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Streets not safe for construction traffic

Brodick residents demand new road

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Residents in the Springbank area of Brodick are stepping up their demand for a new road into the first council houses to be built for 30 years.

North Ayrshire Council is proposing to build 34 new houses behind Brathwic Terrace but has previously ruled out any additional infrastructure for the development.

But residents are worried that even when it is being built heavy construction traffic will have to use the long and winding Brathwic Place, the only road through existing houses to get to the site at the back of Brodick. They say the road is already busy with cars and that children in the area play on the streets and the nearby play park.

Instead they want to see

an existing right-of-way footpath widened to at least take the construction traffic away from the houses via Springbank Way directly to the site. And they have been given the backing of Arran Community Council which has written to council roads bosses, after discussing the residents' concerns at its meeting last week.

Work on the much-needed two-, three- and four-bedroomed homes is expected to start after the summer. However, local authorities do not require to apply for planning permission, like any private builder or individual, leading to concerns that the interests of the nearby residents may have been overlooked.

In the letter to NAC the community council states: 'We welcome the proposals

Continued on page two



The children at Corrie primary and early years class recently took part in a sponsored walk to raise funds to purchase two new picnic benches for the playground.

Despite the soaking the children got, on a very wet day in March, they raised

an excellent £938, which also included a donation from the Scottish Salmon Company, and the school this week took delivery of the new benches.

Parent council chairwoman Ann Marie Mochan said: 'We would like to thank all our supporters and say what a

fantastic achievement this was for the children of the school and early years class.' Pictured are The Corrie pupils at one of the benches with teachers, from left: Ann Gray, Lindsay Todd, head teacher Shirley MacLachlan and Julie Hunter. 01_B19bench01

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Cinema project is hit by a delay

Proposals to turn the former CalMac ticket office in Brodick into a cinema are still very much alive, but preparation for the project is taking longer than expected.

It was first announced last November that Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited (CMAL), which owns the building, had agreed terms with Arran Picture-House Limited to convert the building into two 55-seater cinema screens, with laser digital projectors and dolby sound system. The community cinema is expected to show the latest release films from major studios, as well as screening cultural events live by satellite from arts organisations around the world.

Planning permission for the proposal followed earlier this year with the hope that it might be ready to open by Easter but nothing has happened and attempts by the



The former ticket office in Brodick.

Banner to contact the man behind the project, Brian Keating, who runs a similar cinema in Helensburgh, have proved fruitless.

However, CMAL insists the project is still on track,

if slightly delayed. A spokeswoman said: 'Plans to turn the old ticket office at Brodick ferry terminal into a cinema are still going ahead. We are working closely with Arran Picture-House Limited to

ensure all permissions and plans are in place before on-site building work begins. This has taken slightly longer than anticipated, however, we will keep the public updated with progress.'

New tourist trail to get coasts and waters cash

North Ayrshire Council's cabinet has agreed to fund £50,000 towards the development of a programme of events to celebrate the Scottish government's Year of Coasts and Waters 2020.

The programme will reflect the council's tourism ambitions and showcase the new tourism route – the Coig, which is due to be launched later this year and includes Arran.

The Coig, which is Gaelic for five, are routes or rings that could form tourist trails: The Shire, The Shiel, The Arran, The Bute and The Cumbrae.

This innovative approach will incorporate areas outwith North Ayrshire, into South and East Ayrshires, Inverclyde and Argyll and Bute. From a Clyde islands perspective, it is hoped Arran, Bute and Cumbrae will benefit from promotion of their own routes within The Coig.

The programme also includes plans to host a signature event – the Making Waves Festival – planned for Irvine Beach Park in the summer and a number of smaller events to celebrate the area's heritage, lively arts and culture scene, as well as building strong communities.

Officers will now submit an application to EventScotland's Year of Coasts and Waters Fund and additional support will be sought from the Scottish government to help progress the plans for the Making Waves Festival.

Karen Yeomans, director of economy and communities, said: 'Marine and coastal tourism is important to North Ayrshire's economy; it's the council's priority to promote and develop our key natural assets to attract visitors and generate new business.'

'The Year of Coasts and Waters 2020 is an excellent opportunity to encourage more visitors to explore all that North Ayrshire has to offer.'

Streets not safe for construction traffic

Continued from page two
for 30-plus new homes. However we wish to register the concerns for the safety and welfare of families living on the access route as proposed and other road users.

'Due to the fact that the normal planning process does not apply and the residents and community council will have no formal opportunity to register their concerns.'

Now the community council has asked whether there has been a full risk analysis completed which covers the heavy plant and equipment to the proposed site and recognises the potential risk to the residents' health and safety, who will be impacted if the existing road network were to be the primary access.

The letter states: 'The streets are very narrow and house many young families who access the play area in the vicinity on foot.' And it asks: 'Have alternative routes been evaluated, considered or eliminated from the planning process?'

It adds: 'We stress that there is no general objection to the development of much-needed housing. However, we hope,

after due consideration, you will agree that alternative solutions need to be considered particularly for the initial volumes of plant, equipment and carriage of materials and supplies to and from the site.'

One long-time resident told the Banner: 'The thought of a lot of construction traffic coming through here does not bear thinking about. They are narrow and are lined with cars and loads of kids play about here.'

'Even after construction, the new development is going to bring another 40 or 50 cars using one access road. This

really has to be rethought.'

A North Ayrshire Council spokeswoman said: 'A consultation event was held in September 2018, where draft plans for the Brathwic Terrace development were discussed. The next step will be to hold a final plans consultation event, which is expected to take place during this summer.'

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

'Construction work will commence thereafter.'



No way through. Residents want to see this footpath widened into a road for construction traffic. 01_B19road01

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Culture and characters are caught on camera

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Dr David Hogg, reflecting on nine years of being a rural GP and keen photographer on Arran, is sharing a portion of his huge archive of photographs taken during this time at an exhibition called #9YearsOnArran.

The exhibition, which will be on display until Sunday June 30 at Arran Active in Brodick, has come about after David made the difficult decision to move off the island for what he describes as 'happy and positive' personal reasons – his forthcoming wedding to fiancée Julia Harrison.

A wealth of work so extensive – and some only being seen by the public for the first time – the collection has had to be categorised into culture, sport, emergency teams, nature and community.

Making the comparison between being a GP and his love of photography, David says that both vocations require a focus on narrative and an understanding of storytelling as the basis of communication.

Juxtaposing listening to the stories from patients' lives with that of photographs that can convey meaning, such as conflict, anxiety or personality, David says that he is drawn to images that tell a story and that if he was not working in general practice he would be a photojournalist.

Privileged

Describing his time on Arran as rewarding and fulfilling, David said: 'I have been privileged to live on Arran since August 2010. Living on the island has meant being surrounded by nature, landscapes and personalities.'

'My #9YearsOnArran have been filled with great expe-

riences and the opportunity to work with some amazing people.

'It has also been full of the challenges that would be expected with regular on-call and diverse medical practice. Photography has offered me a means of relaxation – both when shooting and processing images.'

'The variety of activities, scenery and personalities on Arran offers a ripe stage for photographic discovery. I like the challenge of using a wide range of technical skills to cover a range of genres, particularly events, landscape and documentary.'

And deflecting some of the attention from himself, David also praised other photographers on Arran, three in particular who are sharing some of the exhibition space with him: Beth McCartney, Natalie Lambie of Unfolding Moments and Kirstie Smith

of A Focus for Adventure.

David said: 'I learn much from other photographers, and they have inspired me with their Instagram feeds. I am delighted that they are presenting their photography here as well.'

Thank you

'A huge thank you also needs to be said to Andrew and Juliette Walsh for making the exhibition space at Arran Active available for photographers, artists and other exhibitors. Their support and promotion of talent in the community is very much appreciated.'

In July David will make the move away from Arran after having played a vital role in many aspects of community life. Speaking of his imminent move he said: 'I'm set for a new chapter and excited by the prospect of living and working closer to our parents and our mainland friends.'



Dr David Hogg is pictured at the #9YearsOnArran exhibition which has been well received by visitors to the display. 01_B19David03



Visitors browsing the #9YearsOnArran exhibition. 01_B19David01



Many familiar Arran faces can be seen in David Hogg's pictures. 01_B19David02

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National trust will breathe new life into Brodick villa

A near-derelict 106-year-old villa in Brodick will be given a new lease of life if building plans are approved by North Ayrshire planning chiefs.

Built in 1913 in the Arran estate style, Sylvania is a C-listed, two-storey, three-bay sandstone villa located in Cladach immediately adjacent to Brodick Castle and Country Park and belongs to the National Trust for Scotland.

In a supporting statement requesting planning permission to upgrade the fire resilience and detection features, as well as to allow multiple occupancy, the trust states that this would 'ensure part of the Brodick estate heritage is restored and reduce the risk associated with an unoccupied building'.

The fire resilience features which would include upgrading existing doors to fire doors and installing a fire de-

tection system is particularly relevant owing to the fact that the building has suffered from vandalism and an arson attack in the past.

Repairs to the roof and structure of the building have been carried out however the property remains in a poor state of repair and would require renovation. According to plans submitted to planning officials the restoration works will include repairs to plaster walls and ceilings, and would also include a partial interior decoration.

Designated as a house of special interest by Historic Environment Scotland which described its design as 'clearly intended to impart status and authority'. The building would have been one of the improvements to the estate carried out for Lady Mary Douglas-Hamilton, who inherited the estate in 1895 and married the 6th Duke of



Sylvania is an attractive sandstone building with overhanging eaves, timber sash and case windows and a slate roof but requires extensive upgrading.

01_B19Sylvania01

Montrose in 1906. Originally the head factor's house, it passed to the NTS along with Brodick Castle and various

ancillary buildings in 1958 when it became the head gardener's house for the estate.

Having originally been built

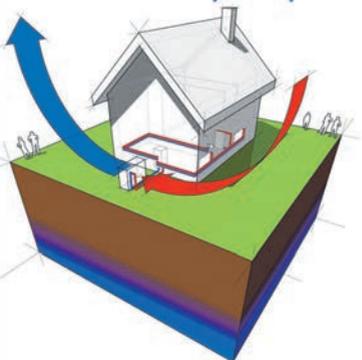
to house staff, the NTS has noted that it would continue to house staff if permission were granted for multiple

occupancy. The application is currently under consideration by North Ayrshire planning department.

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MSP urges older islanders to claim now before rule changes

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson is urging all pensioners living on a low income with a partner of working age to urgently check their eligibility for pension credit, an income-related benefit that provides extra money in retirement and housing benefit before the UK government changes the rules on May 15.

The change will see the right to claim the benefits withdrawn from future claimants with a partner who hasn't yet reached pensionable age. There is concern this move will have severe financial consequences for those affected, including some of Arran's poorest older residents.

Age Scotland warns that the new policy will place some pensioners in the absurd position of being financially better off if they split up and live apart from their younger partner.

Once the change is implemented, the older partner could be eligible for significantly more by claiming pension credit as a single person than universal credit as a couple.

The charity says that if a so-called 'mixed-age couple'

temporarily loses eligibility for benefits because of a change in their personal or financial circumstances, from May 15 they will be unable to regain it and will be thrown back onto universal credit, the problems of which are well documented.

Age Scotland's chief executive Brian Sloan said: 'These changes will have a devastating impact on some of Scotland's poorest pensioners. Around one in six live in poverty and this retrograde move will do nothing to improve this.'

'It is vital that older people claim what they are entitled to. The Age Scotland helpline offers free benefit checks and can support older people with

pension credit claims. Call 0800 12 44 222 before May 15 for information and advice about these changes.'

Mr Gibson, who led a debate on the changes at Holyrood this week, added: 'Beyond pension credit, mixed age couples could also miss out on a range of 'passport benefits' such as housing benefit, council tax reduction, cold weather payments, dental and eyecare costs, perhaps even the warm home discount.'

'All in, this could mean the loss of financial support for those on the lowest incomes of £7,320 a year.'

'That is wholly unacceptable and I urge the UK Government to change course.'



Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson.

High school students win windfall for youth group

Four S2 Arran High School pupils have secured a £3,000 donation for the Arran Youth Foundations (AYF) at an annual event aimed at teaching children about charity, social issues and about being responsible community citizens.

Alice Lockhart, Gordon Bloy, Lewis Swandells and Cameron McNeish made up the winning team at the Youth Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) by putting on a convincing presentation detailing why their charity deserved the cash support.

The YPI, which is now in its sixth year on Arran, sees pupils visiting local charities, learning about what they do – and the people that they help – before putting together a presentation before a judging panel which decides which is the most convincing.

Ten teams took part in this

year's initiative with pupils putting forward the causes of the Arran Youth Foundations (AYF), RNLI, Arran First Responders, Arran Mountain Rescue Team (AMRT) and National Search and Rescue Dog Association (NSARDA).

Following a considered deliberation, judges Barry Smith – head teacher; Gina Boni – winner from the previous year; Cecilia Paul – Arran Banner; Brodie Percy – assistant island officer; Meg el Adm – owner of Lamlash Bay Hotel; and Isabel Johnstone the YPI regional facilitator, selected the AYF team as the most convincing.

Judge and head teacher Barry Smith congratulated all of the pupils on the quality of their presentations. Citing the knowledge, passion, creativity and effort put into their presentations, he said that the event was the best that he had

seen in years. YPI regional facilitator Isabel Johnstone echoed the sentiment saying: 'Over the last five years that I have been involved in the initiative I have never seen every single team presenting all of the information without the use of scripts.'

'The standard from Arran High School is incredibly high and the presentations have been fantastic.'

Teacher Mara Gosman added to the praise saying: 'Congratulations to all of the teams who have displayed impressive commitment and who have worked really hard to represent these worthwhile causes.'

The £3,000 which the children won will contribute to the sum of £18,000 for local charities which has been secured by the pupils and donated by the YPI over the past six years.



Isabel Johnstone presents Alice Lockhart, Gordon Bloy, Lewis Swandells, Cameron McNeish and head teacher Barry Smith with the winning cheque. 01_B18YPI02



Head teacher Barry Smith announces the winners of the 2019 YPI while the judging panel looks on. 01_B18YPI01



The winning team presents AYF youth worker Hollie Watkins with the cheque that they won for the youth group. 01_B18YPI03

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Triathlon road closure meeting

A public meeting will be held next week for any people affected by, or those who wish to discuss their concerns, about road closures during the Arran Island to Island Triathlon which takes place next month.

During the afternoon of Saturday June 1, when the juniors take part in their four triathlon events, the Arran Junior Triathlon Club would like to close a portion of the road to vehicle traffic whilst the youngsters cycle between the Arran Outdoor Education Centre and the corner known as Gorton Jockie on Shore Road, Lamlash.

While an application has been lodged for the two-hour closure with North Ayrshire Council, starting at 4pm, the organisers believe it will only be required for a much shorter period when children are on the course.

The public meeting where people can voice their concerns or have any of their questions answered will take place at Arran High School on Thursday May 16, at 6.30pm.

Charity darts

It is time to look out those arrows as Lodge St Molios No 774 is holding its biennial charity darts night next month. The date for the diary is Saturday June 1 and with a £100 first prize it is sure to be a popular event which is being held in the masonic lodge in Park Terrace, Lamlash.

Registration will be from 4pm on the day and there is a £5 entrance fee. Please contact: john.murchie@btinternet.com for details.

Auchrannie faces opposition in latest bid for housing site

A fourth application has been made for planning permission for two new housing plots in woodland on Auchrannie Road.

The application, for a change of use in principal, has been lodged with North Ayrshire Council by Auchrannie Leisure Ltd.

It follows two withdrawn applications, one from 2003 for four houses and another from 2007 for four semi-detached dwellings. A further application was also made in 2003, reduced in scale, for two houses.

The applications have faced difficulties in the past, owing to the location and nature of the site, and received objections from both the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) – as being at high risk of flooding – and West of Scotland Archaeology Service (WOSAS) for being a site of potential prehistoric significance.

In addition to this, in a previous application, NAC said that the trees on the site would be a 'material consideration in assessing any application'. Accommodating large mature mixed species



North Ayrshire planning officials are considering an application to build two houses on the site pictured on the right of Auchrannie Road. 01_B16auchrannie1

of trees, estimated as being older than 150 years, the area also contains rare elm trees that are resistant to Dutch elm disease.

The submitted site plan includes a number of trees on the rear border of the site which is known locally as the Doctor's Wood but the remainder of the trees that line the road are not evident

in the plans. A total of nine neighbour notifications have been issued to residential houses and businesses within 20 metres of the boundary site.

SEPA, WOSAS and NAC Flooding have all objected to the latest proposal and the application remains under consideration by North Ayrshire planning officials.

Affordable housing plans

The Arran Development Trust (ADT) will be holding two events next week to showcase the current work around the planned affordable housing. The first will take place as a drop-in session in the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick on Tuesday May 14 between 11am and 2pm.

The second event will be a presentation by Barry Mochan, chairman of the ADT, on Tuesday May 21 at 6.30pm also in the Ormidale Pavilion. Individual house plans and site layouts will be on display.

Everyone is welcome to attend either or both events and let the organisation know their thoughts and opinions.

There will also be a third session to be held in Lamlash, with the dates and times to be announced shortly.



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Honorary members at Shiskine SWI



On Wednesday May 1 Shiskine SWI enjoyed good food and a get-together with good friends at their annual dinner at Shiskine Golf Club. The highlight of the evening

came when Shiskine president Marilyn Woods awarded four loyal ladies honorary membership: Elinor Kinnaird, Effie Clarke, Eunice Williamson and Morag Murchie.



The gathering at the annual dinner.



Honorary members, from left: Joan Stewart vice president, Eunice Williamson, Marilyn Woods president and Morag Murchie with Elinor Kinnaird and Effie Clarke seated.



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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

Write to us: send your letters to editor@arranbanner.co.uk
or The Editor, Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8AJ

New road

The residents of Springbank are rightly concerned that their quiet streets could be turned into a busy thoroughfare for construction traffic.

Has this really been thought out? That is just one of the questions now being asked by Arran Community Council, which has taken the voice of the residents to the powers-that-be.

It wants to know from North Ayrshire Council if a full risk analysis has been carried out over the use of the narrow roads, lined with houses and cars, to transport heavy plant and equipment.

No one is denying there is an urgent need for the new council housing but the development work should not be to the detriment of the people already living nearby.

A relatively straightforward solution is also being offered to open up an existing right-of-way footpath and, despite already having been ruled out, really must now be reconsidered – even if only for the period of construction.

As the community council says, the safety of the families already living in the area has to be paramount and alternative solutions now need to be considered.

We hope the council is listening.

Thought for the week

'I cried to you for help, O Lord my God, and you healed me; you kept me from the grave.'
Psalm 30:2

Second ferry meeting

Sir,
Since our first public meeting less than a month ago Arran Ferry Action Group has collated a wealth of feedback from ferry users, prioritised the issues about which you feel most strongly, met with various expert specialists seeking solutions, and with one of our local councillors to pass on your immediate concerns.

We have begun a database to catalogue valuable information for future reference and built a website (www.arranferries.scot) to publicise our activities and seek further public input.

We have also distributed support forms around the island and to date have secured the support in name of several hundred Arran residents, together with a small number of visitors.

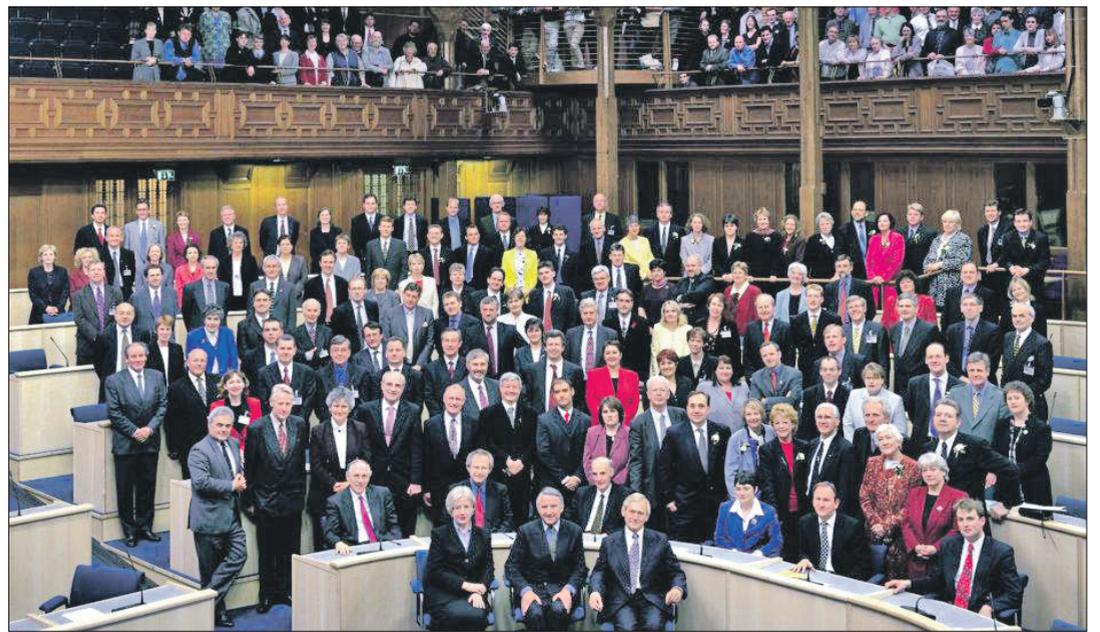
The greater the proportion of the island's population that sign up in support of the Arran Ferry Action Group, the more likely it is that our future proposals will be taken seriously by those in authority whom we lobby. To this end, will you please do your best to persuade your friends and family on the island to add their names to a sheet in shops, or visit our website and register their support?

As a steering group, we have been busy behind the scenes preparing the way ahead for the Arran Ferry Action Group. To this end, with the help of a legal advisor, we have drawn up our constitution, which will be adopted at a second public meeting to be held at the Ormidale Pavilion on Wednesday May 15 at 7pm.

Following formal adoption of the constitution, a committee of no more than 10 will be elected. Members of the steering group will be standing, but if you wish to be considered for election to join them, please request a nomination form by e-mail to info@arranferries.scot

Yours,
Chris Attkins,
Interim secretary,
Arran Ferry Action Group.

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



The first official photograph of the new Scottish Parliament members in 1999.

Twenty years ago this week, Scotland went to the polls to vote in the inaugural election for the reconvened Scottish Parliament. Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson was elected to it as a regional list member for Glasgow.

He was later returned to the parliament in 2007 when he won the constituency of Cunninghame North from Labour and has now served his constituents for 12 years.

Reflecting on this anniversary, Kenneth said: 'It remains one of the greatest privileges of my life to have been elected to the first parliament and I am immensely proud of what we have achieved as a nation in 20 years of devolution.'

'Without the Scottish parliament, we would not have free prescriptions or free eye tests. Social and health care would not have been integrated and people would not receive free personal care.'

'Without the Scottish Parliament, we would not have free tuition fees or see record numbers of domiciled Scots going to university.'

'Without the Scottish parliament Arran would not have Road Equivalent Tariff.'

'Without the Scottish Parliament, the SNP government could not insulate Scots from the worst of Westminster Tory austerity.'

'I look forward to seeing what the Scottish Parliament will achieve in the next 20 years.'

As part of a year-long programme to mark the anniversary, there will be an event in Holyrood's debating chamber on Saturday June 29, marking almost 20 years to the day since the parliament officially assumed its legal powers. As well as the chamber event, the parliament will later that day open its doors to the people of Scotland for an afternoon of celebration and commemoration.



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

CONTACTUS

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

RNLI thanks

Sir,
On behalf of the RLNI I would like to say a big thank-you to everyone

who came along and supported our coffee morning on Saturday May 4. The magnificent sum of £650 was raised for RLNI funds.

Thanks to Rosemary, Janet, Mary,

Alison, Elaine, Trish, Douglas and all the bakers for their support.

Yours,
Elby Lang,
Arran branch, RNLI.

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New Lamlash toilets get the go ahead

Lamlash is to get brand new toilet facilities to replace the rundown block at the pier.

Lamlash Improvements Association has received planning permission to replace the existing toilet building with a new facility which will include a shelter and a notice board providing information.

The site is on the seafront which is a focal point for visitors to Lamlash being between the pier and yacht club and the village green, as well as beside a substantial children's playground.

The existing building which is prone to flooding, is currently owned by North Ayrshire Council, and is leased by the village improvements association.

Negotiations are underway to transfer the ownership of the toilet building and the surrounding parcel of land to the association under an asset transfer agreement.

Since taking on the lease of the building, Lamlash Improvements has had the outside of the building painted, made some minor improvements to the inside facilities, and keep the inside clean as best it can.

However, due to the damp issues the general appearance remains

shabby and have a persistent damp odour which is disheartening for the volunteer cleaning teams.

A brief was developed with Lamlash Improvements to replace the existing building with a new facility which would be mindful of the proximity of the sea, provide accessible toilet facilities, and offer seating next to an information board which will provide information about Lamlash and the surrounding area, including a map with facilities marked, history and sites that can be visited, walks and cycling paths, details of the geological features of the area, and what flora and fauna can be seen.

In a statement in support of the planning application the association stated: 'The facility is to have two unisex toilets, one of which will be fully accessible, and a cupboard for cleaning materials. The interior will have robust finishes that will be easy to keep clean and maintain. Due to the proximity to the playground and the pier, it is anticipated that the facilities will be used by residents and visitors of all ages.

'On one side, the seating will overlook the playground where parents might sit whilst their children play



The existing toilet block in Lamlash which is to be replaced. 01_B19toilet01

and, on the opposite side, overlooking Lamlash Bay.

'It is intended to ask that the hedge to the playground be reduced in height to improve visibility both from the shelter to the playground and from the main road to the facilities.

'To flag the facilities from the road and also to address the nautical context of the boatyard, it is proposed

that a mast and rigging extend above the roof. External finishes for the building are proposed to be robust, durable and low maintenance,' it added.

Meanwhile, a new toilet block in Whiting Bay is nearing completion. The new facilities built by Whiting Bay and District Improvements, will upgrade the previous facilities at Sandbraes park.



The new toilet block in Whiting Bay. 01_B19toilet03



A sketch of how the new toilet block and seating will look.

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Helping to keep RNLI charity afloat



A well-attended coffee morning in aid of the RNLI has helped to raise £650 for the Arran rescue organisation.

Last Saturday supporters filled the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick where they enjoyed tea, coffee and home baking and an opportunity to catch up on all the local news with their friends.

Adding to the attraction, a tempting array of loaves and baked treats were available to purchase, a popular tombola with alluring prizes raised further funds and provided supporters

with the chance to win one of the donated prizes on offer.

Visitors to the event, who were also keen gardeners, had the opportunity to snap up one of the very few New Zealand watermelon plants which were available for a nominal price.

Volunteers Trish Martin and Douglas Robertson welcomed visitors to the coffee morning. 01_B19RNLI01



Volunteer Elby Lang did a roaring trade at the home baking stall. 01_B19RNLI02



A young girl and her mum pick their favourite items before buying tombola tickets from volunteer Elaine Duncan. 01_B19RNLI03



The Ormidale Pavilion was filled to capacity with supporters enjoying the home baking and refreshments on offer. 01_B19RNLI04



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Goatfell charity challenge

As the sun set on a tempestuously stormy day a large group of warmly dressed walkers could just be made out through the mist, making their way up the path towards Goatfell.

Known as the Goatfell Torchlight Challenge, the event, which raises funds for both Goatfell footpath maintenance and the Arran Mountain Rescue Team, saw sponsored walkers making their way to the top of Goatfell

by torchlight to light a bright beacon.

Simultaneously participants on Ben Lomond and Ben Lawers also light beacons in the hope of being able to see each others' beacons in the distance.

Unfortunately this year it was not possible to see the other beacons but during occasional brief periods when the clouds and mist disappeared, the procession was witnessed from nearby

Prestwick and from below the mountain at Brodick.

The weather gave the event an atmospheric feel, especially with piper Amy Walker performing on the summit.

Despite the poor visibility and challenging weather conditions the walkers thoroughly enjoyed the adventure and took a leisurely walk back down the mountain.

*Photos by Kirstie Smith
- A Focus on Adventure*



Walkers relax on the summit, after a strenuous walk, and bask in the atmospheric setting.



Participants hold their torches aloft during a short address.



Silhouetted by the mist, walkers make their way up the Goatfell path.



Participants light their torches.



A great number of walkers and their canine companions search through the mist for any signs of the signal from Ben Lomond.



Can you see us? Participants wave their torches in the direction of Ben Lomond.

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Brodick Castle aims to b



The key to the castle: Sheila Gilmore and Jared Bowers officially open the castle. 01_B19castle06



Guests learn about the history of the castle from costumed actors playing the parts of its previous inhabitants. 01_B19castle08

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



A good turnout of invited guests attended the official opening of Brodick Castle last Saturday to see for themselves how the property has been upgraded.

The reopening comes two years after the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) closed the castle while essential fire safety upgrades took place.

Capitalising on the downtime, NTS chiefs used the opportunity to modernise and update the castle with an extensive programme of upgrades.

While the castle has been

receiving guests since the beginning of April, bosses chose the Tales from Brodick Castle weekend to host the official opening event.

Operations manager Jared Bowers welcomed the visitors to the celebration held in bright sunshine on the manicured lawn under a white marquee where guests mingled and sipped champagne.

After a short introduction and welcome, Mr Bowers handed over to Sheila Gilmore, executive director of VisitArran, who praised all of the hard work that had been put in over the last two years and congratulated everyone involved in the project for the high quality of the offering and huge part that it

played in tourism on Arran. Visitors and guests were then invited to have a look at the castle itself which celebrated the opening with a Victorian ball theme, which included a number of period characters – including Princess Marie of Baden who threw a ball in 1845 to celebrate the new extension of the castle being completed.

Through the use of audio-visual presentations, interactive displays and period actors, visitors experienced the historic collections – including the world-famous Beckford Collection – which all helped to bring the story of the stately home and its occupants to life.

Mr Bowers told the Banner:

‘We’ve had very positive feedback about the new castle visitor experience, and the property as a whole, and are grateful for the all of the support we’ve received from the organisations we’ve worked with. We have a fantastic programme of events planned and look forward to sharing our stunning property with all visitors to Arran.’

With the addition of the Victorian arcade, mood lighting, children-focussed activities and a new gift shop, the castle, gardens and the Isle Be Wild children’s playpark, Brodick Castle and Country Park has once again re-established itself as one of Arran’s the top tourist attractions.



VIP guests MSP Kenneth Gibson and MP Patricia Gibson attended the opening of Brodick Castle. 01_B19castle07



Visitors and invited guests enjoy the spring sunshine in the manicured gardens. 01_B19castle05



Visitors look round the new-look castle kitchen. 01_B19castle12



Visitor May Crawford shares a laugh with Princess Marie expertly portrayed by Ruxandra Cantir. 01_B19castle09



Child

The top tourist attraction



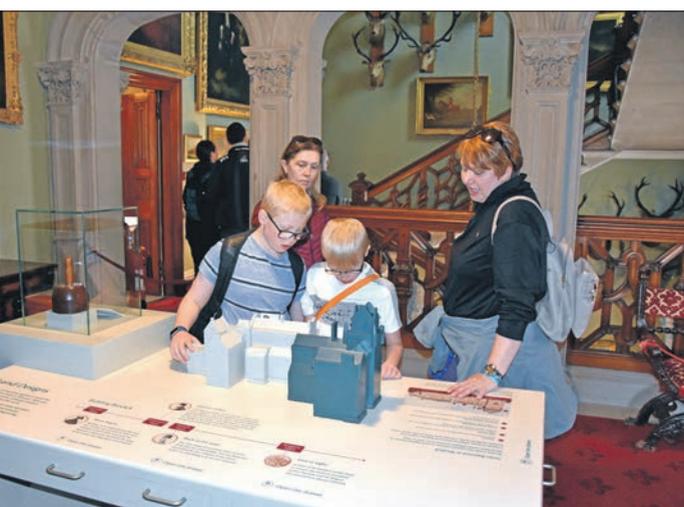
Operations manager Jared Bowers welcomes all of the guests to the official opening of Brodick Castle. 01_B19castle03



Jennifer Dougan, Connie McCrone, Olivia Young and Aimee Clint looked the part dressed in their finest Victorian outfits. 01_B19castle01



Executive director of VisitArran Sheila Gilmore addressed the visitors and offered high praise for the quality of the work at Brodick Castle. 01_B19castle04



Children enjoy a tactile model of the castle and its additions through the exhibition. 01_B19castle10



A friendly and welcoming housekeeper, Heather Johnston directed visitors to some of the attractions in the opulent drawing room. 01_B19castle11



Arran Community and Voluntary Service operations manager Carol Kane, chief executive officer Vicky Yuill, and executive director of VisitArran Sheila Gilmore enjoy a celebratory drink in the sunshine. 01_B19castle02

LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARRAN

Memories are made of this



The Austin Gypsy fire engine, which served Whiting Bay in the 1960s, will be back in the village this weekend.

01_B19bay02

Bay Queens past and present gathered this week to urge everyone with an interest in Whiting Bay to make their way to the village this weekend.

The second Whiting Bay Memories event will be a celebration of the village life, from yesteryear to the present day, with a variety of events on Saturday and Sunday.

And the star attraction of the weekend will surely be the Austin Gypsy fire engine, which served Whiting Bay in the 1960s. It has since been restored and is being brought over from the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service museum in Greenock. It will be at

the village hall all day on Saturday and until lunchtime on Sunday.

Inside from 11am to 4pm people can enjoy the amazing collection of pictures, memories and stories; see how the village rapidly expanded with the new pier and tourism; read about the people who have made Whiting Bay and the district a wonderful village throughout the decades.

Special exhibitions will include model boats, the history of arts and crafts in the village, children's activities and village organisations and music will come from special guests Vivace and Elizabeth Wilkinson. There will also be an old pictures show and old cine footage and a Memories Café.

On Saturday at 6.30pm there will be a family ceilidh, which is a BYOB event, followed by a disco and Arranach Ceilidh Dance Band from 8pm to 10pm.

On Saturday morning there will be bowling fun, a chance to try something new at the bowling green from 10.30am.

Saturday afternoon from 1.30pm at the putting green, there will be fun putting and music from Arran Brass to enjoy while playing. On Sunday afternoon from 2pm there will be children's fun in the park.

To capture the celebration, the memories group has invited Positive Pictures



A trio of Bay Queen - Grace Crichton from 2016, current Queen Greta Litton, and Anna Wilkinson from 2017 with an image from yesteryear. 01_B19bay01

to film and create a DVD, filming will be taking place all around the village from Friday, so everyone is invited to wear a smile.

To follow the camera: Friday lunchtime Felicity's, then share memories over coffee

at the Coffee Pot. Saturday at The Shore BYOB celebration menu, Craft and Natter at Bay Wool and Crafts. Sunday lunch pop up BBQ at Bay Kitchen and Stores, then pop along to COAST for coffee and cake.



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Arran CND history sought

Over the weekend of June 8 and 9 the exhibition Scotland: a Peace of History exhibition, celebrating 60 years of CND activism in Scotland, will be on Arran. It will be displayed at the gallery upstairs in Arran Active, Brodick between 10am and 3pm on the Saturday and Sunday of that weekend.

Anyone who is a past member of Arran CND or one of the groups which were aligned to it is being sought.

In the 1980s and 1990s, in particular, and at other times since, Arran has had a large and active CND membership. A number of other groups sprang from this or were associated with it including Arran for a Non-Nuclear Future, Arran Against the Bomb and Arran

Peace and Justice group. Alongside the Peace of History exhibition, outlined above, the current CND group on Arran is planning to have a section featuring photos, memorabilia, written and verbal memories and other information about these Arran-based groups.

Were you a member of one of these groups and have you kept any material about the activities which the groups took part in?

If you can help by loaning any material you have, or would like more information about the exhibition, please contact Cheryl Burgess at nick.cheryl25@btinternet.com

All items will be returned after the event. Please help to make this a successful and informative event.



The inspirational Lolly Raphael with Mother Teresa.

An inspirational evening with Lolly

Residents and visitors to Arran are invited to attend a special event at Brodick Church next week where they will have the opportunity to meet and hear the inspirational success story of Lorraine Raphael, who is known to her friends as Lolly.

The entertaining and upbeat event is being hosted by Arran Friends of Kalimpong and those who took part in the 3Ks tour to Kolkata, Kathmandu and Kalimpong will undoubtedly remember meeting her then.

Lolly arrived in Dr Grahams Homes as a baby in Lucia King and having become crippled after contracting polio at an early age, she now requires crutches and

a caliper to walk. Overcoming every obstacle that life threw at her, Lolly rose above the restrictions expected of her and has become an inspiration to people the world over.

Mother Teresa Award

From humble beginnings Lolly studiously worked towards becoming a social worker and having achieved her goal so successfully and so proficiently, she was awarded the Mother Teresa International Millennium Award for her work.

In 2009, on World Disabled Day, Lolly was awarded a state government award, 'role model for the disabled' by the former Governor of West Bengal, Gopal Krishna Gandhi.

An inspiration to millions, and with many surprising, amusing and inspirational stories to tell, Lolly is also the winner of three ski-ing gold medals won in Norway.

Invited to the UK for a holiday, Lolly has agreed to share the story of her remarkable life's journey in Brodick Church on Friday May 17 at 7.30pm. Admission is free but donations are invited in aid of Dr Grahams Homes.

In addition to what is destined to be an interesting talk, tea and coffee will be served by the Arran Friends of Kalimpong, and visitors will have the opportunity to meet with Lolly after her talk.

Corrie Film Club presents ...

I, Daniel Blake (2016, Ken Loach, Cert 15)

The Corrie film for May is acclaimed director Ken Loach's astonishing story of triumph and adversity, I, Daniel Blake.

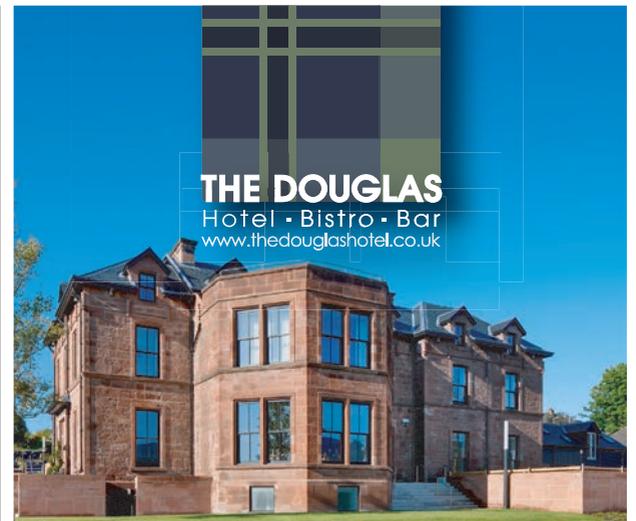
The winner of many awards, including best British film from Bafta, this is a tough film, intensely moving but rich in integrity and heart, powerful and compassionate. It has been called 'a film for our times'.

Daniel Blake has worked as a joiner for most of his life in Newcastle but, because of ill health, for the first time in his life needs help from the state.

His story is one of courage and determination striving to pull himself, and a single

mother whom he befriends, out of the welfare bureaucracy of modern Britain.

If anyone missed this film when it came out they can see it on the big screen in Corrie and Sannox Village Hall this Sunday May 12, at 8pm. Everyone welcome.



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Brodick Church
Friday 17th May
7.30pm

Beginning in Dr Grahams Homes, Lorraine Raphael tells her story

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Historical society holds film and photo evening

Owing to ferry cancellations last month, the scheduled Arran Historical Society speaker Tom Barclay could not make the journey to present his talk entitled Robert the Bruce – Ayrshire and Arran Connections.

Instead members were treated to two films produced by Tommy McLeod showing the annual trips in 2006 and 2007 to the Royal Mile in Edinburgh and to New Lanark and the Falls of Clyde. There were a lot of well-kent faces in the films, some of whom are still present members.

Chairman of the society Colin Mackenzie then provided a voiceover of the history of the Royal Mail and this was followed by stills of a field trip on Arran to Iron Age forts and on the old String Road.

Future events for the society will be the field trip to Skipness on Friday May 17, leaving Lochranza on the 10.45am ferry. The next talk will be on Monday May 20 when the speaker will be Barbara Graham talking about Andrew Carnegie, the Scots-born industrialist and philanthropist.

Further details on the annual trip to the Burns Centre at Ayr, on Friday June 21, leaving Brodick on the 8.20am ferry, will be provided at the next meeting.

This is YOUR paper...
Send your photos and stories to editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Brass Fusion to bring their passion to Arran

The entertaining musical group known by many across Scotland, and further afield, as Brass Fusion will be performing at a number of venues on Arran during a mini tour of the island next weekend.

While steeped in the tradition of brass bands, their repertoire is an audience-pleasing mixture of Latin, swing, jazz, blues, pop, rock, traditional brass and virtuoso music.

The very experienced ensemble, who were formed in 2010, pride themselves on bringing great music, fun and innovation to audiences of all backgrounds.

They do not charge for their performances and gain satisfaction from audience enjoyment and their passion for playing.

Witness the talents of



Brass Fusion will be performing at a number of Arran venues during May.

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

In the first of the summer events at the Arran Heritage Museum at Rosaburn, Brass Fusion will be performing on Sunday May 19, from 2pm to 3.30pm.

Shortly after that, at 4pm, they will be on the patio at the Douglas Hotel.

Be sure to catch this exciting band during their mini tour of Arran before they rush off to perform a concert at Proms in the Park in West Sussex.



Running added to mountain festival

It's mid-May, it's Arran, so it must be time for Scotland's premier hill-walking and mountaineering festival.

This year, as a measure of increasing demand and the popularity of the festival, organisers have expanded the guided mountain walks programme to a jam-packed 21 walks for 161 participants over four days.

The Arran Mountain Festival this year will take place from Friday May 17 to Monday May 20. The festival tag line is: small groups, big walks, huge fun and range of walks, aim to deliver an inclusive festival weekend for all levels of hill and mountaineering abilities. From the 'easy' rated whitebeams and wildlife of the western hills

walk (£16) ranging through to the 'extreme' rated A'Chir ridge scramble (£55).

But that's not all. For the first time and to demonstrate that organisers are not for resting on their laurels, this year the AMF is also offering three guided mountain running events.

The guided running sessions are led by mountaineering instructor and ultra-runner Giles Ruck, with the assistance of a local hill runner. Graded as 'moderate' (£16) and 'challenging' (£22, £28), the sessions offer friendly expert coaching and are aimed at road or trail runners who would like to venture into a mountainous environment.

Places on the running sessions are still available, so

please contact the bookings provider Arran Adventure on 01770 303347.

If geology and music float your boat, Arran Geopark's very own rock doctor is on hand to entertain you on Friday with a free-entry geology themed talk at 7.30pm in the Ormidale Hotel in Brodick.

This is followed on Saturday night by the 'must do' Arran Mountain Festival ceilidh in Brodick Hall (adults £7.50, under-16s £5) and is sure to get your kilts swirling. As usual Hooked and Cooked will be on hand to serve up fish and chips to sustain you through the party night. Ceilidh tickets can be obtained at Arran Active or at the door at the event.

More information on all events and bookings for the remaining walk spaces are available online on www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk.

Or contact Arran Adventure on 01770 303347 for last minute bookings or cancellations.



Fell shoes and mountains on Arran. Photo Michelle Williamson



Saturday 18th May

Old Byre Visitors' Centre, Machrie at 11.30am to 1.00pm
Lochranza Distillery, from 2pm to 3.30pm

Sunday 19th May

The Arran Heritage Museum, Brodick at 2pm to 3.30pm
The Douglas Hotel from 4pm

FREE ENTRY

Spring Concert

With Guests **Thursday, 16th May**
Nastassja Alberti & Wendy Freeman
7.30pm
Lochranza Hall

Tickets from the Book & Card Centre or choir members
Adults £8 Children £3, incl. refreshments

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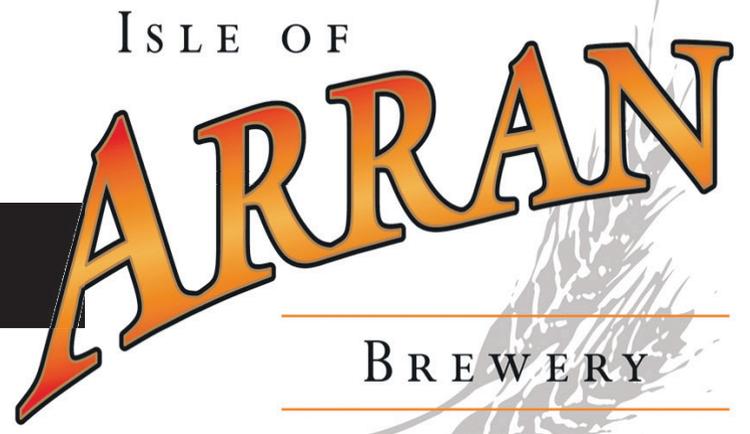
Scottish Tour 2019
Corrie and Sannox Village Hall
Saturday 11th May
7.30pm
Tickets £10 at the door or from
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BYOB



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 11th May

Flow yoga Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Fun at the bowling club Whiting Bay Bowling Club 10.30am
Young Naturalists' Club – seashore scramble Rangers Centre, Brodick Castle, 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 games Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm
Rink bowls Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Rink bowls Whiting Bay Bowling 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 - Blues with Cojones The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Over-21s disco Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

Sunday 12th May

Live music – Charlie Gorman Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 1pm - 4pm
Children's fun and filming in the park Sandbraes Park, Whiting Bay, 2.00pm
Family games Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm - 3pm
Gym induction Auchrannie Spa, 2.30pm
Fun in the pool Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm - 4pm
Celebration of Jazz with local diva Joni Keen with Dan Brown The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
and queen of vintage jazz and blues Ali Affleck with Joplin Parnell The PHT, Lamlash, 7.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
Folk music session Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 13th May

Morning fitness Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am-10.30am
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
Rink bowls Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Live music – Fatman & the Angel Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm
Tae Kwon Do, adults and over-10s Brodick Church Hall, 7pm - 8.30pm

Tuesday 14th 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
Arran Development Trust drop-in session Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 11am - 2pm
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 Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Traditional music sessions Brodick Bar, 9pm

Wednesday 15th 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
Lamlash coffee morning Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - 12noon
Arran Elderly Forum Ormidale Pavilion, 10.30am for 11am
Archives and Genealogy Service Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 3.30pm
Chair yoga exercise class St Mollo's Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am
Knit and Blether Bay Wool & Crafts, Whiting Bay 11.30am - 1.30pm
Dog classes Whiting Bay Hall, 12.30pm
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
Rink bowls Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Arran Ferry Action Group public meeting Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm
Live music – Joni Keen Duo 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 friendly pub quiz The PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
Rock'n'pop bingo Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Thursday 16th May

Morning fitness Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30 - 10.30am
Chair yoga exercise class Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am
Arran Churches Together Prayer Group Scottish Episcopal Church, Whiting Bay, 3pm - 4pm
Adult tennis Blackwaterfoot, 5pm
Steak night – two steak dinners and a bottle of wine Drift Inn, Lamlash, 5pm-9pm
Arran junior triathlon public meeting Arran High School, Lamlash, 6.30pm
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 Lochranza and Catacol 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 17th 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
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
An evening with Lolly St Bride's Church, Brodick 7.30pm
Friday night quiz Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm

Saturday 18th May

Flow yoga Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Brass Fusion Old Byre Visitors' Centre, Machrie, 11.30am - 1pm
Brass Fusion Lochranza Distillery, 2pm - 3.30pm
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
Live music – Tim Pomeroy Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Arran Mountain Festival ceilidh Brodick Village Hall, 7.30pm - 11pm
Will & The Wild Horse – folk n blues band with funk and reggae roots The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Over-21s disco Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday May 8, 1999

Arran's choice

In what has been termed the 'forgotten election' the North Ayrshire result was announced at 1.30pm on Friday, almost 12 hours after the publicity grabbing result for the first Scottish parliamentary election.

John Sillars has been elected to serve for a second term as the Arran councillor. The results were John Sillars (Labour) 1,090, Cameron Robertson (Con) 747, Jim Lees (SNP) 719. With 2,556 votes cast on the island it represents a substantial turnout, considerably up on last time. In 1995 only 2,020 people voted.

Lifeboat to the rescue

The most common callout for the Arran lifeboat is not to vessels in distress but to aid walkers who have hurt themselves near Laggan where an ambulance cannot reach them. Thus they often exercise there. Indeed

they were doing so last Sunday when an emergency call came and, as luck would have it, it was to go to Laggan. Being there already they very quickly picked up an injured walker and carried him round to Lochranza where he was taken by ambulance to hospital where he was found to have a broken leg.

Birthday rarity

Four-year-old Ewan Bulger of Corrie has just met his new baby sister. She was born last Friday on April 30. Nothing out of the ordinary one might think but what is astonishing is that Ewan was also born on April 30. A one in 365 chance but statistically probably an even rarer occurrence than that.

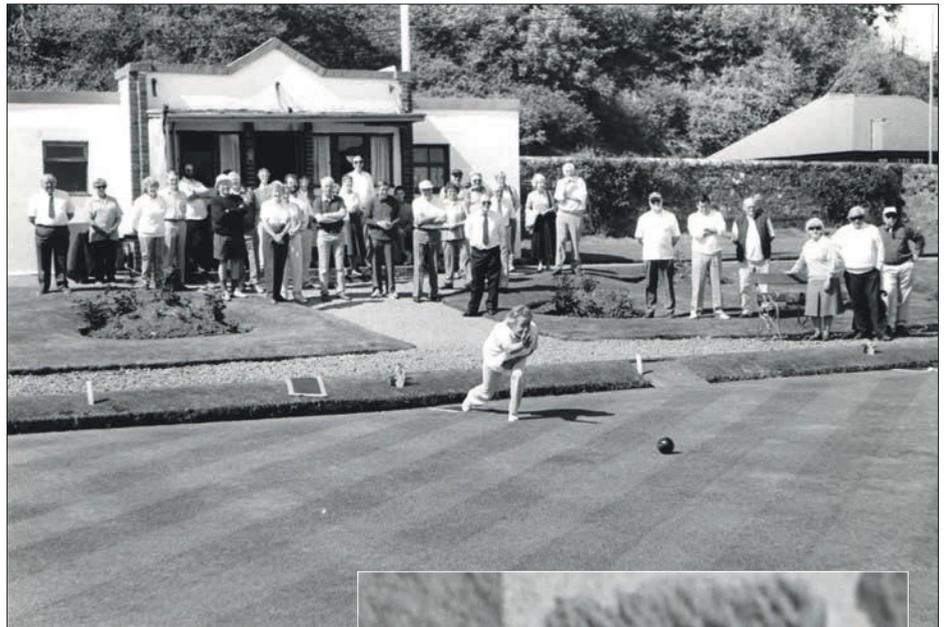
Not only is Ewan's new sister – for who parents Neil and Margaret Bulger have still to choose a name – a very special birthday present for him, but they will now share all of their birthday celebrations.



Sharing skills and crafts are the ladies of Project Orchil who are seen enjoying a meeting in the open air. They are, from left: Christine Walter, Cecilia Paul, Lynn Ross, Eileen Slack, Gill Butcher and Fiona McGovern. 01_B19twe05



SNP candidate in the North Ayrshire elections Jim Lees pictured casting his vote at Corrie School on Thursday. 01_B19twe01



Margaret Murchie throws the first bowl of the season at Lamlash Bowling Club last Saturday while club members look on. 01_B19twe04



Electioneering in Brodick last week was Canon Kenyon Wright. Standing as an independent in the first Scottish parliament election he was joined by his election team Harry Conroy, on his left, and John Matthews, on his right. 01_B19twe02



Labour man John Sillars, it has been confirmed, has been elected to serve a second term as Arran's councillor.

01_B19twe03

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PUBLIC NOTICES

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

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

**This Public Exhibition will be held on:
Monday 27th May 2019 from 3pm – 7pm
at Brodick Public Hall, Brodick,
Isle of Arran, KA27 8DL**

Any person wishing to submit comments can do so by contacting: arran@scottishsalmon.com by 30th May 2019. Any comments received by SSC after this date will be considered until submission of the planning application. This second public exhibition follows the previous exhibition held in Lochranza on Tuesday 2nd April 2019. Please note, comments at this stage do not replace the planning application process, where representations should be made directly to the planning authority (North Ayrshire Council).

**Q&A Session:
North Arran Proposed Development**

The Scottish Salmon Company (SSC) is proposing an Atlantic salmon fish farm at North Arran, Firth of Clyde, approximately 4.4 km north west of Sannox at a site to the East of Millstone Point.

SSC is holding Q&A sessions on Wednesday 22nd May 2019 at Ormidale Sports Pavilion with representatives from the Company to answer questions. The sessions will be chaired by an independent mediator to help facilitate discussions.

The Q&A will run throughout the day in 45-minute sessions from 11am until 7pm. To ensure that everyone has the best opportunity to ask questions, attendance will be kept to around 10 people per session. Please contact arran@scottishsalmon.com in advance to register your interest and time preference. Although we will do our best to allocate your preferred time, this may not always be possible.

Please note, comments at this stage do not replace the planning application process.

**Kilmory Public Hall AGM
Kilmory Public Hall
Monday 27th May
at 19.30**

Please come along to put forward your ideas and to discuss the future of the Hall.
All Welcome.

ARRAN FERRY ACTION GROUP

Meeting to Adopt the Constitution of the Arran Ferry Action Group, followed by its Inaugural AGM

**Open to all at the
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick
on Wednesday 15th May at 7pm**

Anyone wishing to stand for election to the committee should e-mail the interim secretary at info@arranferries.scot

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CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

Minister:

Rev Angus Adamson

Parish Assistant:

Mrs Jean Hunter:

Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.

Sunday 12th May

Lochranza Church, 9.30 am.

Morning Worship.

Pirnmill Church, 10.45 am.

Morning Worship.

Shiskine Church, 12noon

Morning Worship.

Brodick Church, 10.30am.

Morning Worship. Including

the Sacrament of the Lord's

Supper.

Corrie Church, 11.30am

Prayer Meeting, 12noon

Morning Worship, including

the Sacrament of the Lord's

Supper

There will also be a Service

of Worship in Montrose

House at 1. 30pm.including

the Sacrament of the Lord's

Supper.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan

Church of Scotland,

Charity Number: SC014005

Sunday 12th May

Worship will be conducted

by Rev Tanya Webster,

Moderator of Ardrossan

Presbytery at 10.30am.

Tea and coffee will be served

in the transept after the

service. All very welcome.

There will be a Big Brunch

after worship in the West

Transept, with hot and cold

food, and everyone welcome

with donations to Christian

Aid. Christian Aid Week

begins on 12th May. Please

give generously to help those

in need.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with

Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim ~ a

fellowship to share"

Sunday 12th May

Christian Aid Week

Rev Dr Ian Macleod

Kilmory at 10 am

Lamlash at 11.30 am

All welcome, including

families; children's area

Scottish Charity SC015072

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday 12th May

4th Sunday of Easter

Sung Eucharist - 11 am.

Revd Adrian Fallows

Coffee after service

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER

Prayer Group

Thursday 16th May

St Margaret's Scottish

Episcopal Church,

Whiting Bay, at 3pm - 4 pm.

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)

Sunday 12th May

Morning Service 11am

Trust Housing Lounge,

Glen Estate, Brodick

Evening Service 6.30pm

5 Glen Road, Brodick

All welcome

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday 12th May

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 12th 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

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 5th May

Shiskine at 11am (church on

road between Blackwaterfoot

and Machrie)

Brodick at 6pm

Services will be taken by

Rev Duncan Peters

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday 11th May

Saturday Vigil Mass at

7.30pm

Sunday 12th May

Sunday Morning Mass at

11am

Tight defence helps Arran to narrow win

Killie Athletic 2
Isle of Arran 3
Q & L Skip Division One

Arran players put in a great performance against Killie Athletic at Grange Academy, Kilmarnock at the weekend with the defenders and goalkeeper playing a large part in the victory.

Having lost the chance to stay in the title race after being beaten by Kilbirnie Utd the week previously, Arran were only playing for pride.



Man of the match David Heenan was awarded the title for a number of outstanding saves.

01_B19footy01



Equalising the score, Joel Small heads the ball into the top right corner.

But the visitors took an early lead with a well-taken finish from Grant Adamson while Dave Heenan was performing some heroic saves at the other end to keep the Arran side in front. Killie managed to break through the deadlock and were awarded a penalty when their striker was brought down. They scored the resulting penalty and both sides were sitting evenly at 1-1 at half time.

Killie then secured a second goal in the second half to take the scoreline to 2-1 but Arran battled back and were rewarded when Joel Small leapt to score a fantastic header from the edge of the six-yard box. Arran then edged ahead again to bring the score to 3-2 after a well-struck volley

from Ryan Armstrong took a deflection and ended up in the top corner.

The Arran side managed to maintain their lead with the defence players Martin Hynes and Gavin Gilbert denying the Killie side any chance of scoring. This coupled with the usual hard work of Nick Emsley - who was running everything down in the mid-field - prevented Killie from equalising.

The performance of the Arran players allowed for many deserving candidates for man of the match but it was the goalkeeper Dave Heenan who was awarded the title for his numerous saves, including an outstanding double save.

Photos: Tam Borland



Grant Adamson powers towards the goal to open up the scoring for the Arran side.

DEATHS

HOLMES: Michael Anthony Passed away at home in Whiting Bay on Friday, 3rd May 2019. Michael aged 79 years, beloved husband of Pam, much loved father of Austin & Julian, Grandfather to Lucy & Sebastian, he will be greatly missed by all. Funeral service 1.30pm on Monday, 13th May 2019 at Holmsford Bridge Crematorium, Dreg-horn and afterwards at Cecchinis. Transport provided from Ardrossan Harbour. No flowers please. Donations to Marie Curie would be appreciated.

SCOTT: Dr William Ballantyne (Bill) passed away peacefully on Monday 29th April, aged 86years. The family would like to thank Dr Greg Hamill, Dr Cathy Welch, Cooriedoon Nursing Home, NAC, Elaine and Home Carers Alister and Gail, Barbara at the Kinloch Hotel and private carers John, David, Rory and Heather for all their love and care.

Arran runner 'insulted' by marathon prize money

Well-known face of the Arran running scene and previous Scottish marathon champion Jennifer Wetton (nee Emsley) had a great win in the women's race at the Great Stirling Run marathon spoiled after receiving just £200 in prize money.

Jennifer, who was brought up on Arran but who now lives in Stirling, said that she understood that £1,000 was the going rate for a marathon prize in Scotland, as it had been that amount the previous year, but admitted that she had seen on the Great Run website that the amount for this year was 'yet to be confirmed'.

Jennifer told BBC Scotland's John Beattie programme that she was not a professional athlete but she took her running seriously and fitted training around working full

time and looking after her young son.

Jennifer said she believed a reasonable cash prize should go some way to reflect the time and effort needed to produce an under-three-hour marathon performance. She ran the race in 2hrs 56min 6sec.

She said: 'While £200 is a reasonable prize if you're running a 10k race, it's lower than a lot of half-marathons. But for a marathon it was a little bit insulting to be honest.'

A Great Run Company spokeswoman said the Stirling prize money was brought in line with its other non-televised events this year.

Jennifer pictured running the London Marathon in 2014.



Jim's 40 years of service recognised



Former AGA president Jock Kelso presents Jim Henderson, left, with a lifetime membership to the AGA and all of Arran's seven golf clubs.

Jim Henderson of Lamlash has been presented with an Arran Golfers Association (AGA) award in recognition of his 40 years of service to the organisation.

Thanking him for promoting and advancing golf on Arran, Donald Logan, Willie Kelso and Jock Kelso – all former presidents of the AGA – presented him with a memoir of the occasion – a framed picture of the iconic view overlooking Corrie golf course.

Describing his efforts over the past 40 years as 'outstanding and tireless' Jim was also given a lifetime membership to all golf clubs on Arran and the AGA.



Former AGA presidents Donald Logan and Willie Kelso present Jim Henderson with a framed picture of Corrie golf course, thanking him for his work over 40 years.



Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday May 1, Summer Trophy, 21 played, CSS 63. 1 Corey Allan 7, 60 and lowest gross, 2 Sandy Pringle 13, 64, ACB, 3 Nicol Auld 5, 64, ACB, 4 Paul Robson 13, 64. Magic twos, David Morrison at the 4th.

Friday May 3, AGA Seniors Crystal semi final. Whiting Bay enjoyed another comfortable victory at Machrie on Friday evening. Playing the host club Machrie Bay Golf Club, lead pairing of Dougie Auld and David Blair endured a close tussle against Brian Sherwood and Ron Woods for Machrie and were all square having won the 16th hole. On the 15th however, John Pennycott and David Brookens had just

won to go eight holes ahead against Alastair Macdonald and Colin Rutterford. There was no way back for Machrie and hands were shaken at that point allowing all players to quit the course before the hailstones started again.

Sunday May 5, AGA Spring Handicap. Another fine if chilly morning welcomed players from other island clubs for the 2019 AGA Spring Handicap. A total of 48 participated with home players dominating the leaderboard as seven of the top 10 players were Whiting Bay Golf Club members. Home advantage may well have played its part but even so the winning scores were impressive as Kevin McAleney stormed home with a net 57 to pip David Brookens who came in one shot behind. Standing that the CSS went out to 64 this was golf of a decent standard by any stretch.

1 Kevin McAleney 12, 57, 2 David Brookens 12, 58, 3 Dan Bremner 7, 64, 4 Stuart

McGregor 13, 64. Ewen McKinnon carded a fine 64 to take the best scratch score and in scoring the only magic two of the day Kevin McAleney did it in style by bagging an eagle at the 12th.

Fixtures: Sunday May 12, Medal, draws at 9am and 11am. Wednesday May 15, Summer Trophy, draw at 5.30pm. Sunday May 19, McKelvie Cup round one, draws at 9am and 11am.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday May 2, Summer Cup, CSS 64. 1 Lee Dutton 83-20=63, 2 Allan Colquhoun 70-6=64, 3 Allan Winship 82-17=65, 4 Scott Campbell 77-10=67, BIH over Graeme Andrew 75-8=67. Best scratch, Dougie Macfarlane 68.

Ladies' Section: Wednesday May 1, Fleet 2, five played, CSS 64, par 65. 1 Sheena Murchie 79-15=64, 2 Kate McAdam 86-16=70. Scratch, Sheena Murchie 79.

Fixtures: Sunday May 12, Hamilton Bowl, 9.30am and 12.30pm starts. Tuesday May 14, Stableford Senior Open at Lamlash, yellow tees - make up own groups and see starter for times. Wednesday May 15, Senior Open day two, at Brodick - see starter for times. Thursday May 16, Summer Cup - make up own groups.

Arran Golfers Association

Monday May 6, Junior Handicap at Whiting Bay played over nine holes. 1 Ross Trail 35-8.5=26.5, 2 Gregor Crichton 45-14=31, 3 Liam Bremner 51-13.5=37.5. The draw for the semi-final matchplay is Rory Currie v Ross Trail and Gregor Crichton v Liam Bremner.

These matches are to be played by Monday May 20 and the final will be played on Monday May 27 at noon.



The young golfers who took part in the AGA junior handicap at Whiting Bay.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday May 1, Wednesday Medal, 1 G Andrew 68-9=59, 2 L Hartley 76-15=61, 3 J McGovern 75-14=61. Scratch A Taylor 68. Magic twos from D Jeffrey and G Andrew, but not the right ones.

Saturday May 4, James Bunyan Cup, 1 G McKelvie 65-10=55 BIH, 2 G Andrew 73-8=65. Magic twos from G Andrew and G McKelvie.

Fixtures: Saturday May 11, Sweep, ballot at 2pm. Wednesday May 15, Whisky Cup and magic twos ballot at 5.30pm.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday May 1, Summer Cup, 44 played, CSS 65. Gordon Hendry 67-5=62, Ewan McKinnon 63+1=64, ACB, Greg McCrae 69-5=64. Scratch, Ewan McKinnon 63.

Fixtures: Sunday May 12, McCarfrae Trophy, Club Championship Qualifying, round one. Thursday May 16, McCarfrae Trophy, Club Championship Qualifying, round two.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday April 30 Peter Sutton/Lady Mary. 1 Ross Trail 64, 2 Phil Betley 67, 3 Hamish Bannatyne 69 BIH. Magic twos Hamish Bannatyne.

Saturday May 4, Hugh Steel Cup played over nine holes. 1 John Pennycott, 32.5pts, 2 Brian Sherwood 35pts, 3 Tony Ellis 35.5pts.

Fixtures: Tues May 14 Peter Sutton/Lady Mary tee off 12.30pm and 5.30pm.

Arran Golfers Association

Sunday May 5, AGA Spring Handicap. First class: Kevin McAleney 69-12=57, 2 David Brookens 70-12=58, 3 Ian Bremner 70-7=63. Second class: 1 Stuart McGregor 77-13=64, BIH, 2 Dave Hackett 77-13=64, BIH, 3 Graeme Crichton 78-14=64. Scratch, Ewan McKinnon 64. JC Reid Trophy for over 55s was won by David Brookens. Thanks to the greenkeepers for the condition of the course and to John and Nancy for the soup and rolls.

Thompson Cup Draw:



John Pennycott with the Hugh Steel Cup he won at Machrie.

Stuart McGregor v David Hackett, Corey Allan v Graeme Crichton, Kevin McAleney v Ian Bremner, Fred Galbraith v David Brookens. First name to contact the other and ties to be played by Sunday May 26.



Winners of the recent Glenisle Mixed Fours competition at Lamlash, Ann and Alistair Ferrier.

Whiting Bay bowlers get season off to a sunny start

Whiting Bay bowlers started off their 61st season in fine weather with last year's champion Ann Frame bowling the first jack of the season.

The group of almost 20 players were excited to be out on the green again and were relieved that conditions were

more favourable than they were for Brodick Bowling Club the weekend prior when their game had to be called off after four ends owing to heavy rain.

The Whiting Bay club is open from Monday to Saturday, 10am to 12.30pm

Arran bowls fixtures drawn

The Federation of Arran Bowling Clubs has made the draw for this year's inter-club competitions, which are as follows:

Laidler-Gardiner Trophy. All matches start at 6.45pm and, due to a problem with the green, all Lamlash matches will be played away.

Tuesday May 21, Brodick v Lamlash and Blackwaterfoot v Whiting Bay. Thursday May 23, Brodick v Lamlash and Whiting Bay v Blackwaterfoot. Tuesday May 28, Brodick v Blackwaterfoot and Whiting Bay v Lamlash. Thursday May 30, Blackwaterfoot v Brodick and Whiting Bay v Lamlash. Tuesday June 4, Brodick v Whiting Bay and Blackwaterfoot v Lamlash. Thursday June 6, Whiting Bay v Brodick and Blackwaterfoot v Lamlash.

Federation trophies: all matches will be played at Blackwaterfoot and will start at 6.45pm.

Monday June 17, ladies' singles: Brodick v Whiting Bay and Blackwaterfoot v BYE. Gents' singles: Lamlash v Brodick and Blackwaterfoot v Whiting Bay. Tuesday June 18, triples: Blackwaterfoot v Brodick and Whiting Bay v Lamlash. Wednesday June 19, pairs: Blackwaterfoot v Whiting Bay and Brodick v Lamlash. Ladies' singles finals: Blackwaterfoot v. Thursday June 20, gents' singles final and pairs and triples finals.



Whiting Bay Bowling Club members pictured in front of the clubhouse at the first game of the season. 01_B19bowling01
Inset: Last year's champion Ann Frame had the privilege of bowling the first jack of the season. 01_B19bowling02

and 2.30pm to 4.30pm. On a Saturday it is open from 7am to 9pm and on Sunday from 2.30pm to 4.30pm.

Anyone who is interested

in learning about the game or who wishes to join a social and friendly club is encouraged to pop over and members would be happy to

explain the rules and offer coaching. Today (Saturday) the club will be taking part in the Celebration of Whiting Bay Past and Present event, at

10.30am, and will be offering fun sessions and taster games.

Everyone is welcome to attend and novices are particularly welcome.



Julieta on the ferry with her trophy.

Ice cool Arran duo make the grade



Julieta and Imogan with their medals on the ice.

Two girls from Arran brought home trophies from the Auchendarvie Spiral Spin Jump competition held recently in Stevenston.

Eleven-year-old Imogen Allison from Lamlash and Julieta Gray, aged eight, from Whiting Bay, travel over every week to attend the Auchendarvie figure skating club.

Imogen has achieved gold level and Julieta is at Grade 8.

Imogen took home first place in her category whilst Julieta brought home the second place trophy for her grade.

Both girls have shown tremendous commitment travelling over on the first ferry every Saturday morning but it has paid off, as demonstrated by their recent performances.



Imogen on the winner's podium.

Arran rowers lift the first Loch Awe regatta trophy

Skiffies from Arran were overall winners of Loch Awe's first regatta on Sunday April 29 in their first outing of the season.

The event brought a buzz to the lochside community of Dalavich as it hosted the inaugural Loch Awe Adventure, attracting skiff teams from near and far who battled techniques and tactics on the water during the 11.7km race over two legs.

Arran put together two strong crews for both legs and faced stiff competition from the start.

Ten skiffs in total, from nine different Scottish clubs, headed north for the first race from Dalavich to Taychreggan.

Arran's first crew of Cil Paul (cox), Rory Cowan, Dave Ingham, Emma Ingham and Karen Haggerty got off to a great start and immediately began to break away from the pack along with Queensferry and St Andrews. Queensferry

couldn't maintain the pace and by midway had fallen back behind the two leaders.

St Andrews had the edge and continued to try and pull ahead but Arran dug deep and rowed at a fast, strong pace only to be beaten to the line by a couple of boat lengths.

The return leg saw each skiff set off on a timed run, in the order that they had finished the first leg, so Arran was behind St Andrews. For this leg the Arran crew was Karen Haggerty (cox), Cil Paul, Caroline McGinlay, Ronnie McDonald and Steve Garraway.

They set off at a blistering pace and by half way had caught up and passed St Andrews beating them to the finish line by 12 minutes.

Arran's combined times for both legs was 2 hours 17m 30 seconds. A course record. In second place was St Andrew's Sandbay Century and in



The winning Arran crews.

third place was Kinghorn's Yolanda.

The overall winning team got a cup and quaichs were handed to those in second and third place. Medallions were also presented to the fastest boat going north and then going south in the big race, won by Seabag and Sandbay Century.

As well as fun on the water, there was live music and camping throughout the weekend organised by members of Kilchrenan, Inverinan and Dalavich Coastal Rowing Club.



The overall regatta winners Arran in their skiff Seabag.

Photo: Mick Atkins Photography



The Arran team pull in unison on Loch Awe. Photo: Mick Atkins Photography



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