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Spring start for work at Ardrossan harbour

'The Scottish Government is committed to ensuring the Arran ferry service is fit for the future'

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A long-awaited start date for work to begin on the planned upgrade of Ardrossan harbour has been announced.

The £15.5 million project, which will start next spring, will see the current Arran berth at Ardrossan realigned, a new linkspan installed, a new terminal building constructed and a number of other enhancements.

Construction works will require closure of the Arran berth for up to 18 months, but, as expected, harbour owner Peel Ports Group has committed to providing the use of the Irish berth for the Ardrossan to Brodick service.

All options were considered

by the taskforce and, while it is accepted the use of the Irish berth may bring some issues with reliability during certain conditions, it is considered the best option to maintain continuity for passengers using connecting rail services.

The taskforce also reiterated its strong preference for retaining services to and from Ardrossan during the period of construction works, but noted the importance of having contingency plans in place.

The outline design for the upgrade was formally signed off by the ministerial taskforce for the project at a meeting last week.

They say the significant revamp of facilities will increase the reliability and

Continued on page two

Let's get knitting



MP Patricia Gibson joins knitters at the launch of the Arran charity scarf project. Turn to page two. 01_B18scarf01

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Ardrossan harbour work to commence in the spring

Continued from page one
resilience of ferry services, as well improve passenger facilities and introduce an integrated transport hub for onward travel.

The next stage is for detailed design work, and the subsequent procurement process, which is due to be completed by the end of the year, and construction is expected to begin in the spring of 2020.

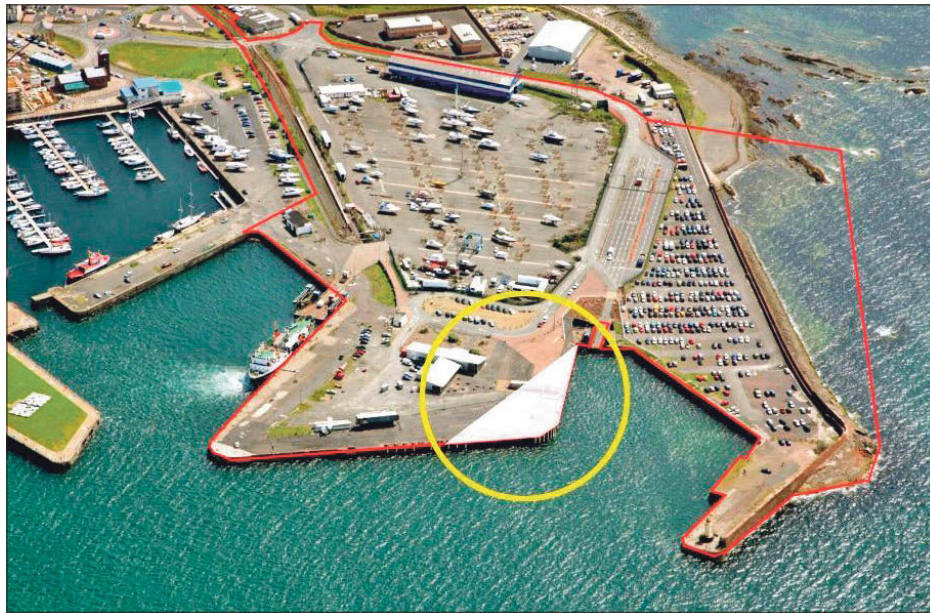
Islands minister Paul Wheelhouse said following the announcement: 'The Scottish Government is committed to ensuring the Arran ferry service is fit for the future, so formalising the outline design is an important milestone in this project.'

'Ultimately, the upgrade to Ardrossan harbour will help bring greater resilience

and reliability to this vital ferry link, as well as making the experience better for passengers.

'I thank all the members of the ministerial taskforce for their work on this, and look forward to seeing the project continue to progress in the coming months.'

Andrew Hemphill, port director at Peel Ports Clydeport, said: 'Peel Ports remains committed to the effective and safe delivery of the project, working in collaboration with our partners. Improving the long-standing service between Ardrossan and Arran remains a priority for our business.' Karen Yeomans, executive director (economy and communities) at North Ayrshire Council, added: 'This is very welcome



A map showing how the Arran berth will be realigned, removing the area in white.

news. The Ardrossan-Arran ferry has been operating successfully for nearly 200 years and also provides an invaluable service to Campbeltown. These upgrades are absolutely essential to ensuring the sustainability and reliability of the routes as we move forward.

'We have some ambitious plans for Ardrossan. The harbour and the ferry route play a key part in our overall ambitions for the town. We look forward to works starting.'

The taskforce, chaired by Mr Wheelhouse, is made up of representatives from North Ayrshire Council, Peel Ports, Transport Scotland, CalMac, CMAL, the Arran Ferry Committee and local MSP Kenneth Gibson.

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Arran charity scarf gets helping hand from MP

A special guest joined a group of knitters last Saturday for the launch of the Arran charity scarf.

Arran MP Patricia Gibson joined the group at Bay Wool and Crafts in Whiting Bay to learn about the project and help with a few stitches. She was due to be joined by husband Kenneth, but the MSP had been urgently called to the SNP conference taking place last weekend.

The scarf project is calling all knitters and crocheters to get involved to help the Arran Mountain Rescue Team, the RNLI and the homeless.

For a £1 donation, everyone is welcome to come and knit – or crochet – a section of a 6ft scarf, with donated oddments of yarn. The aim is to see how many scarves they can knit and crochet before ShopArran weekend in November. Updates will be regularly posted on the Bay Wool and Crafts Facebook page and in the Banner, so you can keep up with progress, with a final total of amounts raised and lengths completed.

The project is the brainchild of Shiskine artist

Susie Thompson, who came up with the idea from the poncho she is seen wearing in the photograph on page one, which was knitted by a friend.



Patricia Gibson MP.

Katharine Sparshott of Bay Wool and Crafts said: 'We already have a basketful of odd ends of yarn in all weights, so whatever your favourite weight, we have a scarf for you to work on. This is open to all ages and abilities – no mistakes will be rectified, though dropped stitches will be secured to avoid unravelling, as you are

all volunteers and this adds uniqueness and character to the scarves. Whatever stitch you want to use is a welcome addition – whether you stick to garter stitch, or are a lover of cabling.

'If you can't make our Knit and Blether sessions on Wednesday mornings (11.30am to 1.30pm), just stop in the shop any time we're open, have a tea or coffee and knit a section. We're always happy to see you.'

Donations for taking part in the knitting and crocheting will be split between Arran Mountain Rescue Team and the RNLI, and the finished scarves will be donated to the homeless charity SeAscape, Ayr, which was suggested by Mrs Gibson. If successful, it is planned to repeat the Arran charity scarf next year.

Bay Wool and Crafts is a collaboration of four crafters, making baby/toddler knits, knitted soft toys, mosaic and stained glass, and canvas prints of the island's landscapes. They also stock a wide range of wool and haberdashery. There are also a variety of crafts on offer in the shop from other island crafters.



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Defence contractor gifts rescue team night vision equipment

Thales Optronics in Glasgow, a member of the multi-national defence contractors Thales Group, has donated a thermal imaging camera to the Arran Mountain Rescue Team (AMRT) that will play an invaluable part in assisting with rescue operations.

The military grade camera, which has the ability to detect heat signatures in the day or night, over distances of up to four kilometres, will become an invaluable tool in locating, pinpointing and detecting people, animals and any other heat source during mountain rescues.

At an informal handing over ceremony, Thales external stakeholder manager Alan Rae and systems engineer Keith Stott presented the AMRT members with the equipment and gave them a demonstration on how it works.

The much appreciated donation came about after Alan Rae was driving to work and on the radio he heard about a search and rescue operation being undertaken by the Scottish Mountain Rescue in Aviemore. Thinking of how the product that his company produces could benefit rescue organisations, he put in place a plan to make use of the four night vision cameras that were unused at his office. The unused but valuable cameras are a previous generation of the models that are currently being used by the British Army.



Thales external stakeholder manager Alan Rae and systems engineer Keith Stott present Arran Mountain Rescue Team leader Alan McNicol and team members with the thermal imaging camera. 01_B18AMRT01

One of the four cameras is currently being used at engagement events at schools which introduces children to the STEM fields and two more were donated to Scottish Mountain Rescue in Aviemore. The remaining one Alan wished to see being used in an area where they had limited ability to rapidly be able to borrow the equipment should they need it, preferably in a remote location.

Thinking back to his childhood days in 1961, when his family rented a house in Douglas Place during the summer, Alan thought

of Arran and the Arran Mountain Rescue Team which could put the technology to good use.

Thales already has a long association with Arran dating all the way back to 1917 when the Glasgow-based company supplied periscopes to the submariners who undertook their Perishers training on Arran. After confirming the plan with his superiors, the decision was made to donate the equipment and they contacted the AMRT.

AMRT team leader Alan McNicol said: 'On behalf of all of us at the AMRT we would

like to say a big thank you to Alan and Keith and to Thales for their kind donation. The equipment will be put to good use and we are sure that it will be incredibly useful during our rescue operations.'

The hand-held thermal imaging camera is part of the SOPHIE family produced by Thales and weighs 1.6kg. It features a digital compass, GPS and the ability to store images if required.

With it, a user is able to detect hidden or camouflaged heat sources, such as that emitted from humans, from up to four kilometres away and the ability to 'see' in complete darkness.

While primarily of military use, its features lend itself to search and rescue tasks but owing to the cost of the advanced technology it is ordinarily out of the budget range of rescue organisations.



Team member Lucy Wallace tests the thermal imaging camera. 01_B18AMRT02

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Record breaking Easter for Arran ferry sailings

West coast ferry operator CalMac has reported a record breaking Easter weekend as visitors flocked to visit island destinations in the scorching weather.

All in all, passenger numbers were up 62 per cent on last year's holiday break from 69,549 to 112,616. This is also 24 per cent up on the previous record set in 2017.

Doubled

Visitors to Arran almost doubled last year's numbers after a disappointing Easter last year which saw passenger numbers drop from the three years previously.

On the Ardrossan to Brodick route, the number of passengers rose from 10,499 last year to 19,158 this year – a 8,659 increase or 82.47 per cent.

On the Claonaig to Lochranza route, passengers more than doubled from 797 to 1,612 a 815 or 102.26 per



The MV Caledonian Isles brings another ferry load of visitors to the island.

01_B18caley01

cent rise over the four days.

Largs-Cumbrae recorded the biggest year on year increase of more than 200 per cent with total visitors to the island over the four-day period reaching over 29,000 or 20 visitors for every local resident.

'The good weather over the Easter weekend undoubtedly would have contributed to

the increase, but nonetheless the figures continue to prove the growing popularity of our island destinations, which is great news for the local economies we support,' said CalMac managing director, Robbie Drummond.

'Tourism is the lifeblood of many of our communities and we are now sailing more frequently than ever before

to bring valuable visitors' pounds to our islands.'

The Isle of Gigha also proved popular with a 100 per cent increase in traffic with more than 1,500 visiting over the weekend dwarfing the local population of just 140.

All in all, passenger traffic was up on 21 of the company's 27 routes this Easter.

Sannox delay turning into national scandal

An MSP has described the debacle over the new Arran ferry as turning into a national scandal.

While there was little new in the statement this week by Islands Minister Paul Wheelhouse that the deadline for the delivery of the MV Glen Sannox and its sister ship 'will not be achieved', he did say the government was now 'formally seeking a new programme and cost to complete both vessels', at the Ferguson Marine yard at Port Glasgow.

The ferry, which is due to serve the Ardrossan to Brodick route, is already 13 months late and, with no new timetable for delivery, it could be many months before it comes into service, if at all.

West of Scotland MSP and Conservative transport spokesman Jamie Greene said: 'This is a significant admission from the SNP government that, having been already delayed by 13 months, these vessels are going to be pushed back even further.'

Second time

'Not only has the delivery of both vessels been pushed back for a second time, we're now learning that the cost is likely to be revised.'

'That means the Scottish taxpayer will have to stump up the extra cash for this astonishingly poor project planning.'

'The public is already paying out £20m every year just to maintain the existing ferry network and is facing the prospect of being handed a bill to the tune of tens of millions of pounds.'

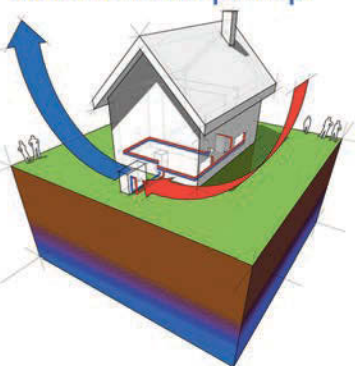
'This is rapidly turning into a national scandal and has raised some serious questions about the SNP's ability to manage Scotland's ferry network.'

It also emerged this week that CalMac does not have a back-up boat, meaning Arran could risk losing the MV Isle of Arran if there are any breakdowns in the rest of the fleet serving the Clyde and Hebrides.

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Catriona cancellations after hull is damaged



The MV Catriona which has been damaged.

The MV Catriona has sustained damage to the underside of the vessel while berthing in Claonaig.

The diesel-electric hybrid ship, which was launched in 2015, operates in the shallow waters of the harbours of Lochranza and Tarbert, as well as Claonaig, and restrictions have had to be put in place to prevent further damage.

A spokesman for CalMac said: 'The recent dry docking of the Catriona identified some damage to the aft end which corresponds with the end that goes into Claonaig. We recently conducted underwater camera investigations 20 minutes before low water and it is evident that there is very little water below the hull and propulsion unit.'

'Claonaig is naturally shallow and as a

precautionary measure we need to introduce a tidal restriction to safeguard the hull integrity and avoid damaging the vessel when approaching the slip. The threat of damage is heightened with the movement of vehicles on and off the vessel which can cause it to "surge". We will need to monitor tidal levels going forward and restrict sailings accordingly.'

As a result of the recent discovery, some sailings have had to be withdrawn from tomorrow (Sunday) until Friday when tidal levels are likely to exceed the restriction. See the CalMac website for details.

Port and vessel owner CMAL has been advised of the situation and will be considering the options available to deal with the problem.

Funds are needed to help keep Brodick blooming

A group of volunteers who work tirelessly to improve the village amenities in Brodick need your help.

They are looking to boost their coffers – every penny of which is ploughed back into the community – by launching an appeal to fill the empty slots in their popular Brodick 200 Club.

For just £20 a year everyone can help the funds of the Brodick Improvement Committee – and there is the chance to win £50 every month in a prize draw.

The improvements group are involved in many aspects of improving the ambience of the village and have taken responsibility for an increasing range of services, some of which were previously run by the council

These include the cleaning and maintenance of the toilets at Brodick beach and the planting and care of the flower tubs along the front and at the library. The slipway in the centre of the village is also maintained by the committee, who also arrange and put up the village Christmas trees. They also run a series of summer ceilidhs in Brodick hall which are a popular attraction for our visitors.

Brodick Improvements are also involved in bigger projects, including the ongoing repairs to Fisherman's Walk and Brodick beach.

The group have contributed more than £8,000 to the repairs on the Fisherman's Walk, which has been repaired after being badly damaged during the storms.

For the past two weeks, workers from Arran Footpaths and Forestry Ltd have been improving the foundations of the boardwalk ahead of the surface being repaired in a bid to prevent it being destroyed again.

The improvements committee have also been heavily involved in efforts to save Brodick beach, which have been well documented in the Banner, and once again the committee will be 'topping up' the beach around the Boathouse and any additional funds will help to cover these ongoing costs.

Chairman Harry Davidson said: 'We would encourage everyone who lives in, or has an interest in, Brodick to join the 200 Club. It only costs £20 a year and, as well as the chance to win a monthly prize, it really aids the committee help the community.'

'Our committee is made up from local residents and if anyone wishes to get involved and assist our work or help organise funding events, they will be made very welcome.'

Application forms for the Brodick 200 Club are available by emailing Kathleen Boag at bic.contactus@



Deeper foundations have been dug to try to stop the boardwalk from being damaged again by storms.

01_B18boardwalk

btinternet.com or they can be picked up at the Red Door gift shop in Brodick.

Current members who have not updated their standing orders to take into account the increase from £12 to £20 a year are also requested to do so.



Liam Crawford and Josh Emmerson of Arran Footpaths and Forestry Ltd at work repairing the boardwalk. 01_B18boardwalk01

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Celebration of jazz at the PHT

The Pierhead Tavern (PHT) in Lamlash have organised a celebration of jazz on Sunday May 12 for those both interested in traditional jazz standards and New Orleans jazz.

Kicking off the day at 4pm will be Joni Keen and Dan Brown playing a mix of songs from both of Joni's albums along with a fresh look at some of her favourite songs from *The American Song Book*.

Joni has released two albums signed to Circular Records Edinburgh. Her second album, *Ella, Oscar and Me*, is a fresh look at some timeless classic and is often heard on BBC radio programmes and led to her sell-out show at the Edinburgh Fringe festival. Her haunting melodic vocals are iconic and along with anecdotes and beautiful music she is considered as one of the best female jazz artists in Scotland, and is a treasure who lives on our own soil of Arran.

Joni works with the best musicians in the UK and Dan Brown is a fine young musician who started piano at a young age, studying classically. It was his mid-teens when he first developed an interest in jazz and went on to study under the wings of Tommy Smith and Paul Harrison at the prestigious Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Since graduating, Dan has collaborated with some of Scotland's finest musicians along with his own jazz trio at Celtic Connections.

As well as his performing portfolio, Dan is in much

demand as a teacher and runs his own jazz and traditional Scottish music crossover project *Dreaming of White Horses*.

They will be followed at 7.30pm by Ali Affleck and Joplin Parnell with their 'Welcome To New Orleans'.

Two young masters of the early jazz, hokum and prohibition era blues genre will



Dan Brown at the piano.

transport you to the heat and fun of the southern states.

This will be a lively evening combining supremely high musicality with lots of informative chat on the songs and, as both Ali and Joplin are American citizens, it will be as authentic a New Orleans

night as you can expect to experience this side of the pond.

Ali Affleck, the highly acclaimed jazz vocalist of the year in the prestigious Scottish Jazz Awards 2014, has a beautiful, and hugely powerful voice. With the vocal styling of a young Billie Holliday, she constantly draws comparisons to the jazz divas from the halcyon days of the 1920s and 1930s when style and elegance mattered as much as the music.

'Ali is Scotland's bona fide Queen of vintage jazz and blues - she means every word she sings. With such raw emotion in a performance you immediately feel engaged in the most intimate conversation shared by the most well-travelled soul,' one reviewer said.

She will be accompanied by Joplin Parnell - outstanding young New Orleans-style pianist - a prominent musician on London's jazz scene whose life was immersed in music at an early age following his piano playing father around New Orleans bars and jam sessions with snare drum in hand.

He weaves a rich tapestry of New Orleans rhythm and blues, New York stride and French musette imparting a deep soulful sensibility into all he plays. It will be a very high energy and fun performance with Joplin onboard.

There will be an offering donation to help cover the cost of the artists and booking is advisable for a table for dinner. Sunday roast, specials and a full menu available all day.



Outstanding young New Orleans-style pianist Joplin Parnell.



The acclaimed jazz vocalist Ali Affleck.



Joni Keen.

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SERVICING THE ISLANDS

Fair raises funds for fun

The Lamlash Early Years fair, which was held over the Easter weekend, raised £416.30 which will be used for purchasing educational equipment and for funding activities and outings for the pre-school children.

Taking place in Lamlash church hall, the event was well attended with visitors filling the hall to enjoy tea and coffee and a large amount of tempting home baking, which was all donated by parents and

volunteers. Visitors could also browse a large number of stalls selling a wide variety of goods, included ornaments, artworks, make-up, beauty products, Arran-themed artworks and tasty Arran tablet, among others.

Most popular with the children was the tombola where donated prizes and gifts were frequently won by the children while the adults tried their luck with the raffle.

Organiser Lynsay Scott said:

“Thank you to all of the mums and volunteers who have volunteered their time to help make the fair such a success. Thanks, too, to the people and businesses who donated prizes and to everyone that came to support us.

“The money raised will go towards education equipment and activities, which this year will include an outing on the Mogabout, a visit to Brodick Castle and an afternoon with the Arran Rangers Service.”



Visitors enjoy tea and home baking while others browse the many stalls. 01_B17Lamlash03



A young boy spends some of his pocket money on a tasty treat. 01_B17Lamlash02



Children try their luck at the popular tombola table while adults purchase raffle tickets. 01_B17Lamlash01



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

LETTERS

Editorial

Progress please

It is great to see progress at last on the redevelopment of Ardrossan harbour, but it is not before time.

The Ardrossan Taskforce held their first meeting in February 2106 – more than three years ago – so it has taken a very long time to even get to this stage.

Much of the blame for the length of time has been put on the number of agencies involved in the process, but to bring these parties together was the very reason for setting up the taskforce in the first place.

Now at last we have a provisional start date for work of in the spring of next year. But for that to happen there is still a lot of work to do.

We therefore urge the Island Minister Paul Wheelhouse, who chairs the taskforce, and Transport Scotland, as co-ordinator, to keep a close eye on developments in the coming months.

Detailed plans must be finalised and the subsequent procurement process completed without delay to allow work to start on time. Construction work is then expected to take 18 months taking us to nearer 2022 before we have a new shiny port at Ardrossan.

I wonder if there will be any sign of the new ferry before then?

Thought for the week

‘The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all.’ Psalm 118:22

Second homes

Sir,
Your recent balanced coverage of the affordability of homes for young people, an issue which to my certain knowledge has bedevilled Arran for at least the last 50 years and probably longer, has now, unfortunately, been sensationalised in other media outlets.

Their facile conclusion is that increasing numbers of holiday home owners have pushed prices beyond reach and are threatening the economic future of the island.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Inflated house prices are a national problem, arising from a complexity of issues, not least of which is a shortage of supply, development constraints, irresponsible lending, parental funding and irrational ‘investment’ concepts. Second-home owners, on the other hand, are vital components of Arran’s growing economy.

Like many, our second home was recently designed, built, landscaped, equipped and partially furnished by sound Arran businesses with local employees, all of whom provided quality workmanship on time, at a fair price and duly received prompt payment. We continue to use local delivery and other services as required.

We regularly patronise local shops, tea rooms, restaurants, galleries, golf clubs, visitor attractions (the distillery, castle etc) and support local events, initiatives (COAST, the coastal path scheme) and village improvement schemes. Our guests do likewise.

On the other hand, we pay higher council taxes, avail ourselves of significantly fewer ‘services’ and have no vote. Some pensioners even have to pay bus fares!

Councillor Cullinane is ‘shocked’ and plans to visit the island to investigate, though, sadly, his immediate response is to check council tax assessments. Hopefully, when he arrives, he will not suffer the indignity of needing to use one of the public toilets recently closed in a misguided NAC cost-cutting measure. His first finding should be the realisation that Arran and its tourism industry is quite different in nature to the mainland NAC constituency and thus requires different consideration. It beggars belief that it has taken NAC so long to address the issue of Arran’s dangerous road surfaces, particularly when cycling and outdoor event tourism is booming, yet still fails to effect a dependable integrated ferry and rail transport service.

Hopefully, better informed after his visit, the senior councillor will return to the mainland inspired and determined to focus the power and financial support at his disposal on Arran’s blossoming tourism industry with its job creation potential, rather than be distracted by an outbreak of xenophobia.

Yours,
**Downie Brown,
Whiting Bay.**

Terminal thoughts

Sir,
Following on from Bob Haddow’s letter in the Banner last week, readers may like to know where our thinking about the Brodick terminal building is going. I hasten to add that the following ideas are solely my own and simply represent an architect’s informal contribution to the overarching strategy currently being developed

by the Ferry Action Group. It is agreed by most residents that the new building is at best inconvenient and at worst, in particular the stairs, downright dangerous for the encumbered and less than able bodied. But it may not be fully appreciated that what we have is, in effect, a three storey building where the middle floor doesn’t exist: the height is simply to get people up to the level of the walkway at 5.8 metres above ground level.

This results in long stairways up and down which are too steep. The inconvenience is worsened by two inadequate, because too small, lifts badly situated for arriving passengers.

I have had discussions with manufacturers and experts specialising in the vertical movement of people and, putting their ideas together with mine, we think a possible solution would be as follows:

1. Insert a new mezzanine floor accessed by four, larger lifts, two at each end of the building and two escalators. Each escalator would rise only 2.9 metres, the first to the mezzanine, the second to waiting room level. The lifts would then serve three floors rather than two and the stairs, equally, would stop at and start from the mezzanine.

2. The new mezzanine would provide a large retail space, possibly a café and overflow waiting area at busy times.

The advantages of this replanning are, that lifts of sensible sizes would be available to arriving passengers immediately at the end of the walkway, that two short escalators would enable one to be under maintenance while the other was working and that the profits from the retail operations could help to pay for them. Furthermore,

escalators can be climbed even when not in use.

The existing stairs would be retained in their present positions but divided into two by landings giving access to the mezzanine. They would still be required for incoming passengers walking down and for emergencies, and would continue to be the principal means of access while the major work was taking place.

The idea of a travelator was mooted, but this would be more expensive than escalators and would not be suitable for wheelchairs, which would use one of the new capacious lifts.

As ever, the problem would be cost. But if some such strategy was adopted it would form a one strand in a rope with which we, the residents on Arran, hope to choke CalMac, CMAL and Transport Scotland into submission and oblige them to listen to us.

Yours,
**Ian Ferguson,
Lamlash.**

Informed observer

Sir,
I have read various correspondence in the Arran Banner and the national press regarding the state of the ferry service to Arran and feel that I must comment as an informed observer.

Following my retirement I no longer rely on the ferry service as a resident or for business purposes. I qualify as an informed observer, through spending a lifetime travelling between Brodick and the mainland, spending six years commuting between Rothesay and Brodick, and six years working in Ailsa Shipbuilding in Troon, which was responsible for building

a large proportion of the Caledonian MacBrayne fleet.

From my personal experience, I have seen the ferry operators make several major mistakes that have contributed to the present chaos as follows: allowing the closure of Fairlie Pier as a ferry terminal; concentrating the ferry service on Ardrossan; allowing the closure of Ailsa Shipbuilding yard in Troon, in favour of Fergusons of Port Glasgow – a poorer equipped yard and much less suitable; following a policy of building bigger and less manoeuvrable vessels to fulfil the service; creating an unnecessary terminal at Brodick, ceasing an alternative service to Dunoon.

I think the progress of the services provided by CalMac can be summed up by quoting a timetable which was recently republished. This timetable showed the journey time, in 1911, from Brodick to Glasgow was 1 hour 50 minutes. Now, 108 years later, it is over 2 hours. Is this called progress?

Yours,
**Derek Hall,
Lamlash.**

Staff praised

Sir,
My husband and I would like to say how very grateful we were to CalMac staff on Thursday evening when we arrived on the pier at Brodick in time for the last ferry, only to discover that our car had a puncture.

When I informed them of our predicament, all staff and fellow car drivers were very helpful in particular Katy who first of all jumped into action and did the preliminary steps of the wheel change.

Once she was called away to load the boat, Gordie took over and completed the job –

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

just in perfect time for us to drive on to the boat and complete our journey home. The CalMac gentleman in the office was also very helpful.

So often we hear of disgruntled passengers, but on this occasion it has to be full marks to the Brodick staff who simply informed us 'it was all part of the service'. Thank you.

Yours,
**Alan and May Mordaunt,
Auchterarder.**

Two issues

Sir,
The deliberations of the Ardrossan Harbour Taskforce Group lack transparency, and go largely unreported in terms of the travelling public. In considering Ardrossan, two issues are of vital importance to the future of our lifeline service.

Firstly, if the perfectly functional, and appropriate, Ardrossan terminal building is to be unnecessarily replaced by a new build at large public expense, it is essential that lessons be learnt from the terminal at Brodick, which has received much criticism.

There must be a wide passenger access system which is fit for purpose and not subject to continual breakdowns. Further, the problems of access and distance, as well as lifts and stairs, experienced by the disabled, elderly, and those with significant hand luggage or prams must not be repeated.

Secondly, island businesses, residents and frequent travellers alike, will not happily accept service reliability and resilience appearing only as a secondary consideration to the economic development of Ardrossan.

Given the evident problem of the alignment of Brodick pier and inadequate swell protection, people are unlikely to take the advice and the assertions that all will be well from Task Groups, CMAL or CalMac.

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



Staying at a friend's cottage at Kings Cross recently, Linda Donnelly of Glasgow and her dog Chester enjoyed an up-close-and-personal interaction with a red squirrel during their visit.

The only credible advice will be public statements from route skippers, confirming that works undertaken will significantly improve access to above current levels, when the weather is difficult.

Without this undertaking, from those who ultimately decide whether a boat will sail or not, the powers that be need to think again, in terms of types of vessel and ports, before further public funds are squandered without addressing the real issues of concern to us all.

We continue to welcome the public's input and advice, and urge anyone wishing to sup-

port our lobbying group to register in your local shop or online on our website www.arranferries.scot

Yours,
**Robert Cumming,
Arran Ferry
Action Group,
Steering Committee.**

Spring Fair at Pirnmill primary

Sir,
On behalf of the pupils, staff and parents of Pirnmill primary and early years class we would like to say thank you to everyone who contributed, in

whatever way, to our Spring Fair. We raised the grand total of £678.46.

The dismal weather did not stop our outdoor activities going ahead – children enjoyed gymnastics in Pirnmill village hall while visitors and locals ate delicious soup and sandwiches while listening to live jazz music.

We'd also like to thank the organisers of Lochranza Daffodil Tea for their donation to the school.

We look forward to seeing you all again next year.

Yours,
**Staff and pupils,
Pirnmill School.**

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MP continues fight against delivery charges

North Ayrshire and Arran MP Patricia Gibson has again challenged the UK Government to act on unfair delivery charges for people who live in rural and island communities, such as Arran and Cumbrae, who continue to be routinely penalised for where they live.

According to Citizens Advice Scotland, around £33 million a year is spent in Scotland on unfair delivery surcharges, with a million consumers in rural and island Scotland having to pay, on average, 30 per cent more than elsewhere in the UK. Small and medium businesses also have to pay extra for deliveries, impacting on their competitiveness.

Mrs Gibson, who raised the matter at Westminster last week said: 'Too many of my constituents continue to be penalised with unfair delivery charges. Current legislation is not working.'

'Online shopping is growing and is particularly important to island communities. Islanders are not asking for special treatment, they ask only to be treated fairly. The UK Government is long overdue in addressing this issue and must adopt a set of standards for deliveries to every corner of the UK, similar to Universal Service Obligation for letters and cards.'

'As an MP who represents islanders expected to pay a postcode premium of 50 per cent more on some occasions than those on the mainland, I will keep pushing on this. It is high time rip off delivery charges was properly addressed.'



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Alison elected deputy world president

Alison Burnet of Shiskine has been elected as the deputy world president of the Associated Countrywomen of the World (ACWW) after having served in the organisation for almost 17 years in various positions.

The ACWW is the largest international organisation for both rural and urban women. It seeks to connect and support women and communities throughout the world and has a membership of nine million people in more than 70 countries.

Alison first became involved in ACWW in 2002 when she was living in Gwent in Wales and was on the board of Gwent Federation of Women's Institutes.

Between 2004 and 2007, she joined the UN committee at the triennial conference in Tasmania.

From 2007 to 2010, she joined the finance committee at the conference in Finland, 2010 to 2013 she was elected ACWW treasurer in Hot Springs, USA, and for the following three years she was re-elected as treasurer in Chennai, India.

Between 2016 to 2019 – despite wanting some time off – she was convinced to go back to serve on the finance committee.

Support

This year, and serving until 2022, she was elected as deputy world president. This position also means that not only will she support the world president but she is the chairwoman of the agriculture committee.

Alison said: 'I will use my time with this committee to look at food sovereignty, zero hunger challenge, and I really



Alison Burnett, sixth from the left, is pictured with the new ACWW board with members from around the world.

want to look at this from the viewpoint of the older women worldwide.

'There is not a lot of data about rural women by any government including the UK. Through ACWW advo-

cacy work, projects and our recent global survey I hope to change this.'

The ACWW is financed through two main sources, through society membership and individual membership

and Pennies for Friendship which is made up of donations from the members. Scottish Women's Institute (WI) has been a category 1 member for a lengthy period and Shiskine WI has very recently joined as

a category 4 member.

Alison continued: 'I would love to encourage the Arran Federation and the other institutes to become members and get involved in rural women's issues worldwide.'



Our experienced team are coming to Arran

Campbell Dallas, Scotland's Accountancy Firm of the Year three years in a row, is coming to Arran to provide local businesses with insight on tax strategies, rules, legislation and reliefs. Our experienced and expert team will explore Making Tax Digital, tax compliance, succession planning, how to pay less tax with smart, strategic planning and much more.

When: 16 May 11:00 - 16:00 and 17 May 09:00 - 15:00

Where: Auchrannie Hotel, Auchrannie Road, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8BZ

16 May

11:00 - 13:00 How to pay less tax with smart, strategic tax planning
13:00 - 14:00 Lunch and networking
14:00 - 16:00 Drop-in session; tax planning, accounts and strategic business advisory

17 May

08:30 - 09:00 Breakfast and networking
09:00 - 11:00 Drop-in session; accounts and strategic business advisory
11:00 - 13:00 Making Tax Digital & Cloud Accounting - what this means for your business
13:00 - 15:00 Drop-in session; Xero, accounts and strategic business advisory

To book your place, email communications@campbelldallas.co.uk or call 01563 536 319

Presenting at the roadshow:



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Partner, Kilmarnock
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Visitors invited to have a ball at castle re-opening

Visitors planning to attend the official reopening of the Brodick Castle this weekend are in for a special treat with owners, National Trust For Scotland (NTS), putting on a number of special activities and fun events.

The event called Tales from Brodick Castle will be themed on the ball Princess Marie of Baden threw in 1845 to celebrate the new extension of the castle being completed.

The interactive family event will be featuring performers, music and special projections and a cast of historical characters, including Dukes and Princesses, who will share stories and fun facts about the Hamilton family and their interesting lives.

Dresses in period costumes and in fitting surroundings, the performers will help to bring the tales of Brodick Castle to life and will inspire the imaginations of young and old.

Taking place from today (Saturday) to Monday May 6, between noon and 4pm, entry for the event itself is free with the admission charge at the gate.

Visitors can expect an entirely new interactive visitor experience in the castle, including a Victorian arcade, mood lighting, costumed interpreters and sounds, while all of the collections of period furniture, silverware, porcelain, paintings and sporting trophies will remain the same, they have been presented in a new light and some previously stored items have been brought out and put on public display.

The castle, re-opening to the public last month, had been closed since November 2016 for major fire safety upgrades, has been modernised and completely updated to create a more interactive and entertaining historical visitor experience.



Brodick Castle will celebrate its official opening this weekend with an event called Tales of Brodick Castle. Pictured are visitors enjoying the castle gardens during the Easter holidays. 01_B18castle01

Council in compost giveaway

Arran residents have a chance to give their gardens a boost in time for summer with a free compost giveaway by North Ayrshire Council.

On Saturday May 11, council officers will drop off 10 tonnes of loose compost at the household waste recycling centre in Brodick.


The nutrient-rich compost will be available for people to grab a share from 10am. However, as it will be loose, residents are asked to bring a bag and shovel with them.

The compost comes from the food and garden waste which is collected within North

Ayrshire each year – last year alone this was almost 12,000 tonnes.


Therefore, by recycling the right stuff in the right bin, residents can help reduce the amount of unnecessary waste which is sent to landfill and instead contribute to environmental initiatives such as these which give something back to the community.

Compost supplies are limited and will be offered on a first come, first served basis. However, if you miss out this time, there will be another compost giveaway later in the year.




Tales from Brodick Castle

4th - 6th May 2019
Brodick Castle



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Society gets early sight

But site not ready



A fine tulip display outside the new distillery. 01_B18lagg03



Display boards tell the history of whisky distillation, both legal and illegal on Arran. 01_B18lagg01



One of the historical references to Arran whisky in the visitor centre. 01_B18lagg11



Master distiller James MacTaggart tells guests about Cask Number One. 01_B18lagg21



Heather MacLeod entertains on the harp. 01_B18lagg06

Words and photos
by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The new distillery at Lagg has welcomed its first visitors where they saw the first legal whisky flowing in the south of the island for 170 years.

Last Saturday 150 members of the Lagg Cask Society were given an early exclusive behind the scenes look round the distillery and visitor centre which, following a slight delay, is now expected to open to the public in early June.

However, Isle of Arran Distillers are keen to point out that the distillery is still a working site and that they are not yet ready to receive visitors until the opening is

announced. The distillery at Lagg has taken more than two years to build and is expected to give a big boost to the south end of the island, already providing much needed jobs for local residents and for others from across the island.

The striking seagull design of the building, making it a distinct new landmark, and inside is just as impressive. Isle of Arran Distillers managing director Euan Mitchell gave those attending a brief resume of the trials and tribulations of building the company's second distillery on the island.

He also confirmed that from the 2,000 apple trees which have been planted cider and an apple brandy are likely to be produced at the distillery

in future, which is also expected eventually to double its capacity.

The distillery houses two huge copper pot stills alongside the mash tun and washbacks and other equipment where distillation is now under way.

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.

Members of the society were able to see and smell Cask Number One, a sherry butt which has been exclusively reserved for members and has been filled with a heavily-peated (50ppm) spirit, at a



Katie Murchie with 'goodie bags' for the guests. 01_B18lagg05



Guests listen to Euan Mitchell's welcome.



The distillery's James (right) and Andy Bell with Cask Number One. 01_B18lagg24



John Fitzpatrick explains the washbacks to guests. 01_B18lagg18

of new Lagg distillery for public to visit

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 incredibly 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.'

Over half of the casks reserved for this offering have now been sold, and with some of the 700 casks for the society already filled and stored in

one of the three huge bonded warehouses, which also houses whisky from Lochranza.

Once the casks have been laid down they will remain at the distillery for a minimum of 10 years of maturation under the careful eye of Lagg distillery manager Graham Omand. Graham is the nephew of the Isle of Arran Distillers master distiller James MacTaggart and he has been working under his uncle's guidance at the Lochranza Distillery for more than eight years.

During their day at the distillery the members got the chance to have a look round the distillery, the visitor centre, which is still to have its floor laid and other finishing touches and the

warehouses - while sampling a few special drams produced in Lochranza. Lagg has also produced its new make peated spirit drink, which will be available to buy in the extensive gift shop.

In the tasting room, they also heard tales of both illicit and legal whisky distilling from the 18th and 19th century by author Gregor Adamson, who has produced a book on the subject, with the support of the distillery, entitled Arran's Water.

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

For more information, visit www.laggwhisky.com.



Distillery manager Graham Omand with John Fitzpatrick and John Divine in front of the pot stills. 01_B18lagg19



Production worker John Divine beside the important mash tun equipment. 01_B18lagg15



A guest in full Japanese dress enjoys a dram. 01_B18lagg17



Euan Mitchell welcomes the first guests to the distillery. 01_B18lagg07



back system to some interested



The first casks to be filled at Lagg. 01_B18lagg23



Gregor Adamson tells a whisky story in the tasting room. 01_B18lagg20



Robbie Adamson gives a piping welcome to visitors. 01_B18lagg04



One of the two impressive pot stills. 01_B18lagg16



The natural living roof of the new distillery where work is still going on. 01_B18lagg25

LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARRAN

Spring is in the air for Arran Singers

As May approaches, the Arran Singers are working hard polishing up the programme for the spring concerts in Whiting Bay hall and Lochranza hall on Thursday May 9 and May 16 respectively. And judging by the success of the Christmas concert in Brodick, the coming shows will be well worth seeing.

The programme reflects a wide variety of music, from different eras, and in many different styles, so there should be something in the programme to suit everyone.

From the 1790s, the choir, with soloists, performs pieces from Haydn's great masterpiece The Creation, one of

the greatest sacred works ever written. From the early 19th century, the choir sings a modern choral arrangement of Schubert's beautiful Ave Maria.

From the field of grand opera, Wagner's popular Pilgrims' Chorus features.

On a completely different vein, there used to be a thriving Gilbert and Sullivan Society on Arran, and, perhaps reflecting this, there will be a short selection from one of the most popular of these operettas, The Pirates of Penzance, featuring among others, solos from the ever popular baritone, John Cruickshank, swashing his

buckle as the Pirate King. Crossing the Atlantic, and moving into the 20th century, there will be a foot-tapping medley of popular songs featuring New York, under the heading of Manhattan Melodies, while Oscar Peterson's Hymn to Freedom brings a bit of Gospel style to the concert. As always, the concert features some solo and group items. Wendy Freeman, who was such a hit last summer, is bringing her accordion back to delight us again. And making a welcome return as a guest soloist will be young singer, Nastassja Alberti, reminding us of the blossoming musical talent



Conductor Diana Hamilton leads the Arran Singers at their Christmas concert. 01_B50singers02

that is coming up through the high school.

All in all, these concerts

promise evenings of varied musical delights, so don't miss them. Tickets are avail-

able from choir members and also from The Book and Card Centre in Brodick.



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Centenary concert for Save the Children

The local branch of Save the Children will be celebrating a centenary of helping to make a difference in children's lives by hosting a centenary concert in aid of the charity.

This is being held on Saturday May 11, at 7.30pm, in the community theatre in Lamash with Iain Clarke performing a piano recital, alongside Helen Matthews playing the oboe. Iain grew up on Arran and is now completing his final year at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

It was exactly 100 years ago that the charity's founder, Eglantyne Jebb, along with her sister Dorothy, held a public meeting in London's Albert Hall to launch Save the Children. Their mission was very simple: to fight for children left sick and starving in Europe after the First World War.

Since that day, Save the Children has always been there for children when they've needed the charity the most: in famine, in conflict and in crisis - from the Vietnam War to the Rwandan genocide and the Ethiopian famine to the Asian tsunami. The charity has played a key role in wiping out killer diseases like polio and helped slash the number of children who die before their fifth birthday from 12 million to less than



Accomplished musicians Iain Clarke and Helen Matthews will perform at the centenary concert in aid of Save the Children.

six million in the space of just 25 years.

However, a century on from when Save the Children was first founded, children need help more than ever before. More children are living in conflict now than at any time in the past 20 years, millions more are not getting the vaccinations they need to grow up healthy, or the care they need when they're sick,

and they're being denied an education, and the chance to build a better future.

On Arran, all funds raised by the local branch will help Save the Children secure a better future for children in over 120 countries across the world.

A spokeswoman for Save the Children said: 'This will be a unique opportunity to celebrate the centenary of

Save the Children and we hope that many of you will come along to enjoy the evening.

'We, on Arran, are really pleased to be raising funds for such a worthwhile cause. Across the world, for 100 years, Save the Children has been, and is continuing to, deliver life-saving aid. We know the money we raise can really make a difference.'

ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

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Archive and Genealogy researchers welcomed

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7.30pm

Tickets £10 at the door or from
www.arranevents.com
BYOB



Save the Children CENTENARY CONCERT

featuring

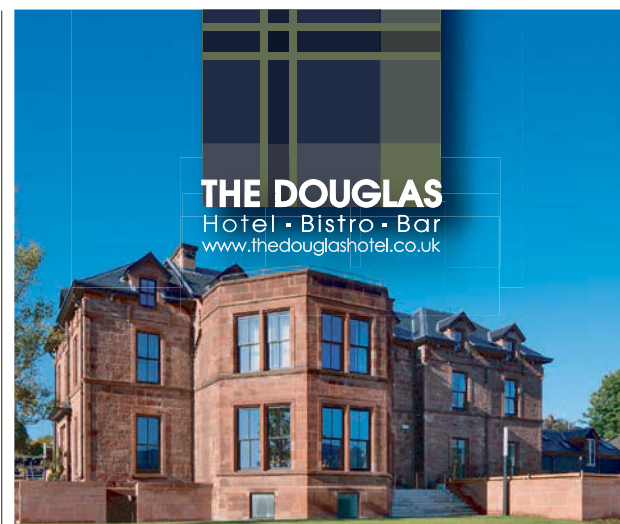
Iain Clarke - piano and Helen Matthews - oboe

Saturday 11th May, 7.30pm

Community Theatre, Arran High School

Tickets available at the Book and Card Shop, Brodick.

Charity No SC039570



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Bunting and banners ready for celebration

When a small group of enthusiastic volunteers got together on a wee project they really didn't know what they might achieve.

The intention had been to produce fabric bunting for the Celebration of Whiting

Bay Past and Present event which is being held in the village next weekend (May 11 and 12). However, the project has grown to the point where an amazing 600 meters of fabric bunting is now ready for the celebration!



Some of the finished bunting.



Whiting Bay pupils hold up their completed banner.

Whiting Bay memories group have been busy for months preparing for the memories event. The bunting project was initially just a small part of this. The bunting-makers began to meet weekly in the village hall, starting in September last year.

The aim was to make environmentally friendly fabric bunting for the event and to move away from plastic bunting, which will eventually be phased out in the village.

All the fabric used has been pre-loved but eventually unwanted – people may even

recognise some of the flags. Volunteers have spent around 200 hours cutting and sewing what now amounts to 1,500 flags. Susan, Vicki, Barbara, Cheryl and Sue have been especially busy sewing at home too.

In total, 18 willing helpers have helped to create the bunting which will adorn the village centre and some of its buildings over the weekend of the celebration.

Whiting Bay Primary School pupils have also joined in with the memories event preparations and spent a very productive afternoon making



Vicki, Simon and Susan at the final counting, measuring and organisation in the hall.

two fabulous celebration banners. All pupils took part and did a great job. The banners are a wonderful collage which was made using scrap fabric left over from the bunting making.

Scraps were carefully pasted within the lines of the letters previously drawn by volunteer Simon R G on to unwanted lining paper obtained from Eco Savvy. The full banners will welcome people to the village hall, which is the centre point of the celebration.

To help get everyone involved, George McKechnie

spent an enjoyable afternoon in the primary school showing his Pictures of Old Whiting Bay which everyone thoroughly enjoyed.

Primary pupils also enjoyed a visit from a group of past pupils from the 'Old School' when they got to hear stories of Whiting Bay pupils from the big room and the wee room of the old school. Some even got to pass around gold sovereigns from the 1800s and hear a story of boys eating their first banana; it took a kind passer-by to explain to them that the skins should not be eaten.



Whiting Bay Golf Club, Isle of Arran
Gents Seniors Open - Stableford
Saturday/Sunday 15th and 16th June

Over 50? - Come and test your golf skills on our stunning course... or just enjoy the banter and the views.
Play 1 day or both days - entrance fee £10 per day.
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Cash prizes and nearest the pin (whisky & wine) each day.

To book: Phone 01770 700487/visit the clubhouse or email: info@whitingbaygolf.com

Whiting Bay Bowling Club
Celebration of Whiting Bay
Past and Present

Fun Sessions,
Taster Games
All welcome,
especially novices!
Saturday 11th May
from 10.30am



Sat. 11th & Sun. 12th May 2019

MAKE YOUR WAY TO WHITING BAY

Village Hall: Free Exhibitions - Music - Memories & Film

(11am to 4pm, Sat. + Sun.)

Sat 11th May: Bowling (10.30am) - Putting (1.30pm) - Music.

Sun. 12th May: Kids Fun in the Park (2.30pm)

Family Ceilidh B.Y.O.B.

Sat. 11th May 6.30pm

A CELEBRATION OF
WHITING BAY
PAST AND PRESENT

Look out for special menus, activities and events at shops, cafes & restaurants throughout the village.

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
Exhibition – David Hogg, Unfolding Moments & BM Photography ArranActive, Brodick, 10am-5pm
Arran Brewery Open Monday, Friday and Saturday, 10am-5pm
Tuesday-Thursday, 11am-4pm. Tours daily at 2pm
Arran Heritage Museum Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am - 4.30pm

Saturday 4th May

Flow yoga Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
RNLI coffee morning Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am - 12noon
Heritage Weekend, Tales from Brodick Brodick Castle and Country Park. 12noon - 4pm
Rink bowls Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm
Family games Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm-3pm
Gym induction Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 2.30pm
Fun in the pool Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm-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

Sunday 5th May

Heritage Weekend, Tales from Brodick Brodick Castle and Country Park. 12noon - 4pm
Live music – Mike Edwards Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 1pm-4pm
Family games Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm-3pm
GeoWeek 2019 – Discover Hutton's Unconformity Lochranza Field Centre, 2pm
Gym induction Auchrannie Spa, 2.30pm
Fun in the pool Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm-4pm
Live music – Midnite Hour The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Brodick Church Hall, 5pm-6.30pm
Folk music session Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 6th May

Morning fitness Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am-10.30am
Bronze Age Roundhouse open Brodick Castle Rangers Centre, 11am
Heritage Weekend, Tales from Brodick Brodick Castle and Country Park. 12noon - 4pm
Live music – Mic Clark The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
Adult tennis Blackwaterfoot, 5pm
Arran Skinnymalinks, Shiskine St Mollo's Church, Shiskine, 5.15pm
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 – Mic Clark Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm
Tae Kwon Do, adults and over 10s Brodick Church Hall, 7pm-8.30pm

Tuesday 7th May

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 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 Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Traditional music sessions Brodick Bar, 9pm

Wednesday 8th 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
MSL exhibition of cleaning and maintenance chemicals Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10am - 3pm
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
Junior rugby (P3-P7) Ormidale Park, Brodick, 6pm - 7pm
Rink games Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Live music – Tim Pomeroy 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 9th May

Morning fitness Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30 -10.30am
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
Arran Singers spring concert Whiting Bay Hall, 7.30pm
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 10th May

Yoga Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am-10.30am
Hydrofit Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.30am-10.30am
Adult tennis Blackwaterfoot, 11am
Gym induction Auchrannie Spa, 5.30pm
Pop-up evening, BYOB (bookings only) The Shore, Whiting Bay from 6pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
Tae Kwon Do Advanced (Advanced Class) Arran High School, 7.30pm-8.30pm
Live music – The Sensational Biff Simpson Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm
Friday night quiz Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm

Saturday 11th May

Flow yoga Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Fun at the bowling club Whiting Bay Bowling Club 10.30am
A celebration of Whiting Bay past and present Whiting Bay Hall 11am – 4pm
G'n'Tees The Tee Table, Lamlash Golf Club, 1pm
Exhibitions and family entertainment – Old Picture Show Whiting Bay Hall 1.30pm
Fun at the putting green Whiting Bay Putting Green – 1.30pm
Rink bowls Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm
Family games Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm-3pm
Gym induction Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 2.30pm
Fun in the pool Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm-4pm
Pop-up evening, BYOB (bookings only) The Shore, Whiting Bay from 6pm
A celebration of Whiting Bay ceilidh Whiting Bay Hall, 6.30pm - Midnight
Save the Children centenary event Community Theatre, Arran High School, Lamlash, 7.30pm
Live music – Dremmwel (Brittany) Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, 7.30pm
Live music – Charlie Gorman Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Live music – Chasin' the Train The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Over-21s disco Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm



THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday May 1, 1999

Market forces

Electioneering got down to grassroots on Thursday as Scotland's politicians met up with Arran farmers at Brodick market ahead of the first election to the devolved Scottish Parliament. Jimmy McNeil of Drumla left Scottish Conservative leader David McLetchie, with a BBC camera crew on hand, in no doubt of his main concern in a colourful response – potholes in Kildonan.

Mr McLetchie took this in his stride and agreed that he had indeed heard about the poor condition of our roads as he moved around the pens chatting about livestock prices, ferry charges, petrol and diesel prices.

Mr McLetchie was with local Conservative candidates Cameron Robertson and Mike Johnston, and there was a brief opportunity for cross-party conflict as they ran into a raiding party of SNP activists.

Mike Lunnan and candidate Kay Ullrich, were also canvassing farmers, but in the event,

cordial handshakes were exchanged. Local elections to North Ayrshire Council are also taking place next week.

Slipway rates row

The Brodick slipway, opened last year as a public amenity, has sent a rates demand from North Ayrshire Council for £3,500.

In fact it was sent to the Brodick Boating Club in the person of Alastair Bilsland. However, Mr Bilsland is not a committee member and it is thought he got the bill because he lives opposite the slipway.

Gus Robertson, who is on the committee, says that the bill has been sent back and that he half expects that it will end up with him shortly. And he added: 'It's a crazy thing anyway. It's a public amenity. It earns no money. It's even in our constitution that the club was formed only to build a public access slipway. If they did insist on charging us, we'd just disband the club.'



The Lamlash and Whiting Bay finalist teams before the tee-off of the 1999 Kiscadale Salver: l to r, Lesley Wood, Alison Dick, Jennifer McArthur, Ann McVicar, Pat McDonald, Hilary Bridge, Liz Paul, Sheena Murchie, Wilma Aiken and Yvonne Brothers. 01_B18twe01



When you go to the polling station next Thursday you will also be voting for local councillors. Standing for Arran are Cameron Robertson (Conservative), John Sillars (Labour) and Jim Lees (SNP). 01_B18twe04



About 30 people were guests of North Ayrshire at an evening reception at Brodick Castle. These were all people who are connected with voluntary work on Arran and they had been selected to receive certificates for their contribution to Arran community life. 01_B18twe02



The Arran hustings ahead of the first vote to the devolved Scottish Parliament: l to r, chairwoman Sheila Gilmore with candidates Allan Wilson (Lab), Mike Johnston (Con), Colin Turbett (Socialist Labour), Kay Ullrich (SNP), Chris Ballance (Green), Ross Finnie (SLD). 01_B18twe05



A new memorial leaded glass window at Lamlash Church has been dedicated to the memory of the late Rev Douglas Fulton who was the Lamlash and Kilmory minister for 34 years. Pictured outside the church after the service are Jess Fulton with son Gavin and daughter Rona, flanked by ministers William Ross and Ian McLeod. 01_B18twe03

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL C147, SLIDDERY, ISLE OF ARRAN 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT ORDER 2019

North Ayrshire Council propose to make an order at the above location to reduce the speed limit to 30mph on the C147 on approach to the village of Sliderry.

Full details of these proposals, which form the proposed "THE NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL C147, SLIDDERY, ISLE OF ARRAN 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT ORDER"

2019" together with a plan and a statement of reasons for proposing to make this traffic regulation order, are available for inspection during normal office hours Monday to Friday inclusive at the offices of:-

Commercial Services, North Ayrshire Council, Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE Council Offices, Isle of Arran KA27 8JY

Any person wishing to object to these proposals should send details of the grounds for objection in writing to the Commercial Services (Roads), Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE by 3rd June 2019.

Craig Hatton
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



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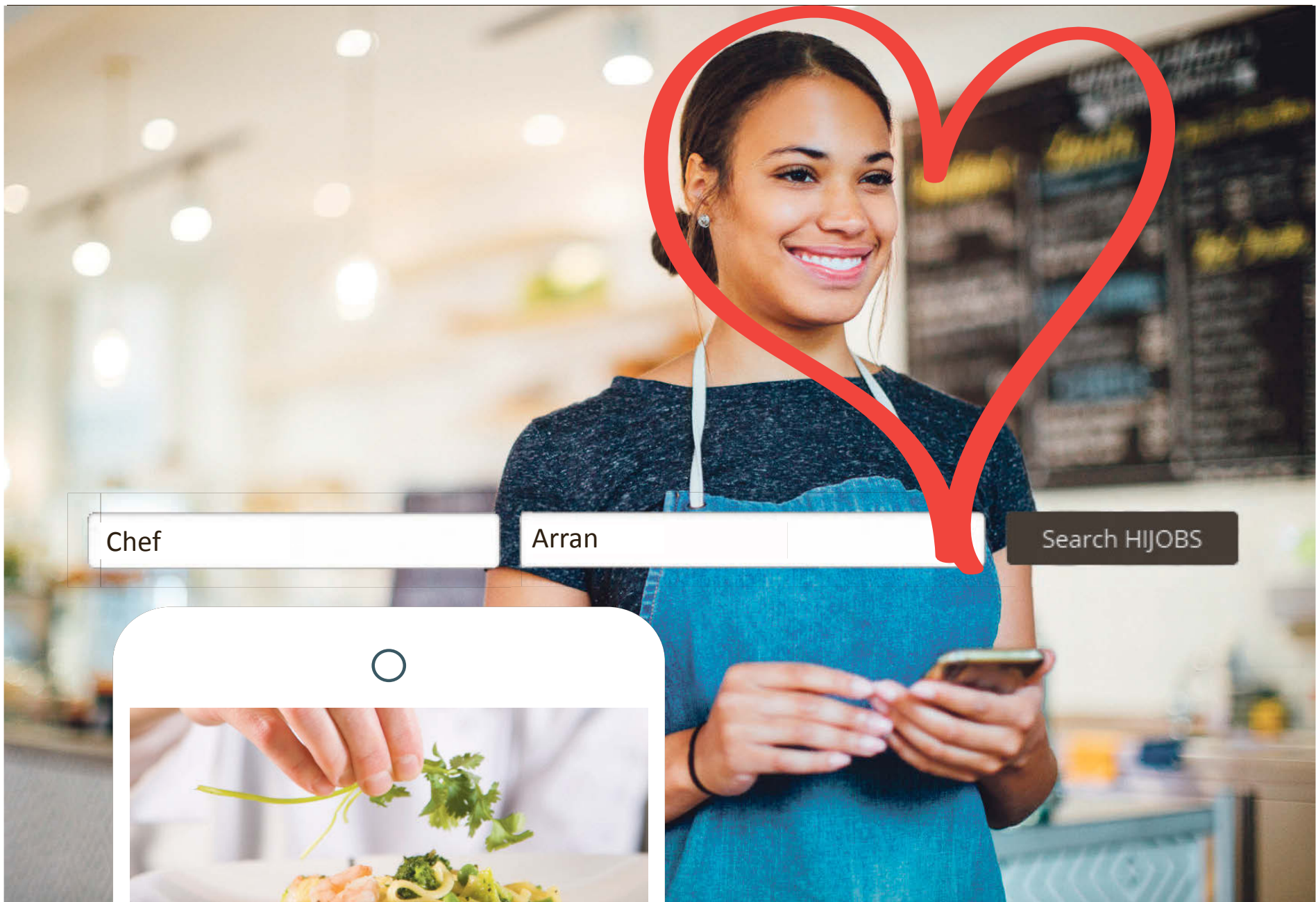
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CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Parishes of North Arran, Brodict, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill and Shiskine

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

Sunday 5th May
Lochranza and Pirnmill Churches at 10.15 am
Morning Worship including the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Shiskine Church at 12noon
Morning Worship, including the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.
Brodict Church at 10.30am
Morning Worship.
Corrie Church at 11.30am
Prayer Meeting, 12noon at 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 5th May
The Sacrament of Baptism, (Ms Elsa Semroud) and the Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am.

This Table belongs only to Jesus and all who love Him are most welcome. The bread used is wheat and gluten free and the wine is non alcoholic. There will be the usual activities in the Church Hall for our young people. Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service.

All most welcome.
There will be a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm to which all friends are welcome.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 5th May
3rd Sunday of Easter
Holy Communion at 11 am.
Richard Trewby
Coffee after service
All Welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 5th May
Service at 11am
Ormidale Pavilion
Tea and coffee after the service
Wednesday at 7.30pm Home fellowship group for bible study and prayer.
Telephone 600222
Everyone warmly invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Communion Weekend
Saturday 4th May
Preparatory Service 7pm
5Glen Road, Brodict
Sunday 5th May
Morning Service 11am
The Lord's Supper will be dispensed at close of morning service.
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodict
Evening Service 6-30 pm
5Glen Road, Brodict
Monday 6th May
Thanksgiving Service 7pm
Hazelbank, Pirnmill
All welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Kilmory linked with Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 5th May
Mrs Liz Clarke
Kilmory at 10 am
Lamlash at 11.30 am
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday 5th May
Sunday Worship at 11am
'Heather Lodge', Brodict
Left of the Douglas Hotel,
opposite the ferry terminal.
Telephone 700346, 820223
Everyone Warmly Invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 5th May
Shiskine at 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodict at 6pm
Services will be taken by Rev Duncan Peters

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday 4th May
Saturday Vigil Mass at 7.30pm
Sunday 5th May
Sunday Morning Mass at 11am

DEATH

BOLAM: John Richardson - Sadly passed away at home in Lochranza on Wednesday, 24th April 2019. Much loved partner of Eileen, uncle of Stuart and Elaine and dear step father of John, Linda, Carole and Michael. He will be greatly missed. Funeral service on Tuesday, 7th May, 2019 at Clyde Coast and Garnock Valley Crematorium. No flowers please, donations to British Heart Foundation.

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

John delivers first jack at Brodict bowling opening

John McConnachie of Corrie bowled the first jack to officially begin the new bowls season at Brodict Bowling Club.

Taking place in drizzly and overcast conditions, around 20 bowlers from the club and visitors from other island clubs, took part in the opening game in high spirits.



John McConnachie of Corrie was given the honour of bowling the first jack of the season. 01_B18bowl02



A friendly club, Brodict bowlers assemble prior to the first game of the season. 01_B18bowl01

Excited to be out on the green again and anticipating a good season, the club welcomed three new members and encourage anyone with an interest in the game, or anyone seeking to be part of a friendly social club, to join them.

Anyone who wants to try out the game can go along, on any weekday between

the hours of 10.30am and 4.30pm, when members will be happy to explain the game to novices who want to have a go. All equipment can be provided, including a sets of bowls for youngsters.

The club's rink games are held at 6.45pm each Monday and Wednesday, and on Saturdays at 2pm.

DEATH

GUNN: Helen, (Nee Lammie) - Passed away peacefully in Australia on 23rd April 2019, aged 84years. A beloved Wife of the late John, much loved Mum of Maureen and Iain and a dearly loved Granny of Jonny and Iain. Thanksgiving service to be held at St Mollis Church, Shiskine, KA27 8EP on Friday 10th May 2019 at 12 noon. Donations in lieu of flowers if desired payable to Dementia UK in memory of Helen which can be made via J E Hackett and Sons website (make a donation) or by post to J E Hackett and Sons Ltd 93 Leicester Road, Bedworth, CV12 8AH. Tel 024 76 313326.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

MORRISON: Mary - Ile, Margo, Janette and Jimmy would like to thank all who attended Mary's funeral and sent kind condolences. With special thanks to Rev Angus Adamson, Kilmory Church, Hendry Funeral Services and Lagg Hotel. The family are very grateful to Arran Medical Group and Montrose House for the wonderful care. £1,020 was raised for Friends of Montrose House.

Arran narrowly miss out on league title

Kilbirnie United	5
Isle of Arran	2
Q&L Skips Division One	

Arran AFC faced their nearest rivals in a mouthwatering top of the table title clash against Kilbirnie Utd last Sunday.

The game at Kilwinning Sports Club started off on a positive note but Arran quickly went down 1-0.

However, they fought back and a free kick from inside his own half was taken by Arran's Sam Tattersfield

which went straight into the net. A superb effort which is very likely a goal of the season contender. Arran then pushed on and with an own goal went 2-1 up.

Then came the turning point in the match. Danny Head unfortunately saved a goalward ball with his hand and was sent off.

With two games in two days and now only 10 men, Kilbirnie took advantage and scored four goals in 10 minutes.

Kilbirnie won the match

and the league title and Arran AFC members and management heartily congratulated them on winning the championship.

The result leaves Arran in second place in their first season in the Ayrshire Sunday League with 25pts, having played 12 games, winning eight, losing three and drawing one.

Last Friday Arran played the first of their two when they played Irvine No 1 CSC in the Ayrshire Cup quarter-final, but went down 1-0.



A Kilbirnie player jumps highest for the ball.

Brodick ladies retain ALGU Kiscadale Salver on home turf



The main event in the ALGU calendar took place over the beautifully presented Brodick course from Tuesday April 23. The Kiscadale Salver is a scratch competition which at present it is played for by the participating clubs in a four-somes round robin format.

On Tuesday Lamlash took on the defending champions Brodick. This was a real test of Lamlash's mettle as recently Brodick has fielded the strongest team the ALGU has seen for some years. With grit, determination and some very good golf Lamlash won one game against the champions, while in the second match Shiskine played Machrie Bay winning one match and halving the other. Standings after the first round: Shiskine 3pts, Lamlash 2pts, Brodick 2pts, Machrie Bay 1pt.

Day two, Thursday April 25, saw Machrie Bay prevail in both matches against Lamlash while Brodick won both against Shiskine. Standings after day two: Brodick 6pts, Machrie Bay 5pts, Shiskine 3pts, Lamlash 2pts.

The forecasters for Saturday unfortunately proved accurate and the last games were played in miserable weather. However, that did not detract from the quality of play from Brodick who won both their matches against Machrie Bay to win the Salver again, with Shiskine, who also won both their games, runners-up.

After time to shed sodden waterproofs and maybe tidy up our hair a little, the players

and their stalwart caddies and supports repaired to the clubhouse for the annual prize-giving.

The main winners over the 2018-19 season are: Flockhart Trophy 2018, Yvonne Brothers; Island Champion 2018, Anne May; Cir Mhor Trophy 2018, Anne May; Drumadoon Plate 2018-19, Kema Glenda; and Kiscadale Salver 2019, Brodick.

Following the prize-giving, in a departure from previous years, the company remained at the host club and enjoyed the most enjoyable meal provided by the club's caterers. That made getting drookit out on the course worthwhile!

On behalf of the ALGU, many thanks to hosts Brodick for the courtesy of their lovely course and for the wonderful hospitality and food we enjoyed over the three days of competition. To Chris and team of caterers and to Graeme behind the bar thank you for your kindness and patience with a such a large group of exuberant lady golfers.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday April 25, Summer Stableford. 1 Allan Colquhoun 44pts, 2 Norrie MacIntyre 39pts, 3 Graeme Andrew 36pts BIH, 4 Paul Jameson 36pts. Best scratch, Allan Colquhoun 36pts. Magic twos Jim Young @13th, Ian Bremner @14th, Martin Wallbank and Neil Young @16th. Hole 17 drawn out but no winner so the rollover continues.

Sunday April 28, Drift



The teams who took part in the Kiscadale Salver competition.

Inn Quaich, CSS 67, 33pts to Stableford. 1 Lee Dutton 37pts, 2 Ian Bremner 33pts BIH, 3 Graeme Andrew 33pts BIH over Iain Murchie. Best scratch, Iain Murchie 28pts. Magic twos Norrie MacIntyre @13th. Draw, no winner so the rollover continues.

Fixtures: Sunday May 5, AGA Spring Handicap at W/Bay at 9.30am and 12.30pm. Thursday May 9, Summer Cup, make up own groups.

Shiskine Golf Club

Saturday April 27, gents' Stableford Open, 49 played. 1st Class: 1 William Thompson 26pts, 2 Willie Kelso 25pts, 3 Phil Betley 23pts. 2nd Class: 1 Peter Hillis 31pts and winner, 2 Fraser Topping 27pts, 3 John McKee 26pts, BIH. Magic twos: C Lofthouse, P Hillis, S Urquhart, D Simpson and R Traill. Jackpot at the 10th (£50), Ross Traill. Many thanks to everyone who played, helped on the day and donated a prize. Well done to Peter Hillis, fantastic round.

Fixtures: Thursday May 9, Ladies' Club Championship qualifying round two. Thursday May 9, 1pm and 5.30pm tee-offs. Sunday May 7, Gents AGA Spring Handicap at Whiting Bay, am and pm tee-offs.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday April 24, Summer Cup, 35 played, CSS 64. Finlay Sillars 68-13=55, Babbies MacNeil 81-21=60, Ali Hume 73-12=61. Scratch Matt Keir 67.

Sunday April 28, Belhaven Medal, 22 played, CSS 65. Brian Smith 74-13=61, Matt Keir 69-5=64, David Hendry



The winning Brodick team with the Kiscadale Salver.

78-13=65, ACB. Scratch Matt Keir 69.

Fixtures: Sunday May 5, no competition at Brodick as AGA Spring Handicap at Whiting Bay.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday April 24, The Richard Parfitt Stableford. A total of 23 played on yet another day of fine weather although an intermittent breeze and quickening greens made for tricky conditions at times. Early starter Colin Wannop was unconcerned however and he carded a fine 39 points to win by 2. 1 Colin Wannop 29, 39pts, 2 David Brookens 12, 37, 3 Stan Rainey 11, 36, 4 Kevin McAleney 12, 35. CSS stayed at 63/36 points. Magic twos Stan Rainey @2nd @11th, Sandy Pringle @7th and Nicol Auld @17th.

Friday April 26, AGA Seniors Crystal round 1. Whiting Bay enjoyed a comfortable victory over Lochranza Castle Golf Club at Machrie. In the first game out, WBGC captain Andy

Martin and Dougie Auld found themselves seven holes to the good on the 16th tee while the second pairing of David Brookens and Stan Rainey were three holes up on the 15th fairway; altogether an impregnable position for WBGC and hands were shaken all round. On now to a tough semi-final tie against Machrie over their home course.

Sunday April 28, The Eric Wood Memorial Stableford. Another fine day for this year's Eric Wood Stableford drew a field of 16 for this ever popular event. Over the field scoring was good to the extent that CSS came down to 62/37 points and four tied on that score to share the top places. 1 Paul Robson 13, 37pts ACB, 2 Kevin Jackson 10, 37 ACB, 3 Stan Rainey 11, 37 ACB, 4 John Simmons 13, 37. Magic twos Gus Macleod and Andy Martin both @17th.

Fixtures: Sunday May 5, AGA Spring Handicap at Whiting Bay. Wednesday May 8, Summer Trophy. Friday May 10, AGA Seniors

Bowl at Machrie Bay Golf Club.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday April 24, Summer Cup. 1 D Logan 70-10=60 and scratch, 2 R McLean 74-13=61, 3 J McGovern 75-14=61. Magic twos, three but none of which were drawn so the pot continues to grow.

Fixtures: Saturday May 4, The James Bunyan Trophy. Open to all golfers, ballots at 9am and 2pm. Wednesday May 8, Summer Cup, ballot at 6pm.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Fixtures: Saturday May 4, High Steel Cup for over 60s, nine hole competition plus open sweep, tee off at 12.30pm. Tuesday May 7, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary, tee off 12.30pm and 5.30pm.

Arran Golfers' Association

Fixture: AGA Spring Handicap played at Whiting Bay GC Sunday May 5, entry sheets at all the Arran clubs. Late entries accepted.



Flockhart Trophy winner Yvonne Brothers with island champion Anne May, who also picked up the Cir Mhor Trophy.



Runners set off on the Ormidale 10k race. 01_B18Ormidale01

Michal leads local runners home

Continued from page 24

Michal Bochenek was the first Arran male over the line and also the fourth overall in a time of 37.45. Julia Harrison was the first local female over the line with a time of 50.20.

Arran runner David Black came in second place in

the local category and was chuffed with the result. David said: 'I am delighted and astounded just to have finished. Owing to an injury last year, I thought that my running days were over. I only started training again in January this year so I am understandably

thrilled with the result.'

Following the race, which celebrated its 30th anniversary last year, a prize-giving was held and trophies awarded to the overall male and female winners, the first local male and female winners and the various age group winners.

Organiser Tommy Gilmore thanked all those for taking part, the marshals who kept the runners safe and everyone who helped on the day, timekeepers and Sophie Clark who congratulated the runners and handed out finishing medals after the race.



First over the line with a finishing time of 36 minutes and 13 seconds was John Speirs of Kilmarnock Harriers. 01_B18Ormidale04



First female over the line was Elaine Eadie of Edinburgh AC who finished with a time of 40 minutes and 4 seconds. 01_B18Ormidale06



Runners line Knowe Road at the start of the race. 01_B18Ormidale03



In fourth place and the first male local over the line was Michal Bochenek with a time of 37 minutes and 45 seconds. 01_B18Ormidale05



Arran runners Lois Bell, Zara Mackay and Hugh Boag are all smiles at the start of the race. 01_B18Ormidale14



Julie Cannon and Amanda Hogge smile and wave at the camera during their run. 01_B18Ormidale15



Local runner Zara Mackay crosses the finish line. 01_B18Ormidale13



First local female Julia Harrison crosses the finish line with a smile on her face. 01_B18Ormidale08



Delighted Arran runner Dave Black crosses the finish line to take the second male local title. 01_B18Ormidale07



A great personal accomplishment, Shona Catriona Dunsmuir crosses the line to a rousing applause from the crowd. 01_B18Ormidale09

Bowling season
is under way

Brodick ladies
retain trophy

Record entry for Ormidale 10k race

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

There was a record entry for this year's Isle of Arran Ormidale 10k with a total of 105 runners on the starting line, including a large contingent of Arran runners, some taking part in their first local event.

Setting off from the Ormidale Park in Brodick, at noon on Sunday, the runners followed the flat main road north, along the coast for five kilometres, before returning

to finish back at the pavilion. Runners enjoyed perfect running conditions with mild weather favouring them despite rain the day before and after the event.

Taking first place with a time of 36 minutes and 13 seconds was John Speirs, who is a member of the Kilmarnock Harriers, and Elaine Eadie of Edinburgh AC was once again the first female over the line, beating her time last year of 40.48 and finishing in 40.04.

Continued on page 23



A large contingent of local runners took part in this year's Ormidale 10k race. 01_B18Ormidale02



First male local over the line Michal Bochenek with his trophy. 01_B18Ormidale11



First female over the line, Elaine Eadie, with her trophy. 01_B18Ormidale10



Race organiser Tommy Gilmore presents first female local Julia Harrison with her trophy. 01_B18Ormidale12



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