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Home Farm development looks to new horizons

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



A new cafe and restaurant is to be created at one of Arran's most popular shopping spots.

Home Farm outside Brodick is looking for a tenant to take over the former Creelers site which has been empty for nearly three years. It is just one of a number of proposed developments.

The building, which once housed the restaurant, has now been stripped back to its bare walls and the former smokehouse is to be demolished. Whoever takes over the building will be able to help design the internal fit to their particular needs with the support of the Russell family, who own the whole site.

The new cafe can have space for outside seating and there is an area earmarked for a children's playpark.

It was present boss Duncan Russell's father, Ian, who had the vision to turn the derelict Home Farm site, once the farm of Brodick Castle, into a shopping destination more than 30 years ago.

Today, as well as being

home to Arran Aromatics, the site has the Cheese Shop, the pottery shop of Simon Thorborn and other outlets.

Now firmly looking to the future, the first part of the jigsaw is to find a new tenant to run what will become the onsite cafe and restaurant, with the current cafe being taken over by the Arran Coffee Company run by Alix Hitching, who previously planned a similar coffee roasting venture in Whiting Bay.

Duncan is also in talks with Taste of Arran which is considering a produce outlet.

He told The Arran Banner: 'When mum and dad bought the home farm their vision was to turn the derelict site into a thriving hub that the island would be proud of. I think my dad would be delighted to see a new restaurant/cafe on the site

as he would have loved the constant rising standards of catering on the island as shown by Little Rock, the Wineport and others.

'Home Farm combines the best of manufacturing and retailing for visitors to see it, make it, try it.

'We see Arran growing in its attraction to visitors and we have to adapt to their needs. Whether this means running a courtesy bus to Home Farm, or a shop-and-ship for foot passenger to enjoy - kind of like collect by car to save them having to carry everything while they enjoy their visit,' Duncan added, although these remain plans for the future.

Anyone who would like further information, or to register an interest should contact Duncan by emailing

Turn to page two

End of an era...



Lisa Edwards and Stewart Kilpatrick cut the last Torrylinn cheese to be produced at the creamery into slabs. Full story, page four. 01_B30era01

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All the fun of the fete

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



Brodick Church held its annual fete in the church grounds at Knowe Road on Saturday on a splendid sunny afternoon.

All the usual stalls – baking, tombola, plants, bric-a-brac, toys, books and many others – were all there

and, of course, a tearoom. There were also children's games in the church gardens and throughout the day duck eggs were for sale for the highlight of the day the winning duck selection for which first prize of £100 went to Kathleen Boag.

The event helps fundraising to maintain the church and hall, both of which are well used throughout the year.



The busy plant stall in the church gardens. 01_B30fete02



Alison Keir had a busy day selling duck eggs with her helper. 01_B30fete04



Girls try their hand at the ladder game. 01_B30fete09



Little Samuel Brisbane, three, has fun with the duck eggs with cousin Rebecca Fitzsimmons. 01_B30fete10

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Home Farm looks to new ho

Continued from page one
him at homefarmarran@gmail.com.

In another development, Eco Savvy has moved into office space vacated by Arran Aromatics, above the gift shop. Arran Aromatics now has its offices on the second floor.

The new offices give the ever expanding Eco Savvy a bright an airy open workspace – compared to its previous accommodation in the Ormidale Pavilion – as well as individual offices, a cosy meeting room and a conference room in which to hold its workshops.

Project manager Jude King said: 'We have two years' funding for the office space which is ideal for our growing team and hopefully we will be here even longer.'



Duncan Russell outside the present building. 01_B30farm02





The winner of the duck egg £100 first prize Kathleen Boag. 01_B30fete11



The various stalls, including bric-a-brac, baking and tombola, did a roaring trade, and the church pews were packed with books.



Horizons

Damage to underground cable caused broadband problems

A number of Arran homes and businesses had a frustrating start to the week when they were left without internet access.

Many tried to contact their service providers, with BT customers particularly affected, and took to social media to vent their anger.

However, it emerged that it was caused by damage to fibre cables on the mainland which are the responsibility of Openreach, which was legally separated from BT last year.

An Openreach spokeswoman explained: 'A logging company working close to Clyde Muirshiel Regional Park damaged an underground fibre cable resulting in a small number of people in

parts of the west of Scotland losing their broadband service on Monday afternoon.

'Communities in Brodick, Whiting Bay, Largs and Fairlie were affected. Engineers have been working on repairs and services were restored at 3.15pm on Tuesday, though work is ongoing. We're sorry for any inconvenience.'

TALKTOUS
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The inside of the cafe/restaurant has been stripped back 01_B30farm01; Charlotte Mann and Jude King in the new Eco Savvy office. 01_B30farm03



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ARRAN HAULAGE

A sad end to 73 years of



Torrylinn staff look out over the very last batch of cheese ever made at the creamery which will shut down at the end of the month. 01_B30cheese08

Stewart Kilpatrick and Lisa Edwards prepare the cheese slabs for further processing. 01_B30cheese10

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Torrylinn Creamery in Kilmory will close its doors for the last time next week after its owners, First Milk, made the decision to shut down the 73 year old Arran institution, as reported in last week's Banner.

The news comes as a great loss to the island, and especially to the five loyal staff who were employed there, but it has not come entirely as a surprise as the writing has been on the wall for many years.

And so it was that on Wednesday July 17 the very last cheese likely ever to be produced using traditional handmade skills at Torrylinn was made and the Banner was there to witness the occasion.

Throughout its long and turbulent history, and under various owners, the business has faced many challenges, most notably the nationwide decline in the industry and the ever-dwindling number of dairy farms on the island, once again owing to market conditions.

Having faced imminent closure before, the creamery has soldiered on through difficult times, winning numerous awards along the way

despite competing against a far larger and better funded competition.

Having struggled to survive, the small creamery at the foot of Butter Hill, has become a treasured 'old' institution on Arran. The business caused a huge stir when it opened in 1946 as the official opening was undertaken by none other than King George VI who brought with him Queen Elizabeth - who would become the Queen Mother - Princess Elizabeth, The Duke of Montrose, Princess Margaret and Prince Philip who was the King's courier in 1946.

Huge fanfare

The Royal party met with the creamery manager, Mr Young, and Mr Farquarson, and Mr Primrose of Scottish Milk Marketing Board amid huge fanfare and crowds of people who gathered to catch a glimpse of the King and the visiting party.

It was in 1991, after milk shortages had been plaguing the organisation and threatening its very survival for a number of years, that the creamery faced its biggest challenge.

New legislation from the European Community (EC) deemed the premises were unsuitable and that upgrading would need to take place,

to the tune of £300,000, a huge sum in those days. But, as was customary for the small creamery, the business survived, shutting down for 12 weeks in the spring and by the time it reopened it fully complied with all of the EC regulations and was able to continue trading.

Torrylinn had been given a new lease on life and a completely refurbished plant with a visitor centre and a shop.

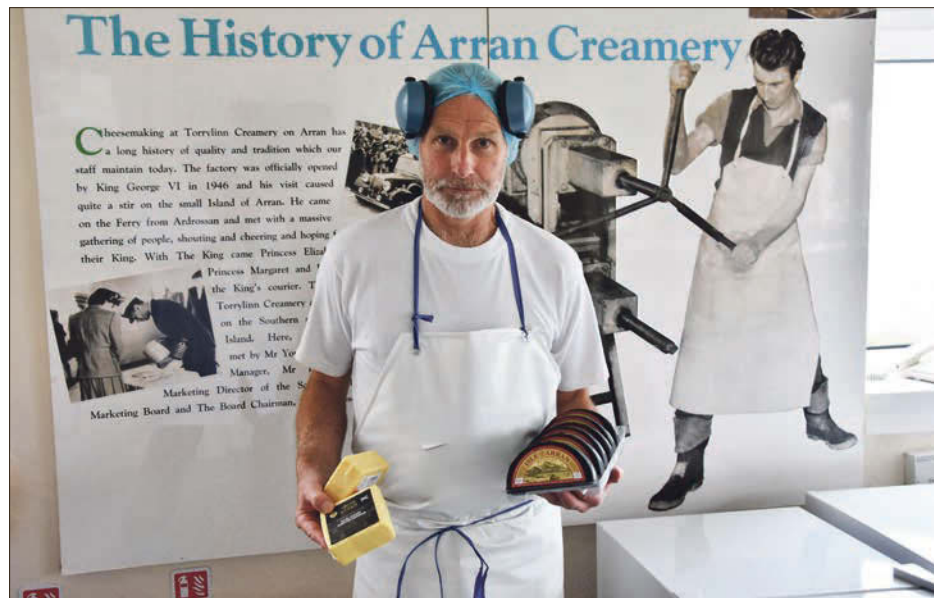
The ever present threat of dwindling Arran milk suppliers and the declining markets continued though and it was hoped that when First Milk took over the company in 2007 the fortunes of one of Arran's oldest factories on the island would change.

Torrylinn endured under the new ownership and continued to win awards for its quality products, but it's declining fortune and lack of investment meant that last year First Milk announced that they would seek a buyer for the business.

Following a concerted effort by First Milk, industry leaders and local politicians, to save the organisation, the enterprise received no offers and no credible interest and the announcement was made that the creamery would shut down for good on Wednesday July 31, 2019.



The Torrylinn Creamery in Kilmory had been in operation since 1946. 01_B30cheese07



Head cheese maker Allan Nicol with some of the cheese products produced at Torrylinn before it closed. 01_B30cheese05



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f Torrylinn Creamery



The last team at Torrylinn Creamery, Allan Nicol, Richard Scott, Stewart Kilpatrick, Philip Ward and Lisa Edwards, who won a Scotland Food and Drink excellence award in May this year. 01_B30cheese01



Above, Torrylinn staff: George McIver, Alistair McIver, Wendy Birch, Margaret McIver, George Hotchkiss and Neil McLean pictured in August 1992 after the upgrading of the premises.

Below: October 1985: The seven man crew at Torrylinn are, John Allan, Drew McHarg, Margaret McIver, George Hotchkiss, Margaret McBain, George McIver and Neil McLean. 01_B30cheese04



King George VI introduces his wife Queen Elizabeth to the creamery boss at the opening in 1946. The present Queen and her sister can be seen behind her. 01_B30cheese09



Neil McLean and Margaret McIver cut the curds into slabs in 1992. 01_B30cheese03



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Pension credit helpline 'con'

Arran MP Patricia Gibson has urged the UK government to stop conning older people and deliver a workable pension credit application process after it became clear that applying successfully is extremely difficult.

Across Scotland, 123,000 pensioner households live in poverty because of the UK Government's failure to act and here in North Ayrshire, including Arran, £7.4 million of pension credit payments are unclaimed this year.

The problem is likely to be particularly acute on Arran, where 34 per cent of islanders are retired, compared to 22 per cent on the mainland.

Mrs Gibson used a point of order at Westminster, on Wednesday July 17, to highlight systemic failures in an application process which prevents people from successfully claiming this vital benefit.

She said: 'Pension credit is vital for many elderly island constituents. It tops up one of the lowest state pensions in Europe and is a gateway to other benefits such as assistance with council tax payments and housing benefit.'

'However, constituents have explained the problems faced when trying to make a claim. The UK Government's pension credit web page advises that applicants must visit a Citizens Advice or Age UK centre or call the pension credit claim line, but when my constituents do so it is rarely, if ever, answered.'

'It's nothing but a "con" which disheartens elderly people from applying.'

Affordable housing is most pressing crisis

Arran Economic Group has just published its quarterly report for April to June 2019 and in his summary chairman **Tom Tracey** outlines the work which has been done during this time. Here is his report.

On the face of it the Arran economy is in good shape. The latest tourist information reports show us with continued growth of five per cent in revenue year on year. Our quality of life survey shows that Arran remains in the top 10 per cent in Scotland.

But whether this can be sustained in the medium to long term depends on how quickly we can resolve our most pressing crisis – the lack of affordable housing on Arran. With rents in excess of 40 per cent mainland rates and household incomes among the lowest in North Ayrshire, the only question is why our labour shortages in every sector of our economy are not higher.

The 34 houses to be built by North Ayrshire Council in Brathwic Terrace will start to solve the problem. The Arran Development Trust has now placed detailed plans and grant applications with the Scottish Government for 43 affordable homes and 14 self-build plots. Meetings have been held with Ministers for Housing, Islands and Rural Economies to explain the problem and

outline the solution. All are sympathetic. We will know over the next three months if this sympathy translates to funding. Meetings have also been held with the CEO of North Ayrshire Council and we are working closely with them. The ball is firmly in the government's court and our MSP is working for a positive outcome.

Arran Ferry Committee has a continuous drive to establish a problem-solving and customer service ethos with CalMac. This paid dividends over Easter with an additional capacity for 11,800 passengers, 3,200 cars and 700 meters of freight. However, the underlying problems remain. CMAL/CalMac infrastructure; boats/harbours/information systems need urgent and significant capital investment which seem to be on the horizon but never quite manage to get here. The ferry committee continues to press for this solution and in the meantime mitigates the infrastructure inadequacies where possible. On a more positive note, several initiatives are being developed by Eco Savvy, ACVS and Health



Tom Tracey 01_B30tracey

and Social Care Partnership to encourage environmentally friendly transport and reduce social isolation caused by a lack of transport.

Work continues to develop and implement the skills plan across the four key sectors: construction, health and social care, visitor economy and shared provision. Each group has identified priorities, actions, partners, barriers

to success and potential solutions.

Progress also in communication with eight events held over the period and the completion of the Discover Arran website and social media platforms.

In conclusion, the top line performance figures are encouraging but the underlying divergence in the availability and cost of social

housing with the mainland exacerbates labour shortages in all sectors. Some of these, as we saw in a recent Banner headline, are critical and threaten our long-term sustainability. There are grant funds available and a detailed proposal to access them is with the government. We will keep you updated on progress but would also encourage you to get involved directly.

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Is nationalisation an option to get ferry contract finished?



by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



There have been repeated claims this week that the Scottish Government is considering nationalising of the Ferguson Marine shipyard in a bid to resolve a bitter dispute over the building of the new Arran ferry and her sister ship.

Nationalisation is being viewed as a way out of the bitter dispute with yard owner Jim McColl to allow completion of the two-ferry contract.

But while the move is hailed as a possibility, there has been little in the way of facts since it was first touted by a BBC business reporter last Friday

and the story appeared to come straight from the office of Finance Secretary Derek Mackay.

First reports had Mr Mackay handling the talks with Clyde Blowers, Mr McColl's holding company thereby taking the dispute out the hands of Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL), the government-owned firm that placed the orders and owns CalMac's fleet.

By the middle of the week Mr Mackay was leading the nationalisation push.

What the outcome of it all will be remains to be seen but the Scottish Government has moved in to help loss-making enterprises already, including Prestwick Airport and BiFab, which has mothballed

fabrication yards in Fife and another in Lewis.

However, despite all the talk there has been little change to the position outlined in the Banner two weeks ago when Ferguson Marine was demanding £61 million on top of the £97 million original contract to complete the MV Glen Sannox and her sister ship still only known as Hull 802.

Review

That figure could be even higher it was suggested this week but the Scottish Government looks increasingly unlikely to agree to hand over any more money as this was previously ruled after an independent review.

It is being suggested that if the Scottish Government

were to take over the yard, which presently has a workforce of around 350, as a political project, it would become solely focused on a programme of replacement ships for CalMac, which are well behind schedule. Insolvency may be the only other option if the solution cannot be found.

The only official comment from the Scottish Government this week was: 'The Scottish Government, Ferguson's and CMAL are focussed on the completion of the current ferry contracts and securing a vibrant future for the yard.'

'We continue to work together to achieve that.'

A spokesman for Ferguson Marine Engineering Ltd



Finance Secretary Derek Mackay.

was quoted as saying: 'We continue to engage with both the Scottish government and CMAL, and remain fully committed to securing the long-term future of the yard.'

Essential maintenance on MV Caledonian Isles delayed

Essential maintenance which was scheduled to take place on MV Caledonian Isles has had to be delayed after the back-up vessel, MV Isle of Arran, was redeployed earlier this week on the Oban to Castlebay route due to cracks being discovered on its regular ferry.

MV Isle of Lewis developed a crack in her hull and after quayside repairs were unsuccessful she was dispatched to Greenock for further urgent repairs.

The reshuffle of vessels resulted in a number of sailing across the network being disrupted with Barra traffic the worst affected with a 165-mile island hopping diversion route via Mallaig, South Uist and Eriskay to get to Castlebay.

This left all MV Isle of Arran sailings on the Ardrossan to Brodick route cancelled

on both Monday and Tuesday with the vessel returning to service on Wednesday morning.

To help cope with the additional demand during the summer holidays, MV Loch Linnhe was deployed to the Lochranza to Claonaig route to assist the MV Catriona while MV Isle of Arran was out of service on Arran.

Off service

The planned works on MV Caledonian Isles will now take place on Monday July 29, with the ferry coming off service 5.35pm with a planned return the following day for the 3.20pm sailing from Ardrossan.

A spokesman for CalMac said: 'We thank our customers for their patience during this period of disruption and apologise for any inconvenience caused.'



Vehicles disembark from the MV Isle of Arran in Brodick following her return to service on Wednesday morning. 01_B30boat01

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Ship solution

The bitter dispute surrounding Arran's new ferry took another twist this week. Hardly a day went by without one national newspaper or another talking about the possible nationalisation of the Ferguson Marine shipyard in Port Glasgow.

The story began on the BBC and has since been picked up by the majority of news organisations across the country, but without a single clarification that a word of it is true.

Central to the story appears to be Finance Secretary Derek Mackay who, it claimed, has taken the contract dispute out of the hands of Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL).

Mr Mackay, who was islands minister when the contract was signed, has always been said to have been unhappy to hand over control to first Humza Yousaf and later Paul Wheelhouse.

But why would he want to get involved now given the widespread financial uncertainties he has to deal with daily surrounding Brexit? Maybe he considers he can find a solution where others have not – something Boris Johnson also appears to believe.

Whatever the next few weeks hold, let us hope that, for the sake of the workforce, the company, the Scottish Government and, not least, the travelling public of Arran it is an outcome to suit everyone.

Thought for the week

'Ask, and it will be given you; seek and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.'

Luke 11:9



Taste of Arran discovered in USA

Sir,
We spent a delightful week on Arran a couple of weeks ago and enjoyed the delicious ice cream. We were thrilled to find it in our Central Market supermarket. They were giving out samples and making a huge deal of it. Not sure if they will continue to carry it ... hope so! Or if it was just an 'event' but it brought back wonderful memories and allowed us to prolong our holiday a bit.

Yours,
Leah Larson,
Texas, USA.

Information sought on Craigie's work

Sir,
I am showing my sculptures in London in September at an exhibition called The Two Gentlemen of Arran. Some of my works will be displayed alongside the works of the late Craigie Aitchison and I am writing to ask any Banner readers if anybody knew him or

his brother Raymund Aitchison who lived latterly at Gorton Jockey corner, Lamlash?

Any anecdotes or stories might help my part in the head-to-head discussion in front of an invited audience. Any information about either of them, particularly Craigie's art practice while he was here, or indeed Raymund's, as it has been suggested to me that he was an amateur painter.

I'm really looking for any inside information that might help shed light on the huge influence Arran had on Craigie's paintings.

Please telephone on 01770 600287 or drop me a line at Whiterock, Lamlash, KA27 8NL. All information will be useful.

Thanks.

Yours,
Tim Pomeroy,
Lamlash.

Walking in steps of ancient saints

Sir,
Can I use your letters page to invite people to join us in the footsteps of the ancient saints?

Follow the life of St Molaise and rediscover Celtic spirituality by joining us on a short modern-day ecumenical pilgrimage walk across the Ross Road from Sliderry to Lamlash on Friday August 9.

All are welcome to this event, which is open to anyone of a religious faith or none.

We will meet at the War Monument in Sliderry at 10am beside the junction of the Ross Road and walk towards Lamlash.

There is no set timescale for the walk, but as it is over 10 miles and the road is quite hilly, we anticipate a walk of around four to six hours.

On the Sunday August 11 at 11am, we invite those who joined us on the walk to our service at St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church in Whiting Bay, and – subject to weather and tide

conditions – on the morning of Monday August 12, at 10am, we will take the ferry from Lamlash across to the Holy Isle.

From there, we will walk to St Molaise's Cave near the shore, which is the final destination of our pilgrimage. We will hold a short ecumenical service at the entrance to the cave.

The only requirements on each day, excluding the Sunday, is that you bring your own packed lunch and arrange your own transport back to your respective island destinations. There is a good public transport system on the island.

The Holy Island ferry fare is £12 return for adults and £6 for children. A parent or guardian should join any younger people undertaking the walks.

Yours,
Gordon MacLeod,
trainee priest,
Scottish Episcopal Church.

Advisory group

Sir,
Parkinson's UK Scotland has an exciting new opportunity for people who want to be at the heart of shaping the charity's work.

We're establishing a new Scotland Advisory Group to guide all of our work here. The group will provide a platform through which supporters, people affected by Parkinson's and professionals in Scotland will advise the Scotland team on how best to deliver better support and services for people with Parkinson's and their carers, families, and friends. We also want members to be ambassadors for people with Parkinson's in Scotland and the charity.

It is vital the group reflects the real world in Scotland. We want members to have diversity of background, thought and experience, and we welcome applications from anyone, anywhere in Scotland who wants to help grow the reach and impact of

the charity and improve services and outcomes for the Parkinson's community here.

To find out more about the group, the role and how to apply to become a member please visit www.parkinsons-governance.org/scotland-advisory-group-member

Applications close on July 31. Come and join us – we need your experience, skills and insight.

Yours,
David Allan, Scotland Trustee,
Parkinson's UK in Scotland.

Ferry funds

Copy of letter sent to
Cunninghame North MSP Kenneth Gibson

Sir,
I, and I think a lot of others on Arran, think that the Scottish Government is, in a number of ways, responsible for the shocking state of ferry services to the west coast islands.

Government forward planning has been woeful. You are spending money on RET but have not taken into account the huge increase in traffic that this has produced. Far too few new ferries have been ordered and those that have are far too big and have not been built yet. Ageing boats breaking down result in transfers of boats and loss of service – I could go on.

The situation, I think you will agree, is untenable and needs a huge amount of capital investment to bring the fleet up to standard. These are nationalised industries and as such are the direct responsibility of the Scottish Government.

Island people are long-suffering and in some ways politicians take advantage of this, but island people are very angry and I think you have reached a point when you need to bite the bullet, borrow a very large amount of money and produce a ferry service that is fit for purpose.

Yours,
John Cruickshank,
Whiting Bay.

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Garden fundraiser raises £400

Sir,
We would like to thank all the islanders and visitors who braved the weather on Sunday to come to our open garden. Through all the donations we raised an amazing total of £400 for ArCaS.

Yours,
John and Janet Baraclough,
Strathwhillan.

Futuristic loos

Sir,
During my recent holiday on the beautiful island, I read in your esteemed journal that Neil Armstrong had once visited Arran.

I wonder if he visited the public convenience on the beach at Brodick?

If so, I expect he would have been very impressed by the futuristic stainless steel interior. It's more like a space station than a Scottish island.

Yours,
Neil McDonald,
Glasgow.

YOURSTORY

share with us: editor@arranbanner.co.uk
telephone 01770 302142

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



Our photograph of the week this week, which was sent to us by reader Greg Allison, shows Imogen Allison, the Lamlash Heather Queen, joining her dad and the rest of Arran Gravel Riders at the finish of Grinduro Scotland, which took place on the same day as her crowning

ceremony. Young Imogen enjoyed an eventful afternoon of her own at her coronation ceremony before meeting the Arran team to congratulate them on a successful race.

The photograph was taken by Stephen Smith.

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

However, we realise that mistakes happen from time to time. If you think we have made a significant mistake and you wish to discuss this with us, please let us know as soon as possible by any of the three methods: emailing editor@arranbanner.co.uk; telephoning the chief reporter on 01770 302142 or write to the Group Editor at Wyvex Media, Crannog Lane, Lochavullin estate, Oban, PA34 4HB. We will try to resolve your issue in a 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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GEORGE CLARKE
Architect, writer and TV presenter

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Alec Fraser, Jake Early, Izzy Early and Kitty Townsend with their detailed and perfectly formed alligator which took first prize in the children's category. 01_B30beach10

Sunshine, sea and sand sculpting success



Winners of the eco prize, Sid and Jesse Townsend with Shark and Net. 01_B30beach11

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



The Whiting Bay beach sculpting competition, which was delayed by a day owing to heavy rain, enjoyed a huge turnout last Thursday when it went ahead with warm sunshine and cooperative tides.

Taking place all along the packed beach in Whiting Bay, 12 families and 11 individuals entered the competition which takes place each year as part of the Whiting Bay Fun Week.

Participants, young and old, brought out their buckets and spades and competed for the family prize, the adult prize, the eco prize and the people's choice prize which was voted for by spectators.

Themes included mermaids, sharks, turtles, octopuses, bees and whales and many included environmental themes, no doubt competing for the eco prize and award, which was sculpted by Arran artist Tim Pomeroy out of the wood from the demolished Whiting Bay pier.

Following an evening of fun

on the beach, participants gathered for the prize-giving where Jan McGregor announced the winners and commended entries. Prizes were awarded by Nick Giles and Tim presented the eco prize.

Participants who had rushed to complete their creations owing to the tide then enjoyed burgers and sweets before crossing the road to the village hall where the popular quiz took place while the tide washed away the remnants of their afternoon efforts.

See also page 25.



Ben and Dylan Lawrence of Dunfermline, Fife with Shocked Cactus. 01_B30beach07



Frankie Lucas and Lucas Percy hard at work on their shark and tower creation. 01_B30beach03



A young girl scours the beach looking for shells and stones. 01_B30beach04



Tilda and Greta Litton teamed up with Catie MacArthur and Patryk Gwizdowski to sculpt a turtle. 01_B30beach14



Tim Pomeroy presents Sid and Jesse Townsend with the eco prize for their shark creation which also won the people's choice prize. 01_B30beach19



Nick Giles presents the children's category winners, Alec Fraser, Jake Early, Kitty Townsend and Izzy Early with their prize. 01_B30beach18



Mum Judith and Olivia and Finn Hannigan created this eco-pus with the message of save our seas. 01_B30beach08



Winners of the family category were Daisy's Dream Team of Galashiels who painstakingly created Arran Ice-Cream. 01_B30beach17



Daniel and Carrie Fraser of Eaglesham, Glasgow, with their shark sculpture. 01_B30beach01



Girl power, Team Unicorn with their mermaid sculpture. 01_B30beach02



A highly commended entry in the family category was Queen Bee, a collaboration between the Chrichton, West, Pringle and Black families. 01_B30beach15



Commended by judges in the eco category, Team Salmon in the early stages of their creation, Salmon Farm. 01_B30beach13



Team Pineapple Destroyers work on their island and castle sculpture. 01_B30beach09



Rhianna and Rebecca Smith of Castle Douglas with their octopus. 01_B30beach05



A large-scale undertaking by the ladies of the McNamara family was the Snail and the Whale. 01_B30beach16



Katherine and Laura Coyle join with friends Aisling and Rosie Wilkinson to create Draft Board. 01_B30beach12

Gosia and Victor Gwizdowski join with Milo and Flynn McDonald to create this well decorated turtle. 01_B30beach06





Izzy Early, left, with Lexi and Eva Robinson at the cake stall. 01_B30rnl102

Splashing summer fun with the Arran RNLI



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



The annual Arran RNLI open day attracted a big crowd to Lamlash pier on Saturday, raising more than £1,462 for lifeboat funds.

Lifesaving work

The sun shone for the day as the volunteer crew opened the lifeboat station doors to

give the public the chance to meet the crew and find out how the RNLI carries out its lifesaving work.

Visitors could view the inshore lifeboat Rachel Hedderwick up close and see the displays of equipment, as well as join the crew for a barbecue and hear about the work of the RNLI and what it means to be part of the station.

However, the highlight of the day was, as always, the two displays put on by the lifeboat crew in Lamlash Bay demonstrating the abilities of the Atlantic 85 model lifeboat – including a few splashings.

Cup cakes

There were also splendid RNLI designed cup cakes for sale, a raffle and other stalls and games for everyone to enjoy.



The raffle stall at the RNLI open day did a roaring trade. 01_B30rnl101



All smiles at the burger stall. 01_B30rnl113



Amanda Pirie with the RNLI cup cakes and a cake in the shape of the lifeboat. 01_B30rnl103



Girls have braids put in their hair. 01_B30rnl112



The lifeboat takes to the water. 01_B30rnl104



The crew wave to the crowd. 01_B30rnl110



The lifeboat crew speed off. 01_B30rnl105



A big crowd watched the demonstration from the pier. 01_B30rnl111



The crew speed by Lamlash pier to the thrill of the crowd. 01_B30rnl106



The crowd on the pier get a soaking from the wash of the lifeboat. 01_B30rnl108



The lifeboat comes to the rescue of a sailor in distress during the demonstration.

01_B30rnl107



Crew member Mark Nelson gives a commentary on the demonstration. 01_B30rnl109



Crossing the line in style, three-legged race competitors celebrate their win. 01_B30Lochranza04

Great gathering at Lochranza gala

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



Lochranza sprang to life last weekend with the sounds of music, laughter and excitement filling the air during a weekend packed full of festivities at the annual gala weekend.

Starting last Thursday with a ceilidh and a quiz the following evening, the

main gala centred on an action-packed weekend with a number of events taking place throughout the village on Saturday and Sunday.

Starting on a high note on Saturday, the Arran Pipe Band attracted a good audience with a performance at the Castle Spit before making their way to the village hall.

Following the pipe band, the Lochranza Sea Queen, Catherine Smith, and pirate

protector, Anthony Baboolal, led the pirate procession to the village hall with their arrival signalling the start of the afternoon's proceedings.

On offer outside in the sunshine were children's games, a dog show and live music.

Ever-popular

In the hall, visitors were treated to a number of stalls with the ever-popular raffle and face painting taking place alongside crafts and sweet vendors.

As the afternoon progressed, and children had their fill of excitement and burgers from the barbecue, Soundcradle provided the evening entertainment with a licensed bar helping to create a festival atmosphere.

The final day of the gala weekend saw children enjoying a seashore scramble with Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST), followed by a duck derby and a teddy bears' picnic.



Sea Queen Catherine Smith is joined by her pirate protector Anthony Baboolal. 01_B30Lochranza05



The Arran Pipe Band and the Sea Queen lead the procession to the village hall. 01_B30Lochranza06



Children set off gingerly during the egg and spoon race. 01_B30Lochranza01



A young girl sits patiently while having her face painted. 01_B30Lochranza12



Ian Quinn, Ian Wilson and Kenny Morrison hosted a stall in aid of the Waverley boiler refit appeal. 01_B30Lochranza11



It's a tricky business, competitors try to find their feet in the three-legged race. 01_B30Lochranza03



The procession makes its way towards the village hall. 01_B30Lochranza08



Children arrive dressed as pirates for the fancy dress competition. 01_B30Lochranza09



Smiles and laughter aplenty as participants make their way towards the finish line in the mum and daughter race. 01_B30Lochranza02



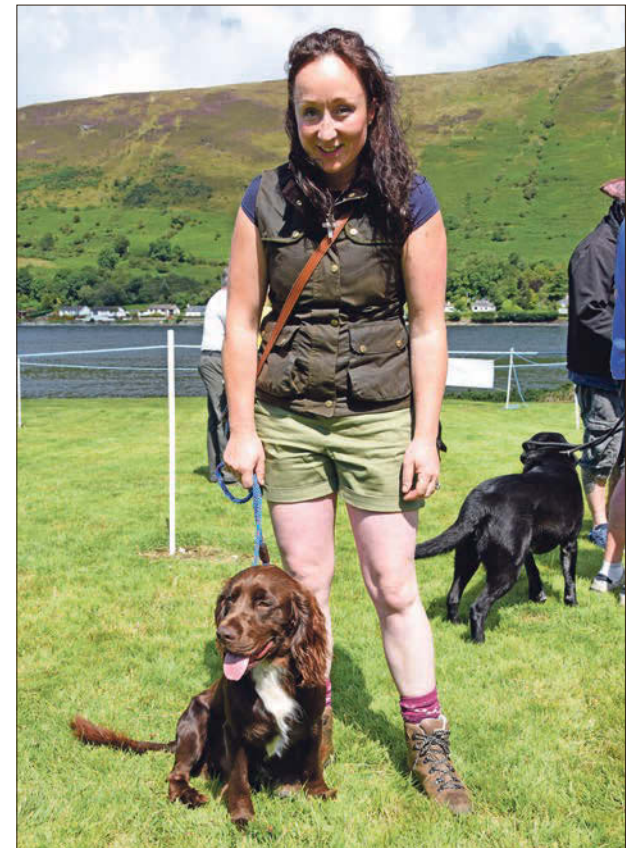
Silhouetted by Lochranza Castle, the Arran Pipe Band march down Castle Spit. 01_B30Lochranza07



Youngsters take part in the three-year-old race category, with parents and supporters cheering from the sidelines. 01_B30Lochranza15



A well-dressed pirate prepares for the dog show. 01_B30Lochranza10



Sarah Beane and Bruce of North Yorkshire were the winners of the pet and owner look-alike competition. 01_B30Lochranza14



Owners parade with their poodles during the dog competition. 01_B30Lochranza13



Children's races were a popular event with many youngsters winning prizes for their efforts. 01_B30Lochranza16

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LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARRAN

Orographic promises to be a stunning performance

A combination of outdoor performance fusing street theatre, live music and sculptural costume design, wrapped up into a presentation called Orographic, is set to delight an Arran audience when it takes place next week.

The multi-venue performance will take place at Brodick Castle in association with Arran Arts Trust on Wednesday July 31 at 2pm and is free with castle admission.

Orographic is a new outdoor performance by physical theatre performance troupe Oceanallover, inspired by Charles Rennie Mackintosh's landscape paintings and people's relationships to mountains.

Thrilling

During July the company will be thrilling audiences across Scotland with free performances at unique outdoor locations showcasing their unique brand of street theatre combining carnival costume design and live music.

Oceanallover's artistic director, Alex Rigg, has a long-time interest in the work of Charles Rennie Mackintosh and, in particular, his lesser known landscape paintings.

By the early 1920s, Mackintosh had abandoned his architectural practice entirely and moved to the south of France where he indulged his passion for watercolour landscape painting around the Vermilion coast and river valleys snaking into the high Pyrenees.

Abstract lines

Orographic takes direct inspiration from the abstract lines and shapes that Mackintosh used to communicate the mountains and hillsides in his paintings, as well as the spectacular land masses of Scotland.

The term itself was coined to describe the study of the formation and geographic features of mountains.

Oceanallover's music and spectacular costume design was influenced by spectacular

land masses in Scotland such as Rackwick, Criffel, Cathkin Braes, Merrick, Ben Nevis, Ben Lomond, Arrochar Alps and the Campsie Fells.

Thematically Orographic will consider the awe we experience when faced with a mountainous structure and the human desire throughout history to conquer such edifices.

Across the tour Oceanallover's unique brand of pop-up theatre will be performed in locations as diverse as a harbourfront, a forest, a castle and a mountain range.



Oceanallover will be presenting Orographic at a number of venues, including Brodick Castle.

Outdoor performance, live music and costume exploring our relationship to landscape and emotion

Arran Arts Trust and Brodick Castle presents

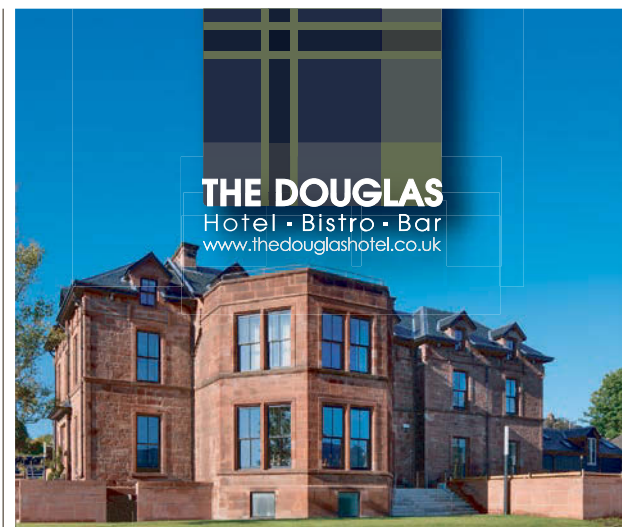
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Free children's fun day

The Arran Heritage Museum at Rosaburn, Brodick, always has a number of special events days each summer, and by far the most popular is the children's fun day, which this year is tomorrow (Sunday) from 12.30pm to 3.30pm.

This annual island event is guaranteed to provide children with an afternoon of fun and games, while being entertained and educated at the same time.

The whole afternoon is geared to providing fun, and it is free to children up to the age of 12 if accompanied by an adult. A variety of traditional games will be on offer. A model train layout will be working. There will also be storytelling sessions, children's tombola, horse-shoe throwing, demonstrations of spinning and weaving, and felting. Other treats include cup cake decorating, a chocolate fountain, and candy floss. Arran Pipe Band will be in attendance, and other musicians will entertain throughout the afternoon.

There is plenty for the grown-ups to do, too, with many new and upgraded indoor and outdoor displays to see. Finally, of course, the famed Cafe Rosaburn will be selling meals, teas and coffees and cakes all afternoon.

CONTACTUS

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

Enchanting virtuoso concert

On a glorious sunny evening, more than 60 Arran residents and visitors gathered at a spacious Whiting Bay home last Thursday to hear Lev Atlas weave his special brand of magical music, writes Sharon Shenhav.

The Russian-born virtuoso enchanted the audience with his exquisite violin playing of Russian and Jewish concertos and songs. As Lev illustrated with a movement of a Tchaikovsky violin concerto, the traditional melodies of Klezmer music influenced classical composers such as Brahms, Tchaikovsky and Bartok, and progressed with the addition of folk music, using motifs from Russian, Gypsy and Jewish sources to influence composers of jazz and other modern styles.

Klezmer, from the Hebrew

words meaning instrument and song, is an increasingly popular form of joyful music often heard at Jewish weddings and celebrations. Visitors from England, US, Israel as well as Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Glasgow joined Arranites for this special evening concert which featured mini lectures by Lev on classical music and violins in between the performances of beloved classics as well as Klezmer music.

When asked why there were so many Russian Jewish violinists, Lev explained that in 19th-century Czarist Russia, Jews were not permitted to own land and were restricted to working in menial jobs. When the St Petersburg Conservatory of Music opened in mid-19th century and opened its doors



Some of the audience who enjoyed the show.



Lev Atlas performs to the appreciative audience.

to Jewish students, almost every Jewish family sent a son to study there as it was an opportunity to have a career in music. While many of the students were mediocre, a significant number excelled and developed international careers as soloists.

The enthusiastic audience was thrilled when local musician Tim Pomeroy added to their enjoyment by singing a few folk songs accompanied by his guitar. Tim, who in addition to being a world class sculptor has been entertaining locals with his talented musical performances, was in great form as he told us the history of the songs he performed.

All of the participants

enjoyed a delicious buffet supper and were informed that another home concert is planned for mid-September with an American pianist who will be visiting Arran. The Arran branch of the Scottish Council for Jewish Communities (Scojec), Barb Taub and Sharon Shenhav will be sponsoring the September home concert which will feature Dr Deborah Nemko, pianist and professor of music at Bridgewater State University in the US. During a recent Fulbright Fellowship in the Netherlands, Deborah researched music composed by Jewish musicians who were murdered in concentration camps during WWII. Deborah will be discussing

her discovery of these unpublished manuscripts of music ranging from classical to jazz and will be performing these pieces for us in a concert entitled Music in the Time of Anne Frank. It should be another special evening of musical pleasure.

Barb Taub and Sharon Shenhav are already making plans for next summer which will include a repeat performance by Lev Atlas as well as a Klezmer ceilidh to be held at Whiting Bay Hall. They invite all music lovers as well as dancers to join us for these future events. For more information or to be added to the mailing list for future concerts and events, contact arran@scojec.com.

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The Isle of Arran Pipe Band will perform, and there will be other Musical Entertainment.

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Friends hold fete for Montrose House

The Friends of Montrose House Association hosted their annual summer fete at the Brodick care home last Wednesday.

The only fundraising event held by the group, the proceeds from the fete are used to provide support for service-users and staff who fall outside the budget for the home and the Stronach Day Service.

On offer for visitors was a tombola, well-stocked with donated items, and a large book stall. A popular plant stall attracted a large amount of interest, as did the home baking stall, which did a roaring trade in the foyer of the care home.

In the dining area and lounge, visitors were treated to an enticing array of strawberry tarts, brownies and cakes to enjoy with their tea and coffee. In addition to all

of the volunteers, staff from the home and day service lend a helping hand at the fete and

include and assist residents who wish to take part in the afternoon's proceedings.



Nancy Macleod presents a lucky tombola winner with her prize. 01_B28fete04



A large number of supporters pour into the building within minutes of the fete starting. 01_B28fete01



Lynda Hagan serves up a treat for afternoon tea. 01_B28fete05

Brodick 200 Club draw winner

The winner of the Brodick 200 Club draw for July is Lynn Boal of Brodick.

The Brodick 200 Club is an ongoing fundraiser on behalf of Brodick Improvements Committee. Funds raised go towards village improvements, including the upkeep and maintenance of public amenities, Fisherman's Walk and the Brodick slipway.

Places are still available and, for an annual payment of £20, members are entered into a monthly prize draw to win £50. To find out more, email bic.contactus@btinternet.com. Forms are also available at the weekly ceilidh in Brodick Hall and at the beach barbecue next month.

Lochranza winners

The winners of the Lochranza and Catacol 200 Club June draw were: first prize Margaret Kerr and second prize Sue Kerr.

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Every day

Trout Fly Fishing	Loch Garbad, bank fishing
Arran Geopark Information & Activity Centre	Lochranza, 9am - 5pm
Unfolding Moments Photography Exhibition	Arran Active, Brodick, 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 7 days, any time
Brodick Mini Golf	Open seven days, 9am - 6pm-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
Arran Heritage Museum	Sunday, 12.30am - 5pm. Tours daily at 11am & 2pm or by arrangement
	Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am - 4.30pm

Saturday 27th July

Arran Rock 'n' Blues Festival	Lamlash Green and the PHT, Lamlash, All day
Flow yoga	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Craft market	Brodick Hall, 11am - 3pm
Wizard School	Brodick Castle, Gardens and Country Park 11am - 4pm
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
Live music – Mic Clark	Douglas Hotel, Brodick, 8pm - 11pm
Live music – Tim Pomeroy	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm
Live music – Cosmic String Theory, BYOB	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 8pm
Over-21s disco	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

Sunday 28th July

Arran Rock 'n' Blues Festival	Lamlash Green and the PHT, Lamlash, All day
Wizard School	Brodick Castle, Gardens and Country Park, 11am - 4pm
Children's day	Arran heritage Museum, Rosaburn, Brodick, 12.30pm -3.30pm
Live music – Mic Clark	Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 1pm - 4pm
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
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
Folk music session	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 29th July

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
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 – Woo Town HillBillies	Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 8pm
Tae Kwon Do, adults and over-10s	Brodick Church Hall, 7pm - 8.30pm

Tuesday 30th July

Glen Rosa discovery walk	Arran Ranger Service, Brodick Castle, 9.30am
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	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 – 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 31st July

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
Coffee morning	Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - 12noon
Coffee morning, in aid of World Vision	St Bride's Church Brodick, 10.30am - 12noon
Archives and Genealogy Service	Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am -12.30pm & 1.30pm - 3.30pm
Chair yoga exercise class	St Molios Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am
Knit and Blether	Bay Wool & Crafts, Whiting Bay 11.30am - 1.30pm
Talk Introducing Arran's Archaeology	Arran Heritage Museum, Brodick, 1.30pm & 2.30pm
Orographic – outdoor performance	Brodick Castle, Gardens and Country Park 2pm
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
Tae Kwon Do juniors 6.30-7.30pm, advanced juniors & adults, AHS, 7.30pm - 8.30pm	Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Brodick Hall 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Summer ceilidh with Arranach Ceilidh Band	Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 8pm
Live music – Megan Hamill	The PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
Family friendly pub quiz	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Rock 'n' pop bingo	

Thursday 1st August

Morning fitness	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30 -10.30am
Chair yoga exercise class	Ormidale Pavillion, Brodick, 10.30am
Spinning and weaving demonstration	Arran Heritage Museum, Rosaburn, Brodick, 11am to 3pm
Nature play for families	Arran Ranger Service, Brodick Castle, 2pm
Adult tennis	Blackwaterfoot, 5pm
Body Blitz (booking essential)	Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6.15pm - 7.15pm
Arran Hockey Club – seniors (12 yrs +)	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm - 8.30pm
Eco Savvy Food Share	Brodick Ormidale Pavilion, 8.15pm
Eco Savvy Food Share	Kilmory Hall, 8.30pm
The Drift Inn quiz	Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9pm
Tommy's general knowledge quiz	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Friday 2nd August

Yoga	Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am - 10.30am
Hydrofit	Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.30am - 10.30am
ACLI – Friday garden club	Golf Course Road, Whiting Bay, 10am - 12.30pm
Adult tennis	Blackwaterfoot, 11am
Gym induction	Auchrannie Spa, 5.30pm
Pop-up evening, BYOB (bookings only)	The Shore, Whiting Bay from 6pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting	Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
Tae Kwon Do	Advanced (Advanced Class) Arran High School, 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Live music – Shindig	Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 8pm
Friday night quiz	Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm

Saturday 3rd August

Flow yoga	Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Fancy dress cricket	Ormidale Park, Brodick, 12noon
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
Pop-up evening, BYOB (bookings only)	The Shore, Whiting Bay from 6pm
Live music – Fatman & the Angel	Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 8pm
Live music – The M65s	The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Over-21s disco	Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm



THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday July 24, 1999

Fish farm changes

Marine Harvest McConnell, the company which owns the fish farm in Lamlash Bay, has been sold to a Dutch-based animal feed company Nutrico. While the new owners said that they could not talk about individual fish farms at this stage, they did say that the purchase ended a long period of uncertainty and that, as a company committed to aquaculture, it anticipated expansion and security of all jobs.

In recent years, salmon farming has been beset with problems, one being cheaper production from Norway. Marine Harvest, which came to Arran in the late 1980s, has had several changes of ownership from themselves to Unilever, to Booker and now to Nutrico.

Grading grumbles

That tourist board membership is dependent on compulsory grading, and classification is one of the biggest gripes among members. One Arran hotel, which is to be expelled from the board at the end of the month, is particularly upset about this.

The owner received an incognito visit from one of the grading officers and, during the process of refurbishment, she was told to meet the standards or risk being expelled. The owner felt that some leeway should of been allowed and that she had run into problems with a

carpet supplier and that a slur had been cast over her and the hotel.

Describing the threat as inflexibility on the part of the tourist board, she said that instead of being given the ultimatum about being expelled she would of preferred to meet and talk about it and explain that, if given a few days, they would meet with the required standards, which she would have done anyway, had she not been let down by outside suppliers.

Midge expansion

One element of global warming and mild winters is that midges, previously confined to the west and north of Scotland, are being found further south. This year, as well as appearing earlier, they have been found as far south as Cornwall.

Entomologists have been describing these as Scottish flesh-eating midges and responsible for ruining more Scottish holidays than our indifferent weather. But every cloud must have a silver lining, even a cloud of midges. And if these ghastly creatures are now summer residents in England, the problem they present will become more widely known and, who knows, more serious effort may be made to combat this scourge.

If they can be prevented from disturbing life in England, something may be able to be done about them in Scotland.



New owners of Butt Lodge Hotel in Lochranza, Cameron and Dorothy Robertson, also run the Lochranza Pier Tearoom and will be refurbishing and upgrading the hotel in time for the next season. 01_B30twe02



Reliving the past at an event at the Arran Heritage Museum, blacksmith Ian Wade plies his trade while watched by Jackie Wallace and Alastair Hendry. 01_B30twe03



An impressive performance, Jean Bowden sings and George McIlwham plays, at the summer serenade in Corrie Church last Tuesday. 01_B30twe01



Robot James Todd, policeman Richard Craig and cleaner Lauren Miller were the three winners in the fancy dress competition during the Lamlash Gala Week. Presiding over proceedings was Heather Queen Rachel Todd. 01_B30twe05



Showing no lack of energy or enthusiasm, these sack race girls also took part in a number of other fun events during the Kildonan Fun Week. 01_B30twe04

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PERSONALS

GRADUATIONS



EUAN THOMAS BONE

Euan Bone, Glenkiln, Lamlash graduated on 18 June from Heriot Watt University, Edinburgh gaining a Masters Degree in Civil Engineering with Honours of the First Class

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1 Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.

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12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

PUBLIC NOTICES



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Jamie Greene MSP, Member of the Scottish Parliament for West Scotland Region, will be holding a surgery on Friday 26th July at Brodick Public Hall from 11:00.

Please come along if you have any concerns you would like to raise. No appointment required. The cost of this publication has been met through parliamentary resources.

RECRUITMENT



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FOR LEASE

If you would like more information or to register your interest, please contact: homefarmarran@gmail.com

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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 28th July

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

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland
Charity Number: SC014005
Sunday 28th July
Family Worship will be conducted by Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am. Crèche facilities will be available in the Church Hall. Tea and coffee will be served immediately after the service – please stay and enjoy more fellowship.
All most welcome.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 28th July
6th Sunday after Trinity
Sung Eucharist at 11.00am
Revd Adrian Fallows
Coffee after the service
All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 28th July
Mrs Aileen Brookens
Kilmory at 10 am
Lamlash at 11.30 am
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday 28th July
Sunday Worship at 11am
'Heather Lodge', Brodick
Left of the Douglas Hotel,
opposite the ferry terminal.
Telephone 700346, 820223
Everyone Warmly Invited

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 28th July
Service at 11am
Ormidale Pavilion
Tea and coffee after the service
Wednesday at 7.30pm Home fellowship group for bible study and prayer.
Telephone 600222
Everyone warmly invited

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 28th July
Shiskine at 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick at 6pm
Services will be taken by Rev David Parker

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS



Glen Mlotek, wearing the official Open uniform, shares his experience with Shiskine club captain Gordon Wilson.

Glen's Open experience

Young Shiskine greenkeeper Glen Mlotek has just had the thrill of a lifetime after he was chosen to be part of the greenkeeping support team at the British Open held at Royal Portrush in Northern Ireland last week.

Glen returned with an official Open uniform and recounted his trip to Shiskine club captain Gordon Wilson, who enjoyed hearing about his experience and delight with being included for each of the four days as part of the greenkeeping support teams.

While gaining some top tips and tricks Glen was involved in matches which included, Tom Lehman, Angel Miguel Jimenez and Danny Willett.



Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday July 18, Summer Cup, CSS 63. 1 Todd Jameson 64-5=59, 2 Serge El Adm 76-15=61, 3 Neil Young 68-6=62, 4 Robert Calder 74-11=63, BIH over Willie Currie. Best scratch, Todd Jameson 64. Magic twos S El Adm @5th, T Jameson @17th, N Young and W Currie @16th, A Crawford @17th. Hole 16 drawn, two winners.

Sunday July 21, Hamilton Bowl, CSS level to bogey. 1 Billy O' Connor -2 to bogey, runner-up Lee Dutton -3 to bogey.

Saturday July 20, Championship final over 36 holes. Todd Jameson v Paul Cowan. Todd was defending the title for the fourth year in succession while Paul was playing in his first Championship final.

In the afternoon game scoring was at times erratic due to the wind and fast greens making approach play and putting difficult. However, there were moments when their respective talents produced high quality golf.

At the ninth the card records a shared hole in birdies – Todd drove the 350-yard hole with a three wood and Paul chipped close to secure his birdie. Game through nine was all square with just one shot between the players. The back nine followed a similar pattern with one bogey and eight pars result after 18 holes game square.

In the evening Paul started by winning the first, halved second in pars after finding the bunker second shot at third to within two yards of the pin to go two up. Lost fourth and fifth game all square again. Sixth shared in birdies after Paul's approach shot to within one foot and good putting by Todd. At the 7th Todd went one up after driving the 285-yard hole, which he followed by



Whiting Bay Golf Club Open champion Murray Foggo receives his trophy from club captain Andy Martin and Rachel Armitage of the Armitage Group, main sponsor of the WBGC Open.



Main prize-winners at the Lamlash Ladies' Open with overall winner Gay McKay holding the trophy.

two bogeys making the game all square at the turn. At the 10th the hole was halved in par then Todd began a run of threes for four holes to edge in front by three holes. Paul rallied by winning the next two after finding his ball within a few inches of the fence on the left of the 15th, making a remarkable birdie and good putting at the 16th from long range.

The match ended at the 35th hole in Todd's favour after Paul hit a wayward drive and failed to get up and down. The match attracted a good turnout of spectators with both players complimenting the condition of the course.

Friday July 19, E I Cannon charity day. Winning team of Neil Stewart, Alastair Crawford, Hugh Fulton and Neil Richardson. 85 Stableford points. Between the entry fee and donations from members the sum of £160 was raised for the Santa Sparkle.

Ladies' section: Wednesday July 17, Ladies' Open. The Open this year, a 15-hole stroke competition, was held in what was almost certainly the wettest day of the summer. In spite of the adverse conditions a good number completed the 15 holes with acceptable scores.

The overall winner was Lamlash lady Gay McKay with a net 53 BIH over bronze winner Merle King. The scratch trophy went to Susan Butchard with a 65. Silver

division: 1 Anne Macvicar 70-15=55, 2 Sheena Murchie 69-12=57, 3 Kate McAdam 72-13=59, 4 Alison Young 71-10=61. Bronze division: 1 Merle King 77-24=53, 2 Isobel Hughes 77-18=59, 3 Ruth Hardy 82-21=61, 4 Nicky Brooks 84-21=63.

Unsurprisingly, local knowledge played its part with seven of the main prize winners local residents and Lamlash members. Fortunately, the lovely prizes on offer at every hole allowed visitors the opportunity to go home with a prize.

We very much appreciated the ladies who came and supported our competition contributing generously to the raffle and the atmosphere even if they couldn't face the monsoon like conditions on the course.

Monday July 22, Island Mixed Fours. 15 couples took part and the winners were Stan and Yvonne Brothers 77-15=62, 2 Frank Stewart and Ruth Hardy 87-20=67, 3 Billy O' Connor and Merle King 96-26.5=69.5. Scratch, Paul Cowan and Kate McAdam 76.

Fixtures: Friday July 26, Frank Crum two-ball foursome, make up own groups, see starter for times. Sunday July 28, Summer Stableford, 9.30am and 12.30pm starts.



Island Mixed Fours scratch winners at Lamlash were Paul Cowan and Kate McAdam, while Yvonne and Stan Brothers were the overall winners.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday July 17, The McLintock Cup. After a superb spell the weather finally caught up with players and the McLintock, one of the club's oldest and most prestigious trophies, had to be continued into a second day after heavy rain on Wednesday. Unfortunately, it returned late on Thursday to force a number of the evening starters from the course but at least by then a decent field of 29 had participated. Having scored a fine net 60 in poor conditions on Wednesday, Ronnie Mann was pipped to the cup by a similarly impressive net 59 from Wolfi Kroner on Thursday. Reflecting the conditions CSS went out to its maximum of 65. 1 Wolfi Kroner 16, 59, 2 Ronnie Mann 13, 60, 3 Nicol Auld 5, 65, ACB, 4 Ryan Armstrong 9, 65. Neil Richardson scored the lowest gross on 71 and there was only one Magic two scored, by Corey Allan at the 7th.

Saturday and Sunday July 20 and 21, The Armitage WBGC Gents' Open. A good field on both days ensured that the 2019 Armitage WBGC Gents' Open continued the tradition of its predecessors. The Bank of Scotland Cup on the Saturday enjoyed fine dry weather and a fast running course. On Sunday the Royal Bank of Scotland Cup was not so lucky with the weather breaking to persistent rain in the afternoon. That said, the fine condition of the course made for good scoring on both days.

Saturday July 20, The Bank of Scotland Cup, 89 played. CSS 63 for home players, 66 reductions only for visitors. 1 Craig Tart 15, 58, 2 Jamie Macpherson 5, 60 and lowest gross, 3 Danny Head 6, 61. Magic twos Murray Foggo @2nd, Corey Allan, Keith Nisbet, Jamie Stewart, Sandy Kelso @4th, Dylan Smith @7th, Danny Head @12th, Neil Richardson, Stewart McGregor @17.

Sunday July 31, The Royal Bank of Scotland Cup, 83

Duck race fun in the burn

played. CSS 63 home, 64 visitors. 1 Murray Foggo 7, 58 and lowest gross, 2 Scott Murray 11, 60, 3 Scott Adair 6, 61. Magic twos Scott Adair, Murray Foggo @1st, John Rankin, Stuart McGregor @4th, Jack Adair @5th, Murray Foggo, Brian Murray @7th, Craig Bain, Jamie Macpherson @16th, Craig Bain, Alan Foggo, Richard Mannering, Neil Richardson, Stuart McGregor @7th.

Congratulations to Murray Foggo, Armitage WBG Open Champion for 2019 with a magnificent aggregate 6 under par score of 120. Thanks to the Armitage Group, main sponsors of the WBG Open and to all other supporters, donors and sponsors who ensured that, once again, the Armitage WBG Gents' Open, was one of the great golfing weekends of the year. Thanks also to Stewart and Corey for presenting the course in such good shape and to John, Louise, Nancy, Jenni and Jenni for keeping everyone well fed and refreshed.

Fixtures: Sunday July 29, Nestor's Jug Stableford, draws at 9am and 11am. Wednesday July 31, The Batty Black Cup, all day with draw at 5.30pm.

Shiskine Golf Club

Friday July 19, Ladies' 12-hole Medal. Silver: 1 and scratch Jenni Turnbull 55-11=44, 2 Lesley Sim 58-13=45. Bronze: 1 and winner Fiona Scott 57-15=42, 2 Elizabeth Kelso 59-14=45.

Saturday July 20, Gents Charlie Sim Rosebowl. 1st class: 1 C Watson 28pts, 2 R McCrae 26pts, 3 P Betley 23pts. 2nd class: 1 W McNally 26pts, 2 S Kerr 25pts, 3 R Betley 24pts. Magic twos, J Govan, C Watson, J Faulkner, R McCrae.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday July 17, Crawford Cup. 1 A Napier 70-10=60, BIH, 2 D Logan 71-11=60, 3 G Andrew 73-10=63. Scratch, A Napier. Magig twos, A Napier, G Andrew, J McGovern but none of them the Magic one.

Saturday July 20, 18 Hole Sweep. 1 G Andrew 69-10=59, 2 E McKinnon 64-0=64. Scratch, E McKinnon. Magic twos, J McGovern, D Logan, J Adams and G Hendry.

Fixtures: Saturday July 27, Summer Cup, ballots at 9am and 2pm. Wednesday July 31, 18 Hole Sweep and magic twos, ballot at 6pm.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday July 16, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary. 1 Phil Betley 65, BIH, 2 Ross Trail 65, 3 Reuben Betley 73. Tuesday July 23, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary. 1 Alastair MacDonald 67, 2 Brian Sherwood 68, 3 Phil Betley 71. Magic twos, Phil Betley.

Fixtures: Tuesday July 30, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary, tee off 12.30pm/5.30pm.



The 1,000 ducks make their way down the burn.

Never before has there been so much lively interest or pre-event discussion about the finale to the Whiting Bay Fun Week than there has been this year – due in no small part to an unfortunate typographical error in the What's On column of the Banner last week.

Firmly established as a favourite spectacle in the summer calendar the duck race never fails to delight, excite and impress and with the sun shining on Saturday there was a great turn-out of eager spectators.

One benefit of the changeable, occasionally showery weather we have had this year is that in contrast to 2018 it ensured there was enough water in the Kingscross burn for 1,000 ducks to float downstream majestically.

The scene was set in the build up and countdown to the start of the derby by the very professional and mellow commentary of Ian Cook on megaphone.



The crowd eagerly anticipate the first duck.

In the early stages of the race, the flotilla appeared gliding round the bend and under the bridge at an impressive pace perhaps encouraged by the screams of delight from the crowds on the bridge and along the banks of the burn. Then as if to build the tension those who made it that far slowed down as they emerged sedately from the shadows of the bridge.

However, sometime before the end there was a clear winner. No 915 sailed away from the crowd and floated across the finishing line triumphant – more than 20 lengths ahead of the second duck.

Here are the results: 1st duck No 915 Louisa Crisp £60, 2nd duck No 830 Charlotte Martin £30, 3rd duck No 144 Gosia Gwizdowina £20. Lame duck loser prize went to No 48 Gege Kroner.

This year the first prize winner was on hand to claim her winnings on the spot. Then the customary ritual



The crowd watch the ducks pass under the bridge.

scramble at the finishing line to retrieve all the ducks before they headed out to sea.

This provided a welcome opportunity for several youngsters-at-heart to guddle and splash in the Kingscross burn.

Well done to event organ-

isers Howard and Stuart and also everyone who helped create such an uplifting Saturday in Whiting Bay.

Pete and Barbara did a roaring trade on the barbecue and refreshments table before and after the event and the majority of the crowd carried on to

Sandbraes Park to continue the afternoon at the unique and very entertaining fun dog show held by the Arran Branch of the Scottish SPCA.

This is the first event of this kind to be organised Christine Drennan and the group and, given the hilarity of those taking part and the spectators alike, as they entered enthusiastically into the games such as, person most like their Dog, 11 legged race, egg spoon and dog race, waggiest tail, temptation alley and best trick.

Thanks to all the dogs who brought their humans and the volunteers, including Ian Cook with his very funny commentary. The event will be back next year.

Editors note: While most people took the What's On error with good humour, we would like to sincerely apologise for any offence that it may have caused.



The winner is held aloft. NO_B30race03

Riding club's Showing Show



Laura Tulloch won the showing championship.



Kirsty Morrison, who won the championship for the working hunter jumping, riding Eleanor Bone's Teema.

The Arran Riding Club held their annual Showing Show earlier this month at Balgowan farm in Shiskine.

The annual event is a highlight on the equestrian calendar on the island and enjoys a huge amount of support from riders and spectators.

A club spokeswoman said: 'Many thanks to the judges for travelling to Arran for the day, all horses, ponies, riders and spectators for coming along and supporting, and a special thanks to the Tod family for hosting the event at Balgowan Farm so successfully once again.'

All riders, horses and ponies enjoyed wonderful weather and the results were as follows: In hand horses and ponies four years and under, 1 Rachel Armitage and Bear. In hand horses and ponies five years and over, 1 Isla Yuill and Velvet, 2 Daisy McNamara and Selkie, 3 Harriet Lucas and Prince.

Showing under saddle ponies 13.2hh and under, 1 Niamh Gosman and Fred, 2 Cara Henderson and Teddy, 3 Annie West and Harry Fudge, 4 Rosie Wilkinson and Milo.

Showing under saddle ponies over 13.2hh and not exceeding 15hh, 1 Hollie Adamson and Lexus, 2 Laura Tulloch riding Rona Fulton's Ricky, 3 Clair Hendry and Colin, 4 Chloe McNeil and Bonnie.

Showing under saddle horses over 15hh and not exceeding 16hh, 1 Laura Tulloch and Gem, 2 Janis Murchie and Island Boy, 3 Lily Currie riding Eleanor Bone's Kissme. Showing under saddle horses 16hh and over, 1 Kirsty Morrison riding Eleanor Bone's Teema, 2 Vicki Yuill and Henley. Championship was awarded to Laura Tulloch and Gem, reserve champion went to Rachel Armitage and Bear.

Working/handy hunter rider 12 years and under. Jumps 30cm max, 1 Harriet Lucas riding Hollie Adamson's Prince, 2 Rosie McNamara and Kizzy, 3 Lisa Henderson and Teddy, 4 Chloe McNeil and Bonnie.

Novice working hunter. Jumps 60cm max, junior, 1 Kirsty Morrison riding Eleanor Bone's Teema, 2 Kirsty Morrison riding Janis Murchie's Raffles, 3 Annie

West and Harry Fudge, 4 Lily Currie riding Eleanor Bone's Kissme. Senior, 1 Hollie Adamson and Lexus, 2 Clair Hendry and Colin, 3 Laura Tulloch riding Rona Fulton's Ricky, 4 Vicki Yuill and Henley.

Open working hunter. Jumps 90cm max, 1 Isla Yuill and Velvet. Championship for working hunter classes was awarded to Kirsty Morrison with Eleanor Bone's Teema, reserve champion was Hollie Adamson and Lexus.

Best rider 10 years and under, 1 Rosie McNamara and Kizzy, 2 Niamh Gosman and Fred, 3 Grace Popplewell and Fudge, 4 Eva McCrae and Missy. Ridden veteran, open to all horses and ponies 15- years and older, 1 Eva McCrae and Missy, 2 Janis Murchie and Island Boy, 3 Jessica Tetlow and Raffles, 4 Rosie McNamara and Kizzy.

Best rider in show was awarded to Annie West. Horse/pony in best condition was given to Lexus, owned and ridden by Hollie Adamson. Tack and turnout was awarded to Lisa Henderson with Teddy.



Rachel Armitage with Bear, who took reserve champions in showing.

w is a spectacular success



Annie West with Harry Fudge was awarded best rider in show.



Hollie Adamson with Lexus who were awarded reserve champions of the working hunter and also took the title of best condition in show.



Lisa Henderson and Teddy, winners of the best tack and turnout at show.

Magnificent seven for Southend

Northend	1
Southend	7
Arran Dairies League	

Southend continued their 100 per cent league record with a comfortable win in Lochranza.

Ryan Armstrong and Liam

Bremner each got two goals while Gregor Crichton, James Mutch and an own goal from John Ferguson completed the scoring. Stuart Logan got Northend's only goal. Corey Allan was given man of the match for a brilliant performance from left back.

A big thanks to both

referees in the games. Stuart Campbell and Jean Demazeux both had to step in last minute as Shiskine failed to provide referees.

Time will tell if Shiskine can fulfil their remaining league fixtures as their players, unfortunately, seem to have lost interest.



Jamie Sillars on the ball for Lamlash in the game against Brodick. 01_B30footy04



The cross comes in for the second Lamlash goal. 01_B30footy06



Johnny Sloss turns away after scoring for Lamlash. 01_B30footy07



Goalmouth action in the Brodick penalty box. 01_B30footy03

Lamlash in emphatic win over old rivals Brodick

Lamlash	5
Brodick	1
Arran Dairies League	

Lamlash managed to get their first win over Brodick in many years in the league on Monday night and they did it emphatically.

With Brodick struggling as the season goes on, Lamlash took full advantage and

showed no mercy to their old rivals. Once again it was Lamlash talisman Johnny Sloss who was at the heart of things. Johnny scored an impressive hat-trick and took his goal tally for the season to 16.

Ben Tattersfield was also on the scoresheet for the home side, along with midfielder Matt Stubbins. Babbies MacNeil got Brodick's only goal of the game.

Unsurprisingly, Johnny got yet another man of the match and the Arran AFC player of the year is looking to add another player of the year award to his cabinet from the association.

Lamlash and Brodick still have faint hopes of catching Southend in the league if Southend lose both their remaining fixtures against the respective teams.



Ben Tattersfield controls the ball on the edge of the Brodick box. 01_B30footy01



Johnny Sloss puts the ball one way and goes round the defender the other way. 01_B30footy02



John Drummond is first to the ball for Brodick. 01_B30footy05



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