why street lights across Arran have been switched on for 24 hours a day for almost a month has been solved.

It seems a central fault means that if the lights were turned off there would be no street lighting at all.

The burning question was answered by a council boss who at first suspected the street lamps were switched on for daytime repairs, started reporting the fault in their areas after noticing that lights were still on after several weeks.

A fault throughout the network, which allows for the remote operation of the lights, has been blamed and the contractor, who operates the systems for the council, has had to leave them switched

on 24 hours a day rather than them not being on at night.

And the problem extends further than Arran. Cumbrae and large parts of mainland North Ayrshire, which are controlled by the same central management system, are also affected.

Allaying any fears that rate payers would be footing the bill for the electricity wastage, North Ayrshire Council clarified the situation by explaining that street lighting is not metered and that the energy costs are billed based on an inventory of units which is updated annually with the energy companies.

This means that the same bill is paid regardless of whether there are faults on the system resulting in lights being out or even switched on all the time.

Continued on page two

Sun shines for teddy bears' picnic



Joining hundreds of children visiting Brodick Castle over the scorching holiday weekend to enjoy the Easter celebrations, these youngsters took some time out in the shade to go and introduce themselves to the two giant resident bears. For full coverage of Easter at the castle, turn to our picture special on page four. 01_B17bears01



John Thomson Construction Ltd

HOUSE BUILDING | CONSTRUCTION | HAULAGE | AGGREGATES | PLANT HIRE

New homes for sale - Cairnhouse, Blackwaterfoot: A stylish range of six newly constructed 4 bedroom villas in a picturesque location in Blackwaterfoot. Two 2 bedroom bungalows also coming soon.

Coming soon - Springbank, Brodick: 3 bedroom, detached villa in an elevated position in central Brodick, overlooking Brodick bay.

www.thomsonconstruction.co.uk | 01770 600 242

Cairnhouse, Blackwaterfoot



JUST 3 REMAINING

McEwan Fraser Legal

Call us for a competitive quote for:

- Aggregates (incl. chips, stone, gravel & sand)
- Ready Mix Concrete
- Skip Hire
- Haulage & Operated Plant Hire

Also available at JTC in Lamlash:

- Building Materials & Supplies
- Timber Workshop
- Petrol & Diesel Station
- Lamlash Motor Garage



CalMac web booking improvements

CalMac has introduced new features to its web booking system to make online reservations and changes to bookings even easier for customers.

Among the improvements is the ability to save payment details and to make date, time and passenger number changes to reservations online.

CalMac's head of customer services, Alan Hood, said: 'Feedback from our customers told us that they wanted an improved ability to "self-serve" tickets, and modifications to bookings, 24 hours a day. We are delighted to introduce two new functions to our ticketing and reservations system to address these needs.'

The saved payment cards feature will enable registered customers to securely store their payment card details which will remove the need to key in full card details for subsequent online bookings – streamlining the booking process for customers.

Player in air dash to hospital

A player at the Arran Malt Rugby Sevens had to be airlifted to hospital by helicopter during the tournament last Saturday.

The Glasgow Accies player, known only as John, suffered

concussion in an early match. He was initially treated by the on-call doctor and off-duty paramedic staff who decided he urgently needed to go to hospital on the mainland.

The Scottish Air Ambulance



The air ambulance takes off from Ormidale Park. 01_B17injury02



The concussed player is stretchered to the waiting helicopter. 01_B17injury01

Service was called and a helicopter and medical team were dispatched, which saw play suspended, as the crowd and teams at Ormidale Park retreated for the arrival of the air ambulance on the field of play.

The player received further treatment before

being stretchered on to the helicopter and flown to Crosshouse Hospital near Kilmarnock where he was kept in overnight but released the following day and is said to be 'doing well'.

Care

Nigel Campbell of Glasgow Accies told the Banner: 'We

would like to thank the medical staff for the care and attention shown to John. It was much appreciated.'

Two Arran players were also taken to hospital in Lamlash during the tournament. For full coverage of the sevens, see centre spread and sports pages.

Street lights mystery solved

Continued from page one

Owing to the widespread nature of the fault and a determination to resolve the issue as rapidly as possible – and to conserve electricity being wasted – the council has been overseeing a large-scale operation to rectify the situation.

Teams are having to visit the areas affected and manually remedy the automation which, thankfully for them, can be undertaken by groupings of areas rather than individual street lights.

A North Ayrshire Council spokeswoman said: 'Our LED street lighting is managed remotely using technology which allows the lighting to be controlled centrally.'

'However, our contractor

who operates the system is currently experiencing difficulties and is unable to provide the same level of remote service. This is affecting lighting on the mainland, Arran and Cumbrae where lighting has required to be set to "on" in the interests of public safety.

'This is a temporary solution and our officers are currently working extremely hard across our entire lighting network to manually amend affected lighting to operate to a more appropriate time schedule.'

'We envisage these works to be completed in the next few weeks.'

In 2014, the council approved plans to spend over £4 million on the programme to

replace old-style street lighting across the region with modern LED bulbs which use less electricity and reduce maintenance costs.

While the previous bulbs needed to be replaced every four years, the new bulb technology only needs replacing every 20 years. The cost of keeping the 13,500 lights burning in North Ayrshire, in 2014 was £870,000 per annum but it was estimated that due to energy savings the replacements would pay for themselves in six years.

At the time Arran had a reported 527 lighting units which were replaced and switched to the central management systems as part of the infrastructure replacement programme.



A row of street lights in Brodick which have been lit for nearly a month. 01_B17lights01

FROM 48p PER WEEK

THE ARRAN BANNER

Now delivering news
7 DAYS A WEEK ONLINE

www.arranbanner.co.uk

INCLUDES FULL website access and a DIGITAL EDITION of the newspaper



Work to the outer structure of the new Lagg distillery now complete.

The first whisky flows at Lagg distillery



The latest major milestone in the building of the Isle of Arran Distillers' new Lagg production plant has been reached, with distillation now under way.

Construction of the distillery and visitor centre is also now entering its final stages. Work to the outer structure is now complete, and inside many of the elements of internal design are starting to come together. But a slight delay, due to some unforeseen building delays, means it will now open in the early summer.

However, for whisky enthusiasts, the story has already begun. The first middle cut of spirit was recorded on Tuesday March 19 at 2.35pm. Following this, the commissioning phase has now been completed and cask number one was filled on Wednesday April 10.

Cask number one, a sherry butt exclusively reserved for members of the Lagg Cask Society, has been filled with a heavily-peated (50ppm) spirit, at a filling strength of 63.5 per cent.

This spirit is expected to mature into the rich, earthy, smoky, Lagg Single Malt which will be very different in character to what the distillers currently produce at their original distillery in Lochranza.

Master distiller James MacTaggart said: 'It's incred-

ibly exciting to be taking the very first steps in producing what will eventually be a magnificent Lagg whisky and something truly unique to anything we've produced previously.'

Whisky lovers can be part of the exciting story of the Lagg distillery, by purchasing one of the first casks to be filled at the distillery, and becoming members of the Lagg Cask Society. For more informa-

tion, visit www.laggwhisky.com.

Over half of the casks reserved for this offering have now been sold, and with distillation under way, it is expected that each of the 700 casks for the society will soon be filled.

It is expected that, once open, the Lagg distillery and visitor centre will increase total visitor numbers at both sites to over 200,000 by 2020.



Whisky distillation is now under way at Lagg.

Stallholders sought for Makers' Festival

Brodict Castle is on the lookout for stallholders for its first Makers' Festival from Friday July 12 to Sunday July 14.

There are many elements to this event to include a makers' exhibition, workshops, demonstrations, walks, talks, performances and stalls. There will also be exhibition of the 52 Stitched Stories project.

The event is restricted to stallholders who make the majority of their own items celebrating work that is 'handmade on Arran'.

This is YOUR paper...

Send your photos and stories to editor@arranbanner.co.uk



YOUR ISLAND HAULAGE SPECIALISTS

- Daily Deliveries to and from Arran
- Glasgow Depot – Arran's drop-off point!

T: 01770 302777

ARRAN HAULAGE

E: info@arranhaulage.co.uk

Home Farm, Brodict Isle of Arran KA27 8DD

Sunshine sees Easter crowds



Welcoming the young egg hunters were Victorian egg hunters Matt Jebb 'Thaddeus' and Cameron Hall 'Mortimer'. 01_B17castle02

Words and photos
by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The newly reopened Brodick Castle and Country Park enjoyed one of its busiest holiday weekends for a number of years with an extended Easter event taking place over four days and record breaking temperatures helping to draw in the crowds.

Usually just taking place over the weekend itself, the Cadbury Easter egg hunt and a teddy bears' picnic took place every day of the Easter break, including Good Friday and Easter Monday.

The format of the event remained the same though, albeit far slicker with two Victorian egg hunters, both in costume and character, welcoming the children and sending them on their egg hunting missions. After locating the clues and revealing the missing word, they - Thaddeus and Mortimer - congratulated the children and presented them with their prize, a chocolate Easter

egg. Children and parents who stopped for lunch were able to enjoy the teddy bears' picnic in the shade of a gazebo in the company of two large resident teddy bears. A life-size teddy bear, which looked suspiciously like Thaddeus in costume, engaged with the children and posed for photos with them.

On Sunday, when temperatures were at their peak at 22C degrees, the popular Wacky Races drew in the crowds with many local faces making their annual appearance.

Taking place on the freshly manicured lawn in spring sunshine, children and adults enjoyed traditional three-legged races and sack races and the more unusual welly boot and wheelbarrow races.

Children competed in various categories to win chocolate prizes - which were dispensed with liberal abandon - and even the adults were encouraged to take part.

The usual thrills, spills and funny commentary all contributed to a lively and fun atmosphere.

In the early afternoon, judging took place for the Easter egg decorating competition which saw children, and adults, getting their hands dirty with paint and glitter to see if their creation could be judged best in their age category.

Following this, the very popular Easter bonnet competition took place with the contestants parading their inventive, colourful and amusing creations in front of the judges. Winners were presented with chocolate prizes before scurrying away to enjoy the final event of the day.

The duck derby took place on the cascading stairway leading down from the castle where a number of numbered table tennis balls were thrown down the stairs with those travelling the farthest winning nominal cash prizes.

The Easter event proved once again, to be a popular highlight in the Easter calendar and much like the castle attraction itself, all the familiar elements are still there, it is just now bigger and better.



The Arran Lodge
Arran's Largest and most popular
Self Catering House

Sleeps
25-60

The Perfect Wedding venue
Family Reunions Special Birthdays
Conferences Walking Groups

ALL ROOMS EN SUITE

The Arran Lodge
Lamlash
Isle of Arran
KA27 8LQ

www.thearranlodge.com
info@thearranlodge.com

01770 600468






Visitors learn the rules of the egg hunt from Victorian egg hunter Mortimer (Cameron Hall). 01_B17castle03



Arran Sleep Huts
Arran Lodge
Lamlash
Isle of Arran
KA27 8LQ

www.arransleephuts.com
info@arransleephuts.com

01770 600468

Budget Accommodation
for solo or group travellers

All rooms are ensuite with
the use of our cookhouse

Prices from **£35** per night room only
or make use of our **3 night offer**



Leah Jones and Shiona McGarrigle enjoyed the sunshine with children Ryan Jones, Eve and Erin McGarrigle.

01_B17castle01



Young Angus Blain of Blackwaterfoot prepares to tuck into his Easter egg.

01_B17castle08

flock to Brodick Castle



The third generation to be visiting Arran from Edinburgh are brothers David and Matthew with their wives Holly and Sarah and their five children. 01_B17castle04



Parents and children decorate eggs during the competition. 01_B17castle10



A little bit shy but happy to receive her prize was Edie with dad Andy Duke of North Yorkshire. 01_B17castle06



Brodick Castle operations manager Jared Bowers with two of the stars of the teddy bears' picnic. 01_B17castle05



Don't drop it, children set off on the egg and spoon race. 01_B17castle11



Sack racers make their way towards the finish line. 01_B17castle14



Dad Ian Blain with mum Alison are pictured with Thomas, Rory and Angus who are eating their Easter eggs. 01_B17castle09



Cousins Emily Gee of Wales and Alice Holmes from Manchester took first and second places in the Easter bonnet competition for seven- to 12-year-olds. 01_B17castle21

Tel: 01294 463 556
Mob: 0792 199 8457

MAINLAND TAXIS

01294 463 556



Glasgow City Centre..£45.00 Kilmarnock..£25.00
Ayr..£30.00 Crosshouse Hospital..£20.00 Ayr Hospital..£32.00
Ayrshire Central Hospital..£14.00
GLASGOW AIRPORT £37.00
PRESTWICK AIRPORT £25.00
EDINBURGH AIRPORT £100.00
RETURN BOOKINGS WELCOME
HOSPITAL TAXI SHARE & OTHER QUOTES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST
Friendly Reliable Service GUARANTEED

6 & 7 Seater Taxis Available on Request

Fun and games all weekend



Mum Caroline McArdle and Bonnie are delighted to win second place in the duck derby while son Mac seems less impressed. 01_B17castle25



Scarlette Wilson of Blackwaterfoot shows off her winning decorated egg and her prize. 01_B17castle22



Lucy Young of Whiting Bay won a prize for her Easter bonnet in the under-seven age group. 01_B17castle20



Teamwork is key in the welly boot race. 01_B17castle18



Arran ranger Jackie Kemp throws the balls down the castle stairs in the duck derby. 01_B17castle24



Helping with fundraising were the Friends of Brodick Castle, Linda MacCallum, Joan Stuart, Liz Rose and Lyn Mowatt. 01_B17castle23

Campbell Fuel Oils

Is your current supplier letting you down?
Why not contact Campbell Fuels for a reliable service

The most frequent service on the Isle of Arran supplying heating oil, tractor diesel, derv and a wide range of lubricants

Call us on 01563 521925
Hurlford Road, Riccarton, Kilmarnock KA1 3LS
www.campbellfuels.co.uk

Sponsored by NFU Mutual
Campbeltown. Call Chris Hustwaite on 01586 552 428 for your insurance needs

NFU Mutual
INSURANCE | PENSIONS | INVESTMENTS

Agent of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited.

8-SEATER TAXIS AVAILABLE

DIRECT TAXIS
01294 60-2005

ARDROSSAN HARBOUR TO:

Glasgow Airport FROM £37.00
Prestwick Airport FROM £27.00

enquiries@directtaxi.net - Return bookings and other prices on request.

THE WHINS CRAFTS WORKSHOP
HOME OF THE ARRAN STONEMEN
North Newton, Lochranza 01770 830650

Hand painted stone characters and animals, decorative candles and woodwork.
Handmade on the premises by working craftsmen.
Open to the public 7 days a week. 10am - 6pm.
Walking only please...signposted from Lochranza.

..and also

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

MAKE THE LEAP
to the **DIGITAL AGE**
FROM **48p** PER WEEK

THE ARRAN BANNER
www.arranbanner.co.uk

NEW ARCHIVE FEATURE
access over 10 years of local news

and long at the castle



Setting off on the right foot, adults take their turn in the three-legged races. 01_B17castle16



Racers at the ready in the wheelbarrow race. 01_B17castle17



Owners trail behind their pets in the pooch race. 01_B17castle19



Young competitors work together in the three-legged races. 01_B17castle15



Adults join in on the fun of the egg and spoon race. 01_B17castle12



Two young friends are still brimming with energy after a long day in the spring sunshine. 01_B17castle26



This young girl leads the pack in the sack races. 01_B17castle13

FROM 48p PER WEEK

THE ARRAN BANNER

Now delivering news
7 DAYS A WEEK ONLINE

www.arranbanner.co.uk

INCLUDES FULL website access and a **DIGITAL EDITION** of the newspaper

LETTERS

Editorial

Smashing start to the summer

What a fantastic start to the summer season Arran has had.

The island was buzzing for the whole two weeks of the school holidays and that was before the arrival of the hottest Easter weekend on record, bringing with it hordes more visitors.

Bars, cafes, restaurants have been packed – with beer gardens in particular doing a roaring trade and the queues outside The Parlour's new ice-cream hatch spoke for themselves, as did those with cones pouring out of The Boathouse – while the Co-op could not pack the ice-cream freezers quickly enough.

It was great to see some early summer sunshine, which just lifts everyone's mood, and hopefully got the tourist trade off to the smashing summer start.

Hitting the headlines

It was also good to see Arran hitting the national headlines. Affordable housing may not be everyone's first choice when writing about Arran, but we should be grateful to the social conscience of the Guardian Scotland editor who commissioned a piece on this important issue to the island, which the writer, and former resident, James McEnaney is so familiar with. The wider the message can be sent out, the better.

Thought for the week

'Jesus said to Thomas, Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen me and yet believe.'
John 20: 29

Rat Race thanks

Sir,
Once again I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for our reception and experience during 2019 Rat Race Ultra Tour of Arran.

From our point of view, the event was very successful – based on both participant feedback, and feedback from residents, similarly as glowing as our inaugural 2018 event. Very different weather though: wet and cloudy in 2018; bright, cold and very breezy in 2019, and, yes, we too, had difficulty getting off the island earlier this week!

For 2020, the event is already relaunched for the weekend of April 4 and 5, as Easter is a week later next year.

In review of our event, we see scope to grow the entries a little further, but with a careful eye that we do not cause any constraints on either our event build/venue/trails and, for example, car parking. We had the kind consent of three additional satellite car parking options this year, (of which we only needed to use one on the weekend): Brodick Primary School, Ernest Ribbeck's yard, and Arran Estates crescent layby opposite the museum – we have given a donation to the school.

It appears that we did manage to keep Knowe Road clear enough for their church service, and had no cars parked in Shore Road beside the golf course.

We did spot about five campervans, likely our participants, in the council (small Co-op) car park, and we will manage this 'incursion' better next year. However, we do believe that a decent mix of foot passengers and vehicles enables the spending to spread further around the island, well beyond Brodick.

Accommodation availability was slim on our event weekend, and with our camping at Ormidale Park, this all seems to have been a good balance of economics for all involved.

With the event activity, we can again report no hospitalisations and no injuries that were of any serious concern. As you can imagine, some minor strains and some blisters are reasonably likely.

Our participants are very taken by the beauty and community of Arran.

Some of you will know that both the event and the participants make donations to the Arran Trust, and that the preferred charity for Rat Race Adventure Events is Children with Cancer UK, and for whom the participants raised a stunning £1.5m in 2018.

Yours,
Gary Tompsett,
Rat Race Adventure consultant.

Terminal troubles

Sir,
As one of the Ferry Action Group, I am tasked to keep readers informed on matters concerning terminals, and I can say that we are now following up the heavy criticism of the Brodick terminal.

Our first priority has been the sets of steps to enter and leave the upper floor; these steps have been approved by North Ayrshire Council Building Control but we all feel that they do present a real danger to users so our first serious request will be for a better way to be designed, and Ian Fergusson and I have two alternatives to put forward to CMAL which the action group will press urgently.

The second priority is to follow up the many rumours that knowledgeable individuals seriously questioned the alignment of the new berth

and, really following both the accident to Caledonian Isles and the failure to berth of the Isle of Arran, this is now a very big problem which cannot be avoided and an answer must be found. In order to react to the complaints you, the users, are making, we are looking into the engineering necessary (sheet piling/rock armour infil) to reduce this problem and we are taking the matter up with an Arran connection at the (world class) Wallingford Laboratory. Obviously this is serious work and expensive and needs to be considered very carefully by all concerned.

This week Councillor Billings asked to meet us to record your concerns that matters at Brodick were not replicated in the work proposed at Ardrossan. Sadly, Timothy advised that due to unexpected difficulties (where have we heard that before?) the costs had indeed risen. The issues at Ardrossan harbour are bound up very closely with the intention to improve the town and clearly the Action Group needs to integrate our ideas with the Ardrossan members.

Finally, I just want to say

that we are not intent on moaning on about what has gone wrong with our ferry service. We feel very sorry for the three groups who worked so hard to see the terminal up and running and we will do all in our power to work with them – in engineering there is the famous saying that the group who never made a mistake never made anything. The Arran people will work closely with CalMac, CMAL and Transport Scotland, and you can see all of what we are doing on our website.

Yours,
Bob Haddow,
Ferry Action Group Steering Committee.

Customer announcement

Sir,
Brodick Post Office is trying to track down a customer who withdrew cash from her Instant Saver Account on Tuesday April 9. As there was a problem with the transaction, we would greatly appreciate her getting in touch to help resolve this issue.

Yours,
Lorraine Campbell,
Brodick Post Office.



Spotted in Brodick taking a Sunday cruise, this vintage vehicle was one of many that were seen visiting the island over the Easter weekend. Banner reporter Colin Smeeton captured this image of the vehicle and its occupants as it was cheered on by scores of children taking part in the Wacky Races at Brodick Castle.

How to contact us

Arran Banner,
Brodick,
Isle of Arran,
KA27 8AJ
Phone: 01770 302142

News editor
Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Reporter
Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Advertising
Cecilia Paul
adverts@arranbanner.co.uk

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



Press policy

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

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

You can call IPSO on 0300 123 2220 or email inquiries@ipso.co.uk. IPSO is an independent body that deals with complaints from the public about the editorial content of newspapers. We will abide by the decision of IPSO.

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

Emailed letters can only be considered if they have a name, full address and phone number.

ARRAN DELIVERIES

We deliver the goods, not excuses

Daily collection throughout Ayrshire, Glasgow and surrounding districts

www.arrandeliveries.co.uk

Glasgow Depot

c/o Hebrides Haulage
149 Balmoral Street
Glasgow, G14 0HB
Call us on 01475 676255
Open 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday

We've been in our Glasgow depot for 25 years, our long time friends Hebrides Haulage operate it and provide a great service. We can accept all size of deliveries into Glasgow. Our trucks call in daily to collect all goods destined for Arran.

Anything in before 1pm is guaranteed next morning delivery on the Island. Let us know your requirements when you book in with our office, as well as our speedy parcel service, we offer 2 man delivery and Tailift Service throughout the island. Forklift at depot.

Ardrossan Depot

Arran Deliveries
Parcelpoint Ardrossan
Ayrshire, KA22 8BZ
Call us on 01475 676255
Open 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday

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

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

Spring in the air at 'world famous' daffodil tea

Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall was a hive of activity and the most popular place for miles around on Saturday when it hosted its 'world famous' daffodil tea.

Visitors from far and wide visited the annual event which has gained a reputation for its cream teas and which continues to grow busier with every passing year.

On offer, other than a sea of scones with lashings of cream and jam, was a large amount of home baking, an incredibly popular tombola, numerous

stalls selling a variety of interesting goods and a number of fun activities for the children.

In the afternoon, once the adults had enjoyed refreshments, and the children the egg painting and seed planting, the equally popular Easter egg hunt took place in the community garden.

A highlight for many of the children, a large number of eggs were placed throughout the garden, in sufficient numbers to ensure that each child filled their pockets and emerged from the garden

with enough chocolate treats to last them for a few days.

Proceeds from the event contribute to funds for the village hall, which is a registered charity and hosts various events throughout the year.

It is run by committee members who all volunteer their time and effort to ensure its continued success. If you would like to join the committee or to assist in any capacity, they would be delighted to hear from anyone interested.



Visitors enjoy cream teas while others browse the stalls to snap up bargains. 01_B17daffodil03



Visitors purchase some of the home baking on offer, some to enjoy there and some to take away.

01_B17daffodil01

Maggie Gaber of Lochranza helps deliver another serving of cream scones. 01_B17daffodil02



Children decorate eggs and their flower pots which they planted with seeds. 01_B17daffodil04



They are everywhere: two children seek out and find handfuls of eggs hidden in the garden. 01_B17daffodil05



Children inspect every nook and cranny in their search for hidden Easter eggs. 01_B17daffodil06



SELLING YOUR WHISKY CASK?

If you own a cask of Scotch Whisky and are interested in selling it, we would love to hear from you.

We are always searching for individuals who wish make a return on their casks, making the process simple and easy whilst offering the best market price.

We will also give 3 bottles of any cask back to you free of charge to enjoy. Please send details to cask@atombrands.com

RNLI coffee morning

The Arran branch of the RNLI is holding a coffee morning at the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick on Saturday May 4, from 10.30am to noon. There will be the traditional tea and coffee, home-baking stall and tombola.

The RNLI is the charity that saves lives at sea and relies entirely on funding from local communities. Your support would be greatly appreciated.



CONTACTUS

email us at editor@arranbanner.co.uk
telephone 01631 568000

Walk of Witness procession



There was a large turnout for the annual Walk of Witness services and procession held by Arran Churches Together on Good Friday.

The event starts with a short service at Holy Cross church before worshippers make their way along Brodick shorefront to Brodick Parish Church, where the event concludes. The road is usually closed for the event but this year the walkers had to use the pavement.

The Walk of Witness procession makes its way along Brodick shorefront. 01_B17witness02

MIBS

BUILDING AND
TIMBER SUPPLIES



FREE DELIVERY SERVICE

TUESDAYS

ISLAND WIDE

Orders over £25.

E-mail or telephone by 2pm Monday

Summer
Bedding
**Arriving
1st May!**

Whiting Bay

Open Monday - Saturday 8am - 5pm

01770700202

Eradicating fuel poverty on Arran

An important step has been taken towards legislation to eradicate fuel poverty in Arran, and across Scotland with the government's Fuel Poverty (Scotland) Bill passing Stage 2 at Holyrood.

Fuel poverty is where, to maintain a satisfactory heating regime, a household is required to spend more than 10 per cent of its income on fuel use.

The Bill will set a new target that no more than five per cent of households in Scotland will live in fuel poverty by 2040. The figure is currently 26.5 per cent.

Crucially, the Bill will ensure fuel poverty is tackled in every community throughout Scotland, not leaving behind people in the most challenging circumstances, such as in island communities. The Bill will also introduce additional targets to tackle extreme fuel poverty.

The local government and communities committee took evidence on the Bill, visiting the Western Isles to speak to people most affected by fuel poverty.

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson, who serves on the committee, said: 'Few communities in Scotland are unaffected by fuel poverty, but all the evidence shows that remote rural and island

communities are affected disproportionately, not least Arran, due to homes being off the gas grid and harder to heat.

'With island proofing of all legislation, it is imperative that targets and resources address the needs of island communities. This Bill is for the whole of Scotland, including our islands and remote communities.'

'I am pleased my suggestion that the 2040 target be applied to all local authorities was agreed by my fellow committee members and Scottish ministers. Having local targets to match the

national one, will ensure no one is left behind.

'I am also delighted colleagues agreed with me that the Bill should establish a "remote rural area", "remote small town" and "island area" minimum income standard uplift, to ensure the reality of fuel costs associated with living in remote and island communities are considered, which will deliver greater resources to Arran households that would not be considered fuel poor on the mainland.'

'I believe this Bill will ensure we help those of Arran's people who suffer from fuel poverty.'



Kenneth Gibson MSP.

I Know a Man that Can

We have all experienced the difficulties of finding tradesman on Arran. There are so many types to choose from, all offering various specialities and services. We see their vehicles in the villages but when it comes to needing someone to complete a household task, suddenly a household name can become 'what was his name?'

At some stage or another we all require the services of a reliable, professional and

trustworthy tradesperson and selecting the correct person for the job can be a difficult and time-consuming process.

Our handy guide takes the difficulty out of finding the right person for the job. Tried and tested tradesman, our list over the following few pages provides you, not only with who does what, but also a bit of background information on the company and their contact details.

When looking for professional quality finishes to enhance, repair or build your dream home, our guide can recommend the following people and organisation as trusted names that can be relied on to make it all happen, quickly, professionally and at a competitive price.

Do you need a job done?
We know a man that can!

County Carpets

Originally started in 1970 by Harry Wilkinson and now run by his son Tim, this is a well established family run

business supplying all types of flooring and furniture to both domestic and commercial market. No job is too big or too small for this team of well trained specialists offering excellent workmanship. Whether it be the laying of your carpets or fitting new blinds a professional friendly service is guaranteed.

Along with a free measure and estimate service County Carpets work with many different suppliers giving you a wide choice of goods. All prices include delivery and fitting, so why not pop into their showroom in Whiting Bay where you will find a large selection of furniture, blinds and flooring to suit all your needs. You can contact them on 01770 700480 or email: admin@countycarpets.co.uk

Euro Coatings Ltd

Due to their success in Arran, Euro Coatings Ltd are now taking bookings for a no obligation quote for your property. With more than 20 years



of experience in the industry, this is your one stop shop for all of your exterior wall and roofing maintenance and protection needs.

The team will take on any project, large or small, to ensure that your home or business is looking at its best and protected for years to come, and guaranteed to last too. Owing to their superior

customer service and workmanship and reliability, Euro Coatings Ltd have also now branched into block paving and restoration that will renew and enhance the look of your home or business and add sparkle and value to your property.

If you would like to give your property a new lease on life, why not call the local

business that cares, they will be happy to provide you with their trusted solutions that will add years and value to your property. Tel: 01770 248123 or 01294 538085
Email: eurocoatings77@yahoo.co.uk

William Kerr and Sons

William Kerr & Sons is a long established, family business



Wm. Kerr & Son est. 1952
BUILDING & PLUMBING CONTRACTORS



- New Building
- All types of Roofing
- Heating
- All Joinery Work
- Free estimates

- ✓ Fitted Bathrooms
- ✓ Ceramic Tiling
- ✓ Landscaping & Paving
- ✓ External Drainage & Water Supplies
- ✓ House Extensions
- ✓ Garages
- ✓ Sun Rooms
- ✓ Conservatories
- ✓ Renovations
- ✓ Stonework
- ✓ Replacement Windows
- ✓ Fitted Kitchens
- ✓ Full Design Service

Tel: 01770 860208

Shedog, Shiskine, Isle of Arran email: william-kerr@outlook.com 24 hr service



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

**SAVE OVER 50% OFF
THE COST OF A NEW KITCHEN**



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

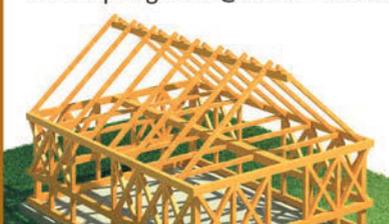
**Choose from a vast range of styles.
Less disruption. Huge savings.**

We provide the full service including new appliances and sinks.

www.renewkitchendoorcompany.co.uk

Pringle Joinery & Building Contractor

Whiting Bay, Isle of Arran
Tel: 01770 700497
Mob: 07833554907
williampringle667@btinternet.com



- New Builds
- Extensions
- Renovations
- Window & Doors
- Kitchens
- Roofwork
- PVC Facias
- Decking

FREE ESTIMATES

based in Shiskine. Now run by son Alaister, who is known as Gator by everyone, along with joiner brother Dougie, the firm was originally established in the late 1940's and continues to grow. Between them the team has around 300 years of experience. They offer a highly professional yet friendly service in all aspects of building work and cover the whole island. From leaky roofs and replacing tired old bathrooms to smart extensions, home refurbishments and building one-off design new houses they are happy to help and can offer advice on any aspects you're unsure of. Gator can usually be found traversing the island each day to keep a watchful eye on the work in progress with the help of his trusty sidekick, Guinness the spaniel. You can contact them by phone on 01770 860208 or by email at william-kerr@outlook.com.

T K Murray

'I know a team that can'
TK Murray has been installing air source heat pumps and solar PV on Arran for three years. In that time, they have made a lot of good friends on the island and have learned how not to worry too much about the ferry by simply keeping a van in Brodick 24/7. Retrofitting heating systems is their game. They have been doing it all over Scotland for over 35 years and their average installation time is two days. Right now the UK and Scottish Governments are investing heavily in promoting air source heat pumps as the future method of heating our homes and reducing our carbon footprint. Generous grants and incentives are available for a short time to help with the cost of switching. Make sure you don't miss out. If you are looking for good experienced advice and a best in class installation service from an award winning Company just give them a ring on 01236 730579 or send an email to info@tkmurray.co.uk They are there to help before, during and after your installation. www.tkmurray.co.uk

County Carpets (Arran) Ltd

THE CARPET FOUNDATION REGISTERED SPECIALIST

◆ **FLOORING** ◆
KARNDEN INTERNATIONAL
All leading makes of carpets and flooring supplied and fitted. All contract and domestic work undertaken.

◆ **BEDS** ◆
Sofa Beds - Divans
Bunk Beds - Futons
Metal/Pine Bedsteads
Headboards - Duvets

◆ **BLINDS** ◆
VELUX
Rollers - Roman
Vertical - Pleated
Wooden - Venetian

◆ **FURNITURE** ◆
Bedroom - Dining
Upholstery - Leather
Occasional - Conservatory

◆ **RUGS** ◆
◆ **HOME ACCESSORIES** ◆
◆ **GIFTS** ◆

www.countycarpetsarran.co.uk
Tel: 01770 700480 Fax: 01770 700455
Email: admin@countycarpetsarran.co.uk
Whiting Bay Open 6 Days, 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m.

JMB Cladding

JMB Cladding have been providing roofing services now for over 30 years, with vast levels of experience from complete re-roofing to replacement of older wood fascia with new maintenance free cladding. They are registered with Fair Trades, where you can read for yourself actual customer feedback from many different completed projects. JMB Cladding do more than simply roof's and cladding, they create a complete visual package that works with your surrounding biomes. This takes not only a keen eye for visual detail, but also an expansive knowledge and experience. Whether it's redoing roofs, roughcasting, fascia, soffit, guttering, lead and PVC at JMB Cladding, they treat what they do has a form of art: it's beautiful, elegant, timeless, and expressive. For a company you know you can trust contact them by phone: 08007834371 or mobile: 07979 384383 and 07717 054298. Email: JMBayrshire@yahoo.co.uk.



EURO COATINGS LTD
Roof & Wall Coating Specialist

"A LOCAL BUSINESS THAT CARES"
NEVER PAINT AGAIN WITH OUR ROOF & WALL COATINGS

- Resistant to Moss, Dirt & Algae
- Waterproof & Maintenance Free
- Guaranteed Against Flaking & Peeling
- Available in Over 12 Colours
- Wide Range of Textures Available
- 10 Year Guarantee

Tried & tested quality waterproofing for any facade. 100% waterproof 400% elastic. Crack bridging. Water based.

Based in:
ARRAN & SALTCOATS
01770 248123 & 01294 538085
E: eurocoatings77@yahoo.co.uk
www.eurocoatings.co.uk

NOW TAKING BOOKINGS ON ARRAN



IS YOUR HOME LOOKING TIRED, DRAB or DATED? LET EURO COATINGS BRING IT BACK TO LIFE

J.M.B. CLADDING

Registered FAIRTRADES
www.jmbcladding.co.uk
www.homepro.com
Registered FAIRTRADES

All Roofing Work Undertaken:

- Slating • Tiling • Flat Roofs
- Roof and Wall Coatings
- All PVC Work
- Firestone Flat Rubber Roofing
- Metal Sheeted Roofs
- GRP Roofing

myBuilder.com
Proud members of Checkatrade.com Where reputation matters
Rated People.com fair quality local trade

Local references available

For free quotation & advice
FREEPHONE: 0800 7834371
or **MOBILE: 07979 384383**

SERVICING THE ISLANDS

Clydeside Electrics

Clydeside Electrics is a name you can trust for all your maintenance, repair, and renovation needs. Alistair has been an electrician for over 30 years mostly in the domestic sector, but for the last five years has worked in Afghanistan and South Sudan. He finally fulfilled a lifelong ambition and moved to Arran with his family in June 2018 and now runs Clydeside Electrics. If you are finding it difficult to get someone to come and do a small job, whether it be extra lights, additional sockets or a complete rewire, then he is your man. Clydeside Electrics offers a friendly, professional and reasonably priced service and will give you a free quote and honest assessment before work begins so why not give him a call on 07515 557563, email: alistair@clydesideelectrics.com or message him on facebook @clydesideelectrics.

Renew Kitchen Door Company

The hassle free route to a fabulous new kitchen that will save you over 50 per cent of the cost of a new one. And it's eco-friendly too. Renew Kitchen Door Company are a family business with 20 years experience and a reputation second to none for quality and service.

While many think that fitting an expensive new kitchen is the

only way to breath new life into a tired old kitchen, Renew Kitchen Door Company find that in most cases there is no need to replace a fitted kitchen when your kitchen base unit are in good order. It does not make environmental or financial sense to rip them out and replace them with a completely new kitchen. Renew Kitchens recommend renewing the doors, drawer fronts and worktops and some finishes to achieve a beautiful new kitchen without disruption or expense.

The eco benefits are numerous, less materials are required to be manufactured and transported and all labour is on site and all work is usually completed within two days. They also supply and fit new worktops, sink and appliances and take care of all joinery, plumbing and electrical work.

Now on Arran, so call today for a free, no obligation survey. Telephone 01770 820675. www.renewkitchendoorcompany.co.uk

Sandy Pringle Joinery

Based in Whiting Bay, Sandy Pringle of Pringle Joinery has many years of experience in the building trade on Arran and is also a building contractor. Specializing in kitchens, windows and doors, roofwork, PVC fascias and decking, Sandy's expertise extend further and he can also assist with new builds, extensions and renovations. A well known name in the business, and on Arran, Sandy can provide you with expert advice, free estimates and years of experience and knowledge gained from working on Arran homes. For an obligation free quote telephone 01770 700497 or 07833554907 or email: williampringle667@btinternet.com



Clydeside Electrics
Isle of Arran

Do you find it difficult to get someone to come and do a small job?

- ▲ Extra Lights ▲ Additional Sockets ▲ Qualified Electrician
- ▲ Door Bells ▲ Outside Lighting ▲ Reliable Service ▲ Free Quote
- ▲ Security Lights ▲ Extensions ▲ Honest Assessment
- ▲ Loft Conversions ▲ Quick Response
- ▲ New Fuse Boards ▲ Flexible Hours
- ▲ Rewires ▲ New Installations ▲ Reasonably Priced ▲ Tidy Work
- ▲ PAT Testing ▲ References available if Required

Find out more by visiting our web site

Fault Finding and Repairs

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Landlord and Homebuyer Inspection Testing

I will assure you of a quick response and reasonably priced service...

Call Alistair on:
07515 557563

www.clydesideelectrics.com

!!Know what you are paying for!!
I will give you a FREE QUOTE before commencing any work.



ELECTRICAL LTD
PLUMBING
HEATING

Keeping Scotland Warm and Cosy For Over 35 Years

Join The Arran Renewable Heating Revolution



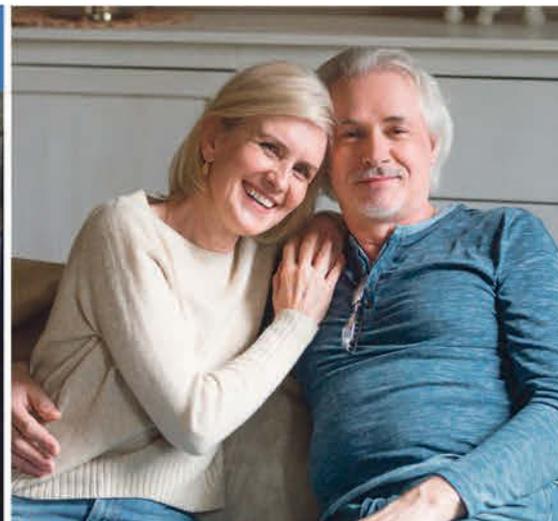
In the past two years TK Murray have helped 82 people on Arran revolutionise the way they heat their homes and water by installing an air source heat pump. You probably know some of them

All now enjoy warmer more comfortable homes and lower energy bills...As well as doing their bit to help save the planet.



Right now the Government will pay you an incentive of up to £10500* to replace your existing oil, LPG or storage heaters with a renewable air source heat pump.

The heat pump will provide you with all year round warmth and comfort and all the hot water you need at about the same running costs as a mains gas boiler.



Don't miss out on this generous government incentive. It won't be around for ever.

To Join The Arran Renewable Revolution and start reducing your energy bills and help save the planet simply call us today on 01236 730 579 or send an email to info@tkmurray.co.uk. We are on Arran twice a week, every week and would be happy to drop by for a chat.

*This refers to the Governments Renewable Heat Incentive Scheme. For more information go to website: www.ofgem.gov.uk/environmental-programmes/domestic-rhi

All the thrills and spills at

In a picture special we capture all the teams and the action from the Arran Malt Rugby Sevens at Ormidale Park

in Brodick on Saturday. For a full report and more pictures, see sport. All photographs by Hugh Boag



The Arran squad who took part in the tournament. 01_B17rugby01



The Arran under-16 team score a try. 01_B17rugby16



A big crowd watch one of the Arran vs Ardrossan under-16 games. 01_B17rugby14



Gregor Crichton bursts through the Ardrossan under-16 defence. 01_B17rugby20



An Ardrossan player tries to halt a Strathaven breakaway. 01_B17rugby13



An Irvine player makes a determined run in the final. 01_B17rugby23



The Glasgow Accies squad with their coaches. 01_B17rugby04



The team from Strathaven. 01_B17rugby05



The Ardrossan team who finished runners-up. 01_B17rugby07

Arran Malt Rugby Sevens



Ardrossan on the attack in the closely-fought final.
01_B17rugby21



The victorious Irvine team with their mascot Declan Morrison. 01_B17rugby10



Action from the Irvine vs Strathaven game. 01_B17rugby09



Ardrossan's Bruce Hunter gets pulled both ways at Bishopston try to get the ball. 01_B17rugby06



The crowd soak up the sun while taking in the action. 01_B17rugby18



The Arran under-16 team who won both their matches.
01_B17rugby11



The Ardrossan under-16 team. 01_B17rugby12



The Bishopston team who are the Pride of the Clyde.
01_B17rugby02

Affordable homes plight given national coverage

The urgent need for affordable housing on Arran made it on to the national news agenda this week and received widespread press coverage.

It followed the publication on Monday of an in-depth article in The Guardian newspaper, which was followed up by a number of media outlets, which said the housing crisis on Arran had left hundreds of islanders without homes.

The articles were written by the Guardian's Scotland editor Severin Carrell and James McEnaney, a former teacher of English on the island who had to leave because of a lack of affordable housing, and now a freelance journalist. They visited the island to investigate the issue earlier this month.

It follows last week's Banner article which told how Trust Housing had pulled out of a deal to build 20 new homes for rent in Brodick, although

34 new council houses in the village are still going ahead.

One of the two Guardian articles highlighted the plight of young people and young families on the island who insisted that there was 'nothing affordable' and that buying a home on Arran was now just a dream.

The investigation by the newspaper found that 23 per cent of houses on Arran are used for holiday homes or second homes.

This is one of the highest rates in the UK, and is thought to be second only to St Ives in Cornwall, where a quarter of properties are holiday homes.

Data from North Ayrshire Council, obtained by the newspaper, shows that in some villages nearly 40 per cent of homes are for holiday use, while in Sliderry nearly half of its 73 properties are holiday homes, a figure which



James McEnaney.

was disputed by a local resident this week.

The article told how the

Arran Economic Group (AEG) was hoping to be the first community organ-

isation in Scotland to use government funds to build dozens of affordable homes, as previously highlighted in the Banner.

The Scottish government is studying a bid from the Arran Development Trust, a company set up by the AEG, for £8.5m from its rural and islands housing fund to build 43 houses and supply 14 self-build plots, which will be prioritised for the island's workforce.

AEG director Sheena Borthwick-Toomey told The Guardian they wanted to avoid the drastic measures used in St Ives, which has banned construction of new holiday homes to prioritise homes for residents. 'We need to solve the problem we face now, and also increase Arran's resident population, so the whole island sustains itself,' she said.

Joe Cullinane, the council

leader, said the AEG's figures had shocked the council. 'The AEG has shone a light on the situation on the island, which is probably one of the most extreme in the country and which is really quite staggering,' he told the publication.

He said council housing officials would also be visiting Arran this month to investigate the holiday homes sector, to make sure owners complied with rules on rentals and were registered to pay the 100 per cent extra council tax imposed on holiday homes.

He said the extra homes would not solve Arran's problem entirely, so the council would need to consider relaxing planning rules on the island to increase the availability of land.

The Scottish government's new strategy for supporting the country's islands needed to be flexible enough to meet Arran's needs too, he added.

SCOTTISH FIELD'S MAY ISSUE OUT NOW

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

Arran photographic show

Photographer Stephen Sparshott will be the exhibitor in the Arran Library in Brodick during the month of May.

Stephen said: 'It would appear I do enjoy some beginner's luck with subject matter. From simply pointing and shooting randomly with a phone camera, it has now turned into a bit of an obsession due to the beautiful part of Scotland we live in, where around every corner or through any window, at any time of the day and totally weather independent is a breathtaking array of landscapes, wildlife and people waiting to be shot.'

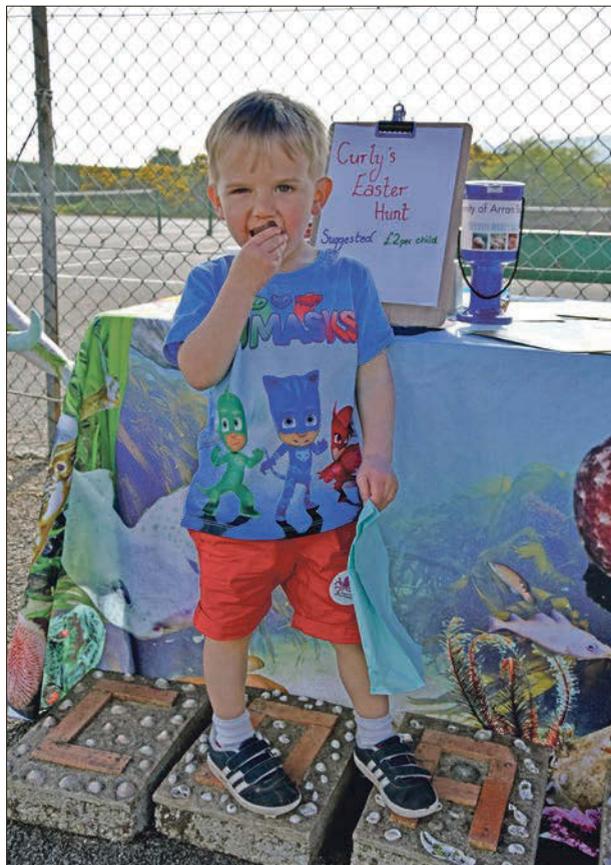
'Using either my splendid Blackberry Priv smart phone, with its internal 18 mega-pixel Schneider-Kreuznach lens and cool photo editing software, or my brilliant Fujitsu Finepix S9900W and HS10 bridge cameras with their superb lenses, ranging from super-macro to 50X Zoom, simple UV and anti-glare filters give an astonishing set of features. Can you tell the difference and which camera was used?'

Stephen added: 'Hope you enjoy the show - all comments welcome.'



Photographer Stephen Sparshott will be exhibiting at the library in May.

Easter fun at the Octopus Centre



Remi Sloss of Lamlash enjoys the rewards of a successful Easter hunt. 01_B17COAST03

It was a day of education and fun at Community of Arran Seabed Trust's (COAST) Octopus Centre in Lamlash where the annual Curly's Easter hunt took place last weekend. Children visiting the Octopus Centre enjoyed the interactive activities that the centre offers, including the live animal ecosystem tank, before taking part in the Easter event.

Collecting a number of clues, pictures of Curly the octopus held letters which, once all collected, spelled out an Easter-themed word. Children searched the building and grounds and, once having collected all of the clues, they handed these in to collect a bag of treats.

Owing to the weather, parents sat outside in the sunshine while the children completed their challenge.

The Octopus Centre is Scotland's first Marine Protected Area (MPA) visitor centre, and the UK's first community-led MPA visitor centre. It is open daily from 10am to 5pm and also has a marine-themed gift shop.



Visiting families at the Octopus Centre soak up the sun in the outdoor seating area. 01_B17COAST01



Children receive their goody bags after completing the Easter hunt. 01_B17COAST02

Syrian families given warm welcome on visit to Arran

There was much excitement on the 9.45am ferry from Ardrrossan earlier this month when 33 Syrian adults and 41 children started on a family day out to Arran. They came with two translators and three North Ayrshire Council staff at the invitation from St Molios Church in Shiskine.

Accompanying them on the boat were Alan, Evelyn, Helen and Graeme (AYF). The excitement was running high, especially with the children.

Back at the ranch, Shiskine community hall, a busy team were preparing to receive them for a lunch of soup, sandwiches and traybakes, coffee, teas and juice. With Gerry at the helm ably assisted by Jan, Liz F, John and Chea, the hall was set up, soups prepared; folks were coming and going with sandwiches and ladies from WI provided a lovely variety of traybakes.

A play area was made ready for the little ones (and the not so little ones). A children's video set in motion and Graeme with a good-sized group of young people set up activities in case the rain stopped outside play.

Our friends all sat down and were joined by one or

two others from Shiskine. We noticed lots of big plastic bags came with the visitors and before long we were all having to try their local foods.

It was a happy gathering with plenty of noise. Then we noticed the sun was out and out to stay. By 1pm all were back on the buses with one



bus going up to Bellvue farm to see new lambs, stroke the pony and donkeys, view the very large cows and gaze in amazement at the strutting turkey cock who was quite vocal. Great excitement.

The second bus went off to the playpark and sports field at Blackwaterfoot where local young folk and the youth workers organised some activities.

It was a happy day for everyone, some of the visitors had

been in Scotland - Garnock Valley and Irvine - for two years and this was their first 'day away' while others had only been here for two or three weeks.

Each family received a small goody bag with Arran foods and a map and we hope bridges of understanding were built on both sides. However, the day didn't just happen and there are many people to thank for their generosity: the Auchrannie for providing picnic boxes for all the children, Island Cheese company, Wooleys for oatcakes, Arran Provisions for chutneys, Carol Kane for Arran Tablet, Ailsa and Donald for farm visits, the ladies of WI for homebakes, members of St Molios for soup and sandwiches and Peter and Garry, our Stagecoach drivers, for the day. Also The hall committee for the free use of the Shiskine Community Hall and Shiskine Valley Improvements for the free use of the sports field at Blackwater foot.

To everyone who in any way, engaged with this project and gave of their time and talents, a massive thank you.

Helen Kerr



Cards Calendars Gifts



Shop online at
www.krispcards.co.uk

LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARRAN

Dremmwel to make a welcome return to Arran

Arran will be the first stop in the Scottish tour of the innovative Breton folk band Dremmwel who have a concert scheduled for early next month at Corrie and Sannox village hall.

The name means 'horizon' and the band's six albums since 1996 create a fresh and varied take on basic Breton dance music.

Dremmwel toured in Scotland previously in 1997 and 2002 and have graced festivals in Wales, Belgium, Germany, Austria and the USA over the years.

Inspired

Their most recent CD, Hirbad, meaning Long Stay, is inspired by the 'global jukebox' concept for traditional music, closely associated with the legendary American archivist, Alan Lomax.

'The Global Jukebox is dedicated to our remote ancestors, to our parents, grandparents and teachers, and is a gift offered to present and future

generations – a gift of sound, movement, and growing knowledge.

'It honours the expressive traditions of all peoples, and the cultural diversity that enriches us as individuals, and is crucial to our common survival as a species,' the band say.

If you have ever travelled with Brittany Ferries from England or Ireland overnight, you'll have been woken by Dremmwel tunes in your cabin. There is also the only music on sale aboard the fleet.

Dremmwel is celebrating 30 years of the group's development, this time through collaborations with musicians from Corsica, Paraguay, the Basque lands and Scotland. Each add new spice to self-penned tunes from the core Dremmwel players who are steeped in the Breton Fest Noz ('night dance') traditions of their native Finistere.

This appearance will appeal to people with an interest in



Guaranteed to inspire, musicians Dominique Le Guichaoua, René Marchand, Daniel Cadiou and Marin l'Hopiteau will be visiting Arran next month as part of a Scottish tour.

pipes, Celtic harp, dancing, and indeed anyone keen to hear energetic Celtic music

played by consummate professionals.

The four core Dremmwel

musicians playing on this tour are: Dominique Le Guichaoua, diatonic accor-

dions, binou (Breton pipes), vocals and mouth organ; René Marchand, bombard, whistles and veuze (another kind of Breton pipes); Daniel Cadiou, guitars; and Marin l'Hopiteau on harp and fiddle.

Corrie will be the launching pad for this welcome return of Dremmwel to Scotland, before they move on to Tobermory, Portree, Plockton, Evanton and Edinburgh.

Treat

As an additional treat they will be joined on the tour by Corsican singer Marco Campana, who contributed his haunting polyphonic vocals, characteristic of Corsica's Orezza Valley, to the recent Dremmwel album and Scottish contributors to Hirbad may also take to the stage.

Tickets are available at £10 from www.arranevents.com or at the door on Saturday May 11 at 7.30pm. The event is BYOB.

Whiting Bay Bowling Club
Opening Day
Saturday 4th May 2019 at 2pm

Anyone interested in Bowling will be made very welcome.

FROM 48p PER WEEK

INCLUDES FULL website access and a DIGITAL EDITION of the newspaper

THE ARRAN BANNER

Now delivering news 7 DAYS A WEEK ONLINE

www.arranbanner.co.uk

HM Coastguard hosts open day

The HM Coastguard station in Lamlash threw open its doors over the Easter weekend, inviting visitors to learn more about the tasks, equipment and capabilities of the team and to provide further information about the organisation for potential new volunteers.

Joining station officer Fiona Laing was Dave Graham, senior coastal operations officer, and divisional commander Bill Speirs along with Coastguard rescue officers (CROs) from Tarbert and Inverary.

Visitors were able to have a look at the medical equipment that the team use and many tried their hand at CPR on the practice mannequin. Water suits, life vests and water rescue packs were available for visitors to have a look at and CROs were on hand

to explain their uses. Dave Graham spoke with visitors and talked them through search and rescue scenarios, showing them an incident room set-up complete with maps, communication equip-

ment and he discussed the standard operating procedures which they follow.

Outside in the bright sunshine, Tarbert CRO Jaimie Alexander demonstrated a safety harness and other

rescue equipment that is used in the course of their work and using a fully set up rescue stretcher, demonstrated how rescues are undertaken in steep cliff scenarios and helicopter rescues.



At your service: hosting the open day were, left to right, Megan Fyfe, CRO, Bill Speirs, divisional commander, Anne Mikuia, CRO Inverary, Nick Cartwright, CRO Inverary, Anita Skeal, CRO Inverary, Jaimie Alexander, CRO Tarbert, Fiona Laing, Arran station officer, Dave Graham, senior coastal operations officer. 01_B17Coastguard02



Station officer Fiona Laing demonstrates CPR to young visitors who attended the Coastguard open day in Lamlash. 01_B17Coastguard01



Tarbert CRO Jaimie Alexander demonstrates the use of a safety harness and a rescue stretcher. 01_B17Coastguard03

Operation changes will lead to improvements for Arran

A recent change to the operational management of the Arran Coastguard team has seen the organisation being grouped with stations of similar regional experience and circumstance.

The Arran Coastguard team which was previously the responsibility of area four (central belt) has now been moved to area 17 (Argyll) and will also now have one of the new areas full-time senior Coastguard operations officers based on Arran and working from the station in Lamlash.

Senior coastal operations officer Dave Graham said: 'It makes a lot of sense for Arran to be part of area 17, as the island has so much more in common with the other islands and rural mainland of Argyll. I'm delighted to be taking on

Arran, being my home community and I'm very much looking forward to working with the Arran Coastguard Rescue Team and the wider emergency service team on the island.

'During 2019/20 we'll be aiming to recruit volunteers to add to the existing team and work towards improving our lost and missing person search capability to meet the standard set by the Police Search Governance Board.

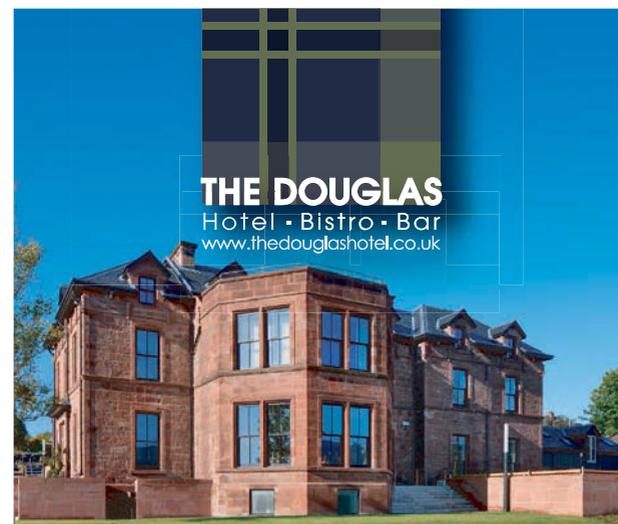
Exciting

'This combined with our existing technical rescue skillset and the recent upskilling from first aid to emergency responder makes this an exciting and interesting time to be a Coastguard.'

Arran station officer Fiona Laing added: 'Being a Coastguard rescue officer

can be challenging but it is also very rewarding. No previous experience is required, as you will be trained in all the aspects of the service from map reading to water rescue, dealing with ordnance and marine pyrotechnics to rope rescue, search techniques to radio communications and to care for casualties as an emergency responder. And, if you enjoy volunteering for the Coastguard, it may lead to other opportunities as and when they arise.'

If you are interested in joining the Arran Coastguard team, visit the Coastguard station in Lamlash (next door to the medical centre) for a chat to find out more. Keep a look out for future recruitment campaigns or email Dave Graham at david.graham@mca.gov.uk.



THE DOUGLAS
Hotel · Bistro · Bar
www.thedouglashotel.co.uk

ALWAYS A GENUINE
WARM WELCOME
SERVING TEA, COFFEE
Delicious Home Baking
SANDWICHES, MEALS AND
SHARING PLATTERS
ALL FRESHLY PREPARED



Please call us for bookings
01770 302968

FOOD SERVED UNTIL
9:30PM EACH DAY
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

   Find us on Facebook
Twitter and Instagram

THE
BRODICK
BUNK
HOUSE

www.brodickbunkhouse.co.uk
sleep@brodickbunkhouse.co.uk
BOOK ONLINE £25 PER NIGHT

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Every day

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

Saturday 27th April

Flow yoga	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
'Portals' by Mike Bailey	Arran Active, Brodick, 10am - 5pm
Katstock Crafts presents craft fair	Brodick Hall, 11am - 3pm
Pirnmill Primary spring fair	Pirnmill Primary, noon - 2pm
Rink games	Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm
Rink bowls	Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm
Family games	Auchrannie Games Hall, 2-3pm
Gym induction	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 2.30pm
Arran CND group meeting	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 2.15pm
Fun in the pool	Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3-4pm
Goatfell torchlight charity challenge	Rangers Centre, Brodick Castle, 5.15pm
Number 16 Restaurant 'pop-up'	The Arran Lodge, Lamlash 5.30pm - 9pm
Pop-up evening, BYOB (bookings only)	The Shore, Whiting Bay from 6pm
Live music – Nicola Evans	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Live music – The Sixth Note, energetic jazz formation	The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Live Music-Jeremy Letiz	Douglas Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Over-21s disco	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

Sunday 28th April

'Portals' by Mike Bailey	Arran Active, Brodick, 10am - 5pm
Live music – Nicola Evans	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 1pm-4pm
Family games	Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm-3pm
Gym induction	Auchrannie Spa, 2.30pm
Fun in the pool	Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm-4pm
Live music – The Sixth Note	The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Brodick Church Hall, 5pm-6.30pm
Number 16 Restaurant 'pop-up'	The Arran Lodge, Lamlash 5.30pm - 9pm
Corrie Film Club presents Happy End (2017, Germany, cert 15)	Corrie Hall, 8.00pm
Folk music session	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 29th April

Morning fitness	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am-10.30am
Adult tennis	Blackwaterfoot, 5pm
JogScotland mixed ability running group	Whiting Bay, 5.30pm
Circuit training	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6pm-7pm
Summer bridge, all welcome, phone 600835 or 700396	Arran High School 6.15pm for 6.30pm
Rink games	Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Live music – Arran Dawn	Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm
Tae Kwon Do, adults and over 10s	Brodick Church Hall, 7pm-8.30pm

Tuesday 30th April

Body Blitz (booking essential)	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am-10.30am
Healthy Outdoors Team	Brodick Country Park Ranger Centre, 10am-1pm
Eco Savvy energy surgeries	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10am-3pm
Eco Social	Eco Savvy Shop, Whiting Bay, 11am-3pm
Rink bowls	Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)	Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm-4.30pm
Arran Pace Makers – Jog Scotland beginners' group	Ormidale pavilion, Brodick, 5.30pm
Steak night – two ribeye steaks and bottle of wine	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 5.30pm
Gym induction	Auchrannie Spa, 5.30pm
Arran Hockey Club – juniors (5-14yrs)	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6pm-7pm
Flow yoga	Corrie Hall, 6pm
Netball	Arran High School Gym, 7pm-8pm
Scottish country dancing	Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Eco Savvy Food Share	Whiting Bay Eco Savvy Hub Shop, 9pm

Trev's pop music quiz
Traditional music sessions

Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Brodick Bar, 9pm

Wednesday 1st May

Yoga	Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am-10.30am
Hydrofit	Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.30am-10.30am
Brodick Gardens volunteers	Brodick Castle and Country Park, 9.30am-1pm
Exhibition by David Hogg, Unfolding Moments & BM Photography	Active, Brodick, 10am - 5pm
Lamlash coffee morning	Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - 12noon
Archives and Genealogy Service	Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am-12.30pm & 1.30pm-3.30pm
Chair yoga exercise class	St Molios Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am
Knit and Blether	Bay Wool & Crafts, Whiting Bay 11.30am-1.30pm
Dog classes	Whiting Bay Hall, 12.30pm
Talk introducing Arran's unique geology	Arran Heritage Museum, 1.30pm and 2.30pm
Arran Pace Makers running group	Brodick, 5.30pm
Flow yoga	Shiskine Hall, 6pm
Rink games	Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Live music – Mike Bailey	Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm
Tae Kwon Do	juniors 6.30-7.30pm, advanced juniors & adults, AHS, 7.30pm-8.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
Family pub quiz	The PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
Rock'n'pop bingo	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Thursday 2nd May

Morning fitness	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30-10.30am
Exhibition by David Hogg, Unfolding Moments & BM Photography	Active, Brodick, 10am - 5pm
Chair yoga exercise class	Ormidale Pavillion, Brodick, 10.30am
Adult tennis	Blackwaterfoot, 5pm
Steak night – two steak dinners and a bottle of wine	Drift Inn, Lamlash, 5pm-9pm
Body Blitz (booking essential)	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6.15pm-7.15pm
Badminton, all welcome	Shiskine Hall, 7pm
Arran Hockey Club – seniors (12 yrs +)	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm-8.30pm
Eco Savvy Food Share	Brodick Ormidale Pavilion, 8.15pm
Eco Savvy Food Share	Kilmory Hall, 8.30pm
The Drift Inn quiz	Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9pm
Tommy's general knowledge quiz	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Friday 3rd May

Yoga	Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am-10.30am
Hydrofit	Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.30am-10.30am
Exhibition by David Hogg, Unfolding Moments & BM Photography	Active, Brodick, 10am - 5pm
Adult tennis	Blackwaterfoot, 11am
Gym induction	Auchrannie Spa, 5.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
Tae Kwon Do	Advanced (Advanced Class) Arran High School, 7.30pm-8.30pm
Live music – Fatman & the Angel	Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm
Friday night quiz	Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm
Live music – Memories of The King Elvis	The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

Saturday 4th May

Flow yoga	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Exhibition by David Hogg, Unfolding Moments & BM Photography	Active, Brodick, 10am - 5pm
RNLI coffee morning	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am - 12 noon
Heritage weekend, Tales from Brodick	Brodick Castle and Country Gardens
Rink bowls	Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm
Family games	Auchrannie Games Hall, 2-3pm
Gym induction	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 2.30pm
Fun in the pool	Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3-4pm
Live music – Mike Edwards	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Live music – Midnite Hour	The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Over-21s disco	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm



Birds on the move

Bird
notes
by Jim Cassels



Whooper swans can still be seen on Arran prior to their migration to Iceland. Photo by Brian Couper.

As daylight hours extend and the temperature begins to rise, the lure of spring and early summer fills many bird-watchers with excitement. With winter's grasp finally loosened, birds react accordingly and the mornings are filled with the songs of birds vying for breeding territories.

In addition, there is a great movement north of birds. Species that have spent the winter with us like fieldfare, redwing, wigeon, wintering geese and whooper swan move north, while species like wheatear, sand martin, swallow and cuckoo that wintered far to the south begin to arrive after their journey north.

On a walk on Arran at this time of year there are many visible signs of this migration. On the shore, groups of birds like pied wagtail, redshank and turnstone are feeding up, ready for onward

movement, while on the sea both great northern diver and black-throated diver are gathering. As per the photograph, you may be fortunate to see a group of whooper swans resting on the sea waiting for the weather to change before heading on to Iceland.

Round our settlements and villages, the signs are there as well, when the songs of summer visitors like chiffchaff and willow warbler join those of the more familiar black-bird and song thrush. These species, that are considered to be resident, also migrate and the birds that breed here are not necessarily the same birds that were seen during the winter. Other signs of this migration include the arrival of swallow and house martin and, of course, the call of the cuckoo is one that suggests that summer is arriving. Even at the garden feeders, migration can be seen in a species

like siskin whose numbers at this time of year increase and then decrease as wave upon wave move through with some staying to breed. At this time of year migration goes on at night as well as during the day. Many species migrate in the dark and the signs of migration are there, as the sounds of the birds calling to each other fill the night sky as they head north.

The phenomenon of bird migration has fascinated people since time immemorial with the arrivals and departures of birds marking the seasons. Migration has repeatedly prompted questions such as where do birds go and come from, why do they do it, how do they do it, how do they know when and where to travel and how do they find their way? Too many big questions for a short Banner article but a subject to which I will no doubt return again. In the meantime, let me recommend Bird Migration by Ian Newton published in 2010 by Collins as part of their New Naturalist Library for an authoritative read on migration.

Enjoy your birding.

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at jim@arranbirding.co.uk I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Atlas 2007-2012 as well as the new Arran Bird Report 2018 and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk



Wigeon can be seen departing for breeding grounds in the north. Photo by Dennis Morrison.



Swallows are arriving from the south to breed.

Photo by Carl Reavey.

FROM 48p PER WEEK

THE ARRAN BANNER

Now delivering news
7 DAYS A WEEK ONLINE

www.arranbanner.co.uk

INCLUDES FULL website access and a DIGITAL EDITION of the newspaper

THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday April 24, 1999

Board shake-up

From today the Ayrshire and Arran Tourist Board has downsized resulting in the redundancy of the directors of marketing and visitor servicing. 'The present interim chief executive Ian Robertson is staying on,' chairman Ronnie Mann said. 'The directors of marketing and visitor servicing will not be found other posts as regrettably there are not any other positions that have a salary structure anywhere near what they had,' he continued.

Marketing director Charles Currie has been the face of Arran tourism for over 10 years. He was asked to stand in as tourist officer after the sudden disappearance of Jim Haluch who stood in on the hurried departure of Jill Gardiner.

Charles showed his worth and was appointed full-time and soon Charles was highly regarded for his efforts on behalf of Arran. It was when the Arran board merged with Ayrshire that the whole operation lost its way and lost the confidence of its members, and all this through no fault of Charles.

Pressure mounts

With just under two weeks before the exams start, most pupils are beginning to feel the

pressure mounting. Having completed course work and folios they are now able to concentrate on exam technique and on facts, figures and formulae. For standard grade pupils, they will be cramming eight subjects into their heads with thoughts of the unknown looming. For higher pupils who have had a taster of exams before, the prospect of studying and sitting an exam is still very daunting.

In other Arran High School news, shoppers at the Co-op may have noticed a few extra helpers when packing shopping bags. This was to help raise funds for the voyage on the Alba Ventura with the Ocean Youth Club in October this year. It was a great success and they raised a grand total of £350.

Millennium bug

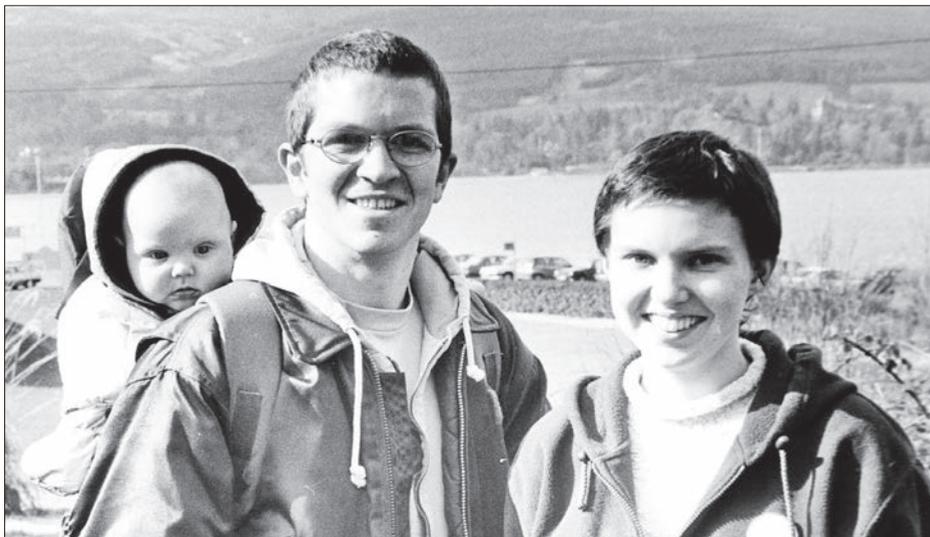
If you have concerns that your computer is bugged and will expire on the first of January 2000, the Scottish Council for Voluntary Service are offering their help. They can supply, free of charge, a diagnostic disk with the ominous name of Timebomb. This programme will scan your computer and detect and fix millennium bug dates in your computer's software and hardware and, come the millennium, your computer should be unaffected.



Pee Wee Shankland of Lamash shows off his rollerblading skills at the first Arran rollerblading championships held in Brodick. 01_B17twe01



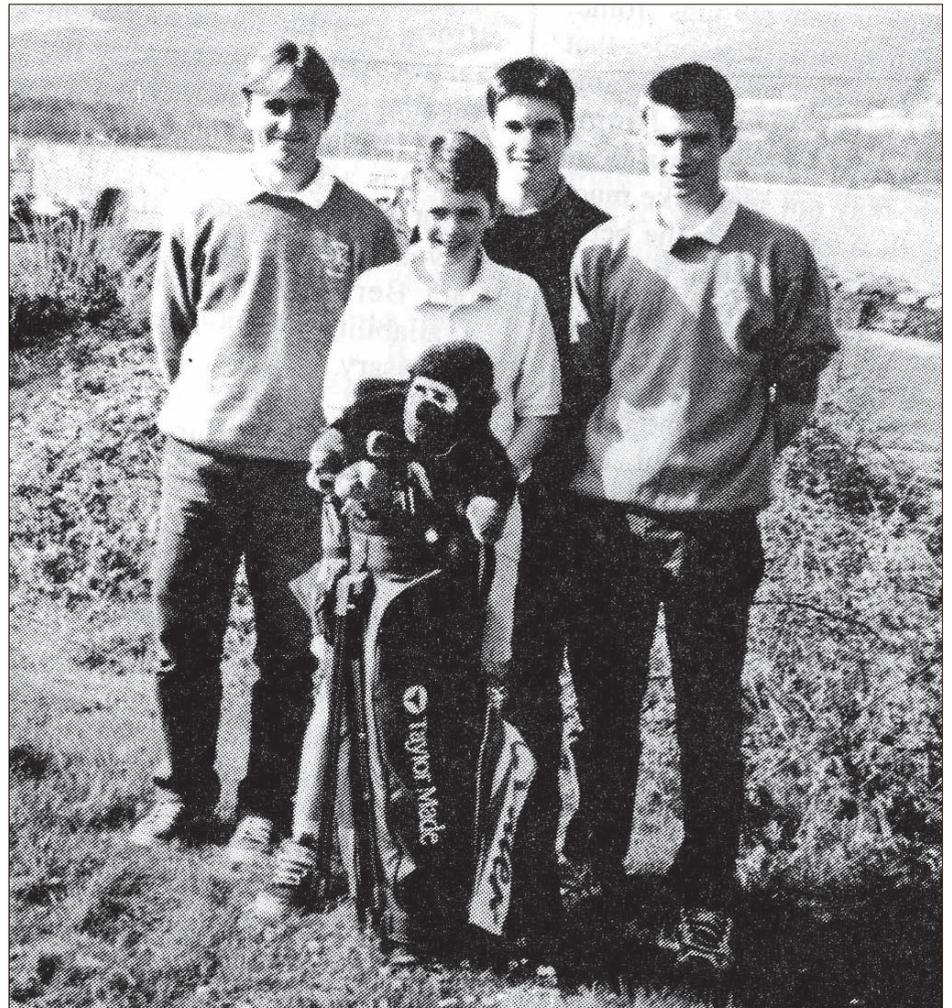
Robbie Brown was one of 42 runners enjoying the cold but fine weather at the Ormidale 10k race which had 15 local entrants this year. 01_B17twe02



Naming your baby Arran is not an entirely new idea and there have been many little boys named after the island over the years. Meet the latest, five-month-old Arran whose parents Gregor and Barbara Summers of Strathbungo returned to his namesake to visit Holy Isle. 01_B17twe05



Pictured at the Cairnhouse Winter Points competition are senior champion Jenna Thomson with Merlin and junior champion Tori Butler on Anna. 01_B17twe03



Brodick Golf Club entered a team in the Ayrshire Championship for the first time. Exceeding all expectations and taking third place were Jamie Duncan, Greg McCrae, Calum McFadzean and Ross Duncan. 01_B17twe04

CLASSIFIEDS

PAINTER AND DECORATOR



FULTON
decorators

LAMLASH

TEL/FAX 01770 600705

Est. 1985

SCOTTISH DECORATORS ASSOCIATION MEMBER

- All paintwork undertaken
- Any job, large or small
- Paper hanging
- Floor sanding & sealing
- Phone Gavin Fulton for a free estimate

SELF STORAGE

ARRAN SELF STORAGE



- small & large cabins
- climate controlled
- condensation free
- CCTV monitored

Gavin Fulton 01770 600705
www.arranstorage.co.uk

LAWN SPECIALIST

GORDON HENDRY LAWN SPECIALIST

SVQ, LEVEL 3, HORTICULTURE: SPORTS TURF

Grass cutting, Lawn and ground maintenance,
Hedge cutting and spraying

For further enquiries please call; mob: 07919341366

REMOVALS

REMOVALS

REMOVALS : STORAGE : DISTRIBUTION

Local - Long Distance - Estimates Free

Contact Hugh McClelland 01770 840 272



UNIT 7, CADZOW INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, HAMILTON ML3 7QU

Tel: (01698) 283314 - 283555

info@mcclellandremovals.co.uk www.mcclellandremovals.co.uk

JOINERY & BUILDING CONTRACTOR



Joinery and Building Contractor

Tel: 01770 600500
Mob: 07855 758978

New Builds from foundations to completion



www.neilyoungjoineryandbuilding.co.uk

Free Quotations. Friendly Reliable Service

Email: info@neilyoungjoineryandbuilding.co.uk - Lamlash, Isle of Arran

PROPERTY



COTTAGES & CASTLES
THE VERY BEST OF SCOTLAND

LET YOUR HOLIDAY HOME

"Flexible, professional and reliable."

01738 451 610
www.cottages-and-castles.co.uk

RECRUITMENT HIJOBS

TO PLACE YOUR ADVERT IN THE ARRAN BANNER:

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

E-MAIL: adverts@arranbanner.co.uk
Please remember to give your name, address, postcode and phone number.

Visit hijobs.net

PERSONAL NOTICE



Guy and Carrie Sloan

Congratulations to Guy Sloan formerly of Corrie and Caroline Moreland of Auckland, New Zealand who were married on 2nd March at Gracehills Vineyard, Kumeu, Auckland with a happy gathering of friends and family in attendance, some of whom had travelled many miles to be there. Guy and Caroline met while working at a summer camp in the USA and they both now work and live in Auckland, New Zealand.



The Drift Inn is hiring for the following positions:

Trainee Bar Tender: Experience not essential as full training will be given. If you have a good work ethic, want to learn new and transferable skills and are 18 or older within the next 2 months, this could be the job for you. Full-time, permanent or temporary. Rate of pay at or above the national minimum wage initially and will increase after the training period is completed.

Front of House Supervisor: This position would be suitable for someone who is confident and experienced as a server and bar tender and wanting to take on some extra responsibilities. Must have a keen eye for detail and have the ability to lead and train new staff. Rate of pay will be negotiable depending on experience.

Applications for these positions can be made by sending your cv by email to driftinnjobs@gmail.com or call Amy on 01770600608 for details.

GET SMART

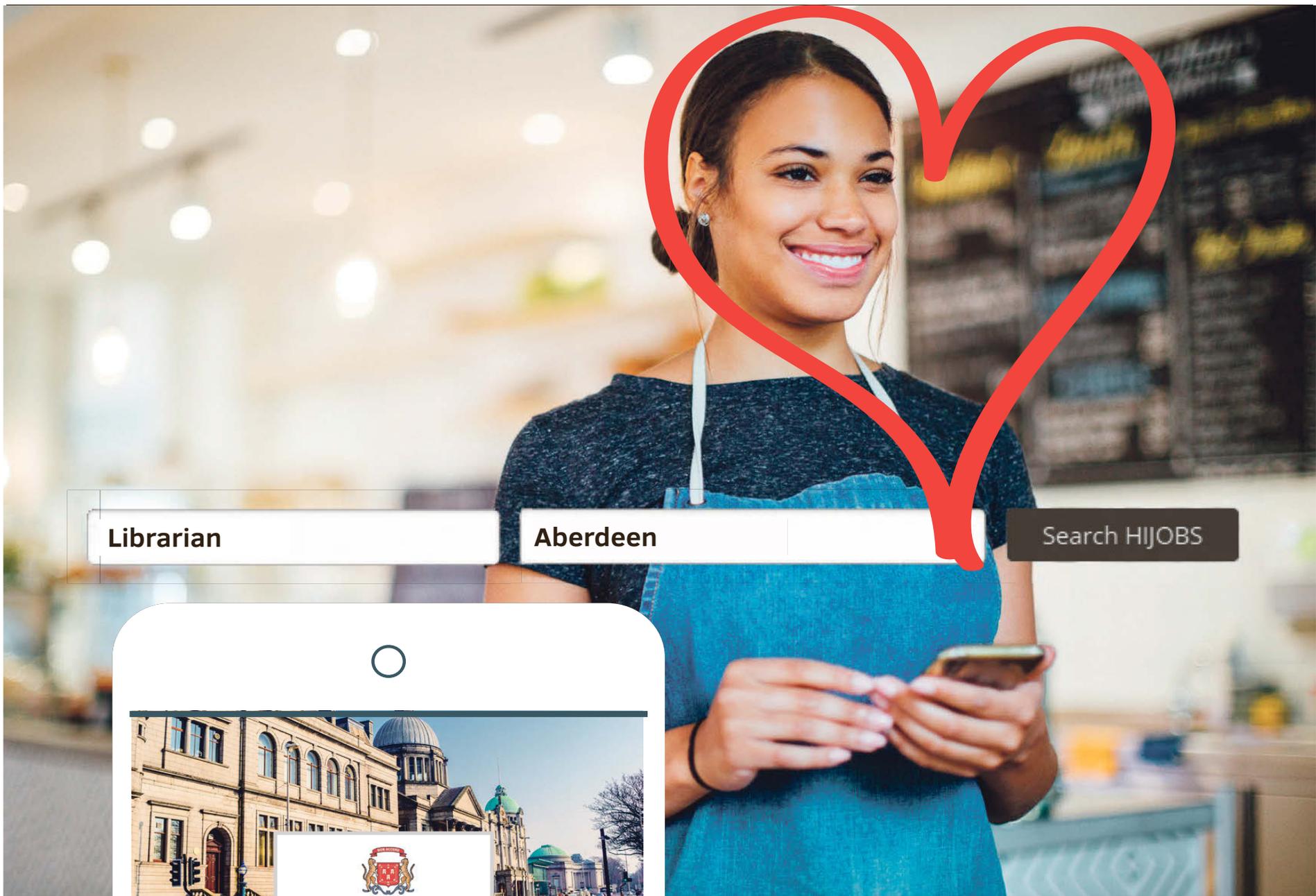
with the Arran Banner annual digital subscription

AND SAVE

From as little as **48P** per week



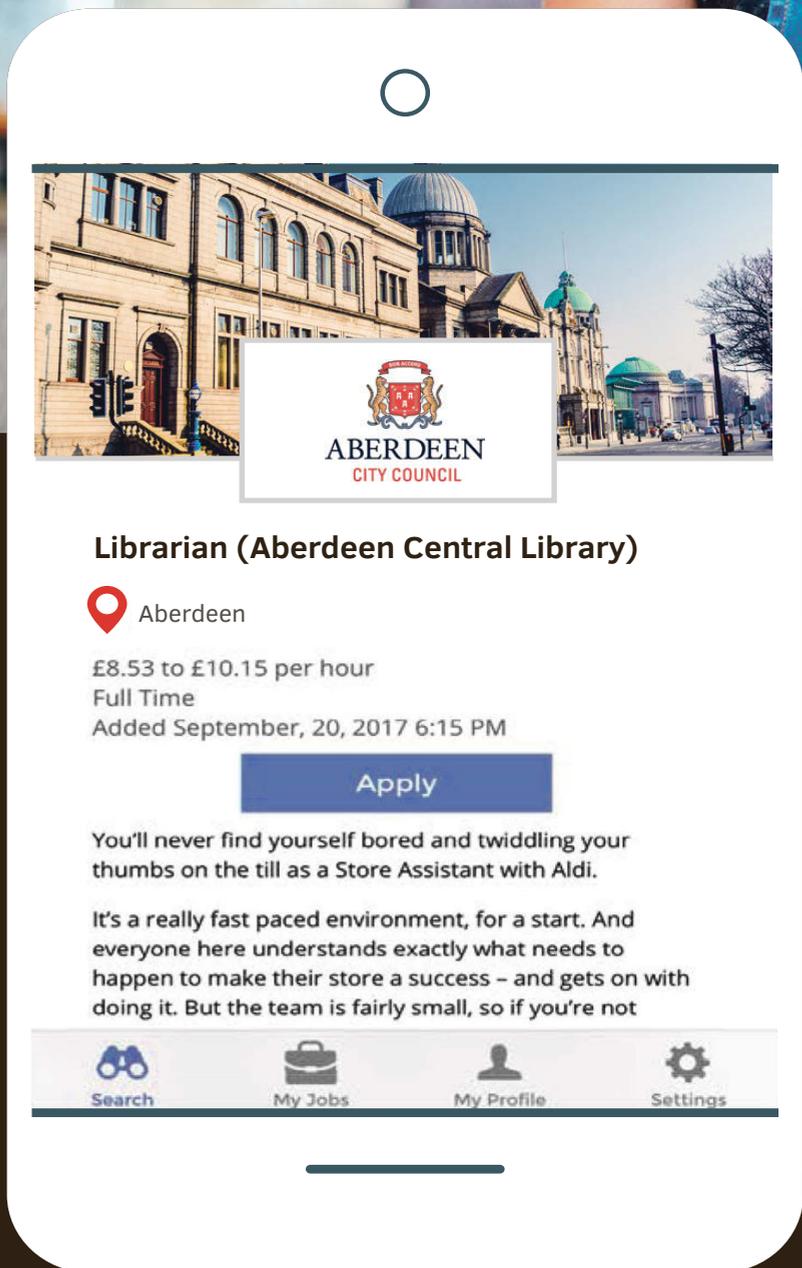
THE ARRAN BANNER
www.arranbanner.co.uk



Librarian

Aberdeen

Search HIJOBS



Find a job
that makes you
swipe right

Download our free app at hijobs.co.uk/app



HIJOBS

HENDRY FUNERAL SERVICES LTD
15 Glen Avenue, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8DQ
Tel: 01770 302233 Fax: 01770 302883

Independent Funeral Directors • All Funeral arrangements
Agents for Golden charter Funeral Plans & Robertson Memorials. A member of S.A.I.F

Telephone David or Clair Tel: 01770 302233

CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran, Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine Independent but working together

Minister: Rev Angus Adamson
Parish Assistant: Mrs Jean Hunter
Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.

Sunday 28th April
Lochranza Church, 9.30am, Morning Worship
Pirmill Church, 10.15am, Morning Worship
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
Sunday 28th April
Worship will be conducted by the Messy Church Team, at 10.30am. All welcome. Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service and everyone is invited to stay and enjoy more fellowship afterwards.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 28th April
Easter 2
Holy Communion at 11 am.
Revd Paul Fletcher
Coffee after service
All Welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 28th April
Morning Service at 11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service at 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
All welcome

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER

Taize Praise
Thursday 2nd May 5.30pm
Holy Cross Church, Brodick

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 28th April
Mrs Aileen Brookens
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 28th April
Sunday Worship at 11am
'Heather Lodge', Brodick
Left of the Douglas Hotel, opposite the ferry terminal.
Telephone 700346, 820223
Everyone Warmly Invited

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 28th April
Service at 11am
Free Church Building, Brodick (behind the Post office)
Tea and coffee after the service
Wednesday at 7.30pm Home fellowship group for bible study and prayer.
Telephone 600222
Everyone warmly invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 28th April
Shiskine at 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick at 6pm
Services will be taken by Mr Phillip Clark

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday 27th April
Saturday Vigil Mass at 7.30pm
Sunday 28th April
Sunday Morning Mass at 11am

DEATHS

McAllister - Margaret (née Craig)
Passed away at home on Saturday, 20th April 2019. Margaret, aged 84 years, beloved wife of Robert. Funeral service at Shiskine Free Church on Wednesday, 1st May at 11:30 am and thereafter to Clachan Cemetery to which all are welcome. Family flowers only please.



Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday April 17, Summer Trophy. Yet another round in which scoring was so good CSS came down to 62. A total of 18 played and 11 cards were returned in the net 60s. Top of the list however was Sandy Pringle with an excellent net 59. 1 Sandy Pringle 14, 59, 2 John Pennycott 15, 61, 3 Kevin McAleney 12, 63 ACB, 4 David Brookens 12, 63. Magic twos Kevin McAleney @1st, Danny Head @17th.

Sunday April 21, Captain's Day. A good field of 34 turned up to welcome new captain Andy Martin to his post and all thoroughly enjoyed the beautiful weather, the golf course and Andy's generous hospitality and prizes. The format was a non-counting yellow tees Stableford and the relaxed nature of the day certainly suited most players; scoring was such that 40 points secured only 4th place. 1 David Hadden 26, 42pts, 2 Wolfi Kroner 16, 41 ACB, 3 Dave Hackett 13, 41, 4 John Pennycott 15, 40. Magic twos Wolfi Kroner @ 2nd, Kevin McAleney and Stan Rainey @4th, John Rankin @9th and Alan Kay @14th.

Fixtures: Sunday April 28, Eric Wood Stableford, draws at 9am and 11am. Wednesday May 1, Summer Trophy. Friday May 3, AGA Seniors Bowl, Machrie Bay Golf Club at 4.30pm.

Lamlash Golf Club

Saturday April 20, Glenis mixed fours, 22 played, 1 Ann and Alistair Ferrier 89-23=66, 2 Shona and David Nicol 82-15=67. Scratch Ann and John May 80. Magic twos Valerie and Alistair Crawford @16th.

Sunday April 21, Texas scramble, 17 played. Super scoring by the four teams highest gross score 63 lowest 60. 1 Sherrie Walker, Valerie Crawford, B O'Connor, G Andrew and I Bremner 60-10.5=49.5, 2 Trish Martin,

MacLean - Tearlach Duncan Sad to announce the death of Tearlach MacLean on Saturday, 20th April 2019, aged 87 years, at Montrose House, Brodick, Isle of Arran. Much loved husband of Margaret, father of Duncan, Shona and Alison and grandfather of Calum and Paul. Private funeral at Clyde Coast and Garnock Valley Crematorium on Wednesday, 1st May. No flowers please, donations to Parkinson's UK.



Dave Hadden receives his winner's prize from new Whiting Bay Golf Club captain, Andy Martin.

Andy Smith, J O'Sullivan and I Docherty 62-9.7=52.3 BIH, 3 Susan Docherty, J Henderson, D.Harrison and A Crawford 63-10.7=52.3, 4 Anne Ferrier, A Ferrier, L Dutton and I Murchie 61-8.2=62.8.

Ladies Section: Wednesday April 17, Stroke round one, CSS 64, PAR 65, 12 played. 1 Anne MacVicar 81-19=62, 2 Kate McAdam 79-16=63, 3 June Richardson 92-25=67. Scratch, Kate 79.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday April 17, Summer Cup, 1 S Cowley 68-13=55, 2 M Cowley 64-8=56 and scratch, 3 D Logan 68-11=57. Magic twos, D Logan, R Logan and M Cowley, but none magic, so big money next week.

Saturday April 20, 18 hole sweep, 1 G Andrew 68-9=59(scr), 2 P McMillan 85-22=63. Magic twos, R Burke, D Logan and R Logan - very nearly a hole in one.

Fixtures: Wednesday April 24, Summer Cup, ballot at 5pm. Saturday April 27, Sweep, ballot at 2pm.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday April 17, Summer Cup, 41 played, CSS 64. Angus Raeburn 72-12=60, Iain Keen 73-11=62, ACB, Tam McNab 75-13=62, ACB. Scratch, Ewan McKinnon 66.

Sunday April 21, British Legion Cup, 26 played, CSS 37pts. George Hamilton 17, 41pts, Nicol Hume 14, 39pts, Fred Galbraith 15, 38pts ACB.

Ladies Section: Tuesday April 9, St Elmo Cup, CSS 70. 1 Ann May 72 gross, nett 67, 2 Yvonne Brothers (holder) nett 71, 3 Fiona Henderson, nett 72. Tuesday April 16, Medal Finals, CSS 68, 1 Kate McAdam, nett 66, 2 Carole Stewart, nett 69.

Fixture: Sunday April 28, Belhaven Medal, notice board or 8.30am and noon.

Machrie Bay Golf Course

Tuesday April 16, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary, 1 Phil Betley 66 BIH, 2 Brian Sherwood 66 BIH, 3 Hamish Bannatyne 66.

Tuesday April 23, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary, 1 Campbell Laing 63, 2 Ross

Trail 66, 3 John Pennycott 67. Fixtures: Tuesday April 30 Lady Mary/Peter Sutton, tee off 12.30pm and 5.30pm. Saturday May 4, Hugh Steel Cup O/60, played over nine holes, tee off 12.30pm.

Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday April 18, Rock Plate (Stableford), 23 ladies and gents played on a lovely day. Ladies: 1 Kema Genda 29pts, 2 Fiona Scott 25pts, 3 Liz Kerr 24pts, Gents: 1 Hamish Bannatyne 27pts, 2 Phil Betley 25pts, 3 Willie McNally 23pts. Kema and Fiona and Hamish and Phil win the Rock Plate.

Arran Golfers' Association

Fixtures: Wednesday May 1, AGM at Machrie Golf Club at 7pm. Thursday May 2, Summer Cup, arranging times with starter. Friday May 3, Seniors Bowl at Machrie Bay at 5pm, Lamlash vs Shiskine. Sunday May 5, Spring Handicap at Whiting Bay. Monday May 6, Junior Handicap at Whiting Bay from 4pm.

Tickets on sale for Solheim Cup

Arran golf enthusiasts may be interested that the opening ceremony day of the 2019 Solheim Cup is set to kick off the biennial event in style with a festival of live music, entertainment and family activities on Thursday September 12 at Gleneagles.

Tickets for the Opening Ceremony Day are £10 per adult and entry is free for those aged 16 and under - the aim is to make the event accessible and appealing to people of all ages and backgrounds, from golf fanatics to those who have never previously been to a sports event.

As well as the exciting build-up to Scotland's biggest sporting spectacle of 2019, there will be a host of off-course entertainment in the spectator billage. Orcadian folk quartet FARA, the all-female contemporary Highland dancing group Flings and Things, and Morrison's

Academy Pipe Band, from Crieff, are the live acts already confirmed, and more names and celebrities will be announced in due course.

Hosted by highly respected sports presenters Di Dougherty and Andrew Cotter, the Opening Ceremony Day will begin at midday and will wow spectators throughout the afternoon before the captains, Catriona Matthew and Juli Inkster, and their respective European and American teams are presented in front of the live television cameras for the official opening ceremony.

For people new to golf, there will be plenty to give a taste of this great sport, from putting greens and hitting areas, to trick shot shows and big screens. With free face painting, temporary tattoos and interactive activities, there will be something for everyone at this world-class sporting occasion.

new SPOT THE SHINTY BALL

Win!
THIS WEEK'S JACKPOT
£2450

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

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

Easy to enter

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

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

Competition rules

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

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

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

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



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

Name

Address

Tel No.

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

RECENT WINNERS:

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

LAST WEEK'S SHINTY BALL WAS HERE...



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

- K Smith**
Oban
- G Gibson**
Oban

Nicola is crowned champion apprentice

Jockey Nicola Currie was crowned all-weather champion apprentice at Bath Racecourse on Good Friday after another successful winter campaign.

The 25-year-old, originally from Arran but now based in Lambourn with trainers Richard Hughes and Jamie Osborne, was presented with the award after securing a total of 30 wins in the all-weather championships – a commanding 12 more wins than second placed Phil Dennis.

It is second award in a matter of months for the aspiring jockey, who turned professional at the start of the year after being named Great British Racing Lady Jockey of the Year.

The all-weather championships are decided on wins from Tuesday October 23, 2018, until Friday April 19, 2019, on all-weather tracks.

Ahead of her crowning, at which she picked up a cheque for £4,000,



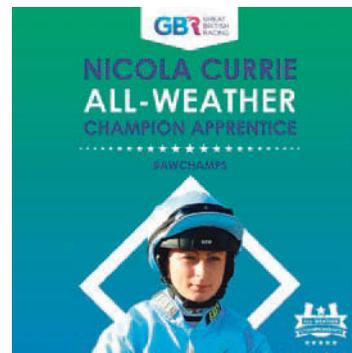
Nicola as she is seen in the video.

Nicola spoke exclusively to Great British Racing, and revealed some things that may come as a surprise to some people in a fun-filled video.

Asked what she would do if she wasn't a jockey, Nicola told of her love for football which stems from her uncle Steve Nicol, who used to play for Liverpool FC.

The jockey also revealed her two racing idols as Cathy Gannon and Hayley Turner, and her best friend in the weighing room as Hollie Doyle.

In the video, she explained her dream race to win is the Investec Derby, and the horse she most wished she could have ridden as Frankel. She also revealed her favourite TV series as Keeping up with the Kardashians and her choice of a cheat meal to be Chinese.



Confirmation of Nicola's latest win.

Brodick season opener

Brodick Bowling Club play their first game of the season this weekend and have extended an invitation to all island bowlers to join them on the day.

The season opener takes place today (Saturday) at 2pm and bowlers, and those with an interest in the sport, are heartily encouraged to attend.

The club is keen to encourage anyone who wants to try out the game to go along on any weekday between the hours of 10.30am and 4.30pm, when the bowling green

and tennis courts are open to the public.

Members will be on duty at the bowling green each day from Monday April 29 and are very willing to explain the game to novices who want to have a go. Age is no barrier, as the club has sets of bowls for youngsters as well.

The club's rink games are held at 6.45pm each Monday and Wednesday, and on Saturdays at 2pm, and an open invitation to join in, or try it out for the first time, is extended to all.

All set for Ormidale 10k

This weekend sees the Arran Runners annual Isle of Arran Orimidale 10K race, which takes place tomorrow (Sunday). The race starts at noon from Ormidale Park in Brodick.

As we went to press there were 88 online entries, but locals or holiday makers are welcome to enter on the day up to 11.15am.

Official

The race is licensed by Scottish Athletics, who this year are insisting that races advertised as a certain distance must have been measured by an official course measurer. GPS

and measurements from maps are both known to produce anomalies and variations, so this spring a registered course measurer came to the island and, using a bicycle with a Jones Counter on the front wheel, measured both the 10K course and the Shiskine half-marathon course and both are now officially certificated for distance.

Anyone available for marshalling please report to the Pavilion by 11.30am. No experience is necessary, just a modicum of common sense. Let us hope for good weather and a good local turnout.

Up close to the sevens action

Photographer David Hogg gives us a taste of his close up action from the Arran Malt Rugby Sevens last Saturday.



Irvine take sevens crown after epic duel in the sun

Ardrossan	21
Irvine	24
Arran Malt 7s Final	

Irvine were the narrow winners of Arran Malt Rugby Sevens competition held at the Ormidale Park in Brodick last Saturday.

The sun shone and the crowds came out to enjoy a feast of rugby at the sevens, back this year after a year's absence. Six teams took part in the competition with Arran joined by teams from Strathaven, Glasgow Accies, and Bishopton as well as the two finalists.

There was a lot of fast-flowing rugby during the



The big crowd get close to the action in the keenly fought final. 01_B17back01

afternoon as the crowd soaked up the atmosphere as well as drinks from the beer tent which did a roaring trade. However, the day was not without its off-pitch drama. Two Arran players – Robbie Bain and Scott Currie – had to be taken to hospital and a Glasgow Accies player had to be airlifted to hospital with concussion with the air ambulance landing on the pitch, delaying the action

for more than half an hour. Arran did not fare too well in the tournament, losing all their matches, but without a league side or regularly playing competitive matches, this is hardly surprising.

What was promising was that Arran's under-16s played two exhibition matches against Ardrossan under-16s and won both handsomely, which bodes well for the future of rugby on Arran.



The victorious Irvine team with mascot Declan Morrison. 01_B17back04



Ardrossan captain Bruce Hunter picks up the runners-up prize of a bottle of Arran Malt from Stuart McMaster. 01_B17back02



Irvine captain John Carson holds the sevens trophy aloft. 01_B17back03



LAMLASH GARAGE



CAR & MOTORCYCLE MOT TESTING – LASER WHEEL ALIGNMENT
For fast, efficient, friendly service - contact our reception on: 01770 600328

All Makes Serviced &
Repaired By
Fully Qualified
Personnel



NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING



Recycled paper made up 75.5% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 2004



Published by Wyvex Media, Brodick, Isle of Arran.
Tel: 01770 302142, Fax: 01770 302021,
Email: editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The Arran Banner's circulation is independently audited by the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC Ltd), www.abc.org.uk. The total average weekly net circulation for the 52 issues between 31 December 2016 and 31 December 2017 for combined print and digital editions was 2,930.