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PAGES 11-14



The seven-year hitch

Church conversion has £1.25 million price tag as developer pulls out

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The historic St George's Church in Lamlash has been put up for sale at offers over £1.25 million.

The church in Kilbride Road has been undergoing redevelopment work for more than seven years. However, while the external work has been complete, the interior remains to be finished.

Now owner Barrie McCall has decided to call time on the development and has put the church on the market through solicitors and estate agents McEwan Fraser Legal.

The impressive and commanding B-listed sandstone building, constructed in an early English style is being converted into eight flats with a further six more in the extension to the rear of the building.

When complete, individual flats have a predicted range in price from a one-bedroom at £155,000 to a three-bedroom flat with a terrace valued at £225,000; the property has a gross development value

of £2.5 million.

As all the external work has been completed, it is believed the development could be completed for around £500,000.

Darren Lee, corporate accounts and investments manager at McEwan Fraser Legal, said: 'We have been instructed to sell the church as is and you will see that it requires completing internally.'

'The owner is based in London and is finding it difficult to get up and down to Arran.'

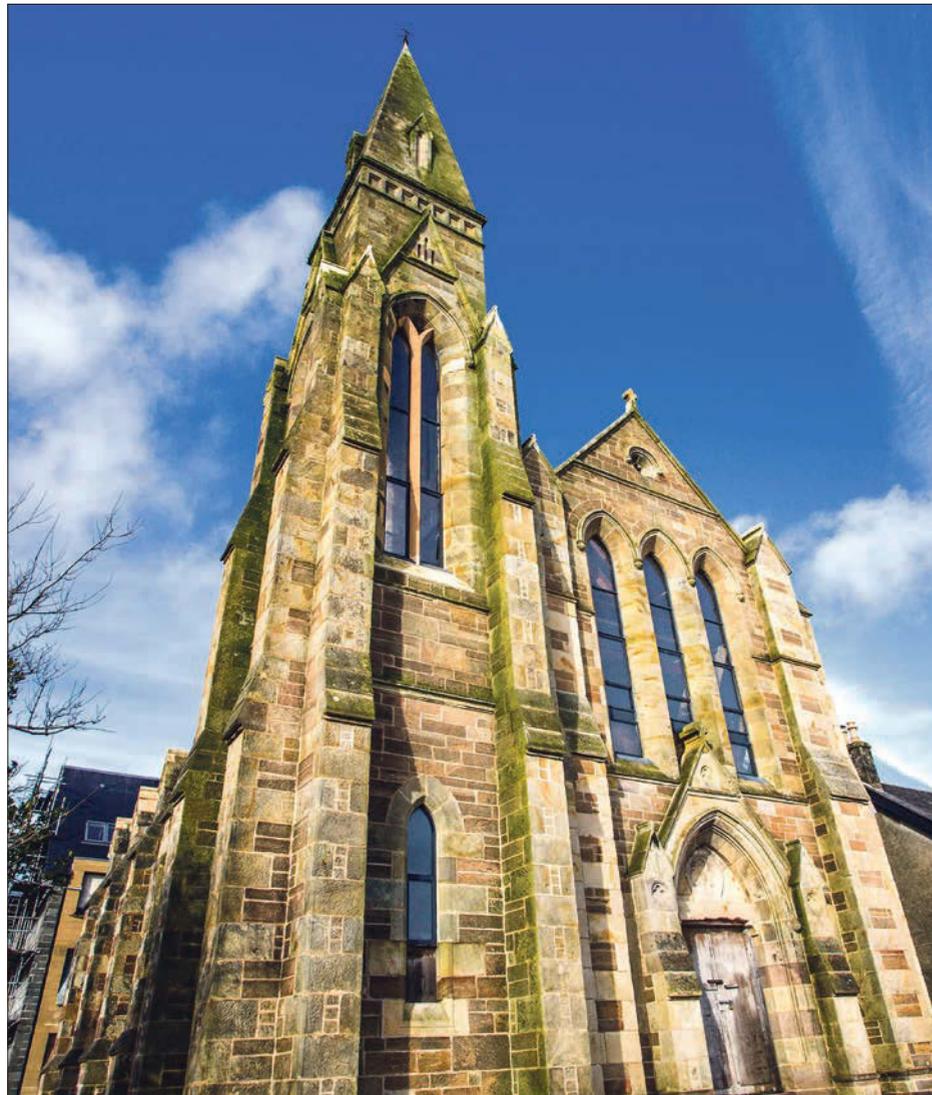
'He now wishes to pass the final part of the project on to someone else.'

'We already have interest and viewings lined up, even before it goes live, which is a good sign there will be a lot of interest.'

'We have a lack of flats and properties in this price band on the island and we think all of the apartments will be very popular once completed.'

The church was erected between 1885 and 1892 by the Duke of Hamilton, who had it

Continued on pages two and three



The impressive St George's Church in Lamlash, which is up for sale.

Arran is prepared for virus

Arran Medical Group is prepared for any potential coronavirus cases on the island, bosses confirmed this week.

Residents on the island travel widely and with an increase in cases in northern Italy and the hotel incident in Tenerife, the virus is getting ever closer to home. Arran also attracts visitors from near and far.

The health and social care team has all the supplies it needs and staff have been trained in dealing with any situation surrounding the virus. So far there have been no confirmed cases of coronavirus in Scotland.

However, if anyone has a cough, or fever, or shortness of breath and has been to China, Thailand, Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia or Macau in the past two weeks the advice is to self-isolate, stay indoors and to contact the GP surgery on 01770 600516.

If anyone has been to Wuhan or Hubei Province in China in the past 14 days the advice is also to stay indoors and to contact the helpline on 0800 028 2816.

Further information can be found by calling the Arran Medical Group and on the HPS website at <https://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk>



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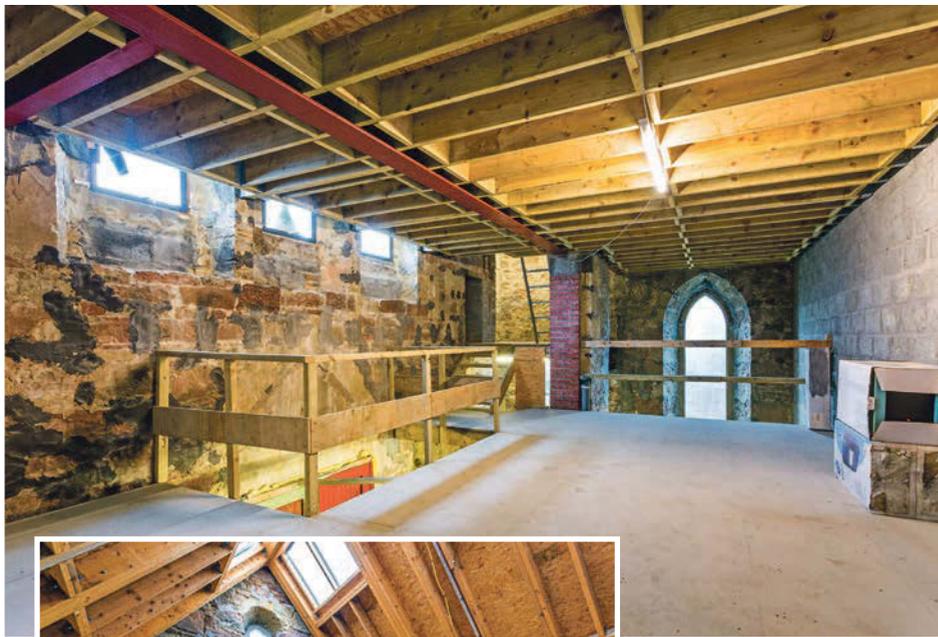
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8 SPRINGBANK WAY



A beautiful, stylish & newly constructed three bedroom detached villa in Brodick Bay

St George's Church in Lamla



Continued from page one
built to replace an earlier church from 1774.

The church was first used by the Lamla Free Church congregation until the union of the Free and United Presbyterian Churches in 1900, when it became the United Free Church. From 1929 it formed one of the congregations of Lamla Parish church at that year's union with the Church of Scotland.

The church was in use until 1947 and has stood empty since, its future always uncertain and for many years in an increasing state of decay.

So there was relief in September 2013 when the Arran Banner reported on owner, architect and builder Barrie McCall's progress in restoring the building.

There had been numerous attempts at giving the build-

ing a new lease of life, notably when the Arran Theatre and Trust, established in 1989, set its sights on converting the building into a theatre.

This never materialised and neither did a further attempt in 1998 when plans were afoot to turn the building into a Childhood Heritage Museum.

In 2005 a team of architects and surveyors from Glasgow were given planning permission to convert the church into 14 flats but the development never materialised either.

Mr McCall bought the building in 2007 and after making amendments to the planning application first made in 2005 he was granted final approval in February 2013 to convert the church into eight flats with a further six in the extension to the rear

of the building.

The complete redevelopment of the church and extension was to be undertaken in phases and in September 2013 it was hoped that the first phase of the development would be complete by summer 2014.

At the time, Mr McCall said: 'We haven't been rushing because of the market but I would hope the first phase of eight flats will be ready next summer finance permitting.'

'I am not a millionaire and I can only build as my own finances allow.'

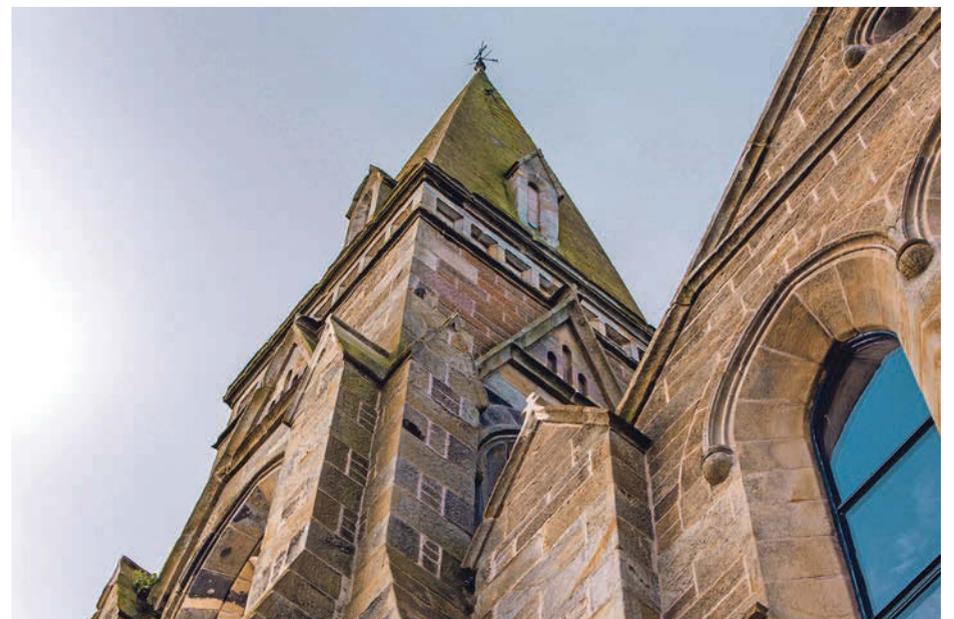
Anyone with an interest can contact McEwan Fraser Legal on 0345 210 2121 or visit their website.

*Photographs: Andrew Surridge Photography.
The 2013 photographs: Hugh Boag*

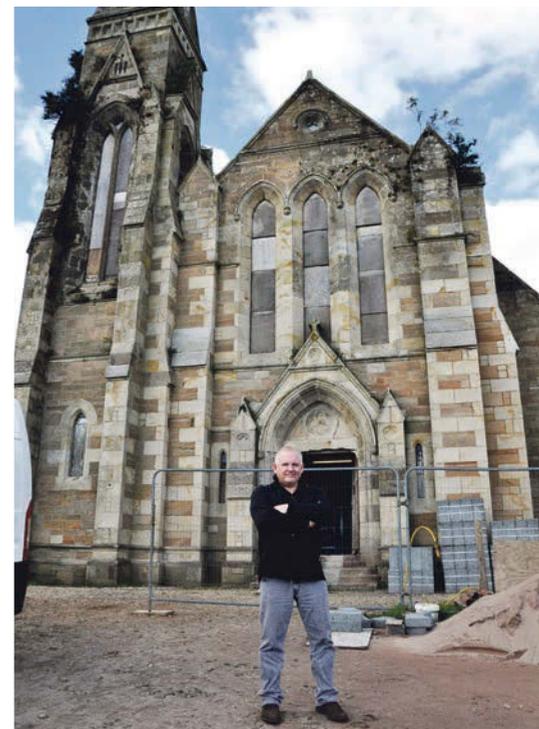


While most of the external and structural work is finished the interior is yet to be completed.

The conversion retains many of the original features.



The impressive outside facade of the church.



Barrie McCall pictured in 2013 with the church still in a state of decay. 01_B09church08





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sh up for sale



An aerial view showing the extensive work which has been completed on the church roof. Thomas Heywood Aerial Photography.



An aerial view of the church and its neighbours. Thomas Heywood Aerial Photography



The extension which will comprise six flats as viewed from the rear of the property.



Barrie McCall and his foreman inspect the work needing to be done in 2013. 01_B09church09



The view from the roof scaffolding in 2013. 01_B09church10

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Pupils raise cash to aid Aust



The whole school dressed up for the fundraising effort for Australian wildlife. 01_B09WWF01



The tuck shop, manned by the house captains, stocked snacks bought with a voucher and all of the proceeds will be donated to the cause. 01_B09WWF03

Pupils from Whiting Bay primary school held a fundraising event in aid of World Wildlife Fund (WWF) to assist with the rescue and care of animals that have been affected by the bush fires in Australia.

Organised by the house captains, the event raised £215.50 for the charity and involved a dressing up day, as wild animals, a disco and a fun obstacle course challenge.

In addition to this, the sale of snacks at the disco, some decorated by the six house captains themselves, helped to further boost funds. The house captains very wisely put a Co-op gift voucher,

which they had earned from a Christmas competition, to good use and purchased items to sell at the tuck shop which proved popular with the children.

Wild fires

The initiative was instigated by the children themselves who, having seen the devastating wild fires in Australia, wanted to help the animals in some way.

The Australian bush fires, which saw more than 2,700 homes being destroyed, also destroyed more than 12 million hectares of wild animal habitat and around 1.25 billion animals are estimated to have perished.

Those that have survived still face an uncertain future as their habitats and food sources have been affected. WWF Australia has been fundraising and donations are being deployed to help care for injured wildlife and to restore the forest homes of koalas, kangaroos, wallabies, kookaburras, cockatoos and honeyeaters among many others.

The money raised by the 62 Arran pupils will provide urgent medical care for animals, help provide food and water for those starving in the forests and help to get supplies and medical skills where it is needed most.



The six house captains who organised the fundraiser in aid of WWF. 01_B09WWF02



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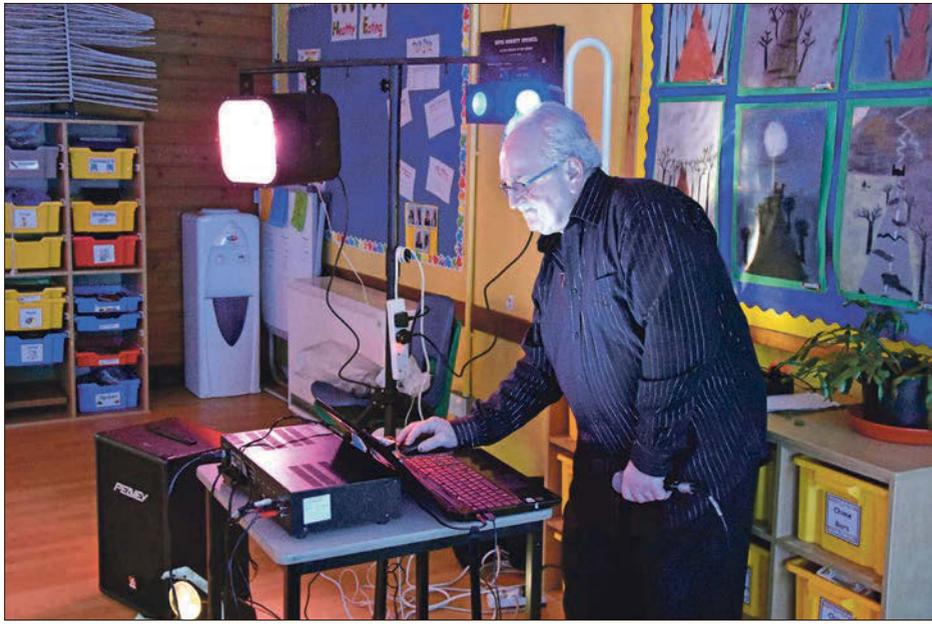
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australian wildlife



DJ Allan Little played all of the children's favourites and had them dancing for much of the afternoon. 01_B09WWF04



A long line forms at the tuck shop while a group of friends get together and dance in a circle. 01_B09WWF06



A group of young boys show off their dance moves at the disco. 01_B09WWF05



Land Commission visits Arran to hear your views

The Scottish Land Commission is holding an informal public meeting on Arran next week to give residents the opportunity to find out more about land reform and the benefits it can bring to the community.

The commission also wants to hear what the public thinks land reform priorities should be for the next three years to help shape its new strategic plan.

The event is being held in Brodick Hall on Wednesday March 4 at 7pm.

Commission chairman Andrew Thin said: 'Land is at the heart of Scotland's identity, economy and com-

munities - so it matters that it is owned and used in a fair and productive way.

'There are many benefits land reform can bring to you and your community including transforming vacant and derelict land, community ownership, community engagement in decisions relating to land and unlocking opportunities through modernising land ownership.

'We want to hear from you about your needs and aspirations for land reform to help shape our priorities over the next three years. As an organisation, we are here to provide fresh thinking and we

welcome your discussion and feedback. I would encourage everyone to attend and make the most of the opportunity to discuss how we can make more of Scotland's land for Scotland's people.

'This is one of a number of public meetings taking place across Scotland throughout the year from Inverness to Stirling and beyond and we hope to meet as many people as possible.'

The event is free and tea and coffee will be provided. For more information visit www.landcommission.gov.scot or call 01463 423 300 or email info@landcommission.gov.scot

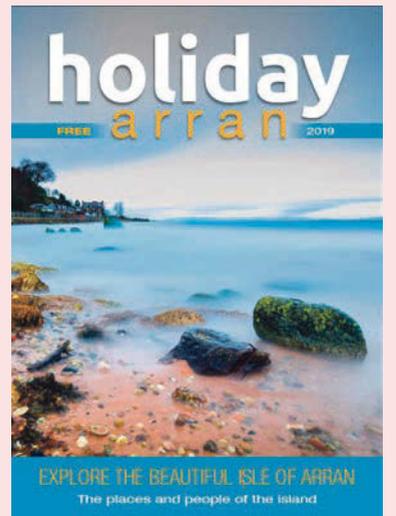
Your best photos wanted

How would you like to see your favourite photographs of Arran feature in a widely distributed tourist magazine.

Here at the Banner, we are putting together this year's ever popular Holiday Arran guide for 2020 and we're giving readers the chance to submit photographs of Arran they would like considered for inclusion.

They can be of the great outdoors, wildlife, sport, favourite places or anything you think tourists, returning or new, would like to see.

All photographs used will be credited to the photographer and should be sent to editor@arranbanner.co.uk by Monday March 2.



The front cover of last year's Holiday Arran.

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Crosshouse Children's Fund holds first birthday

Crosshouse Children's Fund is getting ready to mark its first full year of fundraising to support young hospital patients of Ayrshire and Arran, and their families.

The fund, which was established by Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity in May 2019, will celebrate its first anniversary with a Birthday Ball on Friday April 24 at the Brig O' Doon Hotel in Ayr.

Sponsored by Ayrshire Magazine, the glittering event aims to fundraise for Crosshouse Children's Fund, as well as recognising and celebrating the achievements of a successful first year.

Since May last year, Crosshouse Children's Fund has welcomed on board official charity partnerships with Kilmarnock Football Club and Brownings the Bakers – and has already made its mark on key patient support services in the local area.

Amy Aitken, regional fundraising manager at Crosshouse Children's fund, said: 'Our first year supporting young patients and their families in Ayrshire and Arran has been fantastic and we look forward to many more years of successful fundraising to come.'

'We appreciate all the

support we have received, and have been humbled by the efforts of fundraisers who have donned their running gear, cycled miles, tackled obstacle courses and held various events in our name.'

Staff from Crosshouse Children's Ward alongside regional fundraising officer Karen Kelly, wearing a Crosshouse Children's Fund sweatshirt.



Health board shake-up for chemotherapy services

NHS Ayrshire and Arran is looking at proposals to adapt the way chemotherapy services are delivered, and wants to involve patients.

The priority is a high quality, safe, sustainable and accessible service, which builds on the excellent service already provided at University Hospital Crosshouse and University Hospital Ayr.

It has developed proposals to align with the West of Scotland Cancer Network (WOSCAN)'s shared solution, which is a tiered approach.

The proposals include three tiers of cancer service:

Tier one – regional cancer centre for the most complex treatments,

chemoradiotherapy and clinical trials;

Tier two – Local cancer units for co-ordinating treatment for the main tumour types and some less common cancers and delivering treatments of medium complexity;

Tier three – Outreach facilities where patients can receive low risk treatments - which comprise approximately 75 per cent of all treatments.

For patients in Ayrshire and Arran, tier one treatments will continue to be delivered at the Beatson Oncology Centre in Glasgow.

There would be a single tier two local cancer unit and at least one tier three outreach facility.

A tier one site can deliver treatment suitable for all tiers and a tier two site can deliver treatment suitable for tier two or tier three.

Patients would be treated at the nearest site appropriately equipped to deliver the treatment they need.

However, patients, particularly in South Ayrshire, are concerned at what they consider the downgrading of Station 15 at Ayr, which involves longer travel times to Crosshouse.

Professor Hazel Borland, nurse director, said: 'Further to work undertaken over the last year, the Chemotherapy Review Programme Board is recommending that our tier two site should be at University

Hospital Crosshouse and our initial tier three site should be at University Hospital Ayr. I can reassure everyone that Station 15 at University Hospital Ayr is crucial to the success of this model.'

'The proposal means that the Station 15 day ward will be expanded and developed so that we can plan to deliver more treatments for cancer patients who require straightforward chemotherapy, now and in the future.'

'More complex cancers requiring hospital admission will be treated at University Hospital Crosshouse.'

'As is currently the case, patients with the most difficult to treat and aggressive cancers will continue

to be cared for at the Beatson in Glasgow.'

'Under the new proposals the patient journey will change for some patients but not everyone. Some patients currently treated at the Beatson will be able to have their treatment in Ayrshire in the future, allowing them to be cared for closer to home and have less travel.'

'I would urge anyone who is interested in helping to plan our future services to get involved in our engagement process, which is ongoing until March 8.'

An online chemotherapy service review feedback survey can be completed at www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ChemoReview2020

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Committee members are shown the aft deck of the MV Glen Sannox by Tim Hair, turnaround director Ferguson Marine. Photo: Andrew Cowan/Scottish Parliament.

Holyrood probe committee visits troubled shipyard

Members of a Holyrood committee this week visited the Port Glasgow shipyard where two overdue and over-budget ferries are being built.

Scottish Parliament's Rural Economy and Connectivity (REC) Committee is conducting an inquiry into the current and future challenges involved in the ferry procurement and construction process following the fiasco over the building of the MV Glen Sannox for the Arran route and her sister ship Hull 802.

The committee is looking at what lessons can be learned as a result of the two new vessels at the Ferguson Marine yard being likely to cost around £200m, twice the original contract cost and four years late, if they ever completed at all.

Evidence

The inquiry has already heard some evidence on the updated costs and timetable for the completion of two new hybrid ferries, following the Scottish Government's decision to take public ownership of Ferguson Marine Engineering Limited (FMEL). Further evidence sessions are scheduled in the coming weeks.

However, MSPs on the committee recognised the importance of visiting the site to speak to the workforce, engineers and senior managers at the Port Glasgow shipyard and view for themselves the current status of the ships.

Committee convener Edward Mountain MSP said: 'As part of its on-going inquiry the committee has heard a range of views about how the current situation, whereby there are significant delays in the delivery of the

vessels and cost overruns, has arisen.

'The committee's visit to the site gave us an opportunity not only to see the ships, but to learn more about the construction process. We were able to speak with current management and, importantly, the workers who have been involved in building the ships.

'This information will be very helpful as the inquiry progresses, as we aim to produce constructive recommendations for the procurement and construction of new ferries in future.'

The first ferry, MV Glen Sannox was due to be delivered in summer 2018, with the second ferry (vessel 802) slightly later.

In December last year, the Scottish government took the Ferguson Marine shipyard into public ownership and published a Review Board report, which indicated a delivery range for the MV Glen Sannox of October to December 2021 and a delivery range of July to October 2022 for vessel 802, with an estimated outstanding cost for delivery of the two ferries of £110.3m.

Meanwhile, union chiefs have warned that the ferries could be further held up as crews will need 'advanced firefighting qualifications' in order to deal with specialist fuels.

The two ferries are the first UK-built ships to be fuelled by liquefied natural gas (LNG) and conventional diesel. Now the RMT union has warned that the use of LNG will require crews to gain advanced firefighting qualifications, in line with the legal requirements.

Freeview TV retune for Blackwaterfoot viewers

Freeview viewers in parts of Blackwaterfoot may need to retune their TV equipment next week as their transmitters are being updated.

By retuning on Wednesday March 4, viewers will be able to continue watching some channels which have had to be re-located owing to the future development of new mobile broadband services.

All transmitters in the UK are being updated region by region as part of a major engineering programme being carried out between now and the summer.

The required changes will begin at the Blackwaterfoot transmitter around 9am and Freeview channels will be subject to disruption until early afternoon. Anyone receiving their signal from these transmitters, who finds they are missing channels, can retune. Satellite and cable TV are not affected.

Around 3,200 homes are served by the affected transmitters in Blackwaterfoot and Campbeltown. Freeview will be running an information campaign to prepare people for the change, including advertising and on-screen messages.

Retuning should be straightforward and some TV equipment will retune automatically. Some older aerials may need to be replaced to continue receiving all channels.

Viewers may be eligible for free in-home support, including aerial work if needed.

Anyone who needs advice, or who finds they are still missing services after retuning, can visit the Freeview website at www.freeview.co.uk/tvchanges or contact the Freeview advice line free on 0808 100 0288.



Important information about your TV signal

Freeview TV signals are being updated in this area over the coming weeks. Look out for messages on your TV screen. The changes are required by the UK Government to free up airwaves for future mobile broadband services.

If you notice channels missing, retune your TV or box.

If you have problems with retuning or cannot get your channels back, we're here to help. Our advice line team can talk you through a retune and you may also be eligible for free in-home support, including aerial work where necessary.

For more information and to check if you're affected visit www.freeview.co.uk/tvchanges or call the Freeview Advice Line free on **0808 100 0288**.

Other terrestrial services that offer Freeview channels such as **YouView**, **BT TV** and **TalkTalk** will also be affected. Satellite and cable TV are not affected.



LETTERS

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

Coronavirus care

At the moment you cannot read a newspaper, or visit the internet, without seeing a mention of coronavirus which is appearing to take a foothold in more and more countries with every passing day.

Thankfully, on Arran it is not something that the Banner has had cause to mention, other than the sage and sensible advice from the Arran Medical Group we have covered this week.

Unfortunately, instances of the virus are becoming all the more frequent, and nearer, and now there have even been cases, and deaths, in places that many of us frequent on our holidays.

With travel for work and pleasure making the entire globe a much smaller and accessible place, it has also become increasingly easy for viruses and pathogens to spread. So the best advice for both your own health and the health of others is to be aware of the dangers and to take simple precautions.

Wash your hands regularly, maintain social distancing – especially if someone coughs or sneezes – avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth, and, most importantly, if you have fever, cough and breathing difficulties, seek medical advice early. Be aware while travelling and practice good hygiene, particularly in public spaces.

It is also important to understand that most people who become infected experience only mild illness and recover and that it is the young, elderly and those with existing conditions who may be worst affected.

Thought for the week

'May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.' Romans 15:13

Library consultation

The Banner has given a lot of coverage recently to the Brodick Nursery accommodation problem. This is a major concern for the families in Brodick and I support wholeheartedly the efforts to find a solution.

Your article on February 8 is misleadingly headed: 'Brodick Nursery saved as it looks to share library'. The situation is that the council will commission an architect to explore the sharing of the library space. This is far from a decision.

Arran Library is a true community hub, providing many valuable services to the whole of the island and our many visitors. It provides a lending service for books, including large print, audio books and DVDs, and the mobile visits those who cannot get to the main building, including schools and care homes. We have Bookbug for carers and young children, storytimes for primary schools, children's art and craft activities and the Lego club, featured at length in the Banner on February 15. There is also a display area to showcase the work of local artists. The colour photocopier is a well-used resource, and the local information available is extensive. As I understand it, the area considered for use by the Nursery consists of: 1. The library office, an essential workspace as well as storage for craft materials, valuable local books and the constantly changing stock of books to supply the five book groups on the island. It also houses the materials used by Arran Sound.

2. The free Internet cafe and study area, with good WiFi and access to a colour printer and scanner, used by Arran residents as well as by many visitors, as people may have their own devices but no means of printing. Tuition is available for using new technology, be it one's own or the library's.

This area is also able to be closed off, if required, from the main library. It is used extensively by community groups, both within and outwith library opening hours, for information sessions, book and study groups, craft and music

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



Ship spotters were afforded a rare glimpse of the military vessel, HMS Westminster, a 133-metre Type 23 frigate, when she visited Lamlash and Brodick last weekend, pictured here in Lamlash Bay by photographer Stephen Sparshott.

activities, society meetings, author and other talks. Brodick Hall would not be a viable alternative for most of these small groups, and the cost might well be prohibitive.

Your editorial states: 'What also has yet to be considered are the wide and varied needs of all library users, which the council has promised to address'.

Let us hope that all Arran residents are given the opportunity, before any decision is made, to voice their opinion by means of a public consultation.

Yours,
Mary Cameron,
Corriegills.

New manse

Sir,
Since we live in days in which much is said about 'fake news', I wish to correct some misinformation in last week's Arran Banner concerning the Brodick church manse.

The ground for the manse was not donated by Arran Estate around 1961. The ground for the present manse was purchased almost 30 years after that and belonged to a parcel of land bought by the builder

from a smallholding at East Mayish. The well-qualified architect was a member of Corrie congregation who charged no fee whatever for his work.

As the incumbent at the period, I had neither asked for a new manse to be built nor was consulted at any time about its provision, location or design. The provision of a manse is entirely a matter between a congregation or congregations and the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland in Edinburgh. Congregations are obliged to provide a manse and the minister to live in it.

Suffice to say, my wife and I were delighted with our new home, enjoying it for 14 years, and although, like many larger houses, it may have been a trifle on the expensive side to heat, it was no more so than any of the other four manses in which I have lived in my lifetime, first as a lay missionary and then as a minister. At no time did we experience any kind of infestation at Manse Crescent, and one can only surmise that problems which have arisen may have resulted from later modifications to the building.

I wish the congregation well in

providing yet another manse and the minister joy in living in it.

Yours,
Ian MacLeod,
Brodick.

Editor's note: The information for last week's story was taken in good faith from details provided to the planning authority by the applicant for the new manse, which is in the public domain.

Arran kindness

Sir,
My sincere thanks to the honest person who found my soaking wet purse in the Co-op car park last Friday and handed it in there, without leaving a name. In so many places this would not have happened so I am much indebted for the kindness,

Yours,
Rachel Phillips
Corrie.

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Council in plea for post-Brexit funding

North Ayrshire Council is looking to replace its EU funding with new post-Brexit funding measures that it believes should be targeted at regions that need it most.

Responding to a Scottish Government consultation on the replacement of European Structural Funds post-Brexit, the council says fragile economies such as Ayrshire and the wider southern Scotland region – the three Ayrshire councils, Dumfries and Galloway, Scottish Borders and South Lanarkshire – should be prioritised by the new fund.

It is anticipated that the UK Government will also soon launch a consultation on the proposed UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) which is being lined up as a replacement for European funding.

The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and European Social Fund (ESF) have been important to efforts by UK local authorities to promote sustainable economic development and reduce poverty and inequality and, historically, North Ayrshire Council has received significant funding from EU programmes.

Through the current EU Structural Funds programme, the council has benefited from funds to support residents into work, working with the

most disadvantaged communities and enhancing the competitiveness of businesses to create new jobs.

Council leader Joe Cullinane said losing such a significant source of funding could have disastrous consequences for areas like North Ayrshire.

Councillor Cullinane said: 'European funding has been hugely significant for local economies and it's absolutely crucial for us here that work must start immediately on its replacement.

'The lack of detail regarding the proposed replacement funding is very worrying and hinders our proposals for inclusive economic development and regeneration, particularly when central government is cutting council budgets.

'I wrote to both Governments in October to seek reassurances on post-Brexit funding and am extremely concerned that the UK Government has still not undertaken any formal consultation with councils.

'Ayrshire, alongside our neighbours in southern Scotland, have the lowest GDP per head in the UK, and that has been the case for 20 years – this is unacceptable and it is clear we need a new regional policy to support us.

'If the Scottish and UK



North Ayrshire Council leader Joe Cullinane.

Governments are serious about realising an inclusive economy, all policy and investment decisions should prioritise disadvantaged regions such as ours.'

In its response to Scottish Government consultation – approved by North Ayrshire Council's Cabinet on Tuesday – the council calls for any replacement fund to support projects that are strategically significant at a regional or local level in terms of promoting a sustainable inclusive economy – including a focus on tackling climate change and community wealth building, and structured in such

a way that they allow more local control.

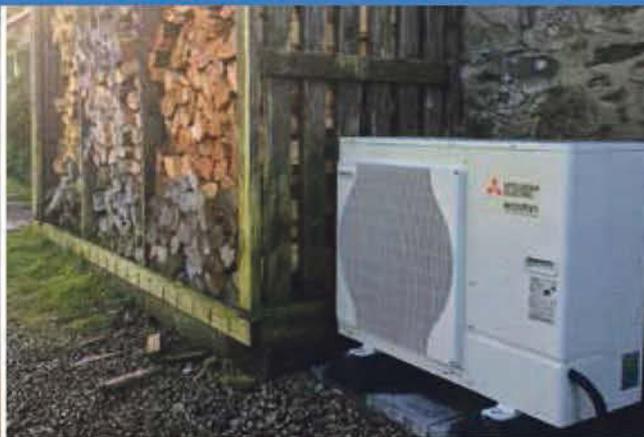
The response also asks for meaningful consultation by the UK Government on the new UKSPF and called for it to be in operation by January 2021 so there is no gap between current and future programmes.

North Ayrshire Council has been engaging with strategic national and regional networks, including southern Scotland partners, to ensure that the needs of communities and businesses are put forward strongly within these consultation exercises.



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ADVERTISEMENT FEATURE

Eye care at home made simple

Specsavers' home-visiting service makes sure that people who struggle to leave their homes unaccompanied are not forgotten, as they bring the optician to them

DID you know that eye care is available in your own home? According to a recent YouGov survey*, 58% of over 50s in the UK are unaware that people can have their eyes tested at home, or in sheltered accommodation or care homes. This applies to people who cannot visit a high street optician unaccompanied due to a physical or mental illness or disability. The eye tests are funded by the NHS for those people who are eligible.



Specsavers is prepared to go the distance to protect the nation's eye health with their home-visiting service. More than two million people in the UK are living with sight loss, and nearly 40% of them, most of whom are aged over 70, could have their sight improved by wearing correctly prescribed glasses.

Yet only one in three people who are eligible for a free NHS-funded home eye test are currently benefiting from this amazing service.

About Specsavers home visits

Home eye tests from Specsavers are carried out with the same care and attention as in a Specsavers store. You can request a home visit for yourself or on behalf of someone else and they'll come at a time that is convenient for you.

If the eye test shows that you need glasses, Specsavers' team will help you choose and try on new glasses from a range of 160 different styles. Specsavers' aim is to improve the overall confidence of older people,

helping them to look good and feel good too. What's more, if you qualify for NHS funding, you may also be eligible for free glasses from their £19-£49 range.

A caring partnership

Housebound customers can also take advantage of Specsavers' partnership with Royal Voluntary Service, whose trusted volunteers can support their clients at home during their eye tests. This year the partnership will see the charity's 18,000 volunteers mobilised to inform thousands of eligible UK residents about Specsavers' home-visiting service.

Stella Green, 99, is a Specsavers home visits customer. Macular degeneration and cataracts have left her with impaired vision, which means she needs more support at home, so she's visited weekly by Royal Voluntary Service volunteer John Aylward.

Stella says that she was impressed by the eye test offered by the Specsavers home-visiting team: 'The test was very thorough, and it was really comfortable having it in my own home. Having them come to see me makes me feel like a star and that I'm very important!'



For more information about Specsavers visiting you or your loved one at home, visit [specsavers.co.uk/home-eye-tests](https://www.specsavers.co.uk/home-eye-tests) or call 0800 089 0144

*YouGov omnibus survey of a representative 50+ UK sample, February 2020, 2013 respondents

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While it may not seem evident at the moment, spring is just around the corner with longer days, milder weather, and of course, beautiful snowdrops and daffodils already making their welcome appearance.

This gradual introduction to spring will first afford an occasional sunny day or two but before you know it, the warmer weather and blooming gardens will be a regular fixture.

If you wish to be ahead of the pack and spring-ready, now is the time to start planning and making arrangements to take care of all of those chores and tasks you may have been putting off during the long winter months.

Household tasks that you have been delaying and tolerating are, much like your garden, getting ripe to be tackled and now is the ideal time to get started.

While some tasks may seem like an unwelcome chore - not that you can't employ an Arran professional to take care of it for you - there are others that, like the warm sunshine and lack of rain, we can all relish.

A cleaner garage, unblocked rain gutters, freshly painted walls and surfaces, manicured hedges and lawns, less clutter - these are all little things that can be done without spending a fortune.

If you have the skills and motivation, you can buy everything that you need to get started with your own DIY projects, all from friendly suppliers on Arran, and most of whom will be happy to provide advice on how to accomplish the task.

For those with less time or those that are concentrating their efforts on other projects, why not let reputable Arran businesses - who know and understand your specific requirements - take all of the hassle out of house and garden maintenance for you.

With everything from new garden sheds and outbuildings, re-upholstered furniture to fencing, joinery, landscaping and pathway building, there are a host of companies that can take care of these projects for you.

Our choice of top suppliers and tradesmen are listed on these pages, for jobs large or small, have a look at some of the many services on Arran that can brighten your home and garden and get it looking its absolute best this spring.



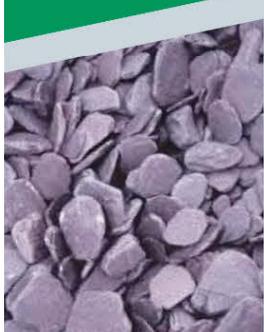
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Their garden centre offers a wide selection of plants and pots, trellis and fencing, Westland compost and a huge selection of summer bedding plants. They also supply logs, kindling, coal (doubles and ovoids), gas, petrol and diesel.

A tool hire service is also provided from the centrally located store in Whiting Bay which can hire out power tools, cement mixers, power washers and carpet cleaners, floor sanders, scaffold and tower scaffold hire and much more.

And what's more, they also deliver around the island for free on Tuesdays, subject to terms and conditions. MBS Building Supplies can be found online at mbsarran.co.uk and can be contacted by telephone on 01770 700202.

CLADACH SAWMILL AND GARDEN CENTRE

Cladach Sawmill and Garden Centre has been expanding under the ownership of Gavin Mutch and Tracy Warwick. Now it's not only your first choice for sheds, timber garages, fencing and gates on the island but



includes an ever-increasing range of garden essentials. In their large greenhouse they are propagating seedlings and stock plants from alpines to herbaceous and shrubs. The range on offer changes weekly during the season from seed potatoes and bulbs in February, through bedding plants and hardy nursery stock to Christmas trees. They stock pots and composts, fence panels, trees stakes and much more beside.

Located conveniently beside the Cladach visitor centre in Brodick, the Cladach Sawmill and Garden Centre has ample customer parking and is open from Monday to Saturday, from 10am to 5pm, and on Sundays from Easter to September.

Further information on all of the products and services that they offer is available on the website at cladachsawmill.com or by calling 01770 302 622.

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Reflective essay wins Naomi writer prize

A fifth year pupil at Arran High School has been highly commended in the Scottish Schools' Young Writer of the Year competition.

Naomi Provan is one of eight students who has been highly commended in the prestigious Scotland wide awards won by 17-year-old Changshi Tang, a pupil of the High School of Dundee.

The competition was organised by the Scottish Review in association with the Young Programme charity. It was open to pupils in Scottish schools who were between the ages of 15 and 18.

It was a condition of entry that the work should be that of the author alone, unedited by a teacher, or anyone else, and that it should be a work of non-fiction. Pupils were asked to imagine that they were writing a feature or column for an intelligent magazine or serious newspaper.

The articles were required to be between 900 and 1,100 words in length.

Naomi, who wrote a reflective essay about the death of her beloved grandmother, said she was pleased her essay had been so well received.

There was a large entry representative of schools in most parts of Scotland. As last year, the majority of work submitted was by girls – they accounted for 71 per cent of entries.

A short-list of 11 papers were sent out to a panel of 31 judges, with no identification of author, age or school included. Members of the panel were asked to vote for their winner and two runners-up, and also append comments on their selection.

The eight highly commended entries, including Naomi, and eight commended writers will receive a certificate of recognition.



Naomi Provan pictured this week in the school library.

01_B09writer01

There was much praise for the short-listed articles. Actor Bill Paterson wrote: 'All the entries in the short-list, without exception, gave a deep insight into the issues of identity and belonging, and to the pressures felt by young people today.'

'For those of us many decades away from our mid-

teens, they lit up the complex world that young people are negotiating these days. Yet, despite touching on quite troubling issues such as racism and mental health, they nearly all had optimism and hope. We can all at least feel optimistic about the quality of writing that today's young people can produce.'

Critic and writer Gillean Somerville-Arjat added: 'This was no task for the faint of heart.'

'There were five essays emerging from personal experience and six that were more discursive. All were extremely well-written and interesting – "A" passes in scholastic terms.'

Licence for gin distillery

The creation of a gin micro-distillery, which is to be built on the beachfront at Cladach, took another step forward this week.

An application for the grant of a provisional licence by the Arran Gin Company for its new premises at the former Nature Centre was approved by the North Ayrshire Licensing Board on Monday.

The proposal for a gin distillery and visitor centre, with retail area, ancillary cafe and outdoor drinking area was welcomed by councillors.

In considering the application, the board heard that the premises would produce alcohol and sell it off-sales to the public and also by internet.

The premises will also offer tours where visitors can view the production facilities. These tours will include the offer of small samples of alcohol for consumption on the premises or in the outdoor drinking area.

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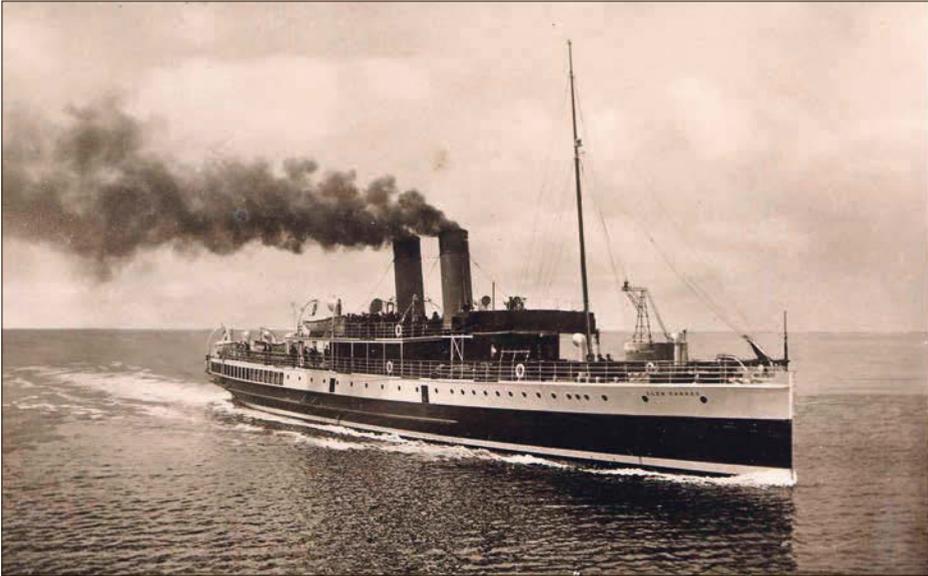
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LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARRAN

Promoting tourism on Arran in the 1930s



The TS Glen Sannox, which was a regular visitor to Arran, in 1926.

By Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Kilmory resident Davie Crossley happened upon an interesting bit of Arran history which he brought in to the Banner office to share with other readers.

The document is from the Isle of Arran Publicity Association, a precursor to the tourist board and VisitArran, and is dated February 1934.

In essence the four-page leaflet is a request to join the association and to support its work so that it could continue to promote Arran through advertising and in the production of a guide book of which two had already been produced, the first, 6,000 copies in 1930 and the second, 5,000 copies in 1932.

Support

The introduction was written by Hon Secretary Charles H Graham along with a letter from the hon president, His Grace the Duke of Montrose, who encouraged people and organisations on Arran to support the association.

The Duke in the final paragraph of his missive wrote: 'It would be lamentable if the Arran folk failed to support their publicity association.'

'Summer letting means everything to them and it is largely through your association's work the island knows so little about the poverty and misery of unem-

ployment as experienced in many other parts of Scotland. Every thinking person in Arran should be pleased to become one of your annual subscribers.'

Included in the pamphlet is a short history of the activities of the association, no doubt leading on from Charles Graham's opening paragraph in his introduction which said: 'As the absolute necessity of advertising the attractions of Arran as a holiday resort is beyond question, the committee feel that the apparent disinterest shown in this matter by a large number of residents can only be attributed to the lack of information as to the activities and objects of this association.'

The objectives were listed as: 'To stimulate interest in the Island of Arran as a holiday resort, to publish an official guidebook, to give the island through the medium of public press and otherwise the utmost publicity, to endeavour to secure adequate transport services to the island at as low a cost as possible, to collect and provide information useful to visitors' and interestingly 'to guard against the possible danger of abuse of the privileges of free access to mountains, hills and glens always enjoyed on the island'.

Local secretaries of the organisation, broken down into villages, were listed as: Brodick, Mr Charles

Hendry; Lamlash, Miss Marion Hunter; Whiting Bay and Kildonan, Mr James Shaw; Corrie, Mr A Moles; Lochranza, Mr John Kerr; Pirnmill, Mr John Anderson, Machrie and Dougarie, Mr Charles Weir; Blackwaterfoot and Shiskine, Mr Duncan Bannatyne; Kilmorie, Slidderie and Corriecravie, Mr Duncan M'Alister.

Attract

The first meeting of the Isle of Arran Publicity Committee was held in Lamlash Hall on March 19 1929 at which Mr Donald McKelvie presided over with representatives from all districts.

At the meeting it was agreed that 'very few of the old families were coming to Arran so that it was absolutely necessary that every effort be made to attract new visitors and also to extend the letting season'.

The following year a press advertisement, describing Arran as the 'Dream Isle', was issued and, along with the guidebooks, were distributed to principal business houses in Glasgow and Edinburgh as well as in tea rooms and restaurants and hotels and railway stations.

Copies were also placed on the mail boats of City Line, Bibby Line, Anchor Line, African Royal Mail, British and African P&O and agencies in India and residential sports clubs in East and West Africa and India.



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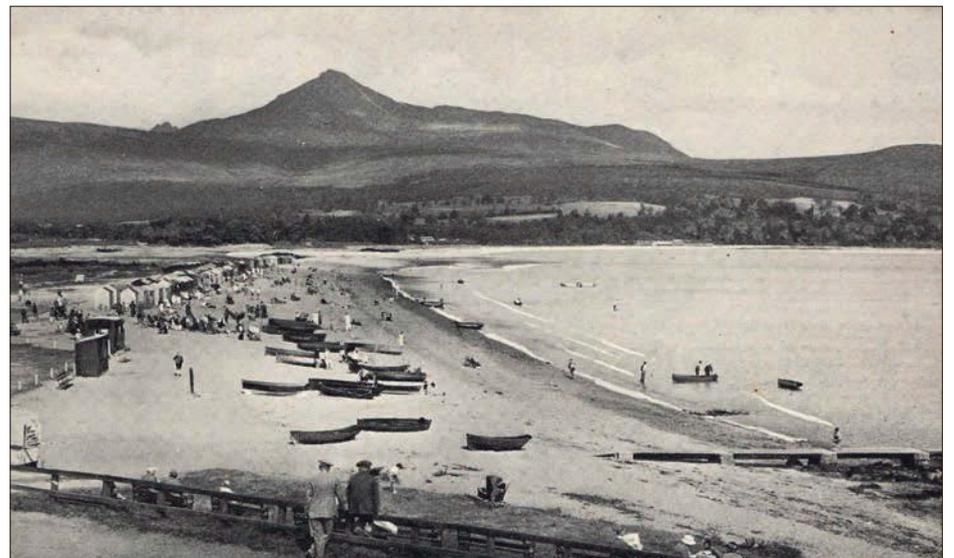
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A packed Brodick beach on a postcard from 1935.



A hillwalker looks over Cir Mhor and Cioch na h-Oighe in 1940.

In 1932 5,000 copies were distributed, some in reply to enquiries as well as the municipal libraries of 45 towns in Scotland and England.

An interesting statistic in the document was derived from placing copies of the guidebook in the offices and clubs of the Automobile Association - which attracted a number of visitors who had previously never been

to Arran - these visitors contributed to a figure of 418 cars which were brought from Ardrossan to Brodick on the ferry during the months of June to September in 1933.

Daily record

To help encourage tourism, a daily record of the sunshine on Arran was published in the Glasgow Herald after an ultra-violet ray measuring apparatus was installed at

the Arran War Memorial Hospital. This apparatus was obtained from the Sunlight League in London.

The pamphlet, while only four pages long, provides an interesting insight into the extent of tourism and marketing on Arran from 86 years ago.

Postcards courtesy of Stuart Gough



Brodick Road and Marine House in Lamlash in 1933.



A postcard of Low Glencloy and Goatfell from 1933.

Shiskine SWI learns all about a vet's life

The speaker for the penultimate meeting of Shiskine Scottish Women's Institute was vet Charlotte Clough.

Charlotte of Arran Vets in Brodick treated the ladies to an interesting talk with pictures, ably assisted by Jean Hunter, which gave an idea of what a vet's life is like in a relatively remote location.

She also shared an extreme experience when it really hit her how she was the only person who could affect a positive outcome for a very badly injured pony.

Happily it was a positive outcome and the pony is as good as new.

The competition for an

apple charlotte was won by Alice Anderson, runner up was Julie Wilkinson and Elizabeth Ross came third.

The exhibition was a favourite animal ornament and it too was won by Alice, with Kate Henderson runner up and Clare Buchanan and Gina Green third equal.

The last meeting of the sea-

son will be on Wednesday March 4 which will be the AGM where members are asked to bring in their voting sheets. The competition is a homemade sweet (four pieces) and the exhibition is a board game. As ever members and visitors are welcome at 7.30pm in Shiskine Hall.



Vet Charlotte Clough was the guest speaker at the penultimate meeting of the Shiskine SWI.



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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.

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

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Jude King of Arran Eco Savvy addresses the audience at the Scottish government Climate Change Plan update event.

Arran's eco credentials praised at climate event

Jude King, project manager of Arran Eco Savvy Scottish government-funded projects, was recently invited to contribute to discussions at the Scottish government Climate Change Plan update event.

It is expected to help in the formulation of a plan aimed at reducing emissions between now and 2032.

Using workable solutions, with Arran as an example, Jude also spoke to the audience about the work of the Arran community delivering climate action and effectively reducing carbon emissions through attitude and behavioural change.

The event briefed attendees on the latest changes to the plan which has been updated to reflect the increased ambition of the new targets set in the Climate Change (Emissions Reduction Targets) (Scotland) Act 2019.

After the welcoming and opening remarks from Kersti Berg, director of energy and climate change, the audience was given an update on what the Scottish Government has done since the Paris agreement on the climate emergency.

The event included two workshop discussion sessions

to talk about the challenges of the different sectors, waste, energy, agriculture, industry, transport and land use. In the afternoon Jude spoke along with three other guest speakers from SEPA, Changeworks and Edinburgh Council.

SEPA discussed its work supporting businesses with legislation and the inevitable further environmental clampdown on commercial organisations. Changeworks showcased how its organisation has lowered its carbon footprint through efficient energy and sustainable travel and Edinburgh Council discussed its target to be net-zero by 2030.

Jude spoke about Arran Eco Savvy's food, waste, travel, energy and climate literacy projects and the successes and challenges of these with specific focus given to the energy efficiency achievements. Jude also discussed at length the challenges of a lack of active travel infrastructure – calling on the Scottish Government to meet climate aware and educated communities with investment in plans, policy and actions that answer the climate emergency.

So far, with the help of

Scottish Government funding, Arran Eco Savvy's project team has helped residents save a total of 1,052 tonnes of CO2 equivalent. These savings have been made largely through residents changing the way they heat their homes and consume energy, travel, and eat.

Jude said: 'It was fantastic



Jude King.

to have this opportunity to engage with the Scottish Government to inform and attempt to influence some of the environmental challenges and obstacles specific to Arran, many of which are parallel to challenges faced across Scotland and globally.

'In order to normalise low to zero carbon attitudes and behaviours, adequate financial

investment and prioritisation of sustainable solutions, programmes (such as active travel infrastructure) are needed so low carbon alternatives are the most appealing to the vast majority.

'It could be argued that due to a lack of this currently we are leaving the climate crisis battle to the small minority of highly motivated individuals that prioritise the environment before factors such as cost and convenience.

'On a more positive note, Arran Eco Savvy Sustainable Island Life project team is hosting Arran Spring Fest which will be a celebration of sustainability and climate action on Arran, through local food, eBikes, music and much more.

'The event will take place at the exciting venue of Balmichael Glamping, Shiskine on Saturday March 21 from noon-4pm and everyone is welcome.'

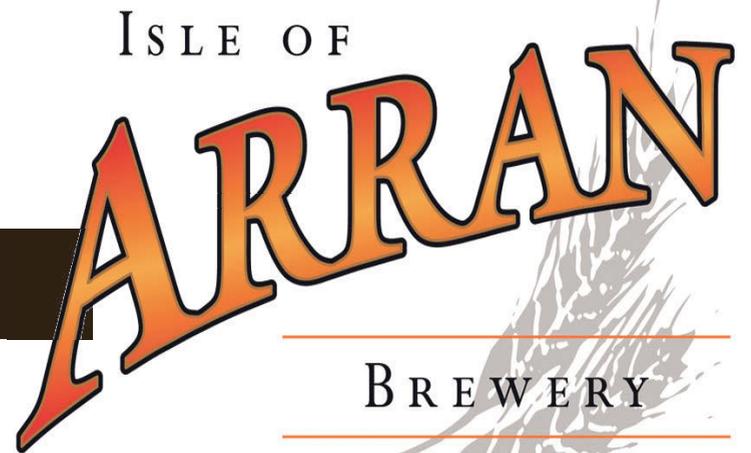
'Finally, thank you to all who have actively participated in our projects so far and have supported environmental improvement and protection on Arran. If we continue to advance and build on this we can surely be a beacon for the rest of Scotland.'

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com

CRAFT BREWERY TOURS AVAILABLE DAILY



Every day

Trout Fly Fishing Loch Garbad, bank fishing
Arran Geopark Information and Activity Centre Lochranza, 9am - 5pm
Brodick Castle and Gardens Open 10am - 5pm
Octopus Centre Old Pavilion, Lamlash, centre open seven days, 11am - 3pm
Octopus Centre - tennis Old Pavilion, Lamlash, open 7 days, any time
Brodick Mini Golf Open seven days, 9am - 5pm-ish, ALL weather
Public swimming Auchrannie Spa Pool, Brodick, 10am - 4pm (last entry 3pm) and 6pm-8pm (last entry 7pm)

Swimming lessons Auchrannie Hotel Pool, Brodick, 10am - 4pm (last entry 3pm) and 6pm-8pm (last entry 7pm)
Arran Brewery Open Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday 11.30am till 4pm
Sunday, 2pm - 4pm. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday
To arrange a tour please call 01770 302353

Arran Heritage Museum Open Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 11am - 3.30pm

Saturday 29th February

Flow Yoga Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Lagg Distillery Open Day Lagg Distillery, 10am - 4pm
Q30 Auchrannie Spa Resort, 10.30am - 11.15am
Arran CND Group meeting - all welcome. The Cafe at Arran High School, 11am
Rink Bowls Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, Blackwaterfoot, 1.30pm
Roots of Arran AGM Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 7pm
Arran Drama Festival Community Theatre, Lamlash, 7pm for 7.30pm start
Bing Night - Fundraiser for W/B Primary School Whiting Bay Golf Club, 7pm
Live Music - Damien McFly Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Eco Savvy and Co-op Food Share Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall, Lochranza, 9.15pm
Live Music - Tiderays, folk rock band The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Live Music - Alan Frew The Douglas Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Over-21s' Disco Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

Sunday 1st March

Q30 Auchrannie Spa Resort, 10.30am - 11.15am
Live Music - Damien McFly Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, Brodick, 1pm
Family games Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm - 3pm
Live Music - Innes Thorburn and Friends The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
Eco Savvy and Co-op Food Share Shiskine Hall, Shiskine, 9pm
Folk Music Session Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 2nd March

Morning Fitness Auchrannie Spa Resort, 9.30am-10.30am
JogScotland mixed ability running group Whiting Bay, 5.30pm
Arran Punch Out Arran High School, Lamlash, 6pm
Circuit training Auchrannie Spa Resort, 6pm - 7pm
Junior Rugby (P3-P7) Ormidale Park, Brodick, 6pm - 7pm
Rink Games Brodick Bowling Club, 6.15pm
Junior Rugby (S1-S6) Ormidale Park, Brodick, 7pm - 8pm
Winter Bridge, visitors welcome, www.bridgewebs.com/arran Brodick Golf Club, 7pm for 7.15pm
Live Music - Arran Dawn Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Brodick Highland Games AGM Ormidale Hotel, 8pm
Tae Kwon Do, Adults and over 10s Brodick Church Hall, 7pm - 8.30pm

Tuesday 3rd March

Body Blitz (booking essential) Auchrannie Spa Resort, 9.30am - 10.30am
Healthy Outdoors Team Brodick Country Park Ranger Centre, 10am - 1pm
Eco Savvy Energy Surgeries Home Farm House, Brodick, 10am - 3pm
Chess Club Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, 11am - 1pm
Rink Bowls Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, 1.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
'Connect' - social club for seniors Heather Lodge, Brodick, 2pm - 4pm
Bridge class (beginners/improvers) Brodick Golf Club, 2.30pm - 4.30pm
Steak Night - two ribeye steaks & bottle of wine Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, from 5pm
Arran Pace Makers - Jog Scotland beginners' group Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 5.30pm
Hatton Boxing Auchrannie Spa Resort, 6pm - 7pm
The 1st Shiskine Rainbows and Brownies Shiskine Hall, 5.30pm - 6.45pm
Arran Hockey Club - juniors (5-14yrs) Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6pm - 7pm
Flow Yoga Corrie and Sannox Village Hall, Corrie, 6pm
Mini Kickers 3-5yrs (preschool) KA Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm - 6.45pm
Arran Golf Pass AGM Brodick Golf Club, 7pm
Scottish Country Dancing Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Eco Savvy and Co-op Food Share Whiting Bay Eco Savvy Hub Shop, 9pm
Trev's Pop Music Quiz Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Traditional Music Sessions Brodick Bar, 9pm

Wednesday 4th March

Yoga Auchrannie Spa Resort, 9.30am - 10.30am
Hydrofit Auchrannie House Hotel, 9.30am - 10.30am
Brodick Gardens Volunteers Brodick Castle and Country Park, 9.30am - 1pm
Kilmory Toddlers Kilmory Hall, 10am - noon
Coffee Morning Lamlash Church Hall, 10.30am - noon
Chair Yoga and Exercise St Molios Church, Shiskine, 11am
Arran Heritage Museum Rosaburn, Brodick Open, 11am - 3.30pm
Archives and Genealogy Service Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am-12.30pm and 1.30pm-3.30pm
Knit and Blether Bay Wool and Crafts, Whiting Bay 2pm - 4pm
Parkinson Support Group Lamlash Fire Station, 2pm - 4pm
Arran Pace Makers Running Group Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 5.30pm
Kettlecise Auchrannie Spa Resort, 6pm - 7pm
Flow Yoga Shiskine Hall, Shiskine, 6pm
Tae Kwondo kids 6.30-7.30pm, advanced juniors and adults, AHS, 7.30pm - 9pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
Live Music - Mike Bailey Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Pub Quiz The PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
Rock 'n' Pop Bingo Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Thursday 5th March

Chair Yoga and Exercise Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am
Kettlecise Auchrannie Spa Resort, 11am - 11.45am
Arran Heritage Museum Rosaburn, Brodick Open, 11am - 3.30pm
Chess Club Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, 11am - 1pm
CAIM Cancer Support Group Heather Lodge, Brodick, 2pm - 4pm
Arran Youth Soul Choir Community Theatre, Arran High School, Lamlash, 6pm
Body Blitz (booking essential) Auchrannie Spa Resort, 6.15pm - 7.15pm
Arran Soul Choir Community Theatre, Arran High School, Lamlash, 6pm
Winter Bridge, visitors welcome, www.arranbridgeweb Little Rock Cafe, 7pm for 7.15pm
Arran Hockey Club - Seniors (12 yrs +) Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm - 8.30pm
Arran Punch Out Arran High School, Lamlash, 7.30pm
Brodick Embroidery Group Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Open Session Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, 8pm
Eco Savvy and Co-op Food Share Brodick Ormidale Pavilion, 8.15pm
Tommy's General Knowledge Quiz Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Friday 6th March

Yoga Auchrannie Spa Resort, 9.30am - 10.30am
Hydrofit Auchrannie House Hotel, 9.30am - 10.30am
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
Tae Kwondo advanced kids 6.30-7.30pm, advanced juniors & adults, AHS, 7.30pm - 9pm
Live Music - The Sensational Biff Simpson Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, 7.30pm
Friday Night Quiz Whiting Bay Golf Club, Whiting Bay, 8pm
Eco Savvy and Co-op Food Share Octopus Centre, COAST, Lamlash, 9pm
Tom's Open Mic Night The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

Saturday 7th March

Flow Yoga Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Q30 Auchrannie Spa Resort, 10.30am - 11.15am
Rink Bowls Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, Blackwaterfoot, 1.30pm
Soundbath Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 6.30pm
MacKenzie Memorial Mixed Doubles Darts Competition Kilmory Hall, 7.30pm for 8pm
Live Music - Michael Clark Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Live Music - Mess O' Blues The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Live Music - Alan Frew The Douglas Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Over-21s' Disco Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm



THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday March 4, 2000

Road blockade

The people of Arran have had enough. They have tried everything. Polite letters to North Ayrshire Council have got nowhere, meetings with roads chiefs have achieved nothing and pleading with the politicians has had no effect. Only one thing was left, civil disobedience.

Yesterday morning people at the southend took the law into their own hands and, after a week of secretive meetings organising a blockade, they closed the road. Blocking the road were lorries, tractors and a number of protesters who set up roadblocks at both ends of the slip near Levenorrach. After nearly two hours the protesters started to disperse after the police politely requested them to leave, the point having been very well made.

Latecomers beware

Latecomers at the ferry will soon find they cannot get on board. A new EU directive

means that the gangway will have to be lifted five minutes before the vessel leaves the pier. The rule applies to all passages of under 20 miles. Willie Kindness of CalMac said: 'We are sorry if the new regulations inconvenience latecomers but we are obliged to comply with European law.' It will make a difference from the common sight of people straggling up the pier as the gangway is good naturedly lowered for them a minute after departure time.

Wind turbine

There is a planning application for a wind turbine at Kilmory. The applicants, Mr and Mrs Earle of Leacamhor will use it to generate electricity at the property they are renovating. A previous idea for a wind turbine was proposed at Kilmory school for cheaper electricity.

It was later dropped after it was discovered that their bills had been wrong and electricity was not nearly as expensive as they had thought.



All of the trophy winners of the Arran Drama Festival with adjudicator Margaret Tomlinson, who provided expert advice and knowledgeable feedback for the performers in all 10 plays. 01_B09tweY03



More than 100 people in total took part in a blockade at the southend to protest against the state of the roads on Arran and the lack of action from the council, politicians and road chiefs. 01_B09tweY05



It's cheers time for husband and wife team Richard and Elizabeth Roberts who raised their glasses to their first brew of Arran Ale at the new Cladach brewery. 01_B09tweY01



Major trophy winners of the season pictured at finals night of the Arran Pool League at the Breadalbane Hotel. They are: doubles winner Dougie Macfarlane, Kinloch league champions captain Malcolm MacAleavy, Lagg second division champions captain Eddie Picken, doubles winner Arthur Duncan and singles champion Euan Latona. 01_B09tweY04



All but four years of Maureen Farquharson's teaching career was at Arran High School and when she retired from her post as principal teacher of art a couple of weeks ago she was the second longest serving member of staff.

01_B09tweY02

PUBLIC NOTICES



NO ACCESS TO GLENASHDALE & GIANTS GRAVES FOOTPATHS.

Monday 2nd March and Tuesday 3rd March

As part of the Giants Graves footpath upgrade project, a significant quantity of stone requires to be transported to the Glenashdale area. Therefore, due to Helicopter airlift operations, there will be no access to the Glenashdale & Giants Graves footpaths. Please adhere to the signage which will be placed at the footpath and forest road entry points. FLS apologies for any convenience which this may cause.

SCOTTISH LAND COMMISSION PUBLIC MEETING



Wednesday 04 March 2020, 7pm
Brodict Hall, Arran

Find out more about land reform and the benefits it can bring to you and your community.

We also want to hear from you about what our priorities for land reform should be over the next three years.

This is a free event open to all. To find out more:
landcommission.gov.scot / 01463 423 300

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 20.03.20. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)

20/00142/PP; Bannan View, Kildonan, Brodict, Isle Of Arran; Renewal of planning permission N/17/00044/PP for demolition of existing dwellinghouse and replacement with single storey dwellinghouse.

20/00137/PP; Seal Shore Chalets, Kildonan, Isle Of Arran, ; Change of use of 3 letting units to form 3 individual residential dwelling houses.

20/00126/PP; 4 Manse Crescent, Brodict, Isle Of Arran, KA27 8AS; Demolition of existing dwelling house and erection of replacement detached dwelling house.

Craig Hatton
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
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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:

Sunday 1st March

Pirnmill and Lochranza Churches together, 10.15am. Morning Worship at Pirnmill.

Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship
Brodick Church, 10.30am Morning Worship, including an informal celebration of the Sacrament of the Lord's supper

Corrie Church, 11.30am

Prayer Meeting, 12noon

Morning Worship.

There will also be a Service of Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan

Church of Scotland

Charity Number: SC014005

Sunday 1st March

Worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am. Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service.

All welcome.

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

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with

Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"

Sunday 1st March

Rev Lily McKinnon

Kilmory at 10am

Lamlash at 11.30am

All welcome, including

families: children's area

Scottish Charity SC015072

All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)

Sunday 1st March

Morning Service at 11am

Trust Housing Lounge, Glen

Estate, Brodick

Evening Service at 6.30pm

5 Glen Road, Brodick

All welcome.

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 1st March

Morning Service at Shiskine at 11am

Evening Service, Brodick at 6pm

Service will be taken by Rev Robert McLeod

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday 1st March

First Sunday of Lent

Holy Communion - 11 am.

Richard Trewby

Coffee after service

Everyone is welcome

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday 1st March

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 1st March

Service at 11am

Ormidale Pavilion

Tea and coffee after the

service

Wednesday 4th March

at 7.30pm Home fellowship

group for bible study and

prayer.

Everyone warmly invited.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 1st March

Sunday Morning Mass at

11am

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER

Thursday 5th March

Taize Praise and Meditation

Theme: Search and you will

find

5.30pm Holy Cross Church

Brodick

All welcome

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Football in focus



Nick Emsley jumps highest to score Arran's second goal on Sunday. Photographs: Tam Borland. 01_B09football03



Charlie's Bar open the scoring despite the best efforts of Dave Heenan.



Goal scorer Ryan Armstrong congratulates Johnny Sloss on his second goal against Irvine CSC.



Joel Small winds the ball around the Irvine keeper to score a fifth goal for Arran on Tuesday night.



Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday February 23, Yellow Tees Stableford. A total of

DEATH

STEWART: Alasdair

Aly Stewart, formerly of Stewart Stores and Blenheim Bar, Lamlash. Died peacefully at the RAH Hospital in Paisley on Friday 21st February 2020. Much loved Dad to Cameron, Sandra and Alan and Grandad to Connor and Mia. Funeral details tbc, if anyone interested please contact cammystewart73@gmail.com.

six played and were glad to reach the warmth and safety of the clubhouse just as the snow flurries started again. Despite the cold wind and treacherous underfoot conditions Stan Rainey managed a run of four threes in the front nine to set up a winning score of 37 Stableford points. 1 Stan Rainey 11, 37pts, 2 David Brookens 12, 34, 3 Neil Lucas 14, 31.

Fixtures: Sunday March 1, AGA Winter League at Whiting Bay. Whiting Bay Golf Club plays Corrie, 10am shotgun start. Course closed for casual play until 2pm.

Lamlash Golf Club

Sunday February 23, back nine twice. 1 Derek Harrison 84-23=61, 2 Dougie Macfarlane 66-2=64. Best scratch Dougie Macfarlane 66. Magic twos Dougie

Macfarlane and Serg El Adm both @16th.

Fixtures: Sunday March 1, Winter League (team game) Lamlash v Shiskine at Whiting Bay, 10am, shotgun start. Thursday March 5, Yellow Medal, ballot at 11am.

Corrie Golf Club

Fixtures: Saturday February 29, 18-hole sweep, ballot at 1pm. Monday March 2, Monday Cup, ballot at noon.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Fixtures: Tuesday March 3, Winter Cup, tee-off noon. Saturday March 7, Lochranza Hotel Cup at noon.

Arran Golfers Association

Fixture: Sunday March 1, Winter League/Duncan Trophy round five (final round) at Whiting Bay.

Lamlash, Machrie Bay and Brodick all still in contention to win this popular and friendly competition: 10am shotgun start for every game.

Could all golfers arrive in plenty of time please, go to allocated tees and wait until 10am and a clear fairway ahead. Whiting Bay v Corrie, Brodick v Machrie Bay, Shiskine v Lamlash.

GETINTOUCH

email us at editor@arranbanner.co.uk

telephone 01770 302142



Joel Small spectacularly fires in Arran's first goal against Charlie's Bar on Sunday. Photographs: Tam Borland

Arran stutter before hitting Irvine for six



Isle of Arran	2
Charlie's Bar	3
Ayrshire Sunday League	

Arran finally got across to the mainland to play after the winter storms and faced a league match against Charlie's Bar at Kilwinning Sports Club on Sunday.

However, it was to turn out a disappointing afternoon. The Ardrossan side scored first and things were looking up when Joel Small smashed in the equaliser.

But Charlie's Bar went ahead again and they were three up before Nick Emsley got one back making it a tight finish.

It was a much closer match

than previous games but Charlie's Bar held on for the win and unfortunately Arran left with no points to add to their league tally.

Irvine CSC	0
Isle of Arran	6
Ayrshire Sunday League	

In their first of two scheduled Tuesday evening games, Arran AFC fared much better against Irvine CSC when they played at Beith Astro in sleet and snowy conditions.

Arran were on the front foot from the start with Johnny Sloss and Ryan Armstrong both scoring braces, while Nick Emsley and Joel Small added their contributions to

the score card, bringing the total tally to six.

Frustration might have got the better of Irvine CSC who by the end of the game only had seven players remaining on the field after four of them were sent off shortly after Arran secured four goals to none in reply.

The next fixture for Arran will be a league game tomorrow (Sunday) against Kilwinning AFC at Kilwinning Sports Club with a 1pm kick off. The second Tuesday evening game will be their second midweek pre-split fixture against Kilbirnie United with a 7.30pm kick off at Beith Astro.

More photographs on page 23



Joel Small celebrates his fine goal. 01_B09football02



LAMLASH GARAGE



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