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# Health chiefs say 'sorry' for continuing Arran care crisis

by Hugh Boag  
[editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)



Health chiefs this week said sorry as Arran's care crisis shows no signs of abating.

They admit they are struggling to cope with the level of demand for the care-at-home service for which there is a long waiting list.

A spokesman for the North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership, which runs the service, said: 'Our sincere apologies for any distress being caused to people on Arran and their families due to delays being experienced in receiving care at home.'

Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson, who is fighting for improvements, said: 'On Arran, 34 per cent of the population is retired, compared to 22 per cent on the mainland and people are more spread out geographically, making it harder for teams to cover as many folk, so the problem is even more acute.'

One case highlighted to the Banner involves an 88-year-old dementia sufferer at the south end of the island who has had to wait months for improved care at home,

which has now been partially resolved.

But her daughter told the Banner: 'My mother was getting two visits a day, but when her condition deteriorated I asked for more visits but was told that nobody was available. Consequently my sister, who is a single parent, has to do a 30-mile round trip every night together with her young children in order to ensure she gets the necessary medication.'

'I have also applied for financial assistance for her care but unfortunately it seems that this will take months and even then will not be back dated.'

'I understand there was a recruitment drive recently for carers on the island and from what I'm told there was a lot of interest shown and forms completed but no further action taken. The expression ticking the boxes comes to mind.'

'From what I hear, my mother is not an isolated case on the island, the difference being the Scottish Government promised care for everyone over a certain

Continued on page two

## Five go on an argocat adventure!



Five go on an argocat adventure at the Arran Mountain Rescue Team open day at Cladach on Saturday. For a full report and more pictures, turn to pages four and five. 01\_B2sargocat01



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## Support information to help with hearing loss

The charity Action on Hearing Loss Scotland will be hosting a series of information events to support people on Arran who have experienced hearing loss.

The four events will take place at the Cosy Room in the Brodick Co-op during July and August.

The first two events, which are taking place between 11.15am and 1.15pm on Monday July 1 and Monday July 8, will highlight how assistive technology such as amplified phones, flashing doorbells and personal listeners can make everyday life easier for deaf or hard of hearing people.

During the following two sessions, between 11.15am and 1.15pm on Monday August 5 and 12, information will be provided about social security support which people who have hearing

loss could qualify for. NHS hearing aid users can also take the opportunity to get their hearing aids cleaned or re-tubed and pick up batteries from the charity's trained community hearing support service volunteers.

Action on Hearing Loss Scotland's Fiona Goodwin said: 'During our upcoming events, we want to demonstrate to Arran residents the everyday benefits which NHS hearing aids and assistive technology can bring for people who have been diagnosed with hearing loss, as well as ensure that they are fully aware of social security support which they can apply for.'

For more details about the charity's events or community hearing support service on Arran, email [scotland@hearingloss.org.uk](mailto:scotland@hearingloss.org.uk) or telephone: 07388 227407.



# New supplier set to turn off 24-hour street lights

by Colin Smeeton  
[editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)

Council chiefs say they will have to bring in another outsourced supplier before they can finally turn off the street lights on Arran.

Extensive repairs to correct a network fault across North Ayrshire that has left street lights illuminated for 24 hours a day have still not been completed on the island despite the situation continuing for nearly three months.

The Banner first highlighted the situation in April, when the issue had already been on-going for a month. Then North Ayrshire Council officials said that their contractor hoped to have the problem resolved 'in the next few weeks'.

The problem was said to be due to a fault on the central management system that controls and monitors the performance of the street



Street lights in a residential Brodick street which have been permanently lit for three months. 01\_B25lights01

lighting, which is managed by an external contractor for the council.

The remote switching fault left officials having to either leave the lighting permanently switched on, or switched off, which, they said, would 'not be in the interests of public safety'.

To rectify the situation teams of repairmen were having to be dispatched to each area affected to manually remedy the automation, they

claimed. Now, however, the council has admitted that a new supplier is being brought in to resolve the issue.

A council spokeswoman said: 'We are making good progress correcting the issue, which affected LED street lighting on the mainland, Arran and Cumbrae.'

'Some of Arran's lighting has already been restored around Corrie and Blackwaterfoot. We anticipate that our discussions

with a new service provider will conclude shortly to allow corrective action to then be taken almost immediately thereafter to restore the rest of the lighting.'

While acknowledging that the situation has resulted in wasted energy, council representatives are keen to point out that street lighting is not metered and that energy costs are billed based on an inventory of units, which means that the same bill will be paid regardless of the hours that the lights have been left switched on.

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## Health chiefs say 'sorry' for continuing Arran care crisis

Continued from page one  
age which clearly is not happening.'

Mr Gibson took up the case with the Health and Social Care Partnership and in a reply director Stephen Brown admitted recruitment on Arran was 'problematic' for several partnership services, including the care at home service.

However, he added: 'Over the last few months there have been a number of different initiatives within care at home on Arran to attract new recruits into the service. Fortunately, this has had a positive impact and there are some new staff due to commence in the coming weeks. There is another local recruitment event taking place soon, so it is hoped that this will also result in some further new recruits joining the team. This will create new capacity and allow the care at home manager to commence provision for individuals waiting on services.'

Mr Gibson told the Banner: 'The new £5.7 million Montrose House provided more modern facilities for residential care and there is also Cooriedoon. The issues relate more to older people being cared for in their own home.'

'As the population ages and increases in proportion to the working population, it becomes increasingly difficult to recruit the number of caring staff required.'

'Despite this, North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership - with NAC and NHS Ayrshire and Arran working together - is committed to providing the best care and support it can for those vulnerable and elderly folk on Arran who need it. I am in constant communication with them regarding instances where there are issues to resolve.'

A spokesman for the partnership said: 'While we are unable to comment on individual cases, we are really

very sorry for any delay that people experience in accessing care-at-home support.'

'Regrettably, our care-at-home service continues to have a waiting list for services on Arran. The waiting list is reviewed on a daily basis by senior partnership staff to ensure that all available capacity is used to support people appropriately on Arran.'

'Additionally, the service receives a high volume of referrals each day, and the requests on Arran are far greater than the capacity available.'

'We are continually recruiting for care at home staff on Arran to help meet the on-island demand. Please be assured that senior partnership staff continue to review new referrals and waiting lists on a daily basis.'

**HAVE YOUR SAY**  
email us at [editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)

# Officers swell Arran police numbers for the summer

by Hugh Boag  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The summer police secondes have arrived on Arran and are settling into their duties to provide additional support over the busy holiday months.

All four of them arrived last month and are serving on Arran for the first time. They will be on the island until the end of October.

They all come from urban beats and are looking forward to finding out about, and experiencing, rural policing. The four are PC Clare Neilson, normally based in the Gorbals; PC David Urban, Glasgow city centre; PC Craig Simpson, Whitburn, West Lothian; and PC Sam Davison, Edinburgh.

There is also another new face at the Lamlash station –



full-time officer PC Joanne Graham.

Joanne, who replaces Keri Russell, has lived on

Arran for six years and has 22 years' police service. Originally from the south side of Glasgow her previous

posting was with L division, based in Lochgilhead. She served as a secondee on Arran in 2013 and 2014.



Above left: PCs Sam Davison, Clare Neilson, David Urban and Craig Simpson. 01\_B25police01; and above, PC Joanne Graham is a new full-time officer at Lamlash. 01\_B25police02



Supporters wave for the Waverley at the appeal launch.

Photograph: Hugh Dougherty

## Appeal launched to save the Waverley

An appeal to raise £2.3 million has been launched to return the Waverley to service in 2020, ensuring that a unique piece of Britain's maritime heritage stays alive.

The Waverley is a regular visitor to Arran during the summer months, but the 2019 season was cancelled last month following the discovery of major problems with the ship's 20-year old boilers. Since then, individuals have started to respond with more than £100,000 already donated. The Waverley Facebook page recorded more than a million hits when the news broke.

'We're heartened by the support so far – it's clear that huge numbers of people around Britain and

around the world want to see Waverley sail again,' said Paul Semple, who heads the team which operates the ship.

'But the financial challenge which faces Waverley remains very significant, and we urgently need more funds to let us place the orders and then carry out the work over the next nine months.'

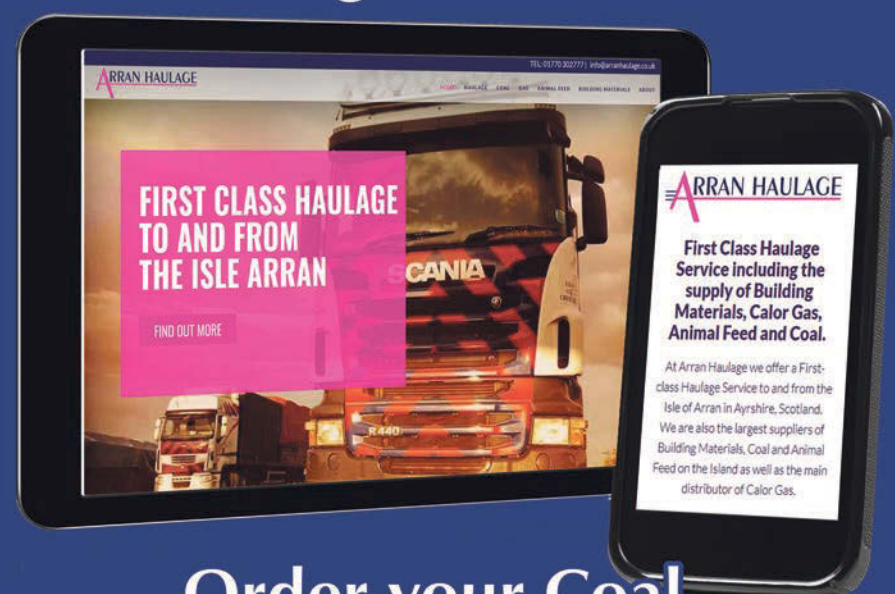
The sheer scale of what is required has been likened to a kind of marine 'open heart surgery'. The iconic red, white and black twin funnels will be lifted off, and large sections of decking removed to allow the boilers and other equipment to be lifted out. The replacements are expected to extend Waverley's operational life by a further 20 to 25 years.

The Waverley company has taken recent weeks to make a detailed and costed plan, and now it is all about raising the funds to make it happen.

'There's a real determination not to allow Waverley to become a static relic. She was built to sail and that's what so many people want to see again. Waverley's truly unique status as the world's last seagoing paddle steamer mustn't be taken for granted. Not for the first time, the future of the ship hangs in the balance. Once again, it's time to save the Waverley,' Mr Semple added.

Donations to the appeal can be made online at waverleyexcursions.co.uk or by calling 0141 243 2224 or Text STEAM £20 to 70085

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# Funding thank you at new b



Emily Bourne tries out the argocat as mum looks on.  
01\_B25mountain01



The specially created cake.  
01\_B25mountain05

The public got their first chance to see the newly extended base of Arran Mountain Rescue Team at its open day last weekend and they turned out in numbers.

The new extension was built at a cost of £42,000, with matching donations from the Co-op community fund and St John Scotland, and means that all the vehicles and equipment can be stored under one roof, ready for fast deployment.

There are also plans for a special drying room to be created for the team's equipment and clothing after a call-out.

Guests from both charities joined members of the public, team members past and present, family and friends and emergency service colleagues at the team base at Cladach where the team's equipment and vehicles were be on display.

A number of the 28 current members were also on hand to answer any questions and demonstrate the operation of some of the equipment.

A special cake in the form of

the rescue team logo had been baked for the event.

During the open day argocat rides were a popular attraction for youngsters attending while adults had the chance to enjoy a burger and see some of the latest acquisitions and recent donations which include a military spec night vision camera donated by Thales UK.

### Thank you

Chairman Robert Waine said: 'The team would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who came along to our open day today.'

'It was great to see so many people.'

'A special thank you to Rose-Ann Cuninghame from St John Scotland and Carol and Mark Harwood from the Big Co-op in Brodick for coming along to see the extension to our base that funding from the Co-op local community fund and donations from St John Scotland has allowed us to build.'

'Thanks also to all the fantastic bakers who donated all the lovely cakes.'





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Ian Staples and Calum Duncan on burger duties. 01\_B25mountain10



The spacious new base extension. 01\_B25mountain07

# ase open day



Rose-Ann Cunninghame of St John Scotland is flanked by Mark and Carol Harwood of the Co-op with the specially made cake featuring the rescue team logo. Also in the picture are team leader Alan McNicol, chairman Robert Waine and deputy team leader Ewan McKinnon.  
01\_B25mountain02



Jamie McKinnon takes the children on an argocat adventure. 01\_B24mountain11



Rose-Ann Cunninghame with one of the vehicles provided by St John Scotland.  
01\_B25mountain06



## Pensioners betrayed over withdrawal of free TV licences

An MP has slammed the UK government in the Commons over its treatment of pensioners, as the BBC announced it will withdraw free TV licences for over-75s unless they are in receipt of Pension Credit, writes Hugh Boag.

All households with someone aged over 75 are currently entitled to receive a free TV licence, funded by the UK government, to help tackle pensioner poverty and isolation. Despite a 2017 manifesto pledge to continue this, the Tories have cut this funding completely, pushing the decision and costs on whether to maintain it onto the BBC.

The £745 million annual cost of maintaining the status quo would take a fifth of the BBC's budget – its own proposal will cost £250 million a year, requiring cuts but no channel closures.

Following the announcement, North Ayrshire and Arran MP Patricia Gibson challenged Secretary of State Jeremy Wright MP, asking if he was comfortable that people in their 80s and 90s could potentially be prosecuted for being unable to afford to watch television. He failed to answer.

Speaking after the exchange, Mrs Gibson said: "This announcement was entirely predictable after the UK government passed on responsibility to the BBC, breaking a manifesto commitment to protect



Patricia Gibson MP.

all pensioner benefits. The BBC is a broadcaster. Public welfare is not its remit and it should not have to decide on what is a UK government responsibility. It is despicable that the Tories have abandoned our pensioners and left the BBC to take the blame.

"Now, 5,100 elderly people in my constituency alone will have to pay £154.50 for their TV licences, 72 per cent of whom currently qualify for a free one. Many older people who qualify for Pension Credit do not claim it and the criteria for qualifying is being tightened."

"Whether it is victimising disabled and vulnerable people on benefits, ignoring the plight of 1950s-born women who had their pension age raised with little or no notice, or reducing

eligibility for pension credits, one wonders just how low this Tory government can go.

"Our pensioners deserve better, but it is clear the Tories will not honour their manifesto commitments to older people. Given recent promises made by their leadership hopefuls, it doesn't seem likely a change in prime minister will make any difference."

■ Leader column, turn to page eight.

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## Mackerel Lottery returns for charity

ArCaS is this month celebrating its 30th anniversary and the Mackerel Lottery is back for one week only, to show support for this charity.

The lottery will be held in the Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot, tomorrow (Sunday) at 4.30pm. There will also be the usual fun and games.

If anyone would like to donate a prize, bring it along on the day or hand it in to the ArCaS (Arran Cancer Support) shop or the hotel. There will also be a draw for the giant cuddly Snow Tiger in support of charity, and tickets are still available at Driftwood, previously Buntys, in Brodick.

## Arran Bridge Club

Arran Bridge Club summer competition results, played on Monday June 3 were: N/S 1 John Baraclough and Jim Peacock, 2 Pat Adamson and Brenda Livingstone, 3 Ellie Jones and Liz McKellar. E/W 1 Jan and John Beattie, 2 Andy Martin and Gege Kroner, 3 Jennifer Wales and Doug Chase.

**Aggregate competition, June 10:** N/S 1 Dougie and Margaret Bruce, 2 Margaret Macgill and Jan Beattie, 3 Jane Davidson and Tom Kelly. E/W 1 John Baraclough and Jim Peacock, 2 Alison Bilsland and Gege Kroner, 3 Elby Lang and Grace Blakely.

**Matchpoint competition, June 17:** 1 Dougie and Margaret Bruce, 2 Margaret MacGill and Jan Beattie, 2 Gege Kroner and Andy Martin, 4 Jennifer Wales and Doug Chase.

Visitors are welcome to join players at Brodick Golf Club on a Tuesday at 2.30pm.

# Koffee for Kalimpong raises £946 for charity

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



The Friends of Dr Graham's Homes raised the magnificent sum of £946 at their Koffee for Kalimpong morning at Corrie and Sannox village hall on Saturday.

As usual there was delicious homebaking to enjoy, a bric-a-brac and some plants for sale, as well as the fabulous annual raffle.

One of the organisers, Janice Small, said: 'It was great to welcome familiar faces and passing visitors who enjoyed this annual event. Thank you to all dedicated helpers and loyal supporters whose continuing interest helps provide education and nurture to the children of Dr Graham's Homes.'



The volunteer team, some of them behind the scenes, are still smiling at the coffee morning. 01\_B25koffee01



The busy coffee morning in full swing. 01\_B25koffee04



The tables were groaning with homebaking. 01\_B25koffee03



Ann Dinwoodie and Alison Bilsland did a roaring trade with the raffle. 01\_B25koffee02

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# Government is acting on fish farms, says minister

by Hugh Boag  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Rural economy secretary Fergus Ewing MSP has insisted the Scottish government is taking action to tighten regulations on fish farms.

Mr Ewing was repeatedly asked about fish farming during a packed public meeting in Whiting Bay village hall on Monday during a visit to Arran.

The minister was on Arran primarily to talk about farming and the looming threat of a no-deal Brexit crippling the industry and, as well as taking questions at the public meeting, he had a private meeting with the National Farmers Union of Scotland.

However, that did not stop a string of questions being asked about fish farming in general and in particular concern being expressed over proposals for a second fish farm by the Scottish Salmon Company off the North East coast of Arran.

However, Mr Ewing made it clear from the outset that he was unable to comment

on any specific plans which, he said, was a matter for the planning authority and said it would be 'an abuse of my function,' to speak about them.

But he did say that the Scottish government was taking action and was 'tightening up the rules' for fish farms. He also said it was making the inspection of farms more 'independent'.

John Ford from Lochranza asked why all the fish farms were on the west coast and suggested more should be done to promote mussel, oyster and langoustine cultivation rather than fish farms polluting 'our pristine seas'.

Mr Ewing said he believed there was a 'historical reason' for the location of the fish farms, but told Mr Ford he would find out the full reason and reply in writing. He added he believed the shellfish sector was doing very well.

Paul Chandler, director of the Community of Arran Seabed Trust, said there should be more thorough, and more frequent, tests on the fish being farmed. Mr



Mr Ewing is thanked by Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson for accepting his invitation to Arran.

01\_B25fergus02

Ewing said action was being taken to ensure operators were putting out data on the stock on a more up-to-date basis.

Mr Ewing also said there was a trend towards looking very carefully at new fish farm sites with consideration given to the most sensitive such as the effect on wild salmon, a concern raised by the audience. The minister insisted the government was looking at the whole issue with 'transparency' and was 'acting on concerns'.

He also urged those with concerns over the proposed fish farm to make their comments heard through the planning process.

Mr Ewing also answered questions from the audience, which was polite and attentive throughout, about small land holdings, farm tenancies and hill sheep regulations.



Farmer Richard McMaster asks a question from the floor.

01\_B25fergus03



Rural secretary Fergus Ewing MSP addresses the packed village hall. 01\_B25fergus01

## Dance concert at high school

Arran Dancers will be hosting an end of term concert called From Pliés to Pointe Shoes this weekend at the Arran High School Theatre.

Taking place today (Saturday) at 3pm, the event will feature pre-school age and all the way up to teen dancers, who will perform a number of styles including ballet, character and modern dance.

Admission is by donation and refreshments will be served. A raffle will also take place and everyone is invited to attend.

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# LETTERS

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or The Editor, Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8AJ

## Not in tune

The proposal to scrap free TV licenses for the over-75s could hit Arran hard.

It is well known that Arran has an ageing population but figures gleaned from a recent Ayrshire and Arran public health report predict an increase of 50 per cent in the over-80s and a 25 per cent increase in the over-75s in the coming decade on the island.

Add to that a high life expectancy on Arran – for men this is nearly four years higher than the North Ayrshire average and two years above the Scottish average.

So there is clear evidence the island is going to be hit hard by this move.

Of course, it is easy to say most pensioners can afford it – but is that really the point?

To have reached 75 having paid taxes all their working life, is a paltry £154.50 a year for a TV licence really too much to offer elderly pensioners to enjoy their programmes in peace in their twilight years? And the prospect of TV detector vans invading the privacy of pensioners should be avoided at all costs.

Of course the UK government has washed its hands of the matter saying it is for the BBC to choose whether to keep the scheme.

Let us hope common sense can prevail.

### Thought for the week

'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God.' **Matthew 5:6**

## Medical thanks

Sir,  
Can I give the highest praise and my grateful thanks to Arran's wonderful health and ambulance services.

About three weeks ago, I effectively collapsed in the Shiskine surgery.

The initial and brilliant response from the doctor and staff meant I was rapidly transferred to our fantastic island hospital and subsequently, thanks to the efforts of doctors, nurses and two ambulances, I was transferred to Crosshouse Hospital that evening.

Helping to make this possible, I am indebted to CalMac which made arrangements, showed flexibility, made the medical room available and actively supported ambulance staff.

The three consultants treating me in hospital were particularly impressed with the initial skills of my GP, with an obscure diagnosis, that meant much more rapid progression to the treatment stage.

Whilst I now face six months of treatment, I am reminded how lucky I am and have been to live on such a wonderful island for almost six years. Arran cannot be beaten to my mind. Even our local kennels supported by looking after my dogs despite being so busy.

Thank you.

Yours,  
**Ian Clinton,**  
Shiskine.

## Parking concern

Sir,  
I really do wonder what North Ayrshire Council is trying to do to this beautiful Isle of Arran.

Last year it tried to keep the tourists away by closing all the public toilets, but we got over that, and now this year it has thought up another money-making scheme to make Arran less attractive by deciding to charge all summer tourists for parking their cars in Brodick. But we will defeat that also.

Yes, I agree that sometimes it is difficult to find a parking spot in

## PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



We regularly receive pictures of the red deer from Lochranza but this one from Banner reader Val Gall is particularly alluring as it captures the attractive colours of the stag's summer coat. It also shows the velvet covered, and newly formed, antlers which start growing in the spring and which are usually shed at the end of winter.

Brodick but surely the councillors must realise that this is a holiday island that depends on tourism for its living six months of the year, and if they keep thinking up cheap money-making schemes to discourage visitors then there will soon be no visitors and Arran will suffer by its demise.

How many of those councillors, who are making these 'brainwave' decisions, actually live on Arran or have ever visited the island? If very few then they have no right to make such decisions.

As was shown in last week's Banner some of our visitors with big caravans and motorhomes are most inconsiderate but that should be a matter for the local police to slap on a ticket for dangerous parking, not penalise everybody else for just parking.

The more people that come to Arran the more prosperous the island will become and the more attractive it will be for young people to come and settle here.

We are competing with all the other islands on the west coast of

Scotland for visitors and if they do not charge for parking then neither should we. And if they do charge for parking then we should not as that will make Arran all the more attractive.

Finally what are the Arran representatives doing about it? They should be standing up at council meetings and screaming out against such decisions until they are reversed.

Yours,  
**Jack Cowan**  
Catacol

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## Correct parking

Sir,  
Regarding the photograph of the week in the Banner issue of June 15. I am of the opinion your reader Fraser Rae has got his y-fronts in a twist over hee-haw.

It seems to me that a horse and cart could have been driven behind the motorhome. The front of the vehicle can't encroach onto the carriageway of the road. Parking parallel to the pavement would have taken three possibly four parking spaces. This would have been more contentious.

I, with my family, holiday annually on Arran and appreciate the problems caused by motorhomes and would say that this is the correct way to park.

So I would say to Fraser Rae get real.

Yours,  
**Jim Baird Snr,  
Galston.**

## Larger bays

Sir,  
Reading last week's Banner which included a photograph of an apparent inconsiderate large motorhome parked in Brodick overhanging the pavement and restricting pram users (debatable). There is a parking bay problem in the area of the bank and further down opposite the putting green in that legal parking does not allow two larger type vehicles to pass, one having to give way, which should have been addressed long ago.

The motorhome parking issue is another problem which would

require larger bays. South of the border motor homes are embraced and many hotels are now providing up to six serviced motor home bays in their car parks charging £20 per night redeemable if the restaurant and facilities are used.

Perhaps some of Arran's hotels should consider this if parking space permits, also the Co-op could provide this with the overnight charge redeemed on food purchase etc.

As someone who recently purchased a new motorhome, which I collected from the dealer, I was surprised that in the reception area around 12 couples were waiting to be united with their new purchase and I was the youngest there at 74.

Motorhomes are being bought by pensioners with disposable income therefore Arran has to decide if they want these people to visit or not, as unwelcome experiences soon pass down the line in the caravan community.

Yours,  
**Clive Mark,  
Corrie.**

## Buteman saved

Sir,  
Coincidental with the publishing of my previous letter in the Banner last week, Argyll Media sprang a surprise on June 14 by announcing that it would be launching a newspaper for Bute to take the place of The Buteman, now closing.

As a proposed sister paper to its existing Dunoon Observer, this new paper will be entitled, somewhat un-catchily, The Isle of Bute News. The first edition will be published

on June 21. This is very good news. Whilst the long decline and impending closure of the historic Buteman is extremely sad, this announcement nevertheless brings some comfort in knowing that the island will not, as threatened, be left without a local paper and a voice of its own for addressing important local issues, news items, family announcements, youth and social activities, etc, and for providing a link to a Bute diaspora elsewhere.

The new paper will share some content with its Dunoon sister, but hopefully this partnership will provide enough of a resource base for it to build a strong identity of its own and a sustainable future from.

As we well know, in an age of social media and breathless 24/7 radio, TV, 4G, and internet news reporting, the launch of a completely new local newspaper title is fraught with danger.

However, local weekly newspapers provide an important community service in various ways and can succeed.

I am sure that anyone with a past or present connection to Bute would wish this new venture every success, and hope and trust that it is given the full support of its target readership, and its local community groups and businesses, so that it might develop to be like its predecessor of 165 years and remain a long term fixture in representing them and supporting the fabric of island life. The new paper deserves success.

Yours,  
**Andrew Hamilton,  
Eaglesham and Lochranza.**

## ArCaS support

Sir,  
Through your columns may I take this opportunity to express our most grateful thanks to the many Arran businesses who supported our four-page feature in the Banner last week on the 30th anniversary of ArCaS.

Can I also take this opportunity to thank our many Arran residents who continue to donate to the shop and our many customers for their valued support. Without this support we could not provide the services for our Arran cancer patients.

Yours,  
**Douglas Johnston,  
ArCaS chairman,  
Machrie.**

# Dougarie gardens open to public

The gardens at Dougarie will be opening for visitors to explore next month as part of the Scotland's Gardens charity initiative, writes Colin Smeeton.

Taking place this year for the 36th time, the open day at Dougarie will this year be on Tuesday July 2, when visitors can see the terraced garden in the castellated folly built in 1905 to celebrate the marriage of the 12th Duke of Hamilton's only child to the Duke of Montrose.

They will also be able to enjoy a selection of tender and rare shrubs and a small woodland area that includes azara, abutilon, eucryphia, hoheria and nothofagus trees.

In addition to the open garden,

teas and homebaking will be served in the 19th century boathouse, where there will also be a tombola and other stalls.

A total of 60 per cent of the funds raised will be donated to a local cause, nominated by the garden owners, which this year will be Pirnmill Village Association. The rest of the money raised will go to Maggie's Caring Centres, The Queen's Nursing Institute, Scotland, and Perennial – formerly the Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society.

Everyone is welcome to attend the open day and enjoy the gardens while supporting a number of worthwhile charities.



Visitors will be able to browse the garden in the castellated folly at Dougarie Lodge. 01\_B25garden01

## Pension meeting in Brodick

The Cunninghame group of Women Against State Pension Inequality (WASPI) will be travelling to Arran next week to join the local campaigners at their next meeting.

Taking place on Saturday June 29 at the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick, the meeting will also be attended by North Ayrshire and Arran MP Patricia Gibson, who is a strong advocate of the campaign. The meeting will start at 11.30am until 1.30pm and refreshments will be available.

At the meeting the group will have the opportunity to hear the latest updates on the Judicial Review that was brought by another campaigning group that affects all women born in the 1950s.

All of the women that have been affected by the changes to their pension age eagerly await the decision of the High Court judges, who will give it in writing.

For further details on the meeting or about WASPI, contact cunninghamewaspi@outlook.com

## CONTACTUS

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

**News editor**  
Hugh Boag  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

**Reporter**  
Colin Smeeton  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

**Advertising**  
Cecilia Paul  
adverts@arranbanner.co.uk

**Head office**  
Wyx Media,  
Lochavullin Industrial  
Estate, Oban,  
PA34 4HB

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

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### Market report from Stirling

United Auctions in Stirling had forward 332 store cattle, 96 cast cows, 164 breeding cattle and 1,433 prime lambs and cast ewes at its auction on Thursday June 13.

Leading prices were: CharX blks – Craigdhu £850, 216p. CharX hfrs – Craigdhu £890, 213p. Cast Cows – Ceither Gaoithe £795, 121p. Cows with calves at foot – Hillhead £1280.

Hoggs – Corriegills £74, South Feorline £58. Cross Ewes – South Feorline £60. BF Ewes – Corriegills £53.

### Brodick 200 Club winner

The winner of the Brodick 200 Club for June is Tom Sillars, who wins the £50 monthly prize.

The club is run by Brodick Improvements Committee to raise funds for the village amenities. Places are still available to join by emailing Kathleen Boag at bic.contactus@btinternet.com or pick up an application form at the Red Door gift shop in Brodick.

# Geoscientists visit Arran to discuss life on earth

An international gathering of world-renowned experts in the broad field of geosciences was on Arran last week discussing life on earth.

The workshop on the Evolution of Earth and Life was held at the Arran Lodge in Lamlass from June 11 to 14. There were 23 delegates, from professors to postdoctoral researchers, from both the University of St Andrews, and the Institute de Physique du Globe de Paris – a part of the Universite de Paris.

Delegates came from across the world including the US, Italy, China, Taiwan and Australia.

Professor Frederic Moynier of the Paris Institute said the idea of the event was to discuss the current big research questions regarding how earth formed, and why life



Paul Savage leads one of the discussions at the workshop. 01\_B25geology01

began and evolved as it did on planet Earth and to forge new collaborations between the two institutes – St Andrews and Paris.

Paul Savage, a lecturer in the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences at St Andrews, was one of the organisers of the event and



The international delegates who attended the workshop. 01\_B25geology02

chose Arran because he loves the place.

He added: 'It's a great place to show off all that Scotland has to offer – and of course

the geology is world-class.' As part of the workshop delegates took two short field trips with the Arran Geopark ranger Bob Gooday.



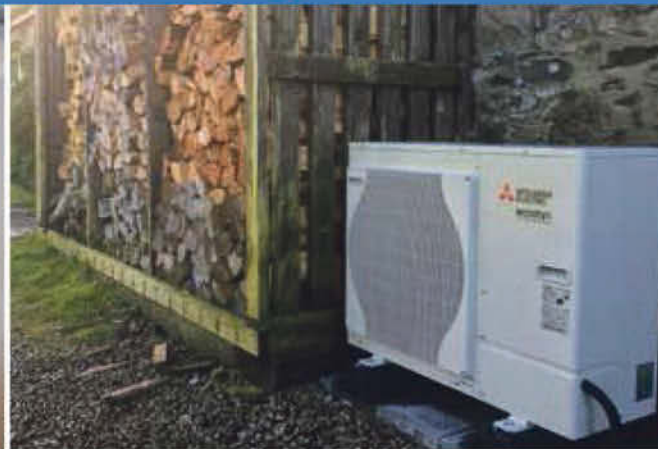
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**GEORGE CLARKE**  
Architect, writer and TV presenter

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



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# Visitors flock to open day

Bellevue Farm in Blackwaterfoot welcomed more than 220 visitors to its annual open day while also raising £475 for the Arran cancer charity ArCaS.

The event, which was held in collaboration with Linking Environment and Farming (LEAF), encourages visitors to experience what happens on a working farm and to learn how farmers look after the countryside and produce

the food and services that they provide.

A family friendly day offering something of interest for the young and old, owners Ailsa and Donald Currie and a team of 27 volunteers helped to make the experience an enjoyable one for all of the visitors.

Children were introduced to donkeys, sheep, cows, chickens and pigs and a lucky few even managed



Children enjoyed being able to climb on the tractors and test out some of the equipment.



Farm owners and volunteers who helped to make the day an enjoyable and informative one for visitors.

to see some young chicks breaking out of their shells in the incubator.

Also on offer for the children was face painting, spinning and the opportunity to take a drive around the farm on the back of a tractor which

was equipped with authentic straw bale seats.

For the older visitors, vintage tractors regularly drove around the farm and a static display of tractors of all ages and sizes were also able to be viewed, and experienced

by small children, who were allowed to climb into the driving seats.

In addition to this, Niall and Stuart McMaster gave a demonstration of sheep shearing and answered any questions that visitors had

about the process.

Rounding off an enjoyable day visitors were able to sample Bellevue cheese directly from the door of the creamery and try fresh fruit which was supplied by sponsors the Brodick Co-op.

## OFFERS & competitions

### WIN

ONE OF SIX FAMILY PASSES TO GALLOWAY COUNTRY FAIR 2019



Galloway Country Fair returns to the picturesque Drumlanrig Castle and Country Estate in the heart of Dumfries and Galloway on Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 August 2019.

An impressive array of acts will take to the main ring, with quad bike stunt man Paul Hannam secured as the headline act. Attendees on both days will see him in his element, performing breathtaking tricks and jumps as well as precision riding.

There are lots of fair favourites on the line-up – from the comical and educational sheep show and horse whisperer Grant Basin, to Buccleuch's very own David Lisett and Lee Hartis conducting the gun dog display. Other activities across the weekend include Elite Falconry displays, Borderlines fishing demos, Stars Dog Agility and Terrier Racing as well as a free kids' activity zone from Team Challenge and countless craft, food and drink trade stalls.

If you'd like a chance to win this amazing prize, answer the following question.  
**Who is headlining the main ring at Galloway Country Fair 2019?**

A family pass entitles one family of four (two adults and two children) entry to the Fair on either 17 or 18 August. Six winners will each receive a family pass worth £52, redeemable on either day of the event.

### WIN

A TWO NIGHT BREAK FOR FOUR PEOPLE IN NORTH BERWICK WITH A CATAMARAN CRUISE AND ENTRY TO THE SCOTTISH SEABIRD CENTRE



Enjoy great days out at the seaside with the five-star Scottish Seabird Centre in North Berwick. Control interactive live cameras, experience 3D films, book a seasonal guided boat trip and enjoy lunch with a view in the newly refurbished café.

Over the summer, the islands in the Firth of Forth are home to internationally important breeding colonies of seabirds including puffins, guillemots, razorbills, terns and eiders. Marvel at the 150,000 thousand gannets on the Bass Rock, the world's largest colony of Northern gannets, and speak to their expert staff about the seasonal wildlife on the surrounding islands.

This fabulous prize for four people includes entry to the Scottish Seabird Centre, a Catamaran Cruise around the Bass Rock and Craighleith and two nights stay at Gilsland Park, in a luxury two bedroom holiday home with decking and fantastic views.

If you'd like a chance to win this amazing prize, answer the following question.  
**How many gannets can be seen on the Bass Rock each year?**

Prize must be taken between 01 and 30 September 2019. Bookings must be made in advance and are subject to availability. Scottish Seabird Centre boat trips are subject to suitable weather conditions. See [www.seabird.org](http://www.seabird.org) for full boat trips terms and conditions.

Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Scottish Field, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. No cash alternative or alternative prize is available. The winner will be informed by telephone. Usual Scottish Field rules apply. We will protect your personal data. We only gather what we need for the requirements of this competition – your name, address, telephone number and email address. If you wish to receive news and offers from the third party running the competition, then please mark the words "OPT IN" on your postcard entry. If you enter various competitions on one card you will be opting in for every competition running. Unless you opt in to receive further marketing information, we will only contact you if you win a prize in the competition. Scottish Field (Wyvex Media) will retain your information for a maximum of 3 months after the competition closes and then it will be deleted. If you have opted in to receive third party information, the data you have supplied will be passed to the third party company running the competition. This may be used for the purposes of the third party contacting you regarding new products and services for a period of 3 months, unless you agree to an extension with the third party company at a later date.

To enter, send separate entries (in the same envelope) with your name, address, telephone number and email address to **Scottish Field Competitions, Fettes Park, 496**

**Ferry Road, Edinburgh EH5 2DL** or enter at [www.scottishfield.co.uk](http://www.scottishfield.co.uk).

Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is **31 July 2019.**

**Winners drawn from all competitions also enter a prize to win a bottle of Whitetail Gin.**



Girls climb on to of the silage bales in the fields.



Young hosts Donald and Andrew Currie were delighted to show visitors around the farm.



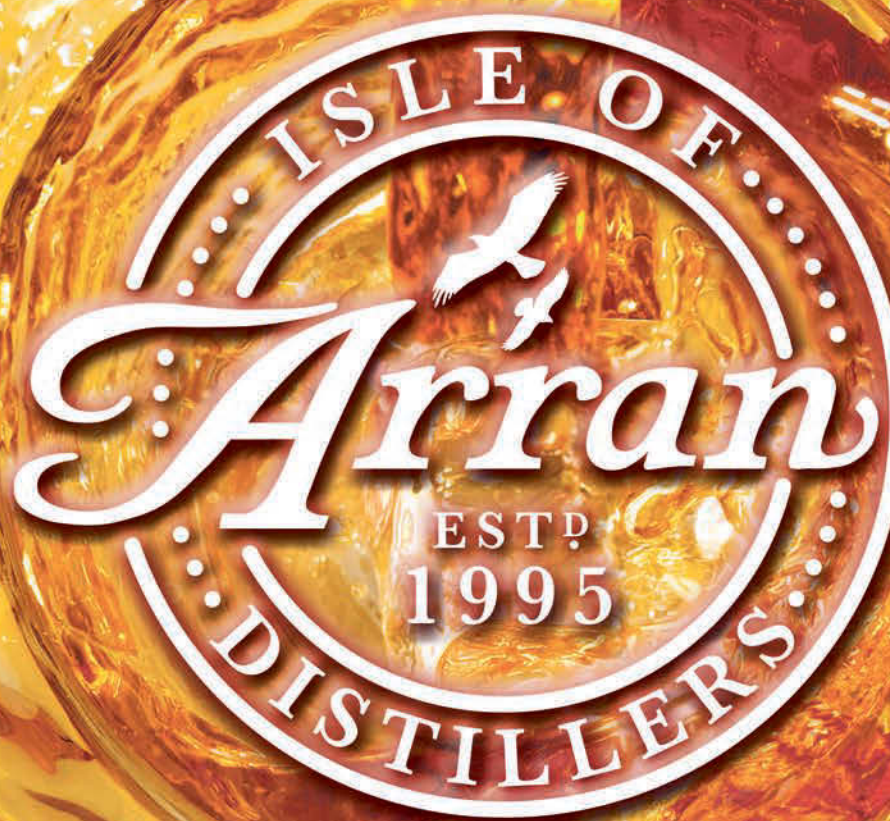
Stuart McMaster demonstrates his sheep shearing skills.



'Tractor Tom' takes visitors on a tour of the farm while providing a friendly commentary.



**Whisky and  
good cheer at  
Arran Malt and  
Music Festival**



*The*  
**Arran**  
*Malt*  
**& MUSIC FESTIVAL 2019**

For 10 years the annual Arran Malt & Music Festival has been held in the grounds of the Isle of Arran Distillery in Lochranza. But this year, for the first time, the festival has a co-host with the newly opened distillery at Lagg.



**The Arran Banner would like to wish the Arran Malt & Music Festival 2019 every success**



However, the main 10th anniversary event remains at Lochranza which this year will take place from Friday 28 to Sunday 30 June. The weekend has become an important date in the calendar for whisky and Arran enthusiasts, bringing together some of the best island food producers, local musicians and bands from the mainland in a celebration of all things malt and music!

On Saturday June 29, the festival starts at 11am and features whisky masterclasses where you have the opportunity

to get really involved, chat to the people who make the whisky and hear about their experiences in the industry. This year there will also be the opportunity to take part in a whisky and chocolate tasting, matching some delicious James of Arran chocolates along with some specially selected single malts from the distillery. There will also be the chance to taste rarely available limited expressions of The Arran Single Malt Whisky by the dram from the fully stocked bar.

The annual festival single cask release will be available to purchase on the day – a small batch bottling which is chosen each year by the participants of the Ultimate Masterclass. The Saturday festivities are set to continue long into the evening with a celebratory ceilidh led by the Scottish folk band Heron Valley and the official Arran distillery band 'James and the Staves'.

Entry to the festival on the Saturday from 11am to 5pm is free. There are still some tickets available for some of

the whisky masterclasses and the ceilidh which can be purchased from [www.arranevents.com](http://www.arranevents.com).

An exciting new addition to the weekend's celebrations is the Long Lagg Lunch which will be held at the newly opened Lagg Distillery on Sunday June 30. Tickets for this hotly anticipated event sold out in minutes. Hosted by Lagg Distillery manager Graham Omand and Lagg visitor experience manager Faye Waterlow guests will enjoy a tour of the

**arrantrust**

tourism and conservation working in partnership

**Here's to another fabulous Malt & Music Festival! Slainte!**



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Whisky masterclasses will allow visitors to learn all about their favorite tippie from experts within the industry.



Regular tours of the distillery will take place throughout the weekend.

distillery followed by a three-course lunch with matching whiskies and cocktails.

With guests coming from near and far, the 2019 Arran Malt and Music Festival is set

to be another memorable event on Arran's social calendar.

A highlight of the entire event for many is the annual Ceilidh which takes place on the Saturday evening in the Grand

Marquee in the Distillery grounds. Festivities continue late in to the evening and it is a perfect way to round off a lively afternoon of good food and drink. Tickets for this are

£15 per person and are available to buy from [www.arranevents.com](http://www.arranevents.com). There is also a limited number of combined 'Bus and Ceilidh' tickets available for £20.



# The Arran Malt & MUSIC FESTIVAL 2019

EVENTS HELD 28<sup>TH</sup>, 29<sup>TH</sup> & 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE



FESTIVAL DAY

SATURDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JUNE

[www.arranevents.com](http://www.arranevents.com)



Lagg brand manager Corrie Morland (right) will be hosting one of the master classes



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# LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARRAN

## Rock 'n' blues festival is bigger and bolder

The inaugural Arran Rock 'n' Blues Festival went down a treat last year. Now the event is back and even bigger and bolder for 2019.

Organised by Lamlash Events in conjunction with The Pierhead Tavern (PHT) the 2019 festival, hosted by the



The Sharpeez Maximum Rythmn and Blues Band are coming to the festival from London. 01\_B25festival01

legendary Tom Russell, will take place in its own marquee on Lamlash Green on Saturday and Sunday July 27-28.

In 2012 Tom, who in his time has interviewed a veritable who's who of rock, was presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award at the Scottish New Music Awards ceremony.

In 2016 he released his autobiography *The Godfather of Rock*, providing a behind the scenes look at his life, rock music and radio. He currently hosts his own rock show on Rock Sport Radio, Glasgow.

On Saturday eight amazing acts will play the marquee between noon and 10pm including the talented Stevie Nimmo, who is back on the road again promoting his latest album after a cycling accident kept him away from the stage last year. The Sharpeez Maximum Rhythm and Blues band are travelling all the way from London to play from their



The legendary Zal Cleminson made a surprise appearance at last year's festival in Brodick hall. 01\_B25festival02

latest album *Wild One*.

Opening the festival will be the blistering Dr Feelgood and also on stage will be the two young bands who are making their mark in big venues around Scotland - Black King Cobra and Rigid Soul - plus many more.

Sunday will feature three bands from 1pm to 5pm including Redfish, a soul deep

blues ensemble, and Greig Taylor's latest project, The Blind Lemon Gators, 1930s' Delta Style Blues with Iain Donald on slide and former John Martyn's drummer Dave Cantwell.

On both days there will be more bands and live jam sessions hosted by the hugely talented guitarist Pete Parisietti on at the PHT.

## Summer showcase at high school

This year, to finish off a busy and fantastic year of music making, Arran High School will present a Summer Showcase on Monday June 24.

The show will feature young musicians across most of the island schools in partnership with Isle of Arran Music School, Feis Arrain, Arran Fiddle Club and associated primary schools.

Tickets priced £5 and are available from the AHS office or on the door on the night with curtain up at 7.30pm. Wider community members who do not have young people in the school are most welcome to attend.

**CONTACTUS**  
email us at [editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)  
telephone 01631 568000

## Screen Machine Scotland's Mobile Cinema

Brodick, Auchrannie Hotel  
Fri 28 June to Mon 1 July

**The Secret Life of Pets 2** (U) 86 mins  
"cuddly family adventure" Radio Times  
28/06 at 5.30pm, 29/06 at 2pm

**Avengers: Endgame** (12A) 181 mins  
"prepare to be wowed" Rolling Stone 28/06 at 8pm

**Woman at War** (12A) 100 mins Icelandic with English sub-titles  
Icelandic black comedy about an eco-warrior. 29/06 at 5.30pm

**Rocketman** (15) 121 mins  
"A sequen-encrusted delight" Empire  
29/06 at 8.30pm, 01/07 at 5.30pm

**Freedom Fields + Director's Q&A** (PG) 96 + 16 mins  
Arabic with English sub-titles, and English Documentary 5 years in the making about a women's football team in Libya. 30/06 at 5.30pm

**Us** (15) 116 mins  
"occasionally bloody scary" Observer 30/06 at 8.30pm

**Wild Rose** (15) 100 mins  
Bursting with talent and fresh out of jail, Rose-Lynn just wants to leave Glasgow and make it as a country star in Nashville. 30/06 at 2pm, 01/07 at 8.30pm Before *Wild Rose* we'll screen a free photo presentation of work by Arpita Shah.

Book at: [www.screenmachine.co.uk](http://www.screenmachine.co.uk). Tickets also at the cinema 30 mins before screenings - cash only, no cards. £7.50 adults/£5.50 concs. Fully accessible for wheelchair users.



## ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

Scottish Charity Number SC002089 Telephone 01770 302636  
Web site: [www.arranmuseum.co.uk](http://www.arranmuseum.co.uk) email: [info@arranmuseum.co.uk](mailto:info@arranmuseum.co.uk)  
Rosaburn, Brodick, Open Daily 10.30am to 4.30pm



## MOTORCYCLE SHOW

on Sunday 23rd June from  
12.30pm to 3.30pm at Rosaburn, Brodick.  
See a fascinating display of classic, modern, off-road and racing motor cycles, off-road and other interesting vehicles from Arran, Scotland and beyond on display.

If you have a motorbike, old, new, any condition, bring it along - you will be made most welcome.

Traditional Tombola Stall, and the Isle of Arran Pipe Band and the Jazz Cafe Band will perform.

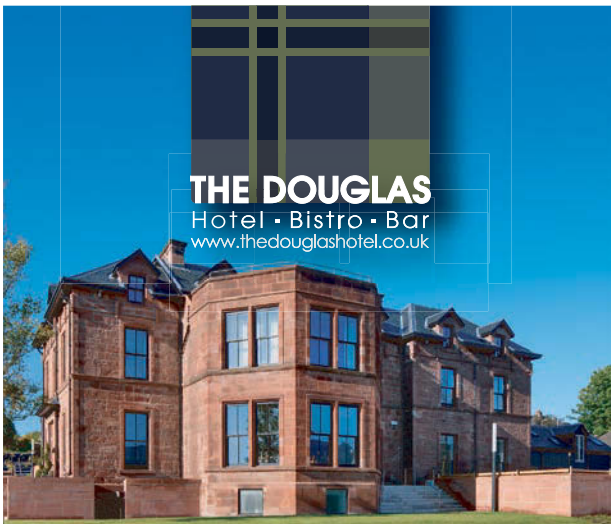
Museum and Tearoom open all day  
10.30am to 4.30pm.

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Dave Milling on his Yamaha TZ250 at the Manx Grand Prix in 2011.



Mike Hawthorne on Lenny Hartley's BSR TZ350 at Goodwood in 2017. Photos Lenny Hartley/Jingly Jangly Images

# Motorcycle show will be the best yet

Tomorrow (Sunday) sees the sixth annual Classic Motorcycle Show at the Arran Heritage Museum at Rosaburn in Brodick and it promises to be the best yet.

The show is an important fundraiser for the museum and over the years hundreds of motorcycles from as far away as Denmark and ranging from one year old to 88 years old have been shown.

Last year there was a record entry of more than 70 modern, vintage and classic motorcycles and several classic cars which visitors enjoyed seeing in the warm sunny weather. This year promises to be the best yet with advance notification of entries from all over Scotland and beyond.

The racing and specials class sees some very interesting racing machines including Corrie's race ace Chas Bunyan's Kawasaki ZX10 1000cc Superbike which he races at Scottish circuits.

From Ayrshire comes Belle a 1949 500cc Vincent Grey Flash race bike which has won many awards at shows all around the UK and is the lap record holder and championship winner at the public Road Circuits of Chimay and Gedinne in Belgium.

She was built from the proverbial basket case by professional motorcycle restorer and top class racer Mike Hawthorne who will be on hand to answer any queries on Belle's restoration and race career.

From Fife come two stunning two stroke 250cc racing bikes, a rare 1991 Yamaha TZ250B V Twin which was ridden by former Manx Grand Prix winner Dave Milling, who had a successful international road racing career including a podium at the Southern 100 International Road Race meeting at the Billown Circuit on the Isle of Man. Dave also raced her on the TT

Circuit and at Olivers Mount, Scarborough - England's only public roads circuit.

The other race bike from Fife is a Honda NSR250 which is presented as ridden by the late great Joey Dunlop the most successful TT Rider in history with 26 victories.

For many the star of the show will be the Shirlaw's of Aberdeen Racing Honda Nsf250 Moto 3 race bike campaigned by 14-year-old Ross MaGuire in the Bennetts British Superbike Championship and the invitation-only British Talent Cup which is the breeding ground for young British Riders to progress to a career in Moto GP.

Ross has been racing Minimoto's since the age of six and at 12 years of age started racing full size bikes and in his first year won three Scottish 125cc titles and set a new lap record at Knockhill Race Circuit in Fife.

Two unrestored racing bikes

from Brodick's Lenny Hartley will also be shown, a 1960s' 500cc Velocette Venom which has raced on the Isle of Man TT circuit several times and a 1979 Bill Simpson Racing Yamaha TZ350 which Bill himself built and took to a top six place in the Isle of Man TT in 1981.

There is free entry for all ages of motorcycle, classic cars and other interesting vehicles are welcome on the day, please try to be there for 11am in order that the setup can be conducted in a timely manner.

The museum is open to the public from 10.30am to 4.30pm and the bike show is open to the public from 12.30pm until 3.30pm.

As musical accompaniment the Arran Pipe Band will play a set at approximately 2pm, and the Arran Jazz Café Band will play throughout the afternoon. Café Rosaburn will be providing delicious teas, snacks, burgers and meals.

**Jazz Café Band**

Whiting Bay Village Hall

Friday 28th June

8pm - 11pm

BYOB

Tickets £7

available at the door or from  
**www.arranevents.com**

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In celebration of

**Lucy & Darren**

getting married on Saturday 29th June 2019

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*Best wishes to the happy couple!*

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# What's on

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CRAFT BREWERY TOURS AVAILABLE DAILY



## Every day

Trout Fly Fishing Loch Garbad, bank fishing  
Arran Geopark Information and Activity Centre Lochranza, 9am - 5pm  
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 seven days, any time  
Brodick Mini Golf Open seven days, 9am - 5pm-ish, ALL weather  
Soap making and candle dipping Arran Aromatics, Brodick, 10am-4pm  
Public swimming Auchrannie Spa Pool, Brodick, 10am - 4pm (last entry 3pm)  
and 6pm-8pm (last entry 7pm)  
Swimming lessons Auchrannie Hotel Pool, Brodick, Monday - Thursday, 4pm - 6pm  
Arran Brewery Open Monday - Saturday, 10.30am - 5pm  
Sunday, 12.30am - 5pm. Tours daily at 11am and 2pm or by arrangement  
Arran Heritage Museum Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am - 4.30pm

## Saturday 22nd June

Flow Yoga Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am  
Arran Coastal Rowing Regatta Lamlash Pier, from 11am  
Rink Games Brodick Bowling Green, 2pm  
Rink Bowls Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm  
Rink Bowls Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 2pm  
Family games Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm - 3pm  
RNLI Shop - open Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm  
Gym Induction Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 2.30pm  
Fun in the pool Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm - 4pm  
Arran Dancers Arran High School Theatre, Lamlash, 3pm  
Family Bingo Night Whiting Bay Golf Club, 7pm  
Live Music - Otis and Marie Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm  
Live Music - Rigid Soul, blues rock band The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm  
Over-21s' Disco Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

## Sunday 23rd June

Motorcycle Show Arran Heritage Museum, Brodick 12.30pm - 3.30pm  
Live Music – Otis and Marie Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, 1pm - 4pm  
Kilmory Hall Summer Market Kilmory Hall, 2pm  
Family games Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm - 3pm  
RNLI Shop - open Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm  
Gym induction Auchrannie Spa, 2.30pm  
Fun in the pool Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm - 4pm  
Live Music - Arran Ensemble The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm  
Mackerel lottery in aid of ArCaS Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot, 4.30pm  
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm  
Folk Music Session Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

## Monday 24th June

Morning Fitness Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am-10.30am  
Coffee Morning Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church Hall, Whiting Bay, 10.30am - 12noon  
Adult Tennis Blackwaterfoot, 5pm  
Arran Skinnymalinks, Shiskine St Molio'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  
Arran Ferry Committee AGM Arran Mountain Rescue Base, 7.30pm  
AHS Summer Showcase Arran High School Community Theatre, Lamlash, 7.30pm  
Live Music – Hickman and Cassidy Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, 7.30pm  
Tae Kwon Do, Adults and over 10s Brodick Church Hall, 7pm - 8.30pm

## Tuesday 25th June

Body Blitz (booking essential) Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am  
Wildlife and Geology Land Rover Safari Arran Ranger Centre, Brodick Castle, 9.30am  
Healthy Outdoors Team Brodick Country Park Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm  
Eco Savvy Energy Surgeries Home House House, Brodick, 10am - 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 – 2 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  
Eco Savvy Food Share  
Trev's Pop Music Quiz  
Traditional Music Sessions

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

## Wednesday 26th June

Yoga  
Hydrofit  
Brodick Gardens Volunteers  
Coffee Morning in aid of ArCaS  
Archives and Genealogy Service Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 3.30pm  
Arran Elderly Forum  
Arran Skinnymalinks, Lamlash  
Chair Yoga Exercise Class  
Knit and Blether  
Dog Classes  
Arran Pace Makers Running Group  
Flow Yoga  
Junior Rugby (P3-P7)  
Rink Games  
Rink Bowls  
ArCaS AGM  
Live Music – Tim Pomeroy  
Tae Kwon Do juniors 6.30-7.30pm, advanced juniors and adults, AHS, 7.30pm - 8.30pm  
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting  
Family Friendly Pub Quiz  
Rock 'n' Pop Bingo

Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am - 10.30am  
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.30am - 10.30am  
Brodick Castle and Country Park, 9.30am - 1pm  
St Brides Church, Brodick, 10.30am - 12noon  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am for 11am  
Lamlash Church Hall, 10.30am  
St Molios Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am  
Bay Wool and Crafts, Whiting Bay 11.30am - 1.30pm  
Whiting Bay Hall, 12.30pm  
Brodick, 5.30pm  
Shiskine Hall, 6pm  
Ormidale Park, Brodick, 6pm - 7pm  
Brodick Bowling Club, 6.45pm  
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 6.45pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7.30pm  
Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, 7.30pm  
Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm  
The PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm  
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

## Thursday 27th June

Morning fitness  
Chair Yoga Exercise Class  
Arran Skinnymalinks, Brodick  
Music Matters  
Adult Tennis  
Body Blitz (booking essential)  
Arran Hockey Club – Seniors (12 yrs +)  
Eco Savvy Food Share  
Eco Savvy Food Share  
The Drift Inn Quiz  
Tommy's General Knowledge Quiz

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30 - 10.30am  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am  
Brodick Church Hall, 10am  
Lamlash Church Hall, 2pm  
Blackwaterfoot, 5pm  
Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6.15pm - 7.15pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm - 8.30pm  
Brodick Ormidale Pavilion, 8.15pm  
Kilmory Hall, 8.30pm  
Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9pm  
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

## Friday 28th June

Yoga  
Hydrofit  
ACLI - Friday Garden Party  
Adult Tennis  
Gym Induction  
Soundbath  
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting  
Tae Kwon Do Advanced (Advanced Class) Arran High School, 7.30pm - 8.30pm  
Jazz Cafe, BYOB Whiting Bay Hall, 8pm - 11pm  
Live Music – Scott Nicol  
Friday Night Quiz  
Live Music - George Lindsay Band

Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am - 10.30am  
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.30am - 10.30am  
Golf Course Road, Whiting Bay, 10am - 12.30pm  
Blackwaterfoot, 11am  
Auchrannie Spa, 5.30pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6.30pm  
Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm  
Advanced (Advanced Class) Arran High School, 7.30pm - 8.30pm  
Whiting Bay Hall, 8pm - 11pm  
Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm - 3am  
Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm  
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

## Saturday 29th June

Flow Yoga  
Craft Market  
Rink Games  
Rink Bowls  
Rink Bowls  
Family games  
RNLI Shop - open  
Lamlash Church Fete  
Arran CND meeting  
Gym Induction  
Fun in the pool  
Family Bingo Night  
Live Music  
Live Music - Scott Nicol  
Live Music - Restart  
Over-21s' Disco

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am  
Brodick Hall, 11am - 3pm  
Brodick Bowling Green, 2pm  
Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm  
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 2pm  
Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm - 3pm  
Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm  
Lamlash Church, 2pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 2.15pm  
Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 2.30pm  
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm - 4pm  
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 7pm  
Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm  
The Douglas Hotel, Brodick, 8pm - 11pm  
The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm  
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

# Merry month of May is the time for bird watching

In terms of weather May was almost a re-run of April with similar rainfall and temperature. In comparison to last May, this May was cooler, with a mean temperature 1.5 degrees lower, and drier with more than 40 per cent less rain this May, most of it falling in the last week.

The wind direction this May was more often from a northerly direction whereas last May it was more from a southerly direction. There was a feeling that spring was arriving but a little delayed. Conditions were generally good for birds trying to get on with breeding but swallow and house martin seemed to be delaying nesting perhaps because of the dry conditions. In addition the absence of southerly winds seemed to be holding up northward migration with the result that many more species were seen on Arran this May than previous recent Mays.

It was an exceptional

month with 122 species recorded some of which had not been recorded on Arran for a number of years. These included the following uncommon passage migrants, irregular summer visitors and vagrants. (The last year recorded on Arran is shown in brackets): a male pied flycatcher (1998) in Corriecravie on May 3; two dotterel (2012) on the northern hills on 4th and 5th; a green sandpiper (2008) in Blackwaterfoot on 11th; an immature female type marsh harrier (2004) by Machrie Farm on 18th; and a coot (2016) on Mossend Pond on 30th.

Throughout the month the numbers of familiar summer visitors like swallow, house martin, sand martin, willow warbler, whitethroat, sedge warbler and cuckoo continued to build up. In addition to the 'firsts' reported in the April notes, here are some further 'firsts' with the 2018 arrival dates in brackets for

comparison, all later this year: lesser whitethroat at fairhaven on 1st (April 30), two swift over Glenscorrodale on 10th (May 5), a spotted flycatcher in Brodick Castle gardens on 11th (April 30), four Arctic tern on Pladda on 14th (April 20) and a wood warbler in Pirnmill on 17th. There were no records of wood warbler in 2018. To date there have been no reports this year of garden warbler, common redstart, nightjar, corncrake or common tern.

Species who breed further north continued to pass through including: 25 whimbrel in Auchenhew Bay on 1st, 11 turnstone in Catacol Bay on 2nd, a greenshank on Porta Buidhe on 5th, 22 sandwich tern at Machriewaterfoot on 6th, two bar-tailed godwit and an Arctic skua at Blackwaterfoot 11th, a white wagtail at Porta Buidhe also on 11th, a knot at Drumadoon Point on 13th, four great northern diver and three sanderling at Drumadoon Point on 15th and 17 dunlin on Silver Sands on 22nd.

In May, breeding was well underway for many species. Encouraging signs included reports of golden eagle, golden plover, hen harrier, red-throated diver and short-eared owl all holding breeding territories. Activity was reported from all the monitored heronries on the island and four areas held small numbers of breeding lapwing. A number of coastal cliffs held single figure numbers of nesting fulmar which seem to be in serious decline on Arran. I would be interested to receive any reports of young birds. None were reported in 2017 or 2018 from any colony. By contrast the black guillemot colonies seem to be thriving.

Other breeding records included: seven woodcock roding over Machrie Moor on 11th, a family of dipper in Glenashdale on 13th, around 20 occupied sand martin nest holes in Glen Catacol on 16th, a pair of Canada geese with five young in Auchenhew Bay on 16th, a pair of shelduck with 10 young at Kilpatrick Point on 24th and a pair of mute swan with six young at Clachlands on 27th. In addition towards the end of the month, there were lots of reports of garden birds carry-



**A family group of mute swans at Clachlands.**

Photo: Colin Brown

ing food and feeding recently fledged young, including young goldcrest in Lochranza on 29th.

Here are some other highlights: 60 gannet off Sandbraes on 15th and after the reports in April, two further reports of osprey one over Sannox Bay on 12th and another at the top of the String on 21st. Similarly there were further reports of ring ouzel on the northern hills on 17th and 18th. A magpie, a vagrant on Arran not seen every year, was in Kildonan from 11th to the end of the month. Finally reports of a single whooper swan along the Kildonan shore from 11th to 21st and then at Sandbraes on 27th appears to be preparing to over-summer here rather than migrate to northerly breeding grounds like Iceland.

With the long daylight hours it is a great time of year to be birding. Most birds are getting on with the business of breeding. Please take a moment to report any signs of breeding birds to me, but please also remember that under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is being built or used. Do not hesitate to report any criminal activity to the local police. Particularly take care on our shores and please keep

**Bird  
notes**  
by Jim Cassels  
MAY



**This whooper swan should have migrated north to its breeding ground in places like Iceland but it looks as if it is going to over-summer on Arran.**

Photo: Simon Davies

dogs on their leads at this time of year.

Enjoy your birding.

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at jim@arranbirding.co.uk. I

look forward to hearing from you.

For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Atlas 2007-2012 as well as the Arran Bird Report 2018 and visit this website [www.arranbirding.co.uk](http://www.arranbirding.co.uk)



**Pied flycatcher last recorded on Arran in 1998.**

Photo: Dennis Morrison



**Bar-tailed Godwit. The bird in the fore ground is moulting into breeding plumage while the bird at the back is still in non-breeding plumage.** Photo: David Kilpatrick.



**Green sandpiper last recorded on Arran in 2008.**

Photo Dennis Morrison

# THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday June 19, 1999

## Dig this

A large archaeological dig has commenced near Shiskine and it has already unearthed a few interesting finds which reveal a bit about Arran's past. The dig is taking place as a result of the new water pipeline that is to be built across the String and round the south end to Kilmory.

Before West of Scotland Water can begin to build its pumping station for the pipeline, an archaeological firm has been employed to make an assessment and so far they have found hammerstone, pitchstone and a Neolithic arrow head. Much of the finds are waste materials, like chippings from tool making and there is clear evidence of cultivation in patterns in the soil. Following the dig the archaeologists will leave the site for the developers but a full report will be lodged for posterity and interesting finds will go on display on Arran and perhaps Edinburgh.

## End of term

Two of Arran's most respected and longest serving teachers retire at the end of this term. Wilma Morton and Ian Watt. Wilma retires after 19 years as head teacher at Pirnmill Primary while Ian will retire after 30 years at Arran High as deputy director.

The high school's longest serving teacher, Ian started at the school in 1969 and during his time he has served under four rectors. Of all the changes over the years Ian says that becoming a six-year comprehensive was the biggest change. After that is the advent of computers, not for the pupils, but in administration.

'The children have changed too,' says Ian. 'They are more demanding. They used to sit quietly but now they have questions and teachers must explain to them why things are being done.'

## Potting shed

In India, before a new building comes into use, it is blessed. That was the plan last Friday for a pottery workshop in Brodick. The Consul General for India and his wife, Mr and Mrs Praween Goel, visited Arran to give the blessing, and although no formal ceremony took place, it was well blessed by the large crowd of interested people who visited.

It is a workshop which has been about four years in preparation at Denard, next to Montrose House.

The potter is Ramesh Lele who married Jill Hargan four years ago and came to Arran. Inside the new workshop is a kiln, a working space and a display room.



The Lady Jean Fforde with lady captain Sheena Murchie and club captain Ian Bremner at the official opening of the Lamlash Golf Club's new clubhouse. 01\_B25twe05

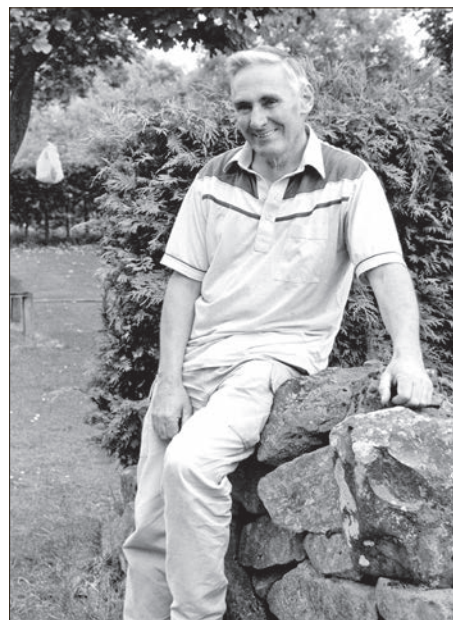


Staff at the Brodick Co-op donned their finest hats for Ascot Day to celebrate Britain's most glamorous race meeting while also raising funds for the charity Children First.

01\_B25twe03



Teachers heave during the staff v pupils tug-o-war at Arran High School's annual sports day. 01\_B25twe04



Kerr Roberson, who retired earlier this year as Arran's head forester, has been awarded the MBE in last week's Queen's birthday honours list. Kerr and his wife Maureen have never flown in an aeroplane and they are hoping the medal presentation will be in London so they can fly there. 01\_B25twe01



Wilma Morton will be retiring as head teacher at the end of this term from Pirnmill Primary school where she has taught for 19 years. Well liked by pupils and parents, Wilma and her husband Archie hope to spend some time travelling and becoming more involved in drama. 01\_B25twe02

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\*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

Written representations may be made to the Executive Director (Economy &  
Communities) at the above address or emailed to [eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk)  
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TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT  
PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)  
19/00464/PPP; Site Opposite Glenclay Garage, Auchrannie Road, Brodick, Isle Of  
Arran; Planning permission in principle for residential development.  
19/00418/PP; Auchrannie Spa Resort, Brodick, Isle Of Arran, KA27 8DA; Change  
of use of agricultural land and erection of staff accommodation  
units 4 and 5.

Craig Hatton  
Chief Executive  
Cunninghame House  
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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

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

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

**Sunday 23rd June**  
Lochranza Church, 9.30 am. Morning Worship  
Pirmill Church 10.45am. Morning Worship.  
Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship.  
Brodick Church, 10.30am Morning Worship  
Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer Meeting, 12noon Morning Worship  
There will also be a Service of Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland  
Charity Number: SC014005

**Sunday 23rd June**  
Family worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am.  
This service, the closing service for the Sunday School, will be an all age service and all ages are most welcome.  
Tea and coffee will be served after the service and everyone most welcome to stay and enjoy more fellowship.

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)  
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
**Sunday 23rd June**  
Sunday after Pentecost  
Sung Eucharist - 11 am.  
Rev'd Adrian Fallows  
Coffee after service  
All Welcome

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(continuing)  
**Sunday 23rd June**  
Morning Service 11am  
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick  
Evening Service 6.30pm  
5 Glen Road, Brodick  
All welcome

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

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**Sunday 23rd June**  
Rev John Webster  
Kilmory at 10 am  
Lamlash at 11.30 am  
Lamlash Church Fete: 29th June 2pm  
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Scottish Charity SC015072

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)**

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Sunday Worship at 11am  
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**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings  
**Sunday 23rd June**  
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 23rd June**  
Shiskine at 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)  
Brodick at 6pm  
Services will be taken by Rev Ernest Brown

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH**

**Saturday 22nd June**  
Saturday Vigil Mass at 7.30pm  
**Sunday 23rd June**  
Sunday Morning Mass at 11am

**DEATH**

**CRAYTON:** Bill (William James). Died 6th June 2019, aged 87 years. Formerly of Arran, Scotland. Loving partner to Dorothy. Rest in peace. A funeral service will take place on Thursday 27th June at 11.20am at Thornton Crematorium, Liverpool. All enquiries to Dean Brothers Independent Funeral Services, Deans Court, Gores Lane, Formby, Liverpool, L37 7DF. Tel: 01704 872023



**Machrie Bay Golf Club**

Tuesday June 11, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary: 1 Reuben Betley 65, 2 Hamish Bannatyne 66, 3 John Pennycott 69.

Monday June 17, Club Championships: Billy Paton beat Alistair MacDonald in the President's Cup. Jenni Turnbull won on the 18th green against Kema Genda in the ladies' final. This was the same in the gents' final, with Hamish Bannatyne beating David Jeffrey on the 18th green.

Tuesday June 18, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary: 1 Campbell Laing 63 BIH, 2 Phil Betley 63 BIH, 3 Brian Sherwood 63.

Fixtures: Tuesday June 25, Lady Mary/Peter Sutton, tee off 12.30pm/5.30pm. Tuesday July 2, Duncan Sillars Cup, tee off 12.30pm/5.30pm.

**Shiskine Golf Club**

Thursday June 13, ladies' 18-hole medal: 1 Piet Johnston 83-20=63, 2 Fiona Scott 92-23=69, 3 and scratch Ann May 77-6=71.

Sunday June 16, gents' 12-hole medal: first class: 1 and scratch D Jeffrey 48-6=42, 2 P Betley 53-7=46 BIH, 3 William Kelso 53-7=46. Second class: 1 R Betley 60-19=41 (medal winner), 2 B Sherwood 52-10=42 BIH, 3 A Young 55-13=42. Magic two D Jeffrey.

**Corrie Golf Club**

Wednesday June 12, sweep: 1 A McDonald 75-14=61 BIH, 2 L Hartley 76-15=61, 3 A Smith 74-12=62 and scratch.

Saturday June 15, sweep: 1 A Smith 71-12=59, 2 A Napier 70-10=60 and scratch. Magic twos D Logan, J Adams and C McNeil.



At the Machrie Bay Club Championship finals are Billy Paton, with the President's Cup, Jenni Turnbull, winner in the ladies' final, and gents' winner Hamish Bannatyne.

Fixtures: Saturday June 22, AGA Hope Cup, first round matches at Lochranza Golf Course. Wednesday June 26, 18-hole sweep, ballot at 6pm.

**Brodick Golf Club**

Wednesday June 12, Summer Cup, 26 played, CSS 66: 1 Russell Duncan 80-14=66 ACB, 2 Bill Donaldson 81-15=66, 3 Brian Smith 81-13=68. Scratch, Ewan McKinnon 69.

Sunday June 16, Royal Bank Shield, four-ball better ball, 24 played: 1 Brian Smith and Jim Reid 57, 2 Nicol Hume and Kenny McMillan 59, 3 Billy and Jimmy Armit 60.

Fixtures: Saturday June 22, AGA Hope Cup round one v Lamlash at Lochranza, 4pm. Sunday June 23, Marchioness of Graham Trophy, bogey competition.

**Lamlash Golf Club**

Thursday June 13, Summer Cup, CSS 65: 1 Scott Campbell 77-17=60, 2 Scott Macfarlane 74-10=64, 3 Iain Murchie 73-6=67 BIH, 4 Dougie Macfarlane 68-1=67. Best scratch Dougie

Macfarlane 68. Magic twos Iain Murchie @ 12th and 16th, Graeme Andrew @ 13th, John O'Sullivan, Serg El Adm, Alan Smith, Dougie Macfarlane all @ 16th. Hole 14 drawn out - rollover.

Sunday June 16, Jameson Cup, CSS 64. 1 Stuart McLaren 77-12=65 BIH, 2 Lee Dutton 85-20=65. Best scratch Stuart McLaren 77. Magic twos Andy Smith @ 16th and winner of accumulator draw for hole 16.

Ladies' section: Wednesday June 12, Medal round four, CSS 64, par 65, six played: 1 Ruth Hardy 90-26=64, 2 Kate McAdam 83-16=66. Scratch Kate McAdam 83.

Fixtures: Wednesday July 17, Ladies' Open Day, 15-hole competition. Lots of prizes and spaces available, see club website for details. Saturday June 22, Hope Cup at Lochranza, Lamlash v Brodick. Sunday June 23, Medal Shield, 9.30am and 12.30pm starts. Thursday June 27, Stableford, make up own groups.

**Whiting Bay Golf Club**

Wednesday June 12, Summer Trophy, 14 played, CSS 64: 1 Douglas Auld 20, 63, 2 Ryan Armstrong 9,65, 3 Nicol Auld 5,66 and lowest gross, 4 John Pennycott 14,67. Magic two Ryan Armstrong @ 12th.

Saturday and Sunday June 15 and 16, gents' Seniors Open. Heavy rain on Saturday morning did not quite shut the course but a decent afternoon forecast allowed the field to postpone until brighter skies appeared. Scoring was decent rather than spectacular and CSS stayed at 63/36 points.

Visiting players fared well with only four home-based players featuring in the top 10 positions. Graeme Andrew of Lamlash bagged the only magic two of the day at the second hole. 1 Peter Haveron 18,38pts, 2 John Pennycott 14,37 ACB, 3 Gordon

Drummond 11,37, ACB, 4 Graham Rees 17,37.

Sunday morning dawned bright and clear and again it was mainly visiting players who dominated with only three home players featuring in the top 10 places. Scoring at the top of the leaderboard was good but the rest of the field must have provided a counterbalance as CSS went out to 64/35 points. Dave Hackett and Pete Towndrow bagged the only magic twos of the day @ 4th and 17th respectively. 1 Iain Bruce 20,40pts, 2 Colin Nisbet 14,38, 3 John Pennycott 14,36, 4 Ian Bremner 8,34.

In a departure from previous years the 2019 Seniors Championship was decided over the course of both rounds and the winner on this occasion was, fittingly enough, the ever-generous main sponsor, Colin Nisbet, with a 36-hole total of 73 Stableford points. Congratulations Colin - nice to see you taking something out of the very much you put in.

Thanks to all who came and supported the Seniors Open. It was generally agreed that the course was the best it had been for many years and heartfelt thanks went especially to Stewart, Corey and George for their expert work. Thanks also to John, Nancy, Jenni and Louise. It's never easy keeping a crowd of golfers fed and watered but as usual the service in the clubhouse was first class.

Last but by no means least, a huge thank you to Colin Nisbet for his generous sponsorship of this popular event to which so many familiar faces return year-on-year. We must be doing something right and hopefully we'll see you all again in 2020.

Fixtures: Saturday June 22, AGA Hope Cup at 4pm at Lochranza. Sunday June 23, The Morton Quaich, draws at 9am and 11am. Wednesday June 26, Cancer Relief Open.



Winner of the Whiting Bay Golf Club's Senior Open is Colin Nisbet with his trophy.



# Niall lifts local trophy at Kildonan sheep dog trials

Niall McMaster of Springfield Farm, West Bennan has won the local title at the 47th annual Kildonan and District sheep dog trials.

Taking place at Corriegills over two days, starting with the confined class (locals) on Thursday June 13, and the open class the following day, the overall winner was S Davidson of Dunoon.

Niall, along with his dog Gail, competed against seven other local runners to secure the first place position. In both second and third place was Iain McConnell with Drift and Sam respectively.

Matthew McNeish and Pip, five times winner at the Dougarie dog trial, came in

fourth place with Wullie Stevenson with Mcleod following closely behind.

Judging in the confined class was undertaken by Neil Henderson of Kilpatrick and judging in the open category, in which there were 45 runners, was J McEachern of Kennacraig.

The trophy winners were as follows: Kingsley Cup and Maharanee Trophy, Niall McMaster with Gail. Arran Cup, Mathew McNeish with Pip. Alec Miller Cup and Kildonan Hotel Trophy, Iain McConnell with Drift and Sam. Kildonan Open Cup and Royal Bank Trophy, Stuart Davidson with Maid and Lee. McBride Trophy,

Dun Allian Tray, Princess Antionette Trophy and the McKeown Ladies Stick, Lisa Gast with Rosie. Young Handlers Cup, Kristine Bergan with Killie, from Norway.

In each category the following achievements were recorded: Best outrun and lift, open, L Gast with Fae, local, L Robertson with Jim. Best fetch, open, S Davidson with Maid, local, I McConnell with Drift. Best drive, open, L Gast with Rosie, local, I McConnell with Sam. Best Pen, open S Davidson with Maid, local, M McNeish with Pip. Best shed, open, D Carlton with Boo, local, N McMaster with Gail.



Niall McMaster and his dog Gail herd the sheep towards the pen. 01\_B25dog04



Matthew McNeish directs Pip to separate a small herd of four sheep into two groups of two. 01\_B25dog02



Winner of the Kildonan and District sheep dog trials is Niall McMaster with his wife Genevieve, children Sophie and Euan and dog, Gail.



Second and third place winner Iain McConnell with his dog Drift. 01\_B25dog03



Jen McNeish enjoys a lighter moment with the sheep who resist being penned. 01\_B25dog05

# Arran High excels at Ayr



More than 30 pupils qualified for the Ayrshire Athletics finals at Dam Park, Ayr.

Arran High School athletes have once again excelled themselves at the annual Ayrshire Athletics finals at Dam Park, Ayr.

With more than 30 pupils qualifying to compete in the finals, a total of 16 medals were secured by the pupils in both field and track events.

Pupils in particular did remarkably well in the discus category with three bronze medals, two gold medals and a silver.

Receiving medals at the

event were: Ruaridh Lindsay Smith, bronze javelin; Jake McAllister, gold discus; Louis Gray, bronze discus; Julie Hamill, silver discus; Milo Godwin, bronze 300m; Thomas Gilmore, bronze discus; Jemima Currie, silver long jump; Freya Mcnicol, silver discus and javelin; James Reid, silver shot put and high jump; Liam Bremner, bronze triple jump and 200m; Finn McArthur, gold discus; Charlie Bonner, silver 400m and bronze long jump.



All of the medal winners pictured



Julie Hamill won a silver medal in the discus.



Finn McArthur took gold in the discus.



Finn McArthur launches the javelin into the air.



Alan Tweedley takes part in the shot put.



Liam Bremner won a bronze medal in the triple jump.



Patryk Gwidowski prepares for the long jump.



Charlie Bonner during the long jump.



Thomas Gilmore achieved a bronze medal in discus.



Charlie Bonner nears the finish line.

# shire athletics finals



with their medals.



Jake McAllister took gold in the discus



Ruaridh Lindsay Smith, who received a bronze in the javelin, also competed in the running events.



Milo Godwin makes good progress in the track events.



Freya Mcnicol won silver in the discus.



Cerys Herapath takes part in a track event.

## Northend pick up first points of the season

Northend	2
Shiskine	0
Arran Dairies League	

Northend got their first

points on the board for the season with a strong winning performance against Shiskine. Youngsters Stuart Logan and Ross Traill scored for the Lochranza men with

the defence at the other end putting in a strong performance to keep a clean sheet.

Goalkeeper Bryan McCallum was given the plaudits by being awarded

man of the match by referee Sam Tattersfield. Bryan put on another impressive performance and for once got the result he deserved, and the team deserved.



Brodick on the attack during the first half in the game against Southend. 01\_B25footy01

### Arran Haulage Cup fixture

Monday June 24 will be the preliminary round of the Arran Haulage Cup. Southend play host to Lamlash in the match where Lamlash will be looking for revenge with their playmaker Johnny Sloss available after being suspended for the league fixture between the two teams in which Southend prevailed.

### Sorry Johnny



Johnny Sloss 01\_B25johnny01

In last week's Banner we stated Johnny Sloss was the Isle of Arran AFC players' player of the year for last season. Johnny was, in fact, player of the year, with Archie McNicol picking up the players' player award. Apologies for the mix-up.



This dangerous Southend free-kick just slipped past the post. 01\_B25footy04

# Gregor on fire as Southend go top of the league table

Southend	4
Brodick	0
Arran Dairies League	

In the top-of-the-table clash on Monday night both teams went into the game at Sandbraes with a 100 per cent winning league record.

In the first half Brodick started the stronger team but chances for either team were few and far between and Babbies MacNeil picked up a yellow for a mistimed challenge on Ryan Armstrong.

Brodick struck the bar towards the end of the first half but the rebound was cleared

by the Southend defence. By the end of the half Southend were starting to create chances but Finlay Sillars produced some spectacular saves to keep the game at 0-0 going into the break.

An early penalty was awarded in the second half when Brodick's Joel Small brought

down Ryan Armstrong in the area. Ryan stepped up from 12 yards and made no mistake. Southend's lead was doubled when Liam Bremner powered a header into the top corner of the visitors' goal.

Things turned from bad to worse for Brodick when Babbies was given a second yellow card for dissent.

Southend were in full control now and Donnie Park made it three after a great run down the left wing from Gregor Crichton and a well-swung-in cross was met by Donnie.

The scoring was complete when winger James Currie put in a deadly cross which unfortunately resulted in an own goal from Marty Hynes.

Referee Sean Higgins gave Gregor Crichton the man of the match for some menacing runs and brilliant work rate on the wing.

More football on page 27



Man-of-the-match Gregor Crichton makes a powerful run down the wing. 01\_B25footy03



A Southend attack is closely watched by Brodick keeper Finlay Sillars. 01\_B25footy02



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