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September WEEKEND

PS Waverley receives a £1M funding boost

'The Waverley has delighted generations of locals and visitors throughout its history and this significant financial commitment will help it sail again'

The last sea-going paddle steamer, PS Waverley, which was withdrawn from service earlier this year, has been given a £1 million funding boost by the Scottish Government.

The announcement will bring the historic vessel a giant step closer to returning to full service by increasing the total amount raised to £1.9 million, just £400,000 short of the £2.3 million required to replace her boilers.

Following the discovery of structural defects in her boilers in May this year and her subsequent withdrawal from service, campaigners and those whom hold a deep affinity for the vessel started an appeal aimed at returning the 70-year old ship back to regular service.

Within months more than £100,000 was raised by organisations and members of the public but owing to the expense of needing to

remove the iconic red, white and black twin funnels – and large sections of decking – the outlook for the ship looked bleak and it was likely to take some time to raise the funds.

Labour MSP Neil Bibby welcomed the funding boost following his appeal at First Minister's Questions in the Scottish Parliament earlier this year when he pressed for government support for the Waverley after all summer sailings were cancelled for the first time in 45 years.

Neil Bibby MSP said: 'This is a much welcome announcement by the Scottish Government that puts a secure future for the Waverley within touching distance.

'I raised the issue at First Minister's Questions and met with the Culture and Tourism Secretary in the summer to impress on her the importance of the Waverley to the West of Scotland and I

am delighted the government has listened.

'The Waverley is iconic, fondly remembered and instantly recognisable to so many people here in Scotland and around the world.

'Scotland has a proud maritime heritage that needs cherished and protected.'

Support for the much-cherished Waverley has come from all sides of the political spectrum with Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson expressing his delight at the news.

Mr Gibson said: 'The Waverley Paddle Steamer has been and should be a regular visitor to Arran, Cumbrae, Largs and throughout the Firth of Clyde. I am delighted that SNP Ministers are supporting this campaign to the tune of £1 million – a giant leap towards reaching its goal. Now the lion's share of funding has been donated,

Continued on page 2

Soulful singing



Arran's newly established Youth Soul Choir got off to a flying start at their first rehearsal last week when 17 young singers joined the junior version of the renowned Arran Soul Choir. Run by James O'Neil, Moyra Manson, Shirley MacLachlan and Michael Gettings, the children enjoyed a spirited session with some real Arran talent coming to the fore. Full coverage of the event starts on page four. 01_B39front01

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Memorial plaques halted on Arran

North Ayrshire Council will stop putting memorial plaques on benches at the end of this month, writes Colin Smeeton.

North Ayrshire Council previously offered to put memorial plaques on existing benches for £70 + VAT which were available in brass or brushed steel with a maximum of 25 words for the inscription.

Demand

The decision to stop accepting applications was made owing to an increase in demand and the local authority running out of benches to affix the plaques to.

The popular method of paying tribute to departed loved ones will be halted, not only on Arran, but across North Ayrshire.

New metal memorial benches with a plaque can still be purchased at a cost of £950 + VAT and - applicable

to Arran only - wooden benches with a plaque can also be purchased for £900 + VAT.

Current areas that are no longer able to install new benches owing to location factors are Largs, Fairlie, West Kilbride, Skelmorlie, Cumbræ and Garnock Valley.

Comfort

A North Ayrshire Council spokesperson said: 'We appreciate that memorial benches/plaques can provide real comfort for families.'

'Due to an increase in demand we have taken the decision to stop the application process for the time being.'

'We are currently looking at various alternative memorial options for families.'

Costs for the new benches which are still available in some areas covers installation and ground preparation and delivery can take up to 12



Memorial plaques, such as those affixed to benches in Brodick, will no longer be available from North Ayrshire Council.

01_B24parking01

weeks. It is the responsibility of the bench purchaser to restore and maintain memorial benches and if they fall below

a standard consistent with their surroundings they can be removed if no remedial action is taken.

For more information on purchasing memorial benches from North Ayrshire Council visit their website at

<https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/births-marriages-and-deaths/deaths/memorial-bench-plaque.aspx>

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£1M funding for the Waverley

Continued from page 1
I have no doubt the remainder will be raised.

'The Waverley has delighted generations of locals and visitors throughout its history and this significant financial commitment will help it sail again. This funding, in addition to the £0.7 million given to North Ayrshire Council for the Coig tourism trail, shows a consistent commitment to North Ayrshire and the Clyde as a tourism destination.'

Inspire

'In 2020 Scotland's coasts and waters will be celebrated with a programme of activity designed to inspire more people than ever before to explore and experience our unrivalled shores. I look forward to seeing the Waverley, such a key part of our maritime and cultural history, back in service and able to play a central part in that celebration.'

Paul Semple, Waverley's general manager, commenting on the announcement said: 'We are delighted that the Scottish Government has allocated this level of funding towards Waverley recognising the ship's heritage value and the economic benefit she brings to many coastal communities. This funding together with the donations received from thousands of individuals takes our running appeal total to £1.9 million. However, we urgently need to secure a further £400,000 through donations, corporate funding and grants to ensure we can carry out all the work required to have Waverley back for next summer.'

'Waverley can offer a truly unique coastal cruising experience aboard a real steamship. All involved with Waverley are determined to keep her alive. I would urge

those who share in our vision to preserve a piece of the past for future generations to enjoy, to join the Government in helping to return the last seagoing paddle steamer in the world to service.'

Good news

While the news was welcomed by all there could also be further good news for PS Waverley later this year when a decision on the £250,000 application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund is expected by November.

If further funding is secured Waverley will return to service for 2020 and the repairs will extend Waverley's operational life for a further 20-25 years.

Donations to contribute to the repairs can be made to the Boiler Refit Appeal at waverleyexcursions.co.uk or by calling 0141 243 2224 or by texting STEAM £20 to 70085.



PS Waverley pictured near Lochranza. Photograph: Stuart Whiston.

Arran duo scoop major award for Gaelic results



by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Hard work and dedication has paid off for two Arran students, Janet Bray and Helen How, who are to be jointly awarded the Argyll College UHI Principal's Award for their outstanding results in National 5 Gaelic.

This college award is given part-time students in recognition of outstanding achievement. Both Arran students, who undertook National 5 Gaelic at Argyll College UHI in Lamlash, achieved upper A's in their final exam, and were the overall top scoring students from more than 50 others in Argyll College this year.

With only one mark separating their results, principal Martin Jones decided that the ladies should share the award.

The Gaelic programme on Arran is delivered through

collaboration between Argyll College UHI and NAC's empowerment and participation team. Gaelic tutor Sheila Blain said: 'I am delighted that the hard work Janet and Helen put into their Gaelic has been recognised with this award.'

'For a tutor, it is especially rewarding to have such diligent students and, even more, to see them then using their Gaelic in various ways in the wider community.'

'North Ayrshire Council is always keen to find ways to promote and preserve the language and this partnership with Argyll College was an ideal way to achieve accreditation for our students.'

On hearing the news, North Ayrshire councillor Ellen McMaster, said: 'It is excellent that this collaborative delivery has undoubtedly created a learning environment which has enabled

these students to flourish to the best of their potential. I congratulate Helen and Janet for their achievements and hope that these successes encourage more people to take up or continue with learning Gaelic, they will have much to aspire to and the best of learning environments to do it in.'

Janet and Helen will be presented with their awards at the College's annual graduation and prizegiving ceremony in Oban later this month.

Gaelic tutor Sheila Blain with her top scoring pupils, Janet Bray and Helen How. 01_B39argyll01



Brodick Co-op contributes to Parkinson's Support Group

The large Co-op in Brodick has made a charitable donation to the Isle of Arran Parkinson's Support Group in recognition of the valuable work that the organisation undertakes for Arran residents who are affected by Parkinson's.

While the Co-op makes regular charitable donations through its Community Fund, this donation was made in addition to that as a local community donation which was applied for and approved by the Co-op

regional manager and the Brodick branch.

Facilitating the application on behalf of the Arran Parkinson's Support Group, Carol Kane and Ailsa Yuill of the Arran Community and Voluntary Service (Arran CVS) approached the Co-op who were happy to lend their support to what they described as a very worthwhile cause.

The Isle of Arran Parkinson's Support Group meet regularly in Lamlash where they offer information, friendship and

support to local people with Parkinson's, their families and carers. They also organise regular events and social activities.

A spokesperson from Arran Parkinson's Support Group said: 'We are incredibly grateful for this donation from the Brodick Co-op. The funds will help to provide support and will contribute to research along with helping to change attitudes towards Parkinson's.'

'We would also like to extend a warm welcome to anyone affected by Parkinson's to join us on the first Wednesday of every month from 2-4pm at the Lamlash Fire Station.'

Arran CVS was established in 1965 to co-ordinate voluntary efforts on Arran. They are a charitable organisation that provide a range of information and office services to voluntary and community organisations on Arran and they also act as a bridge between the island community and national, regional and local government and other bodies.



Carol Harwood and Douglas Hamilton present a cheque to representatives of the Arran Parkinson's Support Group, l to r, John O'Sullivan, Donald McNiven and Les Macleod. 01_B39coop01

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Youth choir gets off on a high



Choir members learn a fun Congolese folk song called Banaha. 01_B39choir01



Who knows this song? Singers raise their hands. 01_B39choir03

The recently established Youth Arran Soul Choir got off to a good start last week at their first rehearsal which not only showed a great deal of promise but a few future stars.

The junior version of the well-established Arran Soul Choir welcomed 17 new members whose first foray into singing as a junior choir sounded as cohesive as that of a long-established one.

Run by James O'Neil, Moyra Manson, Shirley MacLachlan and Michael Gettings, the young singers aged from P5 age to 15-year-olds were told the emphasis was on having fun and enjoyment before immediately plunging into practicing their singing as a group.

Music ranging from classic and soul to pop was provided in a songbook which children were encouraged to take home with them to practice.

They were also encouraged to add their own suggestions which they would like to sing at future rehearsals.

As many of the young singers are at school with each

other, or their parents are involved in the adult choir, they impressed their tutors with pitch perfect and harmonious renditions of the songs that they all seemed to be familiar with through school, their parents or the charts.

James O'Neil, who was the faculty head of Arran High School's music department, said: 'One of my first memories on Arran was watching a primary choir performance of 'Ocean Commotion' co-ordinated by Lorna Buchanan-Hollingsworth in 2015.

Important

'I knew then vocal music was important with young people on the island.

'I also had the opportunity to engage young people in singing throughout my time teaching in schools, amidst the range of wider opportunities for vocal music, pantos and festivals and soon recognised that a weekly, regular non-school based choir was missing which provided the impetus.

'I have been fascinated by the legendary Arran Junior Chorus, led by the late Tony

Smith, and recently heard cassette tape recordings. Whilst this choir may provide a new opportunity for young people to come together to sing, in context, it is a respectful nod to the past whilst looking excitedly to the future.

'Well-being is at the front of everyday lives for young people and we know singing increases skills, self-esteem and confidence so I am hoping this is a group that are going to be proud of the work they do and will have the opportunity to show this off in and around the communities they live.

'We had a fantastic first rehearsal with 17 young people from across most of the island schools. A great sound and a friendly bunch keen to get going. Hopefully this will grow.

'Everyone is welcome to join in, regardless of ability or how often they are able to attend.'

Anyone is interested in meeting up and singing is invited to join the no-pressure, supportive and fun environment on Thursday evenings between 6pm and 6.45pm at Arran High School Theatre.

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Choir members sing familiar songs. 01_B39choir02



Members sing along to popular songs without the need for the words in the songbook.

01_B39choir05

note at inaugural rehearsal



Tutor Shirley MacLachlan adds her voice to the young singers. 01_B39choir06



The choir gather around the piano played by James O'Neil. 01_B39choir04



Tutor James O'Neil guides the young singers and plays the piano. 01_B39choir08



Michael Gettings and Moyra Manson familiarise themselves with some of the song lyrics. 01_B39choir09



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Market report from Stirling

United Auctions had forward a catalogue entry of 11,768 store lambs, breeding and feeding sheep at their Stirling auction on Wednesday September 11.

The leading prices were:
TexX Lambs - £61.50
Craigdhu, £60.50 Kilpatrick,
£57.50 Bridge & Bloomfield,
£54.50 Ceithr Goathie. BTexX Lambs - £67
Craigdhu. SuffX Lambs -
£63.50 Drumaghinier, £61
Sheddock, £58 Ceithr
Goathie, £57.50 Ardbeinn.
Chev Lambs - £53.50
Codydeb. Mule Lambs
- £56.50 Bloomfield, £52
Craigview. Cross Lambs- £45
Hillhead. BF Lambs - £44
Balgowan, £43 Craigview.
SuffX Ewe Lambs - £70
Drumaghinier.

And at their auction on Monday September 23 United Auctions forward a catalogue entry of 6337 store lambs and feeding sheep.

The leading prices were:
TexX lambs - £75 Craigdhu,
£63 Whin, £63 Druaghiner,
£58 Lenamhor, £56 Balnacoolle.
BTexX lambs - £69.50
Craigdhu. SuffX lambs - £61
Sheddock, £55 Balnacoolle.
Chev lambs - £59 Cosyden.
Mule lambs - £54 Sheddock,
£53 Balnacoolle, £49
Balgowan. Cross lambs - £49
Balgowan, £46.50 Lenamhor.
BF lambs - £30 Balgowan.

Winter bridge season starts

The bridge club winter season will begin on Thursday October 3 at Little Rock Cafe at 7pm for 7.15pm and on Monday October 7 at Brodick Golf Club at 7pm for 7.15pm.

Tributes after hotel owner dies in Spain

Tributes are being paid to the owner of the Douglas Hotel who died suddenly in Spain last week.

Sean Henry, 53, died at the home he owns in Marbella. A statement issued by the hotel said: 'It is with heavy heart we sadly share the news that our owner, great leader and friend, Mr Sean Henry has passed away suddenly. It has been a huge shock to his family, friends and the Douglas Hotel team.'

Born March 1966, Sean moved to Arran when he was 12 and at the age of 15 he went to live with his foster mum Nancy McLeod in Corrie. He attended Arran High School and was the foster brother of his two sisters, Elaine Wood and Janice Walker.

Posting on social media this week Elaine said: 'He was a charismatic, intelligent and funny man who lit up a room. He had an amazing ability to make whomever he was speaking to feel like the most special person in the world. People loved him. We, Sean's family, loved him.'

VisitArran posted: 'Sean was a great entrepreneur and friend to many. Our deepest sympathies go to his family, friends and colleagues at this sad time.'

He bought the Douglas Hotel in December 2006, which had closed down as the McAlpine Hotel earlier that year, and after a multi-million-pound refurbishment it reopened in 2011.

Sean was a graduate of Paisley College of Technology where he studied to be a surveyor.

For his career, Sean took the classic route of turning a problem into an opportunity, in his case, the lack of suitable office space in St Petersburg, Russia's second city.

Asset management

He set up Henry Chichester, a firm specialising in hunting out suitable office sites and then expanded into developing them. He was also involved in asset management, added a construction arm to the company and also opened a gym. He also owned a couple of hotels in Estonia.

The firm was, at one time, the largest foreign-owned property company in Russia, but he was always a regular visitor back to his beloved Arran.

A Foreign Office spokesperson said: 'We are supporting the family of a British man following his death in Marbella, and our staff are in contact with the Spanish authorities.'



Sean Hendry, owner of the Douglas Hotel, pictured here with colleague Craig Lindsay, passed away in Marbella.

Photograph: Douglas Hotel.

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Arran protesters join in at Glasgow rally

A small group of protesters from Arran joined thousands of people at a rally in Glasgow demanding urgent action on climate change.

Comprising adults and school children, the protesters were part of a global strike

which saw events taking place in all of Scotland's major cities and many towns.

On Arran, many protesters voiced their concerns individually and at smaller informal events while some preferred to be part of a big-

ger movement that involved a march from Glasgow's Kelvingrove Park to the city's George Square.

Joining the protesters was Colin Turbett, who sent us these images and said: "The Arran contingent weren't organised by anyone. Some of us identified one another on the ferry and stood together for a group photograph. All of us were there for the same reason, whatever other beliefs we might hold: that time is running out to reverse the damage being done to the planet.

'For me, it's to do with the system of capitalism where the need to make profit in the short term comes before a longer term view about the implications of continuous economic growth. Others have a different perspective.

'It is inspirational that this movement - Extinction Rebellion - was started



Corrin and Flora Keyworth, and their mum Ceilidh from Sliderry, en route to the protest.



Some of the Arran contingent heading for the Glasgow march and rally.

by young people who see little future for themselves. School children were much in evidence today in Glasgow

and how lively they were with their singing and chanting.' The strikes are part of a series of strikes started a year

ago by 16-year-old Swedish girl Greta Thunberg, who has become the global figurehead of climate change.

Thank you to Fiona Brown

At the recent meeting of the Elderly Forum, the group surprised Fiona Brown with a beautiful bouquet of flowers in gratitude for the sterling work she has done as chairperson of the forum and throughout the years since she became a founder member, writes Mairi S Christie.

The flowers were presented by Mrs Jessie Clark, another founder member. Fiona has been involved in many aspects of the work and chair for the past two years. Now she feels she needs to take a step back from office but will remain as part of the Forum which

will continue to benefit from Fiona's experience and wisdom.

In the past year, the Forum has been involved in, and campaigned for, many important issues relating to the senior population of Arran. However, interest has not been confined to the elderly only but also in other generations working together: foodbanks, democracy matters, mental health issues, transport, befriending, ferries, fish farming, my bus, safety and care concerns in Arran.

These are only a fraction of current issues, and the new chairman David Napier

spoke of his interest and concern about care for the elderly and others who may require care services on the island. One of the first tasks of the new season will be to prioritise where the Forum can impact to the benefit of the island's people.

Last year speakers from a number of relevant organisations enhanced the programme and education as well as providing interesting sessions. The attendance at meetings and help and information from representatives from the council and voluntary and other organisations is always much appreciated.

More than 20 people were at the last meeting and many of those joined for the first time. It was good to have Councillor Timothy Billings attending. He was able to give us a valuable insight into plans for the future as he saw them. There was an atmosphere of enthusiasm and excitement. Ideas were already emerging as people left. This bodes well for the future of the Elderly Forum's contribution to our island as it faces unprecedented change.



Mrs Jessie Clark surprises outgoing chairperson Fiona Brown with a bouquet of flowers.

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Waverley appreciation

News of a £1m investment to help return paddle steamer Waverley to service has been warmly welcomed by all.

Especially heartening in these fractious times of political disharmony, it is noteworthy that political will and vis-a-vis the Scottish Government, recognise the cultural significance and value of PS Waverley to the people of Scotland.

With words like 'iconic' and 'historical' thrown about with reckless abandon, the truth is that the Waverley is all of these things, in the true meaning of the words, and more.

Not only is it loved for its familiarity – it has been around since 1947 – but as a nation proud of its history and heritage, we cherish it, too, for all that it represents for the region and the people of Scotland, and indeed the world.

Of course, it was Clyde-built, which adds further appeal to those who have treasured her over the years, from Scotland to England and even further afield.

The Waverley is the last sea-going paddle steamer in the world, and just as she was originally only intended to sail between Craigendoran and Arrochar, long may she continue representing and giving back so much more than could ever have been envisaged.

Thought for the week

'No servant can serve two masters. You cannot serve God and wealth.' Luke 16: 13

Opinions matter

Sir,
Subsequent to you publishing my letter last week, I have been pleasantly surprised by the number of people, many previously unknown to me, who have contacted me, or stopped me in the street, to say that they agreed with the sentiments of what I said.

What worries me is that while there is a well orchestrated campaign objecting to the proposed fish farm on the north-east coast of Arran, those in favour of its development, and the employment prospects which it offers, are not encouraged to write to the Planning Committee.

As comments on the application have to be in by Monday September 30, anyone, from either side, wishing to make their views known to the Planning Committee, will need to tabulate their views this weekend, probably by email.

The North Ayrshire website is not hard to navigate. I urge readers in favour of this development to make their opinions known to their councillors and to the NAC Planning Committee.

Yours,
**Tommy Gilmore,
Brodick.**

Global phenomenon

Sir
At the end of last week we witnessed a global phenomenon led by a single schoolgirl – Greta Thunberg – demanding action from those in authority to make decisions which will protect the environment for her and future generations. In a world plagued by challenging news of environmental degradation and with the inevitable linkage to profit and vested interests, it is heartening to witness the inspiration and leadership demonstrated by one young woman on behalf of her generation and those to come.

Which leads us to local matters and our own responsibilities to ensure that decisions are taken which safeguard the spectacular place we live in for residents and

visitors now and into the future. As featured in last week's Banner, a significant number of people, representing a cross-section of our whole community, elected to let their feet do the talking – concrete action to demonstrate their rejection of the proposed despoiling of the wildest part of coast on Arran and North Ayrshire. We are fortunate to live in a country blessed with wild beauty and a decision-making system that allows us the chance to have our say on how that should be protected.

We also live in a country where developers must make their case with as much transparency as they dare. The Scottish Salmon Company, registered in Jersey, aspires to generate tens of millions for its shareholders by farming up to 5,000 tonnes of salmon off our NE shore. The result will be untreated excrement and urine, equivalent to at least 15,000 people, being put directly into a shoreline where, unprotected from easterly winds, we can expect fish farm detritus on beaches from Corrie to Lochranza; a massive injection of sea-lice likely to decimate what remains of our wild salmon and sea-trout population and the wholesale intrusion to wilderness seeking humans and wildlife of 20 cages and associated boats, pontoons and feeding systems.

But what of the economic case? We know that the island attracts in excess of 400,000 visitors a year delivering more than £60m of revenue which supports very significant year-round employment, in addition to seasonal employment, as well as providing the basis for support of the island's essential public, health and infrastructure services. What is the likely economic impact of undermining the reputation of the island as a clean, wild and beautiful location by association with the proposed environmental intrusion and pollution? Just five per cent loss of opportunity would amount to £3m/annum – which by comparison to the mention of 10 jobs – equivalent to £250,000/annum – looks to be a deal firmly weighed in favour of the Jersey registered owners.

If you share the concerns of those who tramped out to Millstone Point, or draw inspiration from the unselfish actions of one young woman, then please make your objections known to North Ayrshire Council by Monday September 30.

Yours,
**Rob Cowieson,
Whiting Bay.**

Goatfell signs

Sir,
I think that Henry Murdo's support for a signpost on Goatfell (Banner, September 21) will be unsuccessful. Apart from being a bad idea, I doubt if the National Trust for Scotland would agree with its placement.

Several years ago, when I was climbing on A'Chir, I noticed a very weathered and indistinct red arrow painted on a rock. The purpose of this arrow which was painted there by (I understand) Arran Mountain Rescue Team was to direct climbers to the correct route. So many climbers were going the wrong way and then having to be rescued that it was thought that a small painted arrow would protect the climbers as well as removing the need for the AMRT to carry out a rescue. The National Trust for Scotland, however, regarded this as vandalism and said that the graffiti should not be renewed as it weathered. If a small arrow was not permitted, I suggest a sign would fare no better.

Yours,
**Kenny Walker,
Dunblane.**

Diabetes campaign

Sir,
Over 24,000 people in Ayrshire and Arran have been diagnosed with diabetes. It is a relentless condition which requires careful management every day to reduce the risk of dangerous complications including stroke, kidney failure, lower limb amputations and sight loss.

It's no wonder that the day-to-day demands of living with diabetes can feel like a constant struggle. In fact, in a recent survey seven out

of 10 people admitted to feeling overwhelmed by the condition but, of those who sought additional support, three-quarters were unable to access it.

If any readers would like to share their experience of diabetes and mental health, please drop me a line on Rupert.Pigot@diabetes.org.uk or call 0141 245 6380.

Yours,
**Rupert Pigot,
Diabetes Scotland.**

Not NIMBYs

Sir,
Contrary to the accusation made by Mr Gilmore in last week's Banner, those of us opposed to the proposed new North Arran salmon farm have never attacked those employed to work on SSC's Lamlash farm. Why would we? The workers have nothing to do with the monstrosity proposed at Millstone Point. As for the 'provision of jobs for (the island's) younger population', careful reading of SSC's planning application reveals that there is no guarantee that a single job will be created on the island. It's likely that the new farm would be serviced by boat from Loch Fyne, without anyone setting foot here.

I do admit, however, to taking part in the 'venomous and militant' protest outside the Highland games – with my 83-year-old mother in attendance. In fact, our polite requests to sign the petition against the farm were met with an overwhelmingly positive response. The only venom we encountered was when a senior SSC representative scrawled a (misspelt) expletive, beginning with 'f', on the petition.

I'm sorry Mr Gilmore sees a particularly unspoilt piece of the Arran coastline as 'derelict' and useless. Has he never heard of the Coastal Way? It is his loss. We are not NIMBYs – we oppose polluting and destructive open-cage salmon farms wherever they are. But we do have a beautiful backyard and it is in the interests of all of us to preserve it.

Yours,
**Fiona Clarke,
Shiskine.**

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

Politicians reselected for local constituencies

Arran MP Patricia Gibson has been overwhelmingly endorsed by local party members to stand again as the party's candidate in any upcoming UK-wide general election.

Across North Ayrshire and Arran constituency, in a secret ballot, the

1,587 eligible SNP members chose to select Mrs Gibson unopposed, should there be a snap election.

Speaking after her selection was confirmed, Mrs Gibson said: 'I am delighted to have received the solid support of local members to stand

again as the SNP candidate here in North Ayrshire and Arran.

'Representing this constituency these past four years has been a great privilege and I look forward to the challenge of another election campaign once the threat of a no-

deal Brexit on October 31 has been defeated.'

Meanwhile, Jamie Greene MSP has been announced as the Scottish Conservative candidate for Cunninghame North in the 2021 Scottish Parliamentary election, in the same week as his promotion to the Conservative front bench in Holyrood as the new shadow cabinet secretary for transport, infrastructure and connectivity.

Mr Greene stood for the North Ayrshire and Arran seat in the 2015 general election and the following year in 2016 Scottish Parliament election, increasing his party's vote share by 11 per cent and was elected on the regional list as an MSP.

He said: 'I'm delighted to have been promoted to Jackson Carlaw's front bench in the Scottish Parliament and for being selected to contest the Cunninghame North seat in 2021. These are difficult and divisive times in politics but we also need to come together and look after the everyday things that matter to people.'



North Ayrshire and Arran MP Patricia Gibson.



Jamie Greene MSP.

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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 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.

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



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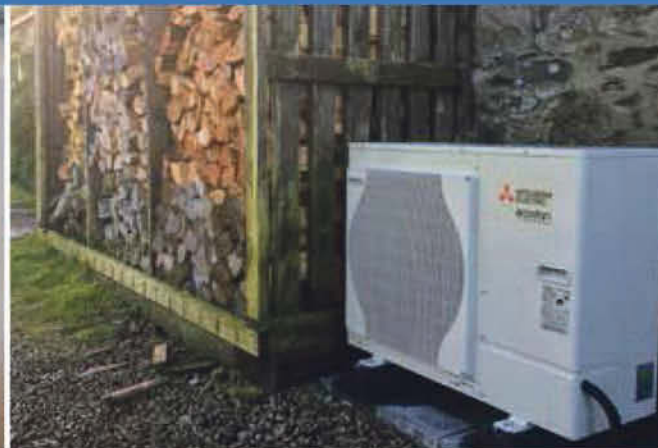
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Right now the Government will pay you an incentive of up to £10500* to replace your existing oil, LPG or storage heaters with a renewable air source heat pump.

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

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

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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

Arran's gin palace takes shape

Located at the picturesque site of the old Nature Centre, the Cladach Beach House serves as both the headquarters for their botanical drinks and as a destination for small community events and pop-ups of a wide variety.

Big changes are taking shape at the new Arran Gin headquarters located at Cladach and anyone who has not already experienced their 'bonfire and cocktails under

the stars' is invited to go along and have a look at how things are progressing.

The main purpose of the space is, of course, for gin, and their soon-to-be released Arran Cassis which is made with Whiting Bay blackcurrants. But with one room dedicated to production, they want the rest of the space to be enjoyed by the public, whether for gin school, tasting bar or pop-up events.



The interior of the building has taken on a relaxed Scandinavian feel and, while still rustic, it is an enjoyable place to visit.

The summer beach parties have been a really big hit with locals and visitors, and they are now embarking on a series of autumn events with a more cosy feel – beach bonfires with cocktails and the opening of their indoor tasting bar and shop.

While work is ongoing to turn the shack into a rustic, but very comfortable and usable, space they are working with the council and HMRC to obtain all the necessary licensing to be fully open all year round.

Today, Friday, between 3pm



Visitors are invited to go along to the Cladach Beach House to enjoy their G&T bar, cocktails round the bonfire, free gin tasting and cocktail masterclass sessions.

and 9pm, visitors are invited to another pop-up event with a G&T bar, cocktails round the bonfire, free gin tasting and cocktail masterclass sessions. Food will be provided

courtesy of Arran Simply Thai.

Further details about this event, and future events and progress, can be found on Arrans Gin's Facebook page.



The natural surroundings of the Cladach Beach House makes it an ideal venue for outdoor events.

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crafted original television. The kind you can't keep your eyes off. A seriously good football talk-show that doesn't take itself too seriously. A talent show that doesn't sit about waiting for talent. A dark and thrilling drama that's as witty as it is gritty. And a heart-racing documentary series that proves how life can change in a heartbeat. This is Scotland's TV channel. It's colourful, it's challenging, and it's different. Don't expect to see what you've seen before. Expect the

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Scotland

West coast tourism gets £40,000 funding boost



National tourism organisation VisitScotland has provided West Coast Waters with a funding boost of £40,000 as part of a growth fund for a campaign looking to attract visitors to the west coast and surrounding islands to either get on or in the water.

A collaboration between 21 of Scotland's west coast destination partners and WildScotland, with CalMac Ferries also a key partner, West Coast Waters will enable national, regional and sectoral tourism groups across Scotland to deliver partnership marketing campaigns.

Using the Year of Coasts and Waters 2020 as a platform, the 12-month campaign will work with influencers and use digital marketing to raise awareness of the sheer breadth and scale of opportunities available across the west coast of Scotland for adventure seekers and curious travellers from the UK.

The campaign will focus



The West Coast Marine Tourism Collaboration team meets at Riverside Museum in Glasgow to announce the VisitScotland growth fund award.

Photo: Ian Watson.

something really special. We have an amazing offering for marine tourism individually – and together West Coast Waters can offer even more to our marine visitors!

Themed years take place every two years with 2020 being designated as the year in which Scotland's coasts and waters will be showcased and celebrated with a programme of activity designed to support the nation's tourism and events sectors.

Then 2022 will be the year of Scotland's stories – a celebration of our rich literature, film, oral traditions and myths and legends.

on four key products: boat trips exploring the wildlife, natural wonders, uninhabited islands, remote attractions and stunning scenery of the west

coast; island hopping with CalMac and other ferry and boat operator services; trails of discovery including snorkelling, sea kayaking, seafood,

whisky, whales and dolphins; snorkelling, wild swimming, surfing and paddlesports.

Sheila Gilmore, executive director, VisitArran, said:

'VisitArran is really excited to be part of such a huge collaboration, working across fellow islands and other west coast destinations to deliver

Government launches new Funeral Support Payment

A new benefit to help low income families meet funeral costs is now open for applications and will assist 40 per cent more people than would previously be eligible.

The Funeral Support Payment, delivered by Social Security Scotland on behalf of the government, replaces the Funeral Expenses Payment previously operated by the Department for Work and Pensions.

The payment will help towards burial or cremation costs, some travel costs and a £700 flat rate payment for people who do not have funeral plans. The government

has committed to annually raise the flat rate element in line with inflation. Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'Death does not discriminate, so funerals are something we all have to deal with at some point or another, whether we can afford them or not.'

'I am therefore delighted that the SNP government has extended eligibility to cover an extra 40 per cent of people and is making a real difference to the lives of people who may otherwise face financial difficulty at what is already a distressing time.'

'If people on low incomes find themselves in the awful

position of having lost a loved one and are struggling to pay funeral costs, I urge them to check their eligibility to apply for the Funeral Support Payment.'

'The application process has been simplified to make it less intrusive and, for the first time, includes the option to apply online. Less paperwork will help bereaved families across Scotland'

'Tackling poverty, while respecting the dignity of people, is at the heart of the Scottish social security system and it benefits not only individuals and families but the nation as a whole.'

Paul Cuthell, of the National Association of Funeral Directors (NAFD), said: 'The NAFD is pleased to have helped Scottish ministers design the Funeral Support Payment. The streamlined application procedure will greatly assist the bereaved. The fact it is index-linked to inflation is a significant step towards ensuring that people receive an appropriate level of support when they need it.'

For more information or to claim Funeral Support Payment, visit mygov.scot/benefits or call 0800 182 2222.



Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson is urging residents to check their eligibility to apply for the Funeral Support Payment.

Photo: Andrew Cowan, Scottish Parliament



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IT'S TIME TO FACE THE FACTS

The Isle of Arran has played a long term role in salmon farming in Scotland, with one of the first farms in Scotland established over 30 years ago. The Scottish Salmon Company has recently submitted a planning application for a proposed development off the North East coast of Arran. The proposal has innovation at its heart, ensuring robust health and welfare and environmental sustainability.

We have consulted with the community throughout the planning process including hosting two public consultation events, a Q&A event and a mailing to every household to give as many people as possible the opportunity to find out about the project and ask questions.

We are aware that inaccurate, unfounded information has been circulated by activist groups and we want to set the record straight to ensure the facts are clear. These inaccuracies are misleading and, if left uncorrected, have the potential to damage the reputation of Scottish farmed salmon, jeopardise much needed jobs on the West Coast of Scotland and reduce business for local suppliers.

www.scottishsalmon.com

Fiction #1

There's no guarantee of new jobs for Arran.

Fact...

This development will create ten additional full time members of staff on Arran. 51 jobs will also be supported across Scotland in our supply chain and the wider economy. The development will also create a minimum of £1 million in local expenditure and contribute £8 – £10 million annually to the Scottish economy.*

Fiction #2

The farm would be the size of 33 football pitches.

Fact...

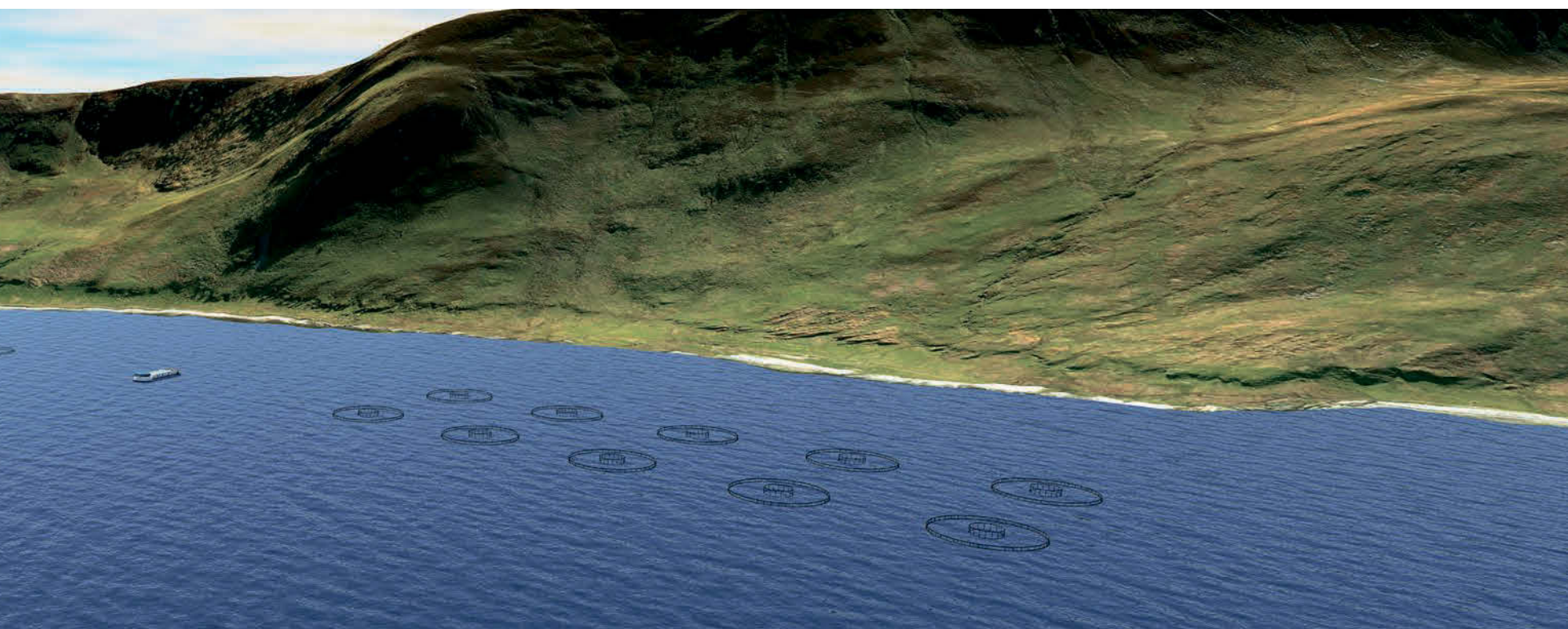
The surface infrastructure of the site would be no larger than six football pitches. There will be two groups of ten pens of 38.2m (diameter) arranged in two rows of five with a linked feed barge. This is a site located in an exposed location, the Clyde area is already well used for various other commercial purposes such as shipping and fishing.

Fiction #3

Toxic chemical treatments poured into the cages disperse and damage other sea life.

Fact...

The use of medicinal treatments is limited and heavily regulated. We are focused on reducing such treatments and have invested significantly in freshwater treatment and our fleet of ships as well as our sustainable cleaner fish programme on all farms. Cleaner fish naturally nibble off sea lice without causing harm to the salmon.



Fiction #4

Fish sewage would be equivalent to that produced by a town the size of Troon.

Fact...

Waste from salmon is organic and its excretion is a natural process that forms an essential part of all global ecosystems and all farming, including aquaculture. It is not comparable with 'sewage'; a term referring to waste matter from domestic or industrial establishments that is carried away in sewers or drains for dumping or conversion into a form that is not toxic.

In salmon farming, this natural process is well understood and highly regulated by Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) to ensure environmental impacts are in line with Environmental Quality Standards and that monitoring is regularly undertaken.

Fiction #5

If this... is not enough to put off seals, the company will shoot them.

Fact...

The welfare of our stock is paramount and, like any farmer on land or sea, we have a responsibility to keep this stock free from stress and harm. This includes attacks from predators like seals. The last thing we want to do is to harm seals. They often co-exist in harmony with our salmon due to our multi-million investment in rigid netting and acoustic deterrent devices (ADDs), which are only switched on if required. Consent for use of ADDs is granted on a site by site basis by the planning authorities in consultation with Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH). Only as a last resort, should a seal persist to attack beyond all preventative measures, would it then be dispatched in accordance with Marine Scotland regulations.

Fiction #6

Land-based farms on brownfield sites are now a viable alternative.

Fact...

Raising salmon in sea pens closely replicates their natural habitat and has a lower carbon footprint than any other farming sector. Moving salmon farming ashore and indoors would involve significantly more land and energy, and have a much greater environmental impact and has not yet been proven as a viable option.

Farming in any natural environment brings new challenges whether it is salmon or dairy, beef, sheep or pig farming. We are constantly investing, innovating and collaborating to ensure we are driving responsible development in Scotland.

As farmers, we care about our fish, our natural environment and the communities in which we live and work. On behalf of our people, our partners and our communities we hope this information will set the record straight and enable a fairer and more balanced dialogue about our proposals.

To find out more about the development please visit our website www.scottishsalmon.com or contact the team directly arran@scottishsalmon.com

* www.scottishsalmon.com. Project Page. Evaluating Social & Economic Impacts of the SSC North Arran Aquaculture Development

Arran Weddings



Whether you are lucky enough to live on Arran or simply enjoy spending time here, the island is one of the most beautiful places in the world to celebrate your marriage. Since there are no residential qualifications for getting married in Scotland, it is a popular wedding destination for people from all over the world and you are guaranteed a warm welcome. All year round the wonderful scenery provides the perfect backdrop to your special day, whether it is stunning mountains, romantic castles or beautiful coastline, Arran has it all and a wedding on Arran is sure to be one to remember.



ARRAN HOG ROAST

With over 30 years experience as a professional Chef and having catered for groups of up to 3000 guests, Alan Dunlop has created fantastic food for corporate events for Blue-chip companies including Aston Martin, Red Bull Racing and Mercedes Petronas.

Alan now runs a successful restaurant, The Clubhouse Grill & Tee Room within the Shiskine Golf Club on the beautiful west Scottish Isle of Arran.

The Arran Hog Roast Company are passionate about using only the best quality ingredients and supporting local businesses and have a great relationship with all of their suppliers who provide fantastic local produce.

The Arran Hog Roast Company love what they do and go out of their way to make sure your event is an event to remember! Get in touch to discuss your own special Arran Hog Roast.



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The Arran Hog Roast company provides high quality professional catering services based on the Scottish Isle of Arran. Our catering business provides the finest & freshest Hog Roasts accompanied with your favourite classic trimmings – Sage & Onion Stuffing, Apple sauce, superb side dishes and delightful, delicious desserts served by our professional, friendly staff!

They offer the best in slow-cooked Spit Roasts, BBQs and a full range of outside & indoor catering services throughout Ayrshire, Arran & Argyll. Whether you're planning a wonderful wedding reception, a memorable corporate event or an impressive private party, we provide the perfect dining experience based on your own culinary requirements and budget

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Your wedding day will be the one of the most memorable days of your life but it doesn't need to break the bank. The PHT can help you create your own bespoke menu to suit your budget, offer you a large choice of wines, beers & spirits and even provide live music. Their stunning roof terrace allows pictures to be taken with Holy Isle as a backdrop along with a beautiful garden. They also cater for Gin & Whisky tasting sessions & welcome hen & stag parties. See our website for more information www.thepht.co.uk

ANDREW SURRIDGE

Andrew Surridge Wedding Photography is about story telling - capture of the emotions and atmosphere of the day with a mix of classic frames and reportage style photography.

Combining chic black and white and colour Andrew always aims to create a contemporary, stylish and complete story of your special day.

Everyone's wedding day is different and whilst offering a service to suit your requirements his aim is always the same, to give you a collection of beautiful images as a record of your day.

Focussing on the relationships between people, capturing their expressions, secret smiles and hidden moments

With these images as well as subtly directed romantic poses with Arran's spectacular scenery as a backdrop, Andrew will capture the love and laughter, ceremony and celebrations of your wedding day in pictures.

THE ARRAN LODGE

The Arran Lodge provides an ideal self catering wedding venue in Lamlash on the Isle of Arran. Their private wooded grounds have sea views overlook Holy Isle and Lamlash bay making it a perfect setting for an indoor or outdoor wedding offering privacy and seclusion for your perfect day.

Flexible options are available although they do ask that you provide your own food and drink and are happy to send you a list of caterers. The accommodation can cater from twenty five to sixty people, with the main lodge sleeping twenty five with thirteen ensuite rooms. The dining room seats thirty and the function room provides dining for seventy. To discuss your requirements and arrange a viewing telephone: 01770 600 468

ARRAN IN FOCUS

Jacki from Arran in Focus loves photographing weddings and Arran is a very special location. Small or large, each wedding has its own character and she aims to capture a good mixture of formal and candid images to illustrate your special day. She can start with bridal preparations or arrive just before the ceremony, the choice is yours. However long Jackie spends with you she'll ensure you have special memories to treasure forever.

Arran in Focus tailor all packages to meet your needs and provide high resolution images so you can print and share as you wish.

Get in touch to discuss your special day.



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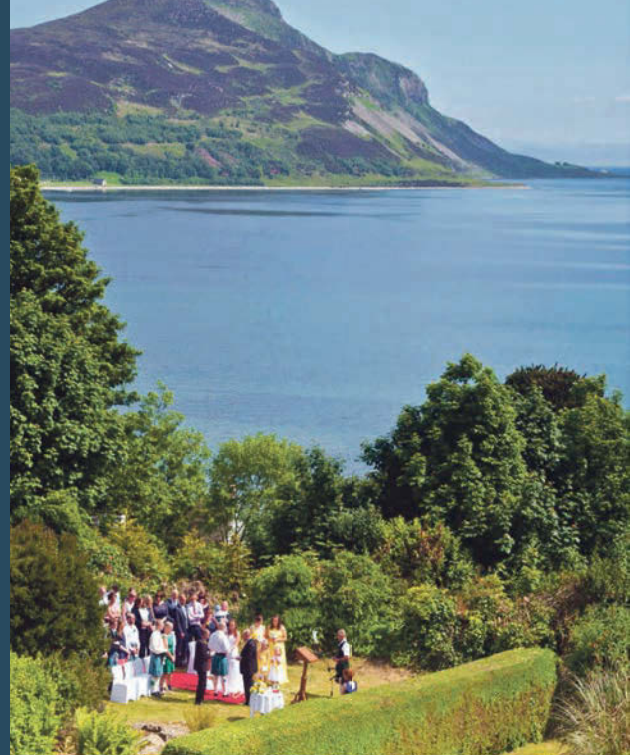
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Sun shines for Lamla



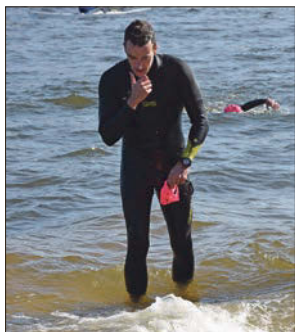
Organiser Ann Hart is presented with a gift for all of her hard work on the anniversary of her 10th swim. 01_B39splash14



Last year's winner Graeme Schreiber came in second place and received a huge round of applause from the spectators. 01_B39splash05



Alan Bowey looks relaxed as he returns home in first place with a time of 35.14.



In third place overall and the first local to finish, Glenn Sloss, emerges from the water. 01_B39splash06



Local swimmer Eric Milton arrives back to hearty applause. 01_B39splash07



Local swimmer Georgina Maclean emerges from the water. 01_B39splash09

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

The sun shone and even the tides lent a helping hand to the 40 swimmers taking part in the annual Lamla Splash – a gruelling 1.3 mile swim from Holy Isle to Lamla.

With an easterly wind blowing, the sea was unusually much calmer at the Holy Isle pontoon where the swimmers set off, however, it was very bumpy once the swimmers left the shelter of the island which made for difficult conditions for the safety kayakers and the swimmers. Fortunately, with the direction of the waves, the swimmers were given a helping hand with some managing to 'surf' the waves back to the pier.

There was a full complement of 40 swimmers this year, including 13 local swimmers, which meant that nearly £1,000 was raised for the Arran Junior Sailing Club.

Although timed, the Splash as it is affectionately known, is not a race and while some swimmers are very competitive, most are just happy to partake and complete the swim.

The first male back was Alan Bowey, a regular Splasher, in a time of 35.14, followed by Graeme Schreiber, last year's winner, in 36.36. In third

place was local swimmer Glen Sloss who was also first local male.

First female was Lesley Kay in 42.03 and the second female and first local was Lorraine Hewie with a time of 42.05. A fantastic achievement for her first Splash. Third female was Jan Roxburgh in 45.17.

Following the swim the Ali Bodie Plate was presented by the Heather Queen, Imogen Allison, to Dean and Rhona Dunbar. Both Dean and Rhona have swum in the Splash a number of times but this was the first time in three years.

In the past, Dean, who is partially sighted, has swum with a different swim buddy but this was first time that his wife Rhona had led him wearing yellow socks for him to follow – not an easy task in the sea conditions. Dean and Rhona were watched over by kayaker Annie Lloyd for which the duo expressed their gratitude.

On behalf of the locals, Mike Mellor presented Ann Hart with a photo canvas of a winter swim on Christmas Eve in Lamla. Ann has now completed 10 swims in a row and has organised the event for many years.

Andy McNamara of the popular Otter's Tail adventure organisation did an exemplary job as the lead safety officer for

the first time and ensured that swimmers' safety was paramount with the kayakers and RIBs keeping the swimmers in a much tighter channel than usual.

Organiser Ann Hart said: 'Thanks must go to Andy McNamara and also to the Holy Isle ferry for transporting swimmers over to the Holy Isle. Thanks to the Coastguard and RNLI who were also on hand and to Greg Hamill who was there as medical officer.'

'Many thanks to all the volunteers involved in marshalling, registration, time-keeping, recording and catering, without whom the event would not be so successful with many swimmers returning year after year. Also a great big thank you to the huge number of spectators who came along to support the swimmers.'

The Arran Open Water Swimmers meet on a regular basis throughout the year and anyone who is considering taking up this activity can find details of swims on their Facebook page.

The best time of year for new sea swimmers to start is May when the water has started to warm up.

The next Splash will take place on Saturday September 20, 2020, and inquiries are already being made to take part in this popular event.



Swimmers wave goodbye as they are transported to the start of the race by the Holy Isle ferry. 01_B39splash03



A swan and her signets cross the bay as the first pink caps of the swimmers can be seen returning to the jetty. 01_B39splash15



A total of 13 local swimmers took part.



A good crowd of supporters line the shore.



Organiser Ann Hart completes her 10th Splash. 01_B39splash10

sh Splash swimmers



Start this year. 01_B39splash02



The swimmers set off in calm conditions aided by the shelter of Holy Isle.
Photograph: Andy McNamara.



The pier and jetty to welcome the swimmers back. 01_B39splash08



Heather Queen Imogen Allison presents the Ali Bodie Plate to Dean and Rhona Dunbar.
01_B39splash12



First female home was Lesley Kay closely followed by the second female and first local Lorraine Hewie. 01_B39splash1



Local swimmer Mike Mellor completes his swim and rushes back to work to complete an afternoon shift. 01_B39splash11



First local female was Lorraine Hewie who is photographed with her husband Paul. 01_B39splash13

LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARRAN

Have your say on travel and transport on Arran

As a part of Eco Savvy's future plans looking at sustainable travel and transport on Arran, the group will be hosting an event titled Arran in 10 years: Travel and Transport.

Taking place on Tuesday October 1, in Brodick Hall from 4pm, residents are invited to try the new fleet of e-bikes and an e-trike, contribute personal active travel routes to contribute to Arran's first Savvy Travel Map, and be a part of a discussion following presentations from the Savvy Travel team and a guest speaker from Transport Scotland.

Twelve local and national travel and transport focused

organisations will be there to engage with attendees, including Sustrans, Transport Scotland, Arran Development Trust and Cycle Scotland. There will also be a chance for the first 50 attendees to win a week's free e-bike trial.

The evening will be rounded off with cake and discussions about travel and transport on the island. If you are an Arran resident, this is an opportunity to make sure Eco Savvy is headed in the right direction. Through these conversations it aims to get people thinking creatively and positively about the future of sustainable travel on the island, and ultimately cultivate a community where

active travel is the norm.

Sustainable travel coordinator Emma Tracey said: 'We all need to travel, we all use the roads, the issue of travel and transport greatly impacts residents' daily living. This is an exciting opportunity to think creatively and optimistically about the future with so many high profile, influential stallholders attending and wanting to hear local views. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to shape real, tangible changes to travel and transport on the island; not only is this possible, but it is vital to maintain, sustain and grow our very special island community. We look forward to seeing you there.'



Sustainable travel coordinators Emma Tracey and Andrew Binnie with some of the e-bikes that will be available for testing.

OCTOBER 2019 w h a t s o n ?

- =Food Share
- =Energy Advice
- Drop In | 10am-3pm @ Eco Savvy, Home Farm, Brodick
- =eBike Trials
- =BYOPumpkin event, limited spaces. For booking email ecosavvy.info@gmail.com

social media:

ecosavvy.info@gmail.com
01770 303 026
Eco Savvy Project Office
Home Farm, Brodick
arranecosavvy.org.uk

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 Arran in 10 Years: Travel + Transport Event 4-7pm: Brodick Hall 9pm WB	2	3 8.15pm Brodick	4 9pm Lamlash	5
6 9pm Shiskine	7 8:15pm Brodick	8 9pm Whiting Bay	9 8:30pm Mara, Corrie	10 8.15pm Brodick	11 9pm Lamlash	12
13 9pm Shiskine	14 9pm Lochranza Hall	15 9pm Whiting Bay	16 9pm Kilmory Hall	17 8.15pm Brodick	18 9pm Lamlash	19
20 9pm Shiskine	21	22 9pm Whiting Bay	23	24 BYOPumpkin event LIMITED SPACES 8.15pm Brodick	25 9pm Lamlash	26
27 9pm Shiskine	28	29 9pm Whiting Bay	30	31 8.15pm Brodick		

Cut this calendar out and stick up as a reminder at home!

Concert at elastic house was just 33 years in the making

Alice's Wonderland Bed & Breakfast in Lamlash certainly lived up to its nickname as the elastic house on Thursday September 12 when owner Alice Maxwell welcomed more than 40 guests for a concert of music in the time of Anne Frank. All had arrived to hear renowned American pianist Deborah Nemko in a recital featuring her recent research into Dutch composers who suffered under the Nazis.

After sharing buffet refreshments, the audience settled into chairs for the concert. But what they didn't realize was that this concert had been over three decades in the making. In 1986, Deborah Nemko, a student at the University of Illinois, arrived at Manchester University to study for a year. There she met fellow music student Alice Maxwell, and the two women cemented their friendship with a visit to Alice's family home. But they lost touch over the decades as their lives and careers took them in different directions.

Alice became a popular musician and teacher on Arran, as well as a B&B owner. Deborah pursued a PhD, and was especially inspired by her mentor Alex Ringer, a survivor of the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp. In his memory, she began researching the music of Dutch composers who suffered under the Nazis. Now a Professor of Music at Bridgewater State University and faculty member of New England Conservatory's Piano Preparatory and Continuing Education Program, Dr Nemko has also performed in concerts in top venues worldwide including Carnegie Hall in New York, the Shanghai Oriental Arts Center, and the Bethanienklooster in Amsterdam.

In 2015, Deborah was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship, during which she visited Amsterdam. There she interviewed families of Holocaust survivors, met with Eva Schloss – author of several works on the Holocaust and a well-known Dutch survivor of the camps who was Anne Frank's childhood playmate and posthumous stepsister – and discovered many previously unpublished handwritten manuscripts.

Deborah assembled a selection of these pieces into the concert programme she's presented in concert venues around the world, including



Alice Maxwell, violin, and Deborah Nemko, piano, with Jack and Evelyn Cowan from Catacol in the audience.

01_B38frank02

the Anne Frank Awards at the Library of Congress in Washington DC. Talking about these composers, she says: 'Their music is often jazzy and sometimes influenced by French and American composers, and though largely unknown, deserves to be heard.'

Alice invited her old friend to perform on Arran. With support from the Netherlee and Clarkston Charitable Trust, The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities, and the Jewish Music Institute, the Arran Jewish Cultural Association offered to sponsor Deborah's visit to Arran to perform her recital programme

Last week when the two friends met again for the first time in 33 years, Alice reminded Deborah she'd left her suitcase at her family's house on that first visit three decades ago, and that her father was keeping it for her. Deborah can't have been surprised, because recovering items lost for decades has been her goal as she researched and salvaged music of Holocaust-era composers.

The concert audience was riveted as Dr Nemko played pieces by several composers and told their stories. She began with compositions by Henriëtte Bosmans and Géza Frid, important composers who survived the war. This was followed by Daniel Belinfante's poignant Lento Mystiek, with its echoes of bells heard while in hiding from the Nazis. The compos-

er, who was part of the Dutch Resistance, and was arrested and sent to Auschwitz. Tragically, he was in hospital in a satellite camp when the Nazis decided to burn the hospital just days before the camp was liberated in 1945.

One of the most prolific young composers was Leo Smit, who was killed three days after arriving at Sobibór extermination camp in 1943. His compositions with their jazzy influences of Ravel and other twentieth century composers continue to be widely performed today.

Fania Chapiro was a well-

known concert pianist whose compositions are only now being discovered and played. Finally the audience heard the vibrantly jazzy music of the young composer Dick Kattenburg, who was 24 when he was murdered at Auschwitz in 1944. Although it was believed that only one of his pieces survived the war, more of his music has recently been rediscovered.

The concert programme finished with a prelude by Gershwin, and with the special treat of a duet with Alice Maxwell on the violin playing a brightly toe-tapping tango (Corncob by Angel Villodo) that had the audience applauding and demanding more. Barb Taub thanked the audience for their support, and revealed that the Arran Jewish Cultural Association will be sponsoring additional musical events on Arran including a family Klezmer Ceilidh next July. For more information or to be notified of future events, please email arran@scojec.org.

Over shared desserts after the recital, audience members agreed it had been a brilliant concert, warmed by the home location, and illuminated by the pianist's stories of the composers' lives and the music we're only now discovering they left behind. Many members of the audience wanted to know when Deborah would be back for her next Arran concert. Hopefully, it won't take another 33 years.

Barb Taub

ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

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



THIS IS THE 40TH SUMMER SEASON OF THE ISLAND'S FOUR STAR FAMILY DAY OUT

Learn about Arran's Unique Geology, Farming, Archaeology, Social History, Clearances, etc., and visit the 19th Century Cottage, the 1940's Schoolroom, the Blacksmith's Forge, and lots more.

Archive and Genealogy researchers welcomed

(on Wednesdays only from 10.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm or by appointment).

Children's Quiz and Play Area. Riverside Picnic Area. Gift Shop. Lovely Snacks and Meals at Café Rosaburn.



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Get your teeth into The Wolf

by Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Book review

There have been shoot-outs, high speed car chases, murders and even a helicopter crash all happen on Arran.

So the island had better be braced for what author Kenny Graham has in store for it in the third of his trilogy of his adventure spy novels.

All three feature as the main characters former elite soldier Adam MacDonald and MI6 assassin Samantha O'Connor and their adventures take them around the world ... but Arran is never far from the plot.

Author Kenny, who writes under the name K J Graham, may not live on Arran but his family connections and his intimate knowledge of the island give the action which takes place on Arran a real authentic feel.

The trilogy began with the 2014 novel Friends or Foes and was followed by Codename Pandora two years

later. Now the conclusion of the trilogy, The Wolf, was published last month, and it's already sold more than 1,000 copies.

Kenny who lives in Alva, Clackmannanshire, has set his new novel mainly in Scotland and it follows our two heroes as the past comes back to haunt them as they settle into life on the west coast with their new addition to the family. But when Sam is dragged back to London by MI6, things start to get messy.

Kenny said: 'The Russians have sent a hit team to take one of them out, and it's the story of them trying to evade the Russians.'

How much of the action takes place on Arran is a closely-guarded secret, but since Adam has a little cottage on the shore on the west coast, there is fair chance of that location playing some part in the story.

Kenny, whose aunt lives on Arran, said: 'My aunt has done a great job keeping my Arran fans updated through word of mouth, but unfor-

tunately she is now house bound.'

The 56-year-old author released his first book, Friends or Foes, after being left a little disappointed with a novel he had finished reading.

He said: 'I was reading an SAS (Special Air Service) novel, and it was really good on fact, but the story wasn't that great. I thought I could probably write better than that, then I thought I better put my money where my mouth is.'

And while his first three books were relatively relaxing to write, Kenneth said his latest work was a tough one.

He said: 'I'm relieved [it's published] because it's taken a wee while to get this together. I started it, then I had my house extended. Trying to write something and have your house extended was a bit challenging.'

As well as his housing issue, he also found that Amazon would no longer proof and edit his new book ahead of sending it to the printers. But, after some hard work,



Author Kenny Graham with his new book The Wolf.

The Wolf is now on sale and Kenny said: 'It sold over 1,000 copies in its first week, so it seems to be doing quite well.'

Far from resting on his laurels, Kenny has already written the first chapter for a fifth book, which he described as a

'modern-day thriller'. And he plans to continue writing as he works his way towards his dream of going full-time.

Kenny has also written another book titled Baby Tiger, which is historical fiction about a Scottish girl who dis-

guised as a Polish pilot fought in the Battle of Britain.

While Kenny is keen to have the trilogy on sale on Arran, it is presently only available in Kindle and paperback from Amazon books our use the link: tinyurl.com/yypqz7gs.

NO North Arran Salmon Farm

What you can do

Object to the Scottish Salmon Company's planning application for a salmon farm off Millstone Point by **30th September**

Online: <https://bit.ly/2lWnFpG>

In writing: F.A.O. Mr Iain Davies, Planning, North Ayrshire Council, Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE.
(Quote planning reference 19/00609/PPM.)

For guidance visit: <https://www.arrancoast.com/responding-to-the-north-arran-salmon-farm-planning-application/>

Isle of Arran
COAST
Community Of Arran Seabed Trust

WIN

A PERSONALISED 700ML BOTTLE OF A. D. RATTRAY WHISKY

OFFERS & COMPETITIONS

A. D. Rattray are an independent whisky company who have been selecting and maturing Scotland's best casks of single malt whisky for over 150 years. Their Personalised Whiskies are an exclusive selection of single cask whiskies which are personalised with a beautiful handwritten label including your name or message. Available in three bottle sizes, these whiskies are hand-filled straight from the casks in their Whisky Experience in Kirkoswald, with the bottle then sealed in wax and completed with your label. Plan a visit to witness the bottling of your very own whisky and write the label yourself, or shop online at shop.adrattray.com.

FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN, just answer the following question:
Where are A. D. Rattray located?

T&Cs - 1. Entrants must be aged 18 or over and resident in the UK. 2. Entries must be received by 31st October. 3. The winner will be contacted via the email address that they provide. 4. The winner will be asked to respond by email with the name/message for their personalised bottle and to provide a UK mainland address where they can receive delivery of their prize. 5. If the winner does not respond to our email within one week another winner will be randomly selected and contacted as above.

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. Closing date, unless otherwise stated, is 31 October 2019. **Winners drawn from all competitions also enter a prize to win a bottle of Whitetail Gin.**

Entrants must be 18 or over. Employees of Scottish Field, the competition promoters, and their direct families are ineligible to enter. No purchase necessary. The winner will be first correct entry drawn after closing date. No cash alternative 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.

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com

CRAFT BREWERY TOURS AVAILABLE DAILY



Every day

Trout fly fishing
Arran Geopark Information & Activity Centre
Brodict Castle and Gardens
Octopus Centre
Octopus Centre – tennis
Brodict Mini Golf
Public swimming
Swimming lessons
Arran Brewery
Arran Heritage Museum

Loch Garbad, bank fishing
Lochranza, 9am - 5pm
Open 10am - 5pm
Old Pavilion, Lamash, centre open seven days, 10am - 5pm
Old Pavilion, Lamash, open 7 days, any time
Open seven days, 9am - 6pm-ish, ALL weather
Auchrannie Spa Pool, Brodict, 10am - 4pm (last entry 3pm)
and 6pm-8pm (last entry 7pm)
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, Brodict, Monday -Thursday, 4pm - 6pm
Open Monday - Saturday, 10.30am - 5pm
Sunday, 12.30am - 5pm. Tours daily at 11am & 2pm or by arrangement
Rosaburn, Brodict, 10.30am - 4.30pm

Saturday 28th September

Corrie Open
Craft market
Arran Highland Dancers
Rink games
Rink bowls
Rink bowls
Family games
RNLI shop – open
ATAAT presents Eaten by Mamoru Iriguchi
Arran CND Group meeting – all welcome
Gym induction
Fun in the pool
Pop-up BYOB (bookings only)
Live music – The Sensational Biff Simpson Trio
Live music – Mic Clark
Live music – Jam Pact, blistering tribute to The Jam
Over-21s disco

Corrie Golf Club. 9am and 1.30pm tee off times
Brodict Hall, 11am - 3pm
Lamash Church Hall, 11am
Brodict Bowling Green, 2pm
Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 2pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm - 3pm
Lamash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 2pm
Ormidale Pavillion, 2.15pm
Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 2.30pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm - 4pm
The Shore, Whiting Bay from 6pm
Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodict, 8pm
Douglas Hotel, Brodict, 8pm -11pm
The PHT, Lamash, 9pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodict, 10pm

Sunday 29th September

Live music – Michael Clark
Fungi Foray
RNLI shop – open
Family games
Gym induction
Fun in the pool
Live music – Jam Pact, blistering tribute to The Jam
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Eco Savvy Food Share
Folk music session

Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 1pm – 4pm
Arran Rangers Centre, Brodict Castle, 1.30pm
Lamash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm - 3pm
Auchrannie Spa, 2.30pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm - 4pm
The PHT, Lamash, 4pm - 6pm
Brodict Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
Shiskine Hall, Shiskine, 9pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodict, 9pm

Monday 30th September

Morning fitness
Adult tennis
JogScotland mixed ability running group
Junior rugby (P3-P7)
Junior rugby (S1-S6)
Circuit training
Savvy Food Film Social
Summer bridge, all welcome, phone 600835 or 700396
Rink games
Rink bowls
Live music – Arran Dawn
Tae Kwon Do, adults and over 10s

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am-10.30am
Blackwaterfoot, 5pm
Whiting Bay, 5.30pm
Ormidale Park, Brodict, 6pm - 7pm
Ormidale Park, Brodict, 7pm - 8pm
Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6pm - 7pm
Home Farm, Brodict, 6pm
Arran High School 6.15pm for 6.30pm
Brodict Bowling Club, 6.15pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 8pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7pm - 8.30pm

Tuesday 1st October

Body Blitz (booking essential)
Healthy Outdoors Team
Eco Savvy Energy Surgeries
Chess morning
Rink bowls
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Bridge class (beginners/improvers)
Arran Pace Makers – Jog Scotland beginners' group

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30am - 10.30am
Brodict Country Park Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm
Home House House, Brodict, 10am - 3pm
Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, 11am
Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm
Brodict Church Hall, 2pm
Brodict Golf Club, 2.30pm-4.30pm
Ormidale pavilion, Brodict, 5.30pm

Steak night – two ribeye steaks & bottle of wine
Gym induction
The 1st Shiskine Rainbows and Brownies
Arran Hockey Club – juniors (5-14yrs)
Mini Kickers 3-5yrs (preschool)
Scottish country dancing
Junior football, P4 -P6s
Flow Yoga
Eco Savvy Food Share
Trev's pop music quiz
Traditional music sessions

Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodict, 5.30pm
Auchrannie Spa, 5.30pm
Shiskine Hall, 5.30pm - 6.45pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 6pm - 7pm
KA Leisure, Lamash, 6pm -6.45pm
Brodict Hall, 7.30pm
KA Leisure, Lamash, 6.45pm - 7.45pm
Corrie Hall, 6pm
Whiting Bay Eco Savvy Hub Shop, 9pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodict, 9pm
Brodict Bar, 9pm

Wednesday 2nd October

Yoga
Hydrofit
Brodict Gardens volunteers
Kilmory toddlers
Coffee morning
Archives and Genealogy Service
Chair yoga exercise class
Knit and Blether
Parkinson's Support Group
Arran Pace Makers running group
Flow Yoga
Junior football, P1 - P3s (5 - 7yrs)
Rink Games
Tae Kwon Do juniors 6.30-7.30pm, advanced juniors & adults, AHS, 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Pub quiz
Rock 'n' pop bingo

Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am - 10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.30am - 10.30am
Brodict Castle and Country Park, 9.30am - 1pm
Kilmory Hall, 10am - 12 noon
Lamash Church Hall, 10.15am to 12 noon
Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am -12.30pm & 1.30pm - 3.30pm
St Molios Church Hall, Shiskine, 11am
Bay Wool & Crafts, Whiting Bay 11.30am - 1.30pm
Lamash Fire Station, 2pm
Brodict, 5.30pm
Shiskine Hall, 6pm
KA Leisure, Lamash, 6pm - 7pm
Brodict Bowling Club, 6.15pm
AHS, 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Lamash Church Hall, 7.30pm
The PHT, Lamash, 8.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodict, 9pm

Thursday 3rd October

Morning fitness
Chair yoga exercise class
Chess morning
Adult tennis
Arran Youth Soul Choir
Arran Soul Choir
Winter bridge, visitors welcome
Body Blitz (booking essential)
Arran Hockey Club – Seniors (12 yrs +)
Brodict Embroidery Group
Eco Savvy Food Share
Eco Savvy Food Share
Tommy's general knowledge quiz

Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 9.30 -10.30am
Ormidale Pavillion, Brodict, 10.30am
Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, 11am
Blackwaterfoot, 5pm
Community Theatre, Arran High School, Lamash, 6pm
Community Theatre, Arran High School, Lamash, 7pm
Little Rock Cafe, 7pm
Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 6.15pm - 7.15pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 7pm - 8.30pm
Brodict Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Brodict Ormidale Pavilion, 8.15pm
Kilmory Hall, 8.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodict, 9pm

Friday 4th October

Yoga
Hydrofit
ACLI – Friday Garden Club
Adult tennis
Qi Gong (Tai Chi), all welcome
Gym induction
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting
Tae Kwon Do
Live music – Shindig
Friday night quiz
Eco Savvy Food Share

Auchrannie Studio, 9.30am - 10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.30am - 10.30am
Golf Course Road, Whiting Bay, 10am - 12.30pm
Blackwaterfoot, 11am
Glen Estate Lounge, Brodict, 11.30am - 12.30pm
Auchrannie Spa, 5.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
Advanced (Advanced Class) Arran High School, 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 8pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm
Octopus Centre, COAST, Lamash, 9pm

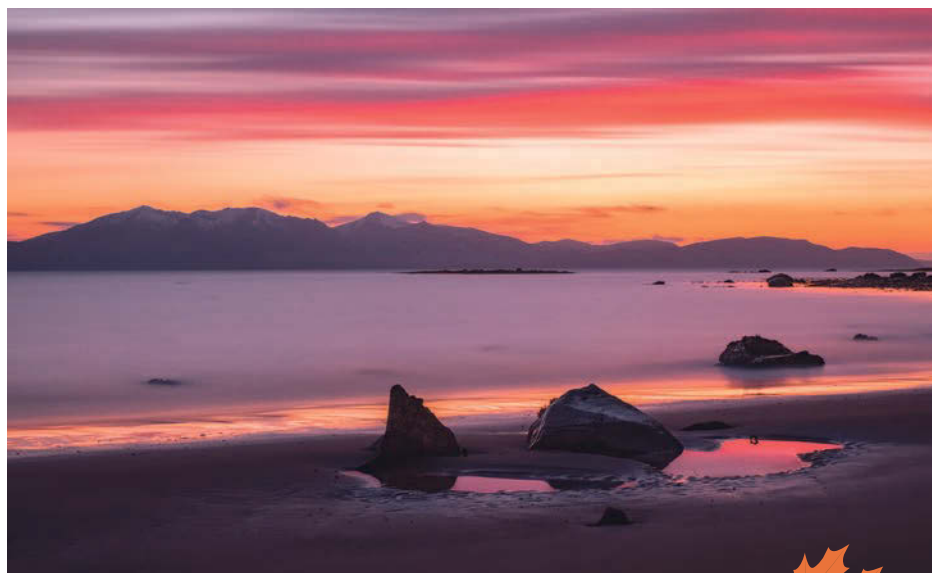
Saturday 5th October

Rink games
Rink bowls
Family games
Gym induction
Fun in the pool
Live music – Mike Edwards
Live music – Dr Feelgood – Dr Feelgood Tribute Band
Over-21s disco

Brodict Bowling Green, 2pm
Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 2pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm - 3pm
Auchrannie Spa Leisure, 2.30pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 3pm - 4pm
Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodict, 8pm
The PHT, Lamash, 9pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodict, 10pm



September WEEKEND



September weekend on Arran has a great deal to offer: stunning scenery, great places to stay, good food and drink - with plenty of live music - and many places to visit. There is Brodick Castle and Country Park, the Heritage Museum and our two distilleries at Lochranza and Lagg. And best of all, wherever you go you are guaranteed to receive a warm Arran welcome.

If it is the outdoor life you prefer then there is equally as much on offer, from low level to high level walking, cycling and kayaking and not forgetting

Scotland's 'Big Five' - golden eagles, otters, grey seals, red squirrels and red deer, Arran has them all.

If it is something more leisurely that you seek, then why not treat yourself to a relaxing spa treatment, delicious home baking or classic cocktails. Arran has an array of bespoke shopping if you fancy a bit of retail therapy, from clothing - outdoor or fashion, jewellery and pottery to delicious local produce. Whatever you are looking for to help you unwind this weekend, you will find it right here on Arran.



Arran Active

Arran Active built its reputation around its large range of outdoor clothing, footwear, and accessories. But there is so much more to its offer than outdoor gear. They have always stocked fashion and leisure wear from brands such as Weird Fish, Nomads and Lily & Me, all at very competitive prices.

For this autumn, they have added two ethical brands to the mix: Sherpa clothing is made predominantly in Nepal and each purchase contributes to a fund supporting education there; Howies clothing includes organic cotton tees and ethically sourced merino. Both have a wide range of everyday knitwear, as well as technical outdoor clothing. Some beautiful gift ideas looking ahead...

Arran Active also has a wide range of Rieker fashion winter footwear now in stock alongside their trusted selection of walking boots and shoes. Additionally they also stock children's clothing and wooden toys, pet accessories, Arran gifts and an impressive collection of whiskies and Scottish gins, perfect for any occasion.

But don't worry - the range of outdoor gear is still as extensive as ever and prices are very competitive. They will also try and price match if you can find cheaper....

Did you know that they also offer a mail order service? Arran Active is so much more than just an outdoor shop!

Tel: 01770 302113, Email: info@arranactive.co.uk



Arran Active

SO MUCH MORE THAN AN OUTDOOR STORE!

NEW AUTUMN STOCK NOW IN

OUTDOOR CLOTHING, FOOTWEAR AND ACCESSORIES, A WIDE RANGE OF FASHION AND LEISURE WEAR INCLUDING WEIRD FISH AND NOMADS.






INTRODUCING NEW BRANDS INCLUDING SHERPA CLOTHING AND HOWIES

FULL RANGE OF RIEKER FASHION WINTER FOOTWEAR NOW IN STOCK






ALSO IN STORE

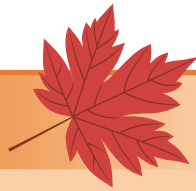
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Crofters'



Nearly a year on from the change of name, Crofters' has seen it's best season yet. Spearheaded by daughter Ealána, the team have brought together an holistic approach to everything crofting is about.

With sustainability being at the forefront of their ethos, along with authentic hospitality, they have defined their niche in providing good quality home cooking, using local and seasonal produce where possible, supporting other family run businesses' with their Scottish spirit selection, and utilising the immense talent of their staff and musicians to provide an all encompassing dining experience.

We must remind everyone that reservations are recommended, as Crofters' fill up very quickly, and due to limited capacity they are unable to accommodate drinkers between 7.30-9pm, but don't worry the music continues until 10.30pm and they're open until late.

The journey Crofters' is on is being documented through many media outlets, join @croftersmusicbar and be involved in the development of Crofters' as they tackle their own sustainability.

Tel: 01770 302579,
Email: bookings@croftersmusicbar.com

Old Byre Visitor Centre



The Old Byre Visitor Centre in Machrie is situated just north of Machrie golf course, just look out for the signs. Here you will find a friendly family business comprising the Old Byre Showroom, Café Thyme and a large children's play area.

The Old Byre sells quality knitwear from brands such as Fisherman out of Ireland, Scott Officer, Eribe and Harley of Scotland, it has sustainable clothing from Seasalt, Mistral, Thought, White Stuff, Frugi and Didriksons, sheepskin rugs, leather bags, accessories and lots more - a haven of lovely things to try on!

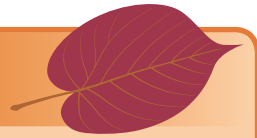
Café Thyme has its own wood burning oven where delicious flatbread and Pides are made

to order (Turkish style pizza), homemade soups, cakes, home grown salads and over 30 loose leaf teas to tempt you. Catering for all tastes there are vegetarian, vegan and gluten free options, open 10am-5pm with lunches served 12noon-3pm, it is fully licensed with spectacular views.

From the café you can safely watch the children's play area with trampoline, large Lego style bricks, sand pit, digger den, slide, swings and a grassed area for football, basketball and swing ball, all for only £1.50 per child to cover maintenance and upkeep. The Old Byre Visitor Centre is certainly worth a visit and is open 7 days a week.

Tel: 01770 840227, Web: www.oldbyre.co.uk

Chameleon



Visit Chameleon Ladies Boutique in Lamlash this weekend for all your autumn wardrobe needs! They have seasonal collections from European brands including: b young, Robell, Yest, Masai & Two Danes, plus a stunning collection from Scottish brand Marble Fashions.

Whether you're after basic every-day wear like a pair of jeans or leggings, or something you can dress up or down, you'll be sure to find something that makes you look and feel great - all in this season's on-trend colours. Without

compromising on quality, you can shop from our wide selection of styles with prices from as little as £25.

Jane and Lynn are on hand to advise as needed. They offer a personal service and would be delighted to help you find your perfect look. If you just fancy a browse instead that's fine too.

Find us in Lamlash at the old Post Office in Hamilton Terrace. 01770 600201. Open six days a week, Monday to Saturday 10:30 - 5pm.

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Isle of Arran KA27 8EB
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www.oldbyre.co.uk

Old Byre Showroom sells sustainable clothing for all the family, knitwear, leather handbags, sheepskin rugs, wool throws and lots more.

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Café Thyme offers teas, coffees, home baking, delicious lunches from our wood burning oven, homemade bread and pides (Turkish pizza), home grown salads, wines and beers.

Open 10am - 5pm, lunches 12-3pm.
Situated north of Machrie golf course you will find the Old Byre Showroom, Café Thyme, a fabulous children's play area and stunning views.

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Single whooper swan spends summers on Arran

Bird
notes
by Jim Cassels

This summer on Arran there was a single whooper swan that did not migrate to its breeding grounds in the north for the second time.

Many whooper swans spend their winters in the UK, arriving from Iceland in late autumn and returning north again in the spring. Most records of this species on Arran are of birds on passage to wintering grounds, for example, on the Solway.

Their honking calls are a familiar sound in the autumn and the spring. Among the records received in 2018, there was a group of 29 in Whiting Bay on 25 March and a group of eight over Brodick Golf Course on 20 October. They often travel in family groups. The earliest arrival date on Arran is 18 September and the latest departure date is 21 May.

In late spring 2018, a single

whooper swan was seen in fields by Mossend Pond. People were concerned that it was injured but it could still fly and was never caught. It moved on.

In the summer, a single whooper turned up in Machrie and hung about for weeks. It was possibly the same bird. A few months later, in the winter, a single whooper swan was in the Shiskine Valley.

It became so familiar to residents that one person gave it a name, Ploddo, from the way it wandered about the fields. It could have been the same bird. If it was, it had over-summered on Arran instead of migrating to the breeding grounds in Iceland.

At the end of this winter, while the greylag geese wintering in the Shiskine Valley headed north, Ploddo was left. Again there was concern



A whooper swan pictured near Kildonan. Photograph Ian Brown

expressed that it was injured but, as the previous year, it could still fly and it moved on.

The next reports I received were in late May from Kildonan and then from Whiting Bay. It was with mute swans. Like last year, I think this bird was not able to migrate to its breeding ground in Iceland and spent the summer again on Arran.

Enjoy your birding.

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or email 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



CALLING ALL LOCAL BUSINESSES

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Nominate a friend, family member or your own business!

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- Best Rural Business Start-Up Award
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- Best Rural Employer Award
- Rural Hospitality Award
- Best Rural Innovation Award
- Best Rural Skills Educator Award
- Most Sustainable Rural Business Award
- Best Rural Tourism Initiative Award
- Rural Hero Award
- **NEW FOR 2020:** Best Countryside Digital Innovator Award

It only takes a few minutes to make a nomination on our website.

www.scottishruralawards.org

info@scottishruralawards.org

0131 551 7936

Forage for fungi at Brodick Country Park

As wild mushroom hunting season begins, Brodick Country Park is welcoming first-time foragers to join fungi expert Graeme Walker from Scottish Natural Heritage on a toadstool trek tomorrow (Sunday).

Hosted by conservation charity, the National Trust for Scotland, the afternoon of foraging will reveal how to identify species of fungi and harvest wild foods. Visitors will also have the opportunity to learn fascinating facts about the fungi growing on the island and curious foodies can also enjoy a wild mushroom fry-up.

Country park head ranger Kate Sampson said: 'Foraging is a fantastic way to spend time outdoors connecting with nature and learning more about wild food. The grounds of Brodick Castle are home to an abundance of trees and woodland, which provide perfect conditions for fungi to grow.'

'We want to show that foraging is accessible for everyone and hope that our fungi-foray



A basket of foraged mushrooms.

will offer visitors a totally unique experience and spark interest in the fantastic world of fungi.'

No bookings are required. The walk will last for approximately two hours starting at 1.30pm at Brodick Castle's Woodland Café, and tickets cost £10 for adults and £5 for under-16s.

With acres of thick woodlands, luscious gardens and island charm aplenty, the National Trust for Scotland-protected Brodick Castle on

Arran is the perfect backdrop for a nature-loving day out.

For more information, please contact 01770 302462 or visit www.nts.org.uk/visit/events/fungi-foray.

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

THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday September 25, 1999

Leisure plans

Plans are this week open to public view for a projected new leisure centre at Auchrannie and it is, by Arran standards, a mammoth project. It would boast many different leisure attractions and, overall, be bigger than the present Auchrannie and Leisure Centre combined.

The plans as presented to North Ayrshire Council are prefaced by a long statement from Iain Johnstone, whose brainchild was the present Auchrannie, and who is now pushing forward to create another leisure centre. Although the application has been submitted it does not mean that everything is in place to commence. The land area and price have been agreed with the landowner but it is a condition that no sale will take place unless the project is permitted to proceed. The development would be to the south-west of the Auchrannie, further into Glencloy, and Argyll and the Islands Enterprise and the Scottish Sports Council have already expressed an eagerness to help.

Ordered off

Last week two parties from Park Mains High School in Erskine were on Arran doing an expedition for what is considered to be one of the most worthwhile things that a young person can do – the Duke of Edinburgh Gold Award.

The participants were divided into two groups, one with boys and one with girls, but the boys left Arran with a bad taste in

the mouth. They were scheduled to camp at Hillcrest Farm in Machrie but due to bad weather – so bad that people thought it was the tail end of Hurricane Floyd – they took shelter at the boathouse on the Dougurie Estate as they were soaked to the skin and darkness was falling.

No sooner had they managed to settle down but a person from the estate appeared and told them to leave. Although surprised and disappointed, they did so quietly. But adding insult to injury, they were astonished when they were escorted off the estate by a Land Rover. Members of the Duke of Edinburgh award scheme acknowledged that it is estate land and they could do as they pleased but were particularly disappointed at their treatment, especially since it was a minor emergency.

Buddy system

It can be daunting for a pupil to start at high school after the security of a primary school, especially a small primary school. With this in mind, Arran High School has adopted a buddy system where first-year pupils have been assigned a prefect to look after them. The system works well for pupils who feel more comfortable speaking to someone their own age rather than someone much older.

Prefects have been introducing themselves to first-year pupils as their 'buddies' and, if successful, the new system should help smooth the pathway for a number of new pupils at the high school.



An original penny farthing from 1887 was one of the many interesting vintage bicycles brought over by the Scottish Veteran Cycle Club at a recent Arran get-together. 01_B39twe01



A waystation at Lochranza offers libations to the walkers of the Royal British Legion Round Arran Walk which raised funds for the Erskine 2000 Appeal and the Gurkha Welfare Fund. 01_B39twe02



A very rare white blackbird was photographed in Blackwaterfoot last weekend. A leucistic blackbird, which is particularly vulnerable to predators, it lives in the area but is rarely captured on film. 01_B39twe04



The old Douglas Bar behind the Douglas Hotel, having lain derelict for many years, will soon be reopened by owner Ravi Khosla who has named it Robin's Nest at Paton Place.

01_B39twe05



Brian and Myrna Boal have sold the Heathfield private hotel which they have successfully run for 35 years. Now retired, they look forward to moving into their new house just further down the road in Brodick.

01_B39twe03

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YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited.

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

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

2 The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.

3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.

4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.

5 Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.

6 The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.

7 The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

8 Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.

9 The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.

10 Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.

11 Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.

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

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PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ADOPT THE NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL
PROPOSED LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997
THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT PLANNING)
(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008

Notice is given that North Ayrshire Council intends to adopt the above Proposed Local Development Plan as modified following receipt of the Report of Examination from Scottish Ministers.

A copy of the Plan in the form it is intended to be adopted (as modified) and a list of modifications is available for inspection at the planning authority's offices at Cunninghame House, Irvine during normal opening hours and at every public library within the plan area.

In addition, a copy of the plan (as modified) can also be viewed on the authority's website at: <https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/planning-and-building-standards/ldp/ldp2.aspx>

If you require further information about the Local Development Plan, please contact ldp@north-ayrshire.gov.uk or 01294 310000

(MARKET ROAD, BRODICK, ISLE OF ARRAN)
(TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2019

Order made under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person or vehicle (with the exception of vehicles engaged on carriageway resurfacing works by reason of works to be executed on or near the public road) on Market Road, Brodick, Isle of Arran on the following dates:-
17:00-21:00 hrs Thursday 3rd & Friday 4th October; 17:00- 21:00 hours Thursday 10th & Friday 11th October and 17:00-21:00 hours Thursday 17th & Friday 18th October 2019 or until such date as the works are completed, whichever is the earlier.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING
(LISTED BUILDINGS AND
CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined at Planning Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine, between 09.00-16.45 weekdays (16.30 Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk

*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

Comments should be made online at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk. Written representations may also be made to the Head Of Service (Economic Development & Regeneration) at the above address by 18.10.19. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT
PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)
19/00691/PP; Lloyds Cottage, Kildonan, Brodick, Isle Of Arran; Erection of new detached lodge.

Craig Hutton
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
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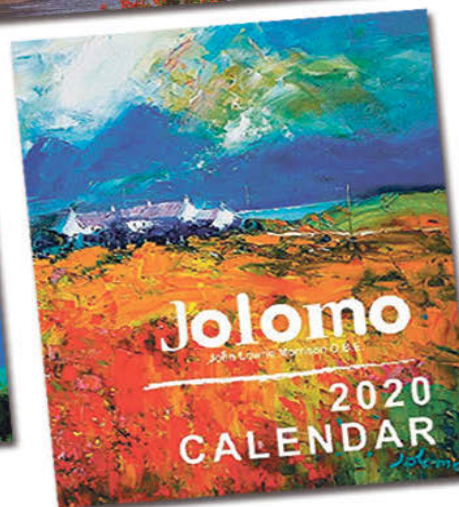
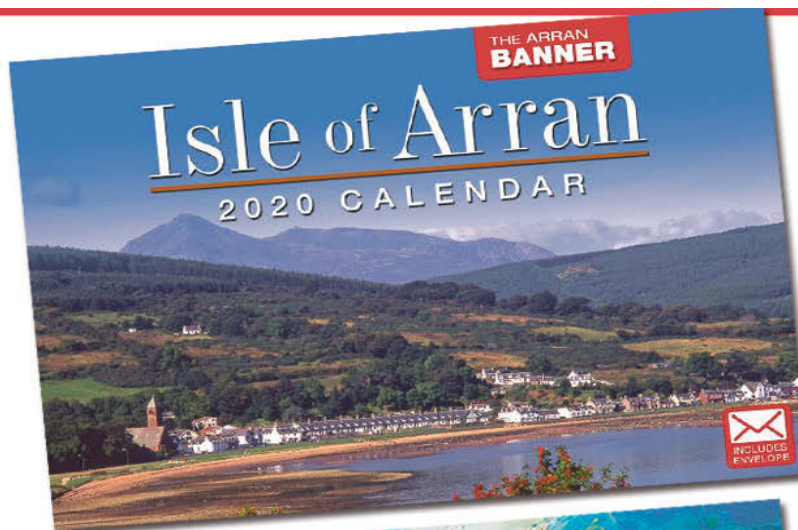
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Passion red metallic, Dark trim,
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Polished metal, Leather trim, 29,000 miles,
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2017 **Honda CR-V 1.6 i-DTEC SE Plus**
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2107 **Honda CR-V 2.0 SE Plus**
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1 owner, As new condition **£15,995**



2017 **Honda CR-V 2.0 SE Plus Nav Auto**
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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 29th September
Lochranza Church, 9.30am Morning Worship.
Pirnmill Church, 10.45am Morning Worship.
Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship.
Brodick Church, 10.30am. Morning Worship.
Corrie Church, 11.30 am. Prayer Meeting, 12noon Morning Worship.
There will also be a service of Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm.
There will be a Service at the Clachan Preaching house, at 3.30pm.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland

Charity Number: SC014005
Sunday 29th September
Worship for Harvest Thanksgiving will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am.
All welcome.

After the service, there will be a Harvest Lunch and all proceeds will go to the charity WaterAid.
Everyone most welcome.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 29th September
Holy Communion at 11am.
Rev Barry Roberts
Coffee after service
All Welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 29th September
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 29th September
Rev. Dr. Ian MacLeod
Kilmory at 10 am
Lamlash at 11.30 am
In both churches:
Harvest Thanksgiving
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday 29th September
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 29th September
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 29th September
Shiskine at 11am (church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick at 6pm
Services will be taken by Rev Rory Stott
All welcome



Shiskine's ninth green (Drumadoon) with bluebells in flower. Photograph: Shiskinegolf.com



Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday September 19, Captain's Prize, CSS 64. 1 Iain Murchie 67-6=61, 2 Serge El-Adm 78-15=63, 3 Ian Bremner 73-9=64, 4 Neil Young 71-6=65. Scratch, Iain Murchie 67. Magic twos, Iain Murchie at 17th, Neil Young at 13th, Paul Jameson at 14th, Scott Campbell at 17th.

Sunday September 22, Summer Stableford final day, CSS 63. 1 Andy Smith 34pts, 2 Serge El-Adm 33pts, BIH over, 3 Lee Dutton 33pts. Scratch, Serge El Adm 20pts. Magic

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday 28th September
Saturday Vigil Mass at 7.30pm
Sunday 29th September
Sunday Morning Mass at 11am

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER

Thursday 3rd October
Taize Praise and Meditation
Theme: Praise the Lord
Holy Cross Church, Brodick at 5.30 pm
All Welcome

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
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twos, Lee Dutton at 16th. Ladies' section: Wednesday September 18, Stroke 6, CSS 63, Par 65, 9 played. 1 Liz Sinclair 84-19=65, 2 Kate McAdam 83-16=67. Scratch, Kate 83.

Fixtures: Saturday September 28, Texas scramble, ballot at noon. Sunday September 29, Hastings Cup final, 9.30am and 12.30pm.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday September 21, Captain's Prize. 1 G Andrew 67-11=56, scratch, 2 G Scott 71-13=58. Many thanks to all those who contributed prizes. A special thanks to club captain Peter McKinnon for hosting the day.

Monday September 23, Monday Cup. 1 J McGovern 68-11=57, scratch, 2 R

McLean 78-13=65. Magic twos, L Hartley, A Napier.

Fixtures: Saturday September 28, The Corrie Open, ballots at 9am and 2pm plus make up your own groupings anytime in between.

Open to members of all clubs holding a valid handicap.

Monday September 30, Monday Cup, ballot at noon. Members of all other Arran clubs are reminded that they are welcome to join us on payment of our great value winter membership. Ballot at noon.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday September 17, Sweep. 1 John Pennycott 62, 2 Peter Dunn 64, 3 Campbell Laing 66. Tuesday September 24, Stableford sweep. 1 Phil Betley

42pts, 2 Alistair MacDonald 40pts, 3 Reuben Betley 36pts. Magic twos, Phil Betley.

Fixtures: Tuesday October 1, Winter Cup, tee off at noon. Saturday October 5, Eddie Rankin Trophy. Machrie v Corrie at Corrie, tee off 1.30pm. Saturday October 12, Lochranza Hotel Cup, tee off at noon.

Brodick Golf Club

Sunday September 22, Winter Cup, 10 played, CSS 38pts. Babbies MacNeil 19, 39pts, Terry Raeside 12, 38pts, ACB, Iain Sillars 16, 38pts.

Fixture: Sunday September 29, Winter Cup, 8.30am/1pm.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Fixture, Sunday September 29, The Cooper Angus Par 3 competition. Draw at 10am.

DEATH

SHAW - Ronald William Shaw (25.08.48) son of Neil and Mhairi of Kirklea, Isle of Arran sadly passed away peacefully at University Hospital, Crosshouse on 18.09.19. Funeral will be at West Kilbride Parish Church on Monday 30th September at 1 pm. Family flowers only.

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All set for Corrie Open



Members from all of Arran's golf clubs are invited to this Saturday's open at Corrie. There will be ballots at 9am and 2pm or you can make up your own games.

Guaranteed to be an enjoyable day with only a light drizzle predicted for the morning. There will be sponsored holes and a special surprise from Peter Mckinnon for anyone who scores a hole in one.

Players with a valid handicap are invited to go and enjoy what is often described as one of the most scenic courses in Scotland.

THE LAST WALTZ
Grief Circle
Is somebody special missing?
If you would like a safe place to share memories over coffee and cake, call in to Heather Lodge on the last Sunday of the month.
Next meeting Sunday 29th September, 2-4pm

Belles in coast to coast cycle across Scotland



The Arran Belles are no strangers to cycling from coast to coast, or even around the entire island, but recently they set their sights on a bigger challenge, cycling from the west coast to the east coast of Scotland, writes Colin Smeeton.

With t-shirts printed, the bikes serviced and rucksacks packed, the group left on Friday September 6, with Linda Johnston and Jillian Plenderleith driving the support vehicle, their campervan, with Belle's mascot, wee Flo, joining the expedition.

Leaving on the Claonaig Ferry, the group headed north to Ford on the scenic Loch Awe, then to Dalmally, Crianlarich, the south road alongside stunning Loch Earn, onto Comrie, then Kinross and finally finishing in busy St Andrews. A distance of more than 200

miles and 10,000ft elevation. The group stayed in hostels and treated themselves to 'one posh hotel', and were lucky enough to enjoy good weather during their trip – experiencing only sunshine and showers along the route.

The roads were varied; busy A roads, quieter B roads and meandering cycle paths. The cyclists split into small groups on the busier roads and this worked well – at times traffic was heavy but it all added to the experience.

Overall the trip went smoothly apart from road works where they had to carry their bikes over freshly laid tarmac.

A sure signs of a successful journey, the group collectively only had two punctures during the entire trip.

Janice Small of the Arran Belles said: 'People we met were fascinated by our jour-



The Arran Belles at Kinross.

ney and very encouraging. What fun we had, eating and laughing our way across this

beautiful country, all coping very well. I think we all had a fantastic time, we wouldn't

have changed a thing. It was no mean feat guiding 13 ladies across Scotland but all, with-

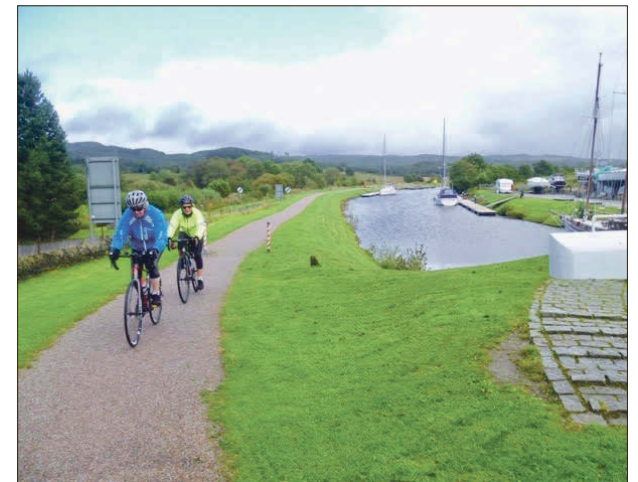
out exception, were hugely supportive and rose to every challenge without a grumble.'



Not their usual means of travel, the Belles carry their bikes along a freshly tarred road at Loch Awe.



The Belles enjoy lunch on the road at Mingary Castle in Kilchoan, Ardnamurchan.



Two Belles cycle along the scenic Crinan Canal.



Every good trip has at least one, the Belles stop to repair a puncture near St Andrews.



The Belles photographed at the Kelpies Maquettes presently installed at Ardrishaig.

Aspiring Ninjas unite for Ayrshire Hospice challenge

Charitably minded ninjas will be able to put their skills to the test this weekend at the rescheduled Ayrshire Hospice ninja event which was previously cancelled due to flooding, writes Colin Smeeton.

Rescheduled for Saturday September 28, Scotland's first ever 5K ninja assault course event will take place at Ayrshire Athletics Arena in Kilmarnock.

Participants need to be eight years old and over, and can take part either as individuals, groups or as a corporate challenge.

Aspiring ninjas will take on

10 different obstacles on the assault course which will test their agility, timing, grit and determination. These include a balance beam, donuts and hot stepper, then take on the ultimate challenge 'Gladiator' style on the 'Travellator' before plunging the big red button to finish.

You can sign up for Ayrshire Ninja in the events section of www.ayrshirehospice.org and choose your preferred time slot from 10.30am onwards. It's £25 for adults and £15 for under-16s.

The Ayrshire Hospice provides quality care and services which helps those with

any life-limiting illness including cancer, neurological conditions, end stage heart failure and lung disease. Care is provided where there is no cure for the condition, but which improves the quality of each day for people who have a limited time to live.

The care provided by the Ayrshire Hospice is at no cost to the patient, however it does require extensive, on-going fundraising support. During 2017-18, it cost more than £7.7 million to run all hospice services, including clinical, fundraising and support services – equating to more than £21,200 per day.



Participants wait their turn for the gruelling but fun monkey bars.



Two aspiring ninjas make light work of the climbing net obstacle.



Participants make their way under the cargo net crawl.

Arran held to a draw in first match of the season

Arran Ladies	3
Uddingston Ladies 3s	3
West Division 3	

With their very first scheduled game of the season against Dumfries 2s conceded, the Arran ladies faced their first competitive game of the season against Uddingston 3s in the West District 3rd division.

Elyse Aitken, the new team captain advised that Faith McKelvie, Ellie Wood and Helen Thomson would be joining her and goalkeeper Alison 'Ninja' McKie in defense. Susie Murchie and Jenny Stark would be in mid-field and Megan McNicol, Cerys Herapath and Mia Walker would play forwards.

New team members Bella Reid and Annie McKelvie, both aged 12, were playing their first ever competitive game and would be helping out in mid-field and up front with the attacking forwards.

The first of three excellent goals started with a rocket shot from Helen into a space in the Uddingston goal area where Jenny dived to swipe the ball past the goalkeeper.

A spectacular shot which received applause from both sides. Uddingston replied with a goal of their own a few minutes later, but Arran went back into the lead when new recruit, Bella, took the ball off her opponent, passed it to Helen who shot it to Megan. She tapped it past her defender and onto Jenny to hit it into the goal, with a single handed reverse stick. Helen's long shots seemed to confuse the other side who played a short pass and running game and because of this left lots of space undefended.

The first goal of second half went to Uddingston but the Arran forwards soon drove the ball back towards the opposition's goal area where Susie tried to score from the far side of the shooting circle.



Alison 'Ninja' McKie lives up to her namesake and prevents an attempt at goal. Photographs: Arran Ladies Hockey Club

It hit the post and rebounded back into play and Cerys, beautifully positioned on the far post, was waiting to collect it and calmly lifted it over the leg of the goalkeeper to bring Arran back into the lead.

Once again the very determined home team came back

and drew level with 20 minutes left to play. Both teams were very evenly matched and were able to push the ball into attacking positions only to be repelled by the strong defensive players.

One dangerous Uddingston challenge was swept clear off the line by captain Elyse,

denying them a winning goal. Ellie, playing center back, was often surrounded with two or three players trying to get the ball off her. Her strong stick skills allowed her to deny them the ball and fire it back into mid-field.

Mia was in position many-a-time to collect it, dodge her

opponent and send it further up-field. Young Annie was quick off the mark to run onto any ball she could get to and make a pass to her team mates.

Although tiring, in sweltering September sunshine, toward the end of the game both Jenny and Megan tried again and again to make it into the circle for a shot on goal, keeping Uddingston under pressure until the final whistle blew, bringing the game to a 3-all draw.

Jenny Stark was awarded Dame of Game by the Uddingston team for her impressive diving goal and her performance on the pitch throughout the game.

The next game for the Arran ladies will be at home on the AstroTurf pitch at the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick today, Saturday, against Troon 2s. Push back is at noon and all supporters and side line cheerers would be very welcome and appreciated.

First home game of the season for Arran

Isle of Arran	9
Blantyre Albion	2
West of Scotland Cup	

Arran welcomed Blantyre Albion to the Ormidale Pavilion for their first home game of the season in the second round of the West of Scotland Cup.

The game started with Arran playing some great passing football and it was the home side who broke the deadlock when Danny Head's chip-through ball was met expertly by Archie McNicol who volleyed it into the net.

Blantyre then got a quickfire equaliser when their striker smashed the ball into the

net from a tight angle. Nick Emsley rose highest from McNicol's corner to make it 2-1 to the home team with a powerful header. Johnny Sloss then got his first of the game with a great finish after his trademark fast footwork.

Archie then took the opportunity to take his second goal of the match to put the score at 4-1 when his free kick was placed perfectly into the corner of the net. Sloss netted once more before half-time to make the score 5-1.

In the second half, Arran picked up from where they left off and scored a great passing goal when Emsley's pass was threaded through to Sloss who teamed up with

John Drummond to make it 6-1. Blantyre pulled a goal back when their shot ended up being deflected by Dave Heenan in goal.

Sam Tattersfield then scored a carbon copy of his goal from last year when he netted from all of 70 yards from his own half when his long through ball caught the goalkeeper out and bounced over his head. Emsley got his second of the game after pouncing on the rebound from a McNicol shot.

There was a welcome come-back for Matthew Dobson as he played his first game in months and he was rewarded instantly with a goal to round off the scoring at 9-2.

This was by all accounts one of Arran's best performances since forming and the result was severe for Blantyre who played some good football at times.

A spokesperson for the club said: 'We would like to thank Blantyre for coming over and for joining us for some refreshments in the club afterwards. Congratulations to their captain for winning the pint challenge after a poor effort from Arran man of the match Johnny Sloss. We wish them all the best for the season.'

The next fixture for the Arran side will be a league game against Irvine SB at Kilwinning Sports Club on Sunday September 29 with a kick off time of 12.45pm.



Teammates congratulate Archie McNicol after his second goal. 01_B39footB05



Johnny Sloss weaves his way through opposition players to score for Arran. 01_B39footB01



Dave Heenan looks on as the ball angles its way into the net. 01_B39footB02



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