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Drama festival winners take a well-deserved bow

All the award winners from the 2020 Drama Festival show off their trophies at the Arran community theatre on Saturday night. Full coverage, with results and photo gallery on pages 14, 15, 16 and 17.

01_B10front01



Concern for outdoor centre

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



There was growing concern for the future of the Arran Outdoor Education Centre as it emerged it faces a funding review by North Ayrshire Council as it continues to search for ways to save cash.

A council budget paper, submitted to the full council on Thursday, warned that the

Lamlash centre is operating at a deficit in excess of £400,000 a year.

As a result a funding review is on the way as part of a medium-term financial plan. The paper states: 'Alternative operating models and options appraisals will be undertaken, with a view to potentially developing options that move towards a self-financing solution.'

The centre is used by hundreds of pupils from North Ayrshire and beyond, as well as local youngsters and paying holidaymakers, for a range of outdoor activities. But it is just the latest outdoor centre to come under threat across Scotland, with Glasgow City Council recently agreeing a u-turn after announcing the closure of the Blairvadach Outdoor Centre north of

Helensburgh. The news came as North Ayrshire Council set its budget which is likely to see a council tax rise of 4.84 per cent, if the recommendation was approved on Thursday.

That would lead to a band A increase of £41.32 taking the bill to £895.12 a year. Band D would rise by £61.99 taking the bill to £1,342.69.

The Arran centre is just one of the services under review –

others include libraries, halls and centres, including the school library service, across North Ayrshire.

The budget papers say that: 'a range of potential options for service delivery should be developed, which will be subject to further consultation with key stakeholders.'

One idea, which is being pushed by councils around the country, includes handing

over the running of the buildings to communities as part of asset transfers.

The Ranger service at Eglinton Country Park is also under scrutiny as well as the garden tidy scheme. Residents are charged £80 annually for up to seven grass cuts and a hedge trim under the service. But that price does not cover the cost of delivering it to the

Continued on page two



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8 SPRINGBANK WAY

Concern for Arran outdoor centre

From page one

450 eligible residents according to a council paper.

Councillors were to decide if officers should carry out further work on the possibility of making cash savings in the services on Thursday.

The percentage rise in council tax is the highest that councils in Scotland were permitted to make this year and it is expected to keep North Ayrshire broadly in line with the average council tax level in Scotland. Council tax is expected to bring in approximately £58.8m and makes up about 17 per cent of the council's income, with the bulk of funding coming directly from the Scottish Government.

The price of care at home and burials are also expected to go up as finance bosses try to raise cash to plug an £11.4m shortfall over the year ahead to balance a £395m budget.

A number of funeral services would see a hike of 10 per cent, with the price of a burial going up from £733 to £806. The cost of a lair would be £859, up



from £781 – also soaring by 10 per cent.

Officials have laid out plans to increase a raft of charges by five per cent including meals on wheels, care at home, respite care and pest control.

Other proposals to scrimp money include school staffing cuts of £850,000 and withdrawal of taxi marshalling funding. Grass verges on rural roads would be cut once a year instead of twice to save £10,000.

Despite cutbacks a total of 85 new jobs will be created, including roles for nursery workers and carers. There should be no compulsory redundancies.

Council chief executive

Craig Hatton said setting budgets are 'very challenging' and it is getting harder. He pointed out the council had already saved about £100m over the last decade.

Mr Hatton said balancing

The Arran Outdoor Education Centre in Lamlash which faces a funding review.

the books is 'getting more difficult against a background of pressures, including deprivation, poverty and regional inequalities that exist in Ayrshire and North Ayrshire'.

Council leader Joe Cullinane said no high impact cuts or closures were on the table.

Investment options for the year ahead include £5 million on a climate fund – to be spent on renewable energy projects. Bosses also want to put £1.2million into community wealth building and £2.78 million into growing the local economy.

A council statement said: 'Once again, North Ayrshire Council is faced with financial challenges in setting the budget, having made more than £100m of cuts over the past decade as funding from Scottish Government hasn't kept pace with the rising demand and cost of services.'

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Arran institutes urgently seek new members

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The Scottish Women's Institutes on Arran are desperately looking for new members.

The organisation, with its roots in traditional family values, needs an influx of younger blood if it is to survive on the island for much longer.

Membership has dropped to a worrying 115 and three of the smaller institutes only have a membership in the low teens. A rebranding exercise in 2015 saw the word 'rural' dropped from the name in a bid to broaden both its geographical and demographic appeal.

Even the annual tradition of the handicraft show, which has been held since 1926, is in danger if the Arran Federation is no longer able to function due to the

number of institutes dropping below four.

The membership plea comes as the oldest institute on the island, Shiskine, prepares to celebrate its centenary next week.

The SWI groups on Arran currently have 115 members for the 2019-20 session which finishes in April. The distribution is between five institutes: Shiskine 51, Lamlash 29, Corrie and Sannox 14, Kildonan 11, Kilmory 10.

At one time there were nine institutes on the island but four of them are suspended: Brodick in 2005, Pirnmill in 2007, Lochranaza in 2008 and Whiting Bay in 2013.

After Brodick institute was formed in 1924 the four institutes were able to form a federation in 1925.

Secretary of the Arran Federation Nancy Bremner said: 'As you can see from the present number of members the Arran federation is in

danger of losing more institutes. If we have less than four institutes we cannot be a federation and any remaining institutes would have to come under the umbrella of one of the other seven federations in the south west area.

'This would also put an end to the handicraft show held every year as part of the Arran Farmers Show in the high school theatre at the beginning of August,' she added.

Scottish Women's Institutes describes itself as Scotland's leading member based organisation created by women in 1917, designed to bring women together, with a vision to welcome every woman in Scotland to join. They say they exist to educate, to share, to campaign, to learn, to socialise, to build a community and of course, to have fun.

Shiskine 'rural' celebrates its centenary, turn to pages 18 and 19.

Distillery surprise for visitor Roddie

Grandmother's photo in mural focus

Plenty of people took the opportunity to visit Lagg last Saturday for a look round the new distillery.

The distillery opened its doors for the day, with free tours and tastings on offer. There were also special guests and performances throughout the day, including songs from Kilmory primary pupils and book readings by Arran children's author Alison Page. Terry Southall gave talks on ornithology.

There was also a display focusing on the family history of Roddie Thompson of Lamlash, who made a remarkable discovery on his first visit to the distillery last year.

Mr Thompson, who can trace his ancestors on Arran back five generations, told the Arran Banner: 'My wife Alison and I were visiting the new distillery last summer for the first time.

'Alison screeched as she recognised my grandmother, Annie Thompson, smiling back at her from the photo montage on the wall of the distillery where the tours start.

'Annie Frew, as she was then, is the girl with the big smile and the straw hat sitting at the left of the mural.



Roddie Thompson looks at the photograph of his grandmother. 01_B10lagg04

'We quickly identified all of the members of granny's family - her parents, two of her brothers and her sister. Harry, the youngest, is being held by the family's nurse. He was born in April 1898, so his presence establishes the year the photograph was taken,' Roddie added.

The photographs were taken by George Stewart, a pioneer

of early photography, when the family were on holiday in Dippen. Fifth generation Roddie and Alison have been residents on Arran three times, but they spent many years on the mainland where Roddie was a teacher before returning to run The Shore bed and breakfast in Lamlash, which they gave up in 2007. They still live in Lamlash.



Miller Crawford, left, provided whisky tasting for David Lydon. 01_B10lagg03



Terry Southall, right, chats about birds to John and Jean Fitzpatrick, who both work at the distillery. 01_B10lagg01



Visitors enjoy a guided tour of the distillery. 01_B10lagg02

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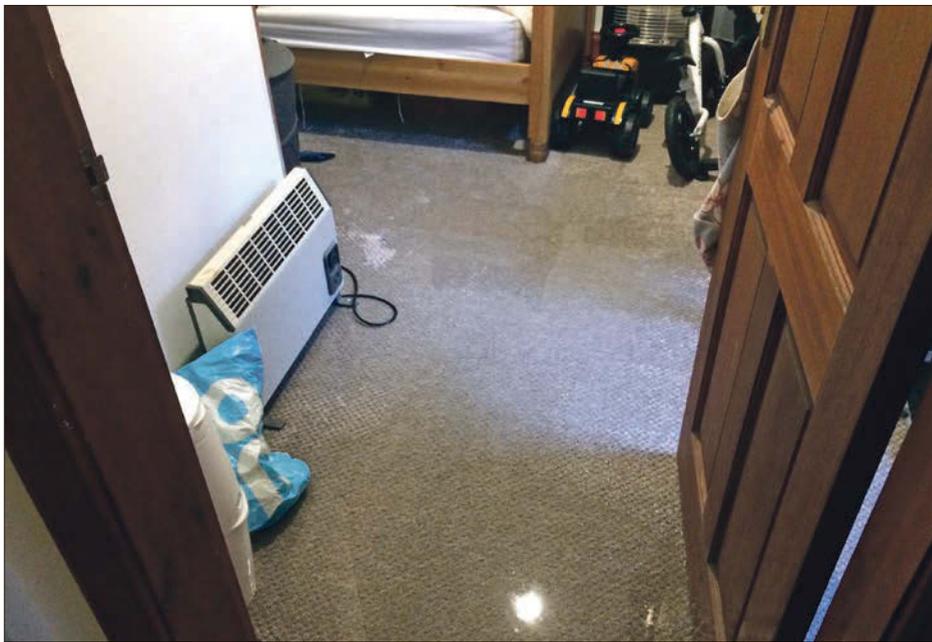
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A room in one of the properties in Douglas Place becomes inundated with water which rose up through the floor. 01_B10flood01



A pathway behind Douglas Place became a river as floodwaters flow through the rear of the terraced houses. 01_B10flood02

Residents of Brodick suffer second flooding in five years

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Residents of Douglas Place in Brodick had a rude awakening on Sunday morning to discover that their houses were once again engulfed by water with heavy rain continuing to add to the rising tide.

The flooding was a repeat of the incident from January 2016 when the same row of six houses were inundated by floodwater which left some of them with five inches of water flowing through the houses and exiting out the front doors.

The cause of the floods

on both occasions has been the rainwater cundy – built during the 1850s and which runs behind the row of B-listed terraced properties – becoming overwhelmed by the amount of water which was originally only designed to service those properties. It is understood that an area with numerous houses north of Douglas Row has had their rainwater drains connected to the cundy which is now becoming overwhelmed.

Despite the best efforts of residents, who in 2016 raised the levels of the entrances to their backyards and who

had the drains cleared of any blockages, the heavy downfall and sheer quantity of the water once again overwhelmed the culvert, flooding the nearby properties.

The vast majority of the houses in the upper block of Douglas Place sustained water damage to varying degrees, while two of the houses were completely submerged with dirty water covering the floors of the houses.

The outhouses which were originally coal bunkers and outside toilets are now commonly used as laundry and utility rooms and at least

three of the premises are now having to make insurance claims to cover the loss of damaged equipment, carpets and other water-related damage.

Douglas Place residents are now in talks with Charles Fforde of Arran Estates, who owns the land along which the cundy runs and who also owns one of the affected houses, to seek a permanent solution to the problem which will entail upgrading the cundy to be able to accommodate significantly larger amounts of water that it is now unable to cope with.



Water gushed up through a manhole cover and floods the area. 01_B10flood03

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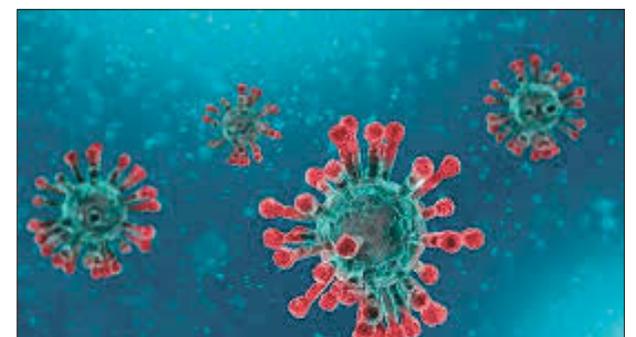
Coronavirus testing unit open at Crosshouse

A 'contained testing' unit has been opened at Crosshouse Hospital which is being used to check patients suspected of having contracted coronavirus.

Bosses at NHS Ayrshire and Arran confirmed that they are directing all suspected cases in the region to the hospital in Kilmarnock.

At the time of going to press there have been three reported cases of coronavirus – or COVID-19 as it is also known – in Scotland and the latest figures show a total of 85 cases across the UK.

The closest confirmed case to Arran is in Kilmarnock with the others in the Grampian and Tayside areas. All three cases are understood to be clinically well



COVID-19.

and receiving medical care. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) there are approximately 90,000 positive cases of coronavirus globally which has resulted in an estimated 3,000 deaths.

If Arran residents have any

symptoms and have recently been to any affected areas, the advice is to self isolate and to contact Arran Medical Group on 01770 600516.

Further information can be found on the website at <https://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus>

Three years worth of road repairs all need done now

by Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Arran has a three-year plan for road repairs, but they all need done now, according to members of Arran Community Council after they discussed the sorry state of the island's roads at their meeting last week.

The discussion came ahead of the latest landslide, which led to the emergency closure of the U88 from the A841 to the North Sannox car park, although the order appeared to be being largely ignored when the site was visited by the Banner this week. It was due to re-open today (Friday).

The community council had submitted a long list of potholes and road complaints ahead of the meeting to island officer Brodie Pearcey. And Whiting Bay representative John Lamont was persistent about the poor state of the road between Ashdale Way and Kildonan, despite assurances that repairs had been carried out.

Vice chairman Richard McMaster said potholes could re-appear hours after they were being repaired rather than days, adding: 'The job is just not being done right. Maybe it is the material that is not up to the job.'

Mr Pearcey said that the roads were always at their worst at this time of year. He insisted that the council would always give their

best efforts to keep the roads maintained but he said at this time of the year much of the manpower was diverted to weather related work designed to keep the roads open.

Other road items raised by the community council were:

■ A request for a timescale for repairs to bridge parapet at Birchburn which was damaged by NAC contractors carrying out work on pavements.

■ A request for a pothole to be filled in just after the rocking stone going into Sannox.

■ Various sections of road around Kildonan have been highlighted again for repair on safety issues, with regular drivers taking to the middle of the road to avoid the damage and facing oncoming traffic.

■ Flooding and subsequent road damage at the front of Brodick during the recent storms.

■ An indication of timing for the work to start on white lining at various locations.

Mr Pearcey urged the public to lodge any road complaints on the NAC website so they were recorded.

Community council chairman Bill Calderwood said: 'I think we need to send out a fairly strong message that we need a firm commitment of starting dates for the 2020/21 roads programme so we can start to address some of the issues.'



Above: temporary traffic lights north of Corrie after the coast road was damaged and, left, the landslide near the North Sannox car park.

Pop-up shop to open for business

A one day only pop-up shop is ready to open its doors to raise money for the Arran cancer charity ArCaS.

It is being held tomorrow (Sunday) in Shiskine Hall from 2pm till 4pm, with a £3 entry charge and, thanks to generous donations, there will be a wide range fantastic

quality items all brand new or worn once.

This includes ladies' clothes, shoes and accessories from size six to 22 for all occasions.

There will also be some men's and children's clothing and goods.

One of the organisers, Barbara Crawford, said: 'I

have been thinking about this for a while as everyone has something in their wardrobe that may have only worn once or never had on.

I wanted to raise money for ArCaS especially now they are funding a nurse and also funding a cancer support group at Heather Lodge.'

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North Ayrshire keeps Fairtrade Zone status

by Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk



North Ayrshire has had its Fairtrade Zone status renewed for another two years following its commitment to the principles of the Fairtrade movement.

The news came during the annual Fairtrade Fortnight which finishes tomorrow (Sunday). Fairtrade Zone status is awarded to an area which makes a commitment to support and use products with the Fairtrade mark.

North Ayrshire's accolade was first awarded in 2014 after many years of hard work from the North Ayrshire Fairtrade Zone Steering Group, which works closely with the area's Fairtrade towns and committees.

Since the status was first awarded, the group's efforts have resulted in the status being renewed year-on-year.

During the two-week campaign, members of the steering group have been spreading the message about the benefits that buying Fairtrade marked products can bring, not only to our own community, but those across the world.

On Arran, there have been displays in the Co-op stores and the Arran Library in Brodick. Schools on the island have been busy doing projects as well.



Last week Provost Ian Clarkson met members of the steering group. He said: 'It is fantastic that our area has been recognised as a Fairtrade zone for the sixth year running.'

'This great achievement reflects the hard work, commitment and huge efforts of all our Fairtrade groups as well as the businesses and communities who've embraced the ethical movement.'

'My thanks and appreciation go to all those who have gone above and beyond to ensure North Ayrshire does its bit for this important and worthwhile cause.'



The Fairtrade movement is about better prices, better working conditions and better lives for farmers and workers in the developing world. The Fairtrade logo

means that companies have paid fair prices to the producers.

Jan MacGregor, from Whiting Bay, is the steering group chairwoman. She com-

mented: 'Maintaining North Ayrshire's Fairtrade Zone status is the main aim of the group - we are all passionate about the difference that choosing Fairtrade makes both to our lives, the lives of people around the world and the environment. We simply ask all who can to choose Fairtrade.'

Arran itself achieved Fairtrade status in 2008 through its promotion and sale of fairtrade produce in shops, workplaces, hotels and guest houses.

Arran councillor Timothy Billings, who is also a Fairtrade Zone member, said 'I have asked all the main supermarket chains in North Ayrshire about their commitment to Fairtrade.'

'All the chains said that they have Fairtrade policies. However, in practice some are more active in promoting Fairtrade than others.'

'Over the next year we will be working with retailers with the aim of raising the profile of Fairtrade products making it easier for shoppers to choose Fairtrade.'

Planning for the future

The updated local development plan for Arran was approved in November last year.

Now two senior planners from North Ayrshire Council, Thom Ledingham and Neil McAttee, have accepted an invitation from Arran Civic Trust to make an informal presentation entitled: An Introduction to Local Development Plan 2 and planning on Arran.

This will take place on Monday March 16 from 4pm to 6.30pm and is being held in the Glencloy Suite next to the Cruize bar brasserie at Auchrannie Spa Resort and is open to all those interested in the future of the Arran community.

Time will be made available for questions and discussion on wider planning issues related to Arran.

'So often on Arran, local people feel left out when some questions arise about our development future as a community. The new local plan provides an opportunity to broaden the debate about Arran's future development,' a spokeswoman for the civic trust said.

Club draws

The winner of the Brodick 200 Club draw for February is Ruth Parker of Whiting Bay. The winners of the Lochranza and Catacol 200 Club draw for January are - first prize Rachel Mercer and second prize Gordon Potts.

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Petition wants to extend free bus travel to ferries

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



There were growing demands this week for the proposed free bus travel for the under-19s to be extended to ferries.

One campaigner said: 'To islanders, the boats are just the same as buses, if not even more essential.'

The independent CalMac Community Board is among the first to back the plan and is already petitioning Scottish ministers to extend the scheme for ferry travel in the interest of fairness and equality for young people.

And Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson has lodged a topical question with the Scottish Government asking: 'In light of its decision to extend free bus travel to under-19s, what consideration will it give to

allowing young island residents to travel free on ferries?'

Meanwhile, the CalMac Community Board has written to Finance Secretary Kate Forbes MSP, Transport Secretary Michael Matheson MSP, and Islands Minister Paul Wheelhouse MSP.

The letter from chairman Angus Campbell states: 'As the independent CalMac Community Board representing users of ferries across the Clyde and Hebrides Ferries Services network, we were pleased to note the very positive proposal to provide free bus travel for young people under 19.'

'We are also supportive of the intention to encourage more young people to use public transport while opening up the opportunity for young people in all areas to have equality of access regardless of their geography



CalMac Community Board chairman Angus Campbell.

or financial status.

'This also brings into focus the position for young

people for whom the ferry trip is their connecting bus trip, their way of accessing

services and we believe all young people of the same age should be afforded the same rights and opportunities for free travel.

'The Islands (Scotland) Act 2018 sets out the principle of island proofing new legislation and we would contend that a process of an Islands Community Assessment would show the requirement to provide equality of opportunity.

'We also understand that positive outcomes of these assessments would be applied retrospectively but it would be a really positive signal to our young people to incorporate the extended provision in the budget process. We would therefore urge you to do just that and make a huge statement of commitment to our young people.

'The agenda for fairer fares for our youth is not a new one

for the community board. As part of the Year of Young People 2018 we proposed a revision of the fares charged to minibuses taking young people to extracurricular activities between and off our islands.

'This would remove the anomaly of such minibuses being charged significantly higher rates than an equivalent length motorhome and actively encourage educational and sports travel for island pupils.

'The community board worked hard to have this initiative accepted as good practice by CalMac, the David MacBrayne board, local authorities, elected representatives and, we believed, Transport Scotland. We demonstrated no cost to the public purse and reluctantly accepted the use of a pilot on two routes to prove the case.'



Tim Hair, left, with committee convener Edward Mountain MSP on a recent tour the Ferguson yard. Photo: Andrew Cowan/Scottish Parliament

Ferry delays cause major disruption

Ferry chiefs have warned that further delays to two new vessels being built are contributing to 'major disruption' for islanders.

It came as Duncan Mackison, chief executive officer of David MacBrayne Ltd, and Robbie Drummond, managing director of CalMac Ferries, gave evidence before MSPs at the Holyrood inquiry into the ferry fiasco on Wednesday.

The production of the two new ferries, including the MV Glen Sannox bound for the Arran route, has been struck with delays at the now nationalised Ferguson Marine shipyard in Port Glasgow, while the budget of the Scottish Government

project has doubled.

Figures released last month revealed that more than 1,000 CalMac sailings were cancelled in 2019 because of mechanical problems.

In a joint statement to the inquiry, David MacBrayne Ltd and CalMac Ferries said that the Scottish Ferries Plan in 2013 had resulted in 'vessels being worked longer and harder than ever before' while 'simultaneously ageing'.

The statement added: 'As we have no spare vessels, any technical breakdowns result in major disruption for communities. While significant funds have been invested in vessel resilience, it is inevitable that the risk of technical disruption will increase as

the fleet continues to age.

'The two new vessels were due into service in 2018. They would have delivered much-needed additional capacity and improved resilience on the Ardrossan-Brodick and Uig-Tarbert/Lochmaddy routes, enabled a cascade of vessels to improve capacity on other routes including Oban-Craignure and Mallaig-Armadale, and reduced the average age of the fleet.

'This would have also released a spare vessel that could have been used, subject to available funding, as a relief vessel which would have helped provide resilience to communities when technical breakdowns occur.'

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Centenary success for Shiskine SWI

What a wonderful achievement for Shiskine SWI to reach its centenary.

Things must have been very different on Arran when the club was founded in 1920, just three years after the movement started in Scotland.

Over the years other villages followed suit until there were nine thriving institutes on the island after the Second World War.

But things have been in decline for a number of years now, with Brodick the first institute to be suspended 15 years ago, followed by three others.

However, the other surviving institutes in recent times have all been active and are still proving a worthwhile gathering for those with similar interests and, increasingly, of a certain age.

But with membership of the five remaining institutes down to a little more than 100, it is vital that new members are not just encouraged to join but to take an active role in the development of the organisation in the years ahead.

Of course, there are so many other groups and activities vying for people's attention these days but how sad it would be if the Women's Institute tradition, which has meant so much on Arran, was to be no more.

So congratulations again to Shiskine but there may be some hard work ahead if it is to survive the next 100 years.

Thought for the week

'For God sent the Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.' John 3: 17

Still learning Gaelic in my nineties

It was really encouraging to read in the Banner (February 22) about Feis Arainn and the Gaelic fun day. I do wish them every success.

I retired to Arran in the early '90s after a career spent mainly in the Scottish new towns (not Gaelic speaking areas). I was curious about Gaelic and within a month of living here went to an open day on the island led by Dr Richard Cox of Aberdeen University.

A beginners' evening course was then set up in the old high school. A very enthusiastic retired Doctor Robin Whitla, sadly no longer with us, stepped in as teacher. After the classes we would adjourn to a local hostelry and attempt to continue our conversations in Gaelic, prompting other customers to ask if we were Russian spies and was that our submarine in Lamlash Bay?

It was very satisfying to pronounce the Gaelic names of Arran's mountains and to know what they meant. Gaelic isn't just a language, it can give you an insight into the lives of our forebears on the island and what was important to them.

Although events forced our return to the mainland, I am still learning more about the Gaelic language and culture. Another good Arran friend, the late John Roberts of Brodick, suggested an annual visit to Sabhal Mor Ostaig, the Gaelic College on Skye, where residential one-week courses are available for all levels of achievement.

And, yes, I did have a Gaelic birthday cake for my 90th birthday ... with a happy birthday to you in Gaelic. Soirbheachdadh dhan feis.

Yours,
David Hilton,
Portobello.

Land-based farming is the answer

It would be interesting if the researchers from the University of York, featured in Arran Banner of



David Hilton with his 90th birthday cake and its Gaelic inscription.

01_B10letters01

February 22, were to investigate the seabed underneath the salmon feedlots at the Kings Cross end of Lamlash Bay and compare it to the MPA at the north end.

I have no doubt they would find a

devastated wasteland of filth, uneaten food and chemicals, which would give ammunition to those of us who are opposing the proposed massive development off the Cock of Arran.

I have no problem with the con-

cept of salmon farming, provided it is carried out in closed containers on land, as is now being insisted upon in Scandinavia. (For those who might be unaware, salmon live perfectly happily in fresh water.)

Sadly, the intransigent Fergus Ewing and Roseanna Cunningham appear to be unable to open their minds to the fact that seabed pollution and decimation of wild salmon stocks are the direct result of their refusal to properly monitor and control offshore feedlots in Scottish waters.

If land-based farming was introduced, the salmon companies, which are not Scottish, would still make a profit, but perhaps not just quite as much. And Mr Ewing would still be able to boast about what a great industry it is for the Scottish economy, despite most of the money going to Scandinavia.

Yours,
John N E Rankin,
Whiting Bay.

Ferry procurement

With reference to Rory Cowan's letter of February 22, my experience is that if the person making the decisions on the design or measure of either a building or a boat is also paying for it, then he or she usually gets it right.

Yours,
Alastair Bilsland,
Brodick.

Tyre woes

Recently I went to the dump on Market Road to drop off an old tyre. The lad minding the shop was most apologetic but pointed out that the council no longer take tyres. What?

What are we now supposed to do with such things? Presumably bowl along the Geary and toss them over the side like we used to. So, beach cleaners, if you find a tyre on the beach, leave it there if you don't want to be a permanent washed-up tyre guardian. I wonder what else they won't be taking next week.

Yours,
Rory Cowan,
Kildonan.

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PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



Our photograph of the week is from reader Allan Napier who captured the fish farm ship Soerdroy fighting its way down the Kilbrannan Sound through very rough seas. Taken from Catacol, the picture shows the vessel with a HM Coastguard helicopter in close attendance.

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Book talk and exhibition at Brodick library

Alex Drain will be giving a talk on his new book, *Arran: Lochs and Lochans*, in Arran Library, Brodick, on Wednesday March 11 at 7.30pm.

This event is free but please call 302835 to book a place.

Born in Girvan, Alex has been visiting Arran and exploring the island since the 1960s. Following retirement, he spends much of his time in Lamlash where he can indulge his love of hillwalking.

Arran: Lochs and Lochans is his second book about Arran, the first being *Arran: Lesser Known Hill Routes*. He decided to write about Arran's lochs primarily as a contribution to Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters, but also because he felt that whilst Arran's hills were well represented on the

bookshelves, the lochs were either given no more than a passing comment or missed completely.

The book describes 28 of the island's lochs with routes, maps and photographs.

The library's March exhibition will showcase the work of Carole Atkinson and runs from today (Saturday) until Friday April 3. Carole studied art and design at Dundee and Edinburgh School of Art, specialising in glass and ceramics. She then taught leaded glass and art before moving to the island in 2007 to continue her ceramic art.

You will find her workshop at Pooch gift shop at Cladach. Her work is influenced by the erosion, textures and patterns found around Arran beaches. This is echoed in her unique sculptural work.



Trials trophy haul for Wullie and Arran

Wullie Stevenson and his dog Arran McLeod swept the boards at the Kildonan and District sheepdog nursery trial on Sunday February 23 at Glenkiln Farm, Lamlash, thanks to Kenneth Bone.

The event had been cancelled a few times as a result of bad weather.

Wullie and Arran won first in both nursery classes which were judged by Liz Robertson, Machrie. Eli Bone was second in the first trial with Arran Mac.

Wullie judged the older dogs: 1 Iain McConnell with Sam, 74 points; 2 Suzie Murchie with Buffy, 73 points; 3 Mathew McNeish with Pip, 69 points, and 4 Niall McMaster with Gail, 62 points.

Eleanor Bone presented the prizes. All the winter trophies went to Wullie and his dog and they will now represent Arran at the nursery final in Dumfries on Saturday March 7. Wullie won the Alba Cup, Hirsell Cup, Drumadon Trophy, Cnoc Trophy and the J C Picken Cup.

Wullie Stevenson with his trusty dog Arran McLeod and his trophy haul.

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Arran gears up for Spring Fest

Excitement is building for the Arran Spring Fest which is set to take place later this month to celebrate and inspire sustainability and climate action on Arran through a focus on local food, travel and energy.

MARCH 2020

what's on?



-  = Food Share
-  = Savvy food Drop In*
-  = Savvy travel Drop In*
-  = Energy Advice Drop In*

*Drop Ins @ Home Farm, Brodick 10am-3pm

*Arran Spring Fest will include: | local food | music | eBike obstacle course | free bike MOT's | free water saving gadgets and energy advice | Arran schools' eco committee | alpaca petting ...and much more!
We hope to see you there!

✂ Cut this calendar out and stick it up at home!

FOLLOW US FOR UPDATES!   

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5 8.15pm Brodick Pavilion	6 9pm Lamlash COAST Centre	7
8 9pm Shiskine Hall	9	10 9pm Whiting Bay Hall	11 	12 8.15pm Brodick Pavilion	13 9pm Lamlash COAST centre	14 9.30pm Kilmory Hall
15 9pm Shiskine Hall	16	17 9pm Whiting Bay Hall	18	19 8.15pm Brodick Pavilion	20 9pm Lamlash COAST centre	21 *ARRAN SPRING FEST BALMICHAEL GLAMPING  9pm Corrie Hall 12-4pm
22 9pm Shiskine Hall	23	24 9pm Whiting Bay Hall	25	26 8.15pm Brodick Pavilion	27 9pm Lamlash COAST centre	28 9.15pm Lochranza Hall
29  9pm Shiskine Hall	30	31  9pm Whiting Bay Hall		 8.15pm Brodick	 Climate Challenge Fund PART OF THE Keep Scotland Beautiful CHARITY	 Greener Scotland Scottish Government



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The event, organised by Arran Eco Savvy, will take place at Balmichael Glamping near Shiskine on Saturday March 21 from 12noon until 4pm and there will be a wide range of exciting activities for all to enjoy, including good food, music and eBikes.

Here's a small taster of what visitors at spring fest can expect

Food

A large focus of the event will be on local food, showcasing Arran's impressive larder and the sustainability practices that are being prioritised by local businesses. This will be a chance for residents to find out about what is available locally and to show their support for these products and organisations. The local food producers supporting the event include The Arran Butcher, the Arran Cheese Shop and Wooleys of Arran.

They will be joined by the Isle of Arran Gin Company, Arran Ice Cream, Isle of Arran Milk, Arran Whisky, The Bay Kitchen and Stores, Blackwater Bakehouse, Clachaig Farm, Donna's Preserves, The Tartan Tablet Company, Bellevue Cheese, Woodside Arran CIC as well as Galloway Wild Foods. This fantastic array of businesses will be offering tastings of their produce and demonstrating that local is best and that it can be easily sourced on our island.

George Grassie of Blackwater Bakehouse, speaking about the sustainability and environmental awareness of his business said: 'The bakehouse makes fresh bread every day from high quality organic British flours, making use of Scottish farms and mills for the lowest possible food miles. Our extensive use of heritage grain varieties is at the forefront of ecological farming practice for crop resilience, soil conservation and greater geographical versatility. The even happier result is that these grains are far more nutritious than modern wheat and provide exceptional flavour.'



Stuart Fraser of Arran Gin and George Grassie of the Blackwater Bakehouse will be representing their businesses at Spring Fest. 01_B10spring05

'Eggs, milk, cultured whey, kefir, vegetables and foraged fruit and plants are all sourced or prepared on the island for use in bakehouse produce. To ensure sustainability and strength, the Bakehouse nurtures strong and productive relationships exclusively with island businesses, where both the producers and customers are engaged in a transparent supply chain, with a focus on the highest quality food.'

'As an independent and small scale business, wastage in the Blackwater Bakehouse is both a moral and economic issue. We operate on zero wastage of both our food and its packaging and we use only recyclable paper bags for our loaves and unsold produce is used in other recipes and preparations. If there is any food that cannot be sold after this, we make sure



Eco Savvy representatives will be offering Spring Fest visitors the opportunity to try out their eBikes. 01_B10spring01

it finds its way to animals for feed. In terms of sustainability, this vastly reduces environmental and disposal impact, and improves turnover by more than 15 per cent (a typical bakery waste volume), while promoting creative techniques and delicious recipes.'

Matthew Dobson of Arran Milk said: 'Arran Milk is centred on sustainability and on supporting local farming. Arran Milk a fantastic example of self-sufficiency on the island – from low food miles to refilling bottles that in turn helps eliminate single-use plastic. We have been thrilled with the support so far and are delighted to be supporting Arran Spring Fest where those who haven't tried our milk can have a taste.'

Energy

Eco Savvy has supported 410 households on Arran with energy efficiency advice since May 2018. This has resulted in many households implementing measures from LEDs to air source heat pumps and thereby saving money and carbon. Eco Savvy representatives will be showcasing some of these examples on the day.

Solar and Wind Applications' Technical Director Marty Mellis-Fox will be present at the event, having previously delivered a workshop for residents last year on accessories and battery storage for Solar PV. He will be also showcasing his Tesla for those thinking about making the switch to electric cars. Eco Savvy's project partner Home Energy Scotland will also be there supplying energy and water efficiency information.

Water

Did you know that 6 per cent of the UK's annual carbon emissions come from water use? With climate change, rainfall patterns are becoming less reliable and the risk of prolonged dry spells is increasing. In 2018, Arran experienced an unusually hot, dry summer. This resulted in up to 30 per cent increase in the demand for water which meant that Scottish Water had to tanker supplies from the mainland. This is one reason for increased water conservation and Scottish Water is working in partnership with Home Energy Scotland and Arran Eco Savvy to help people who live and work in Arran to save water, energy and keep energy bills down. Free water saving gadgets will be given out to households.

Waste

The Eco Savvy Shop will be sharing an extensive range of eco products and Think About Plastic will be sharing the importance of solutions like these, through a plastic-free information station.



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In addition to all of the local business representatives the Eco Savvy team will be on hand to answer any questions and showcase some of their many projects that are involved with. No_B10spring03



The Arran Eco Savvy Schools' Committee will be at Spring Fest to speak about some of the work that they have been doing. 01_B10spring02



Arran Milk will be one of the organisations offering visitors the chance to try their product and learn about its eco credentials. No_B10spring04

Travel

The Sustainable Island Life (SIL) project has had a huge focus on travel, running the very popular island wide eBike scheme, a community lift share and developing Arran's first Savvy Travel Map. At Spring Fest Eco Savvy will be running an eBike obstacle course challenge. As well as this, Arran High School Mountain Bike Club will be offering free bike MOT's.

Climate literacy

The entire world now is very vulnerable to the climate crisis and many residents are being weighed down with worry about the future, magnified with the increasing storms and flooding so close to home. The community on Arran has been doing a huge amount to reduce carbon emissions, and this event is a chance to show support for this action and

inspire for a continuation of that. The Arran Schools' Eco Committee, made up with pupil representatives of each school will be there to share some of the exciting projects they're working on.

Arran Spring Fest is being put together by the Sustainable Island life team of Arran Eco Savvy. The Sustainable Island Life project is a two year project funded by the Scottish Government which supports residents in making educated lifestyle changes in the domains of food, energy and travel. This event is also a celebration as it marks the completion of the first year of the project, and some of the achievements will be acknowledged at the event.

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Shiskine sweeps the bo



James Smith as Nico with nanny Karen (Shannon Galbraith) and a giant teddy. 01_B10play03



Karin and Albert (Innis Thorborn) look at Nico's family photos. 01_B10play04



Albert makes a point to Nico. 01_B10play05



Things get out of hand when Nico shoots Albert. 01_B10play06

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

James Smith had a double reason to celebrate his big birthday this week.

At the Isle of Arran Drama Association 2020 one-act play festival, he picked up both the junior and senior acting performance trophies – making the youth category just days before his 18th birthday.

He lifted the youth prize for his performance as Aubrey in the Shiskine Junior Drama production of *Jump Off* and the adult trophy for his performance as Nico in *Albert* by Shiskine Drama Club.

It was a good night for Shiskine Drama Club, which lifted the trophies for the best youth play (*Jump Off*) and adult play (*Albert*). There was also a best supporting actor prize for Charles Currie as the narrator in *Mirror, Mirror*, which was many people's favourite. But he has had to wait a while as it is his first individual prize at the festival since 1979.

Adjudicator Dave Bennet said it had been an 'excellent festival' and it was refreshing to see a number of plays he not seen before and the high level of interest in performing arts on the island.



The children huddle together in prayer down the mine in *Bye Baby Bunting*. 01_B10play01

Here is a brief summary of the plays performed.

Bye Baby Bunting

Whiting Bay Youths got the festival off to an entertaining, if sombre, start. The cast of seven played a group of children working in a coal mine in 1839 who end up trapped. As adjudicator Dave Bennet remarked, children aged between seven and 13 really did work long hours down the mines in the distant past.

The play sees the children gradually starved of oxygen and telling of their hopes

and dreams with their dying breath. Mr Bennet said the players interacted very well during the play which, he said, was 'real entertainment' and 'absolutely wonderful'. He praised the use of candles in lighting and dimming the set.

Albert

Shiskine Drama Club changed the mood with a comedy of errors set in a flat in Paris. While the play is all in English, the comedy comes from the fact that the Finnish woman and the Italian and

British men cannot understand each other and deadly chaos ensues.

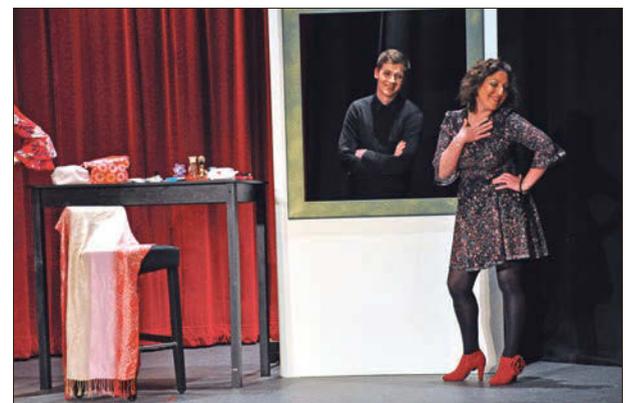
The acting in the three-handed play, featuring Shannon Galbraith, James Smith and Innis Thorborn, was described by the adjudicator as really high class and he said the production was 'absolutely superb'.

Prats

Whiting Bay Music and Drama staged this comedy, written by Andy McNamara, about the Preparing Responsibly for Anarchy



Above left: stepmother (Sheila Gilmore) is not happy with the mirror (Rory Morrison) in *Mirror, Mirror*. 01_B10play13



Above: stepdaughter (Deborah Robertson) likes what she hears from the mirror. 01_B10play14



Left: awakened from her sleep the stepdaughter introduces her Prince Charming (James Smith). 01_B10play15

boards at drama festival

Tomorrow Society (Prats). The scene is a secret bunker which is the headquarters for the society and sees the group members preparing their plans in the event of a breakdown in society.

Beans are a central theme of the comedy but danger appears when the chairman Tom, played by Allan Nicol, turns into a zombie or does he? We are left to wonder. The adjudicator said it was an unusual piece but said the acting was very strong and very relaxed.

Murder Thricely

There was a big cast in this comedy-drama staged by the Lamlash Junior Drama Group. Set in a manor house drawing room the play surrounds an Agatha Christie-type murder investigation among the guests, which turns out to be a triple murder of the title.

The adjudicator said it was a difficult piece and had been a big challenge for the youngsters but ended on a positive note saying: 'Well done, kids. It is a learning process.'

Mirror, Mirror

Shiskine Drama Club really brought the festival to life with a brilliant comedy giving a contemporary twist to the Sleeping Beauty story.

The central characters Sheila Gilmore, as the stepmother, and Deborah Robertson, as her stepdaughter, were superb, ably assisted by Rory Morrison as the mirror and narrator Charles Currie assisted by a hilarious procession of princes.

The adjudicator said there had been excellent action and said the princes were a treat. He said the audience had shown their appreciation with their big applause and laughter. Mr Bennet said it had been 'thoroughly enjoyable'.

The Baby Machine

Lamlash Drama closed Friday night with another comedy surrounding a Chinese fertility machine which saw Betty (Stacey Gordon) pregnant in her 60s. But things get really complicated in a hilarious scene where a nun (Joe Godwin) and her friend Isobel (Jill McKillop) also get pregnant because of the machine, leading to hilarious results.

The adjudicator said the performances by all the cast were really natural and added: 'Overall the story was well told and very, very funny.'

Jump Off

On Saturday, Shiskine Junior Drama performed

Jump Off, set entirely on the sixth-floor window ledge of an office building which won James Smith his youth acting prize performing alongside Zara Wilson as Pauline.

The adjudicator said the acting was 'competent' from both of them and the play had a great surprise ending. He praised the 'lovely, excellent' Father Ryan (Lewis Campbell) and added: 'Overall a great start to the evening.'

Curses, Foiled Again!

Whiting Bay Club of Drama and Music rounded off the festival with this dramatic comedy.

A play within a play, the action centres on the eve-of-performance dress rehearsal of Henry's (Patrick Scott) send-up of a Victorian tragedy and it running anything but smoothly as the cast constantly step out of character to bicker.

The adjudicator said the characterisation had been strong from all the actors and singled out Beverley Scott for giving an 'outstanding performance' as the nurse. He said the costumes were good and there were good groupings but felt the pace needed to vary.



The Prats in their secret bunker hideout. 01_B10play07



Their stash of beans to face Armageddon are revealed. 01_B10play08



Above: The police carry out their investigation in Murder Thricely. 01_B10play10



Left: Tara Moxley mourns the death of Dr Carstairs. 01_B10play11



The murderer is finally exposed in Murder Thricely. 01_B10play12



Prince 3 (Eric Dunn) is sent packing by the narrator Charles Currie. 01_B10play16



Aubrey (James Smith) and Pauline (Zara Wilson) on the ledge in Jump Off. 01_B10play20



Betty (Stacey Gordon) and Isobel (Jilly McKillop) discover they are pregnant. 01_B10play17



Father Ryan (Lewis Campbell) offers his assistance. 01_B10play22



The hilarious scene where Sister Frances finds herself pregnant. 01_B10play18



Left: villain Jasper Rotten (Patrick Scott), Nurse (Beverley Scott) and maidservant Lucy (Val Waite) bicker over their lines in Curses, Foiled Again! 01_B10play23

Below: Nell the heroine is swept off her feet by Victor the hero (Andy McNamara). 01_B10play25



Jerry (Allan Little) and Paul (Duncan Heenan) ponder what they have done. 01_B10play19





Producer Allan Nicol and the cast of Curses, Foiled Again! 01_B10winners11



Producer Sheila Gilmore and stage manager Rory Morrison with the cast of Jump Off. 01_B10winners10



Producer Sheila Gilmore with the cast of Albert and Rory Morrison. Shannon Galbraith is missing. 01_B10winners09

And the winners are ...

Jean Bannatyne Trophy for best supporting youth performance – Jake Early.
Douglas Sillars Trophy for best youth performance – James Smith.
Mattie Gillies Trophy for best supporting performance – Charles Currie.
Monie Kelso Trophy for best performance – James Smith for his role as Nico (Albert).
Whiting Bay Club of Drama and Music Golden Anniversary Trophy for best moment of theatre – balloon burst in Prats.
Mary Stewart Orr Trophy for best youth team – Shiskine Junior Drama for Jump Off.
Millhill Players Trophy for best contrast play to winning production – Whiting Bay Club of Drama and Music (Curses, Foiled Again!).
The Archie Kerr Wooley Trophy for most points in the festival – Shiskine Drama Club (Albert).



Jake Early collects the Jean Bannatyne Trophy from Dave Bennet. 01_B10winners01



James Smith wins the Douglas Sillars trophy for best youth performance. 01_B10winners02



Charles Currie receives the Mattie Gillies Trophy for best supporting actor. 01_B10winners03



James Smith with his best acting adult prize for this performance in Albert. 01_B10winnes04



Writer Andy McNamara collects the trophy for the best moment of theatre for Prats. 01_B10winners05



Sheila Gilmore collects the Mary Stewart Orr Trophy for the best youth team Shiskine Junior Drama. 01_B10winners06



Producer Allan Nicol collects the Millhill Players Trophy for Whiting Bay Club of Drama and Music. 01_B10winners07



Producer Sheila Gilmore with the Archie Kerr Wooley Trophy for the play gaining the highest mark in the festival – Albert by Shiskine Drama Club. 01_B10winners08

Shiskine 'rural' celebrates



The ladies of Shiskine WRI celebrate the institute's 70th anniversary in March 1990 at the Kinloch Hotel. 01_B10shiskine01



Members of Shiskine WRI celebrate their 80th anniversary in the Kinloch Hotel in March 2000 with, seated, Lady Jean, Shiskine honorary president Mrs Helen MacAlister and national chairwoman Kay Wragg. 01_B10shiskine02



Lamlash SWRI celebrated 60 years in 1983. 01_B10shiskine03

Shiskine is the oldest Scottish Women's Institute on Arran. It was formed 100 years ago and will celebrate its centenary in style next week. Hugh Boag takes a look back at 100 years of the SWI on Arran which includes extracts of an article by the late Edna Picken of Kilmory printed 30 years ago in the Banner.

'If you know a good thing, pass it on,' that is the motto of the Women's Institute, a movement which started in Canada in 1897 and, spread to Europe and to Ireland in 1910, followed by institutes in England and Wales in 1916. Scotland formed its first institute of SWRI at Londniddry, East Lothian in 1917.

For the first five years the organising of the SWRI was carried out by a group of advisers from the Board of Agriculture, assisted by an Advisory Council of SWRI members. As membership increased, more institutes were formed and federations founded. The institute dropped the 'rural' from its name five years ago in a bid to make it more modern and relevant.

The first institute formed on Arran was Shiskine on March 10, 1920. It was followed by Lamlash in 1923, Corrie in 1924, Brodick in the same year, Kilmory in 1926, Whiting Bay in 1927, Lochranza in the same year and Kildonan much later in 1947.

Enthusiasm

The WRI movement was started on Arran by the

diligence and enthusiasm of Her Grace the late Duchess of Montrose, when, as Marchioness of Graham, together with a few ladies, she started the Shiskine institute.

Arran is one of the smaller federations and in the early years was actually joined with Buteshire, but after Brodick was formed Arran had four institutes and was therefore able to commence its own federation on October 25, 1925. The federation's first office bearers were: president Lady Graham, vice president Miss McBride, secretary Mrs Stewart-Orr and treasurer Mrs Lamb.

Affiliation fee

To start a workable fund, institutes were asked to pay £1, plus an affiliation fee of two pence per member.

It was agreed by the newly formed federation that the institutes should show a sample of their work at the Farmers Society Show in 1926. Entry consisted of classes in knitted goods, home-made rugs, embroidery and leather work.

There was no mention of baking but girdle scones, pancakes, oatcakes, butter and honey could be entered.

It was also in 1926, through the Carnegie Trust, that

instructors began classes in Scottish Country Dancing and also in elocution. These commenced with the teacher coming to the island during her Christmas holidays to take classes.

The WRI Drama Club was started in 1929 and many teams went forward to complete in the island drama festival, with the winning team going off the island to complete for the Anstruther Gray Drama Trophy.

It is interesting to note that Shiskine won this trophy in 1950, having travelled to Dingwall, where the festival was held that year.

The golf match is an important feature on the island with two matches being played annually, and the winners going to the mainland to complete in the finals. Outdoor bowling is now also part of the SWI sporting calendar.

The SWI has always had an interest in the musical festival.

The Winter Rally, as it is known today, started off as an outdoor picnic, where members gathered to listen to a talk or demonstration as arranged by the federation, then it took over as a tour off the island, usually in May.

The SWI involvement with the Arran Farmers Society could perhaps be called the highlight of the year when members put their annual show of home baking and handicrafts on display competing in many various classes.

Under canvas

It was not always as easy to arrange as it is today. The 'cattle show' changed venue every year and usually the WRI show was under canvas in a large tent hired for the purpose.

But when the Arran Farmers Society decided to hold the show annually in Lamlash, the federation was able to get a room for displaying the members' work.

In the early years they received a grant of £10 from the Highland Agricultural Society.

This grant was given for two years and then missed for two years, so each institute had to forward 30 shillings to help with the prize money. In 1933 Lady Graham suggested a Community Tray of Home Baking for which she would donate a trophy.

During the years of the



The overall winner at the 1987 WRI show was Mrs F Cook of Sliderry Moor with this shawl. 01_B10shiskine05

its centenary

Second World War, WRI members were active in many ways, helping with evacuated children, salvage collection, aiding the Red Cross, growing more vegetables and taking over from the men and women who had left the island to give service to their country.

Just after the war in 1947 the WRI tried to do a survey to ensure that every house would have electricity and water installed.

Always interested in island life, the WRI was represented on the hospital board of the War Memorial Hospital.

Two members were co-opted to Bute Educational Committee. One member was elected to Arran Youth Committee in 1943, with a trophy being being donated in later years for inter-village competition. Clyde Steamers Co asked for two WRI mem-

bers to join its committee in 1954. They also support youth activities and the SWI have for many years donated sports medals to Arran High School. Also presented in 1967 were a lectern and bible.

And, since the formation of a home for the elderly, SWI members visit and entertain the elderly people throughout the year.

Two important social events were held; one in 1967 when three members were amongst the ladies presented to HM The Queen and Prince Philip at the institute's Golden Jubilee celebrations in Edinburgh.

The other event was when, by the courtesy of the Arran Farmers Society, the WRI ladies were allowed to share the visit of the Princess Royal to the 150th show.

Membership has sadly decreased over the decades. In

1950 there were 800 members on the island, by 1970 it stood at 506, by 1990 it was down to 300 and today sits at just 115.

In the first 70 years the WRI federation only had two honorary presidents. The founder Lady Graham was president from 1920 to 1958, when, following her mother's death, The Lady Jean Fforde accepted the office, a position she held until her death.

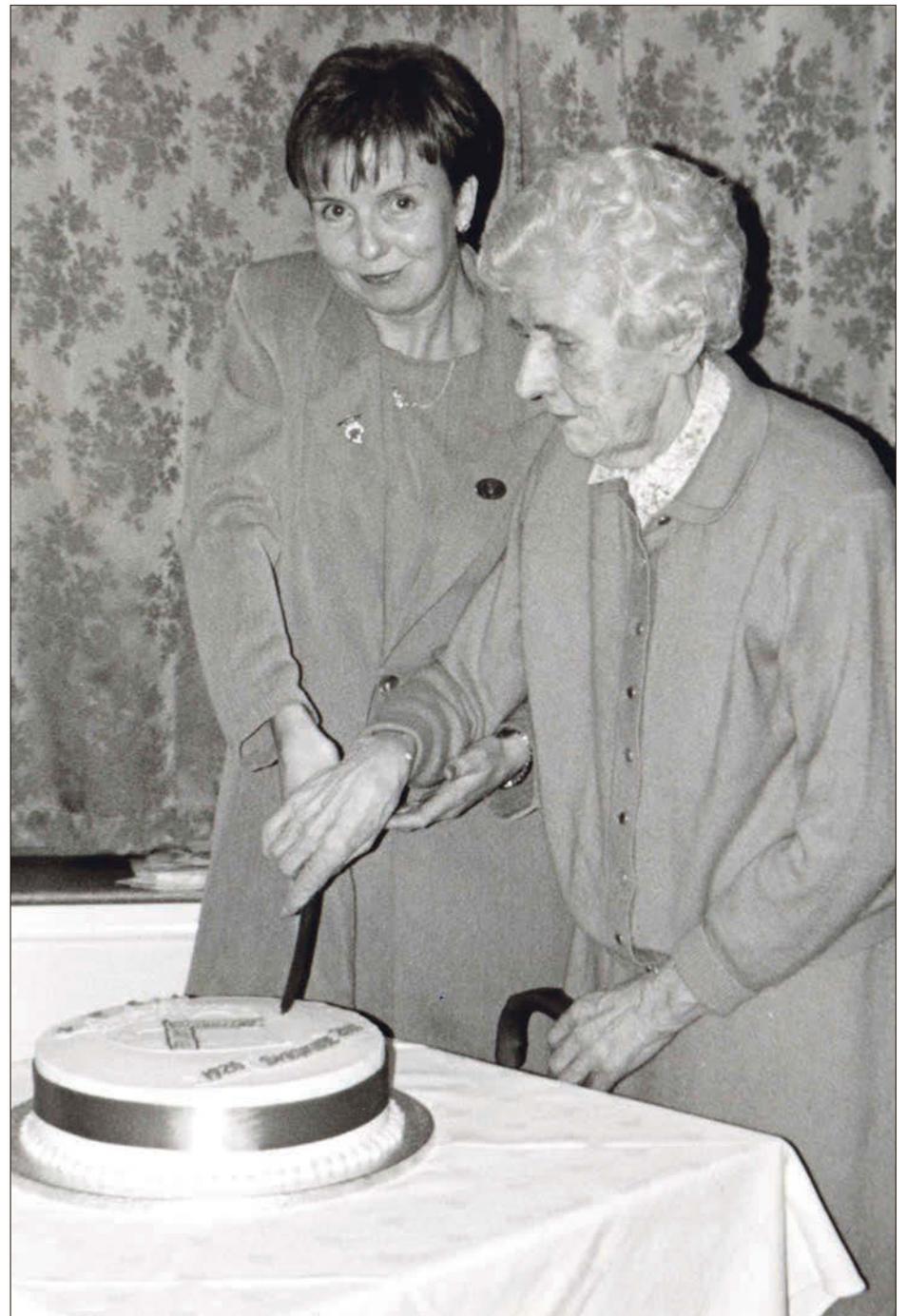
Edna signed off her history of the SWI with the following message, which is as relevant today as it was 30 years ago: 'As we go forward into the future, we, the members of the SWI are a group of ladies who wish to retain our rural way of life and customs, while also keeping up with modern times. A warm welcome awaits any ladies who would like to join any of the nine institutes throughout the island.'



Shiskine SWI were the biggest winners at the 2016 one act drama festival lifting four trophies including the top prize for their two-handed play *Daisy Markham*. 01_B10shiskine07



Actors from Shiskine SWI perform a scene from their play *Darlings You Were Wonderful* at the drama festival in 2015. 01_B10shiskine08



President Alice Anderson helps Betty Currie cut the cake at the 80th anniversary. At the time Betty had been a member of Shiskine WRI for 69 years and had rarely missed a meeting. 01_B10shiskine06



A number of ladies were made honorary members at the 80th anniversary in 2000. They were, left to right: Helen MacDonald, Betty Ingham, Martha Currie, Cathy Murchie, Margaret Frew, Mary Smith, Betty Currie and Elise Bannatyne. 01_B10shiskine04

LEISURE & ENTERTAINMENT

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON IN ARRAN

Corrie Film Club presents ...

The Guilty (Denmark 2017, 85 mins, cert 15)
Corrie Film Club's March presentation is an interesting film from Denmark.

Asger is a police officer who enters a race against time when he answers an emergency call from a kidnapped woman. Soon he realises he is dealing with a crime more complex than he thought.

The Guardian says: 'A multi-award-winning debut, *The Guilty* is a masterclass in wringing breathless tension from just a few key ingredients. The film takes place in two rooms, and the story unfolds in a series of phone calls. A police officer assigned to emergency dispatch duty takes a desperate call from a kidnapped woman. The 75 minutes that follow are so taut you almost forget to breathe.'

A nerve-racking thriller in sound Scandi-noir tradition and definitely worth watching.

Corrie and Sannox Hall tomorrow (Sunday) at 8pm.



Chef Stuart McPherson gives advice to the contestants.



Stuart gives eventual winners Fiona and Emma some tips.



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Coconut creation takes the biscuit at cooking contest

A Ready, Steady, Cook workshop was recently held by Arran Eco Savvy at Arran High School.

Six teams comprising of two and three members had just 45 minutes to cook a two-course meal. The purpose was to deliver food waste prevention practice and upskilling in a fun, social, competitive way.

All the ingredients came from the Eco Savvy food share initiative so the teams did not know what they were going to be able to cook in advance. Each attendee could bring one secret, special ingredient, with one contestant impressing the judge with their choice of wild, foraged garlic.

Stuart McPherson, head chef at the Lagg Distillery, provided cooking expertise and support to teams and judged the competition. The competition criteria were taste, presentation and



The teams pick their produce to cook.

creativity of dish name. The winners were Fiona Mackintosh and Emma Jessop, who managed to make a delicious tasting vegetable coconut curry, rice, flatbread and blueberry pancakes with whipped cream in the time given.

It was really hard to judge and the calibre of dishes was

excellent, leaving the judge very impressed indeed.

While participants enjoyed their food creations, chef Stuart delivered a cooking demo of a fermented pearl barley risotto. He also provided tastings of a range of different fermented goods, showcasing the ease and appeal in food preservation

through fermentation and the deliciousness of it too.

This workshop was a part of the food programme of the Sustainable Island Life project funded by the Scottish Government. To be a part of this and future exciting workshops, please email food coordinator Jess Wallace: jess.ecosavvy@gmail.com



Emma and Fiona, the winning team.



Lucy Urquhart-Dixon and Karen Lindsay-Smith.



Andrew Binnie and his Linda Taylor with their meal.



Shane Henderson hard at work during the competition.



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A hidden treat for nature lovers

Have you ever wandered down to Roots of Arran Community Woodland from the Viewpoint car park on Brodick hill or up to it from the Mayish track in Brodick?

Did you know the area is maintained by a group of volunteers, some of who were around when it first became a formally constituted charitable group in 2002?

Its principle objective was to conserve and restore Arran's natural woodland environment. It finally had an offer from the then Scottish Forestry Commission of 20 hectares of clearfell behind Brodick, called Lag A Bheith. The group has an on-going written lease agreement with the forestry whereby it submits a basic management plan to the forestry each year and the forestry agrees in return to maintain the main path through the site and help make safe any fallen trees.

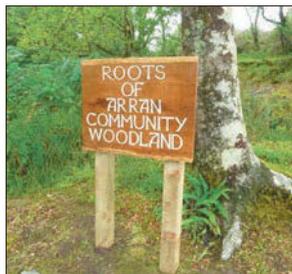
The donated site was clear-felled so it was mostly bare earth and sitka stumps with a few areas of older trees including an old stand of Scots pines and a grove of 200-year-old beech trees.

Finally, in October 2005, the group held its first official volunteer work day setting about clearing two large circles of brush, one of which is now used as a gathering space with some nut-bearing hazels, a wooden shelter and compost toilet and the other, a small apple orchard.

Several different native tree species have been planted over the years including aspen donated by the forestry,



A volunteer day group at the Viewpoint car park.



The sign for the community woodland.

Within the past 10 years, the committee has overseen additions of a large pond, benches, additional paths, signs and further native tree planting. The woodland has also hosted outdoor learning by island schools and visiting school groups.

What is remarkable though is how the biodiversity of the site has sky-rocketed

including an explosion of dragonflies in the pond area whilst the dense birch and bramble areas provide ideal habitat for many bird species.

A walk through the site on a warm spring morning is now accompanied by a delightful cacophony of birdsong. It is a joy to walk through and find the magical silver birch spiral planted and maintained by retired art teacher, now woodland volunteer, Mike Bailey.

Concerts

The committee has, over the years, made the effort to promote outdoor learning as well as raising the profile of the charity itself with music fundraising concerts and special family events in the woods.

The charity held its annual general meeting on February

29 in the Ormidale Hotel. The committee is made up of well-kent faces who have put in up to 15 years of volunteering.

This year it is striving to increase its membership base, put on volunteer activity days and improve the site's signs. It is crucial people become members and/or come along and volunteer and enjoy the woodland for it to continue as one of the island's special nature spaces.

The volunteer day is always the second Sunday of the month with tasks to suit all ages and abilities and tomorrow (Sunday), volunteers will meet at 11am in the Viewpoint car park at the top of the hill between Brodick and Lamash. They will be planting more apple trees in the orchard as well as giving out boxes to the first seven

volunteers for geocaches which will be put in the woodland as part of a new mini geocache trail.

Look out for the poll media co-ordinator Friederike Lorenzen, who will be finding out which times best suit people to lend a hand with woodland, path, orchard, pond and other maintenance tasks as the group may be able to start up a mid-week volunteer day in addition to the Sunday one.

Roots of Arran welcomes all groups to use the site with careful adherence to 'leaving no trace' during their visit.

Please email juliette_arran@btinternet.com if anyone wishes to become a

member at £10 annual subscription for our newsletter and event alerts. The group has a Facebook page which gives out information on the next volunteer day and a website www.rootsofarran-communitywoodland.org.uk. It would be delighted to receive any photos of any nature observations within the woodland by email or on Facebook messenger which can be added to its page.

It would love to show off quality images of the woodland and its wildlife with seasonal changes being of special interest, partly to encourage people to visit it several times in the year.

Juliette Walsh



Building work on the roots shelter which is now complete.



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Sweet Treats

Sunday Brunch Menu



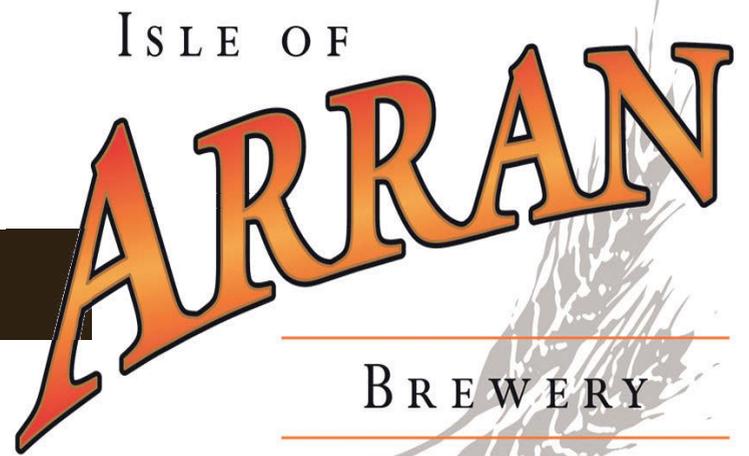
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What's on

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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, Monday -Thursday, 4pm - 6pm
Arran Brewery Open Monday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday 11.30am till 4pm
Sunday, 2-4pm. Closed Tuesday and Wednesday
To arrange a tour please call 01770 302353
Open Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 11am-3.30pm

Arran Heritage Museum

Saturday 7th March

Flow Yoga Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Kettlercise Auchrannie Spa Resort, 10am - 10.45am
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-21's Disco Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm

Sunday 8th March

Roots of Arran - Plant an Apple Tree with Us Meet View Point Car Park, Brodick Hill, 11am
Live Music - Michael Clark Crofters' Music Bar & Bistro, Brodick, 1pm
ArCaS pop-up Shop Shiskine Hall, 2pm
Family games Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm - 3pm
Live Music - Mess O' Blues The PHT, Lamlash, 4pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Brodick Church Hall, 5pm - 6.30pm
Eco Savvy & Co-op Food Share Shiskine Hall, Shiskine, 9pm
Folk Music Session Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Monday 9th March

Morning Fitness Auchrannie Spa Resort, 9.30am-10.30am
Kenneth Gibson MSP Surgeries Whiting Bay Village Hall, 2pm - 3pm
Brodick Health Centre, 3.30pm - 4.30pm
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/arran Brodick Golf Club, 7pm for 7.15pm
Live Music - Ealána Jean Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Tae Kwon Do, adults and over-10s Brodick Church Hall, 7pm - 8.30pm

Tuesday 10th 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 - 2 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
Scottish Country Dancing Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Eco Savvy & 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 11th 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
Chair Yoga & 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 & 1.30pm - 3.30pm
Knit and Blether Bay Wool & Crafts, Whiting Bay 2pm - 4pm
Arran Pace Makers Running Group Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 5.30pm
Kettlercise Auchrannie Spa Resort, 6pm - 7pm
Flow Yoga Shiskine Hall, Shiskine, 6pm
Arran Brass Band AGM Brodick Church Hall, 7.15pm
Tae Kwondo kids 6.30-7.30pm, advanced juniors & adults, AHS, 7.30pm - 9pm
Alcoholics Anonymous meeting Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
Live Music - Fatman & the Angel Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Arran's Lochs & Lochans a talk by author Alex Drain Arran Library, Brodick, 7.30pm
Pub Quiz The PHT, Lamlash, 8.30pm
Rock 'n' Pop Bingo Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Thursday 12th March

Chair Yoga & Exercise Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10.30am
Kettlercise 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
Messy Church Lamlash Church Hall, 3.30pm - 5.30pm
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 +)

Arran Punch Out Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 7pm - 8.30pm
Lamlash SWI Arran High School, Lamlash, 7.30pm
Brodick Embroidery Group Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
Open Session Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Eco Savvy & Co-op Food Share Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, 8pm
Tommy's General Knowledge Quiz Brodick Ormidale Pavilion, 8.15pm
Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Friday 13th March

Yoga Auchrannie Spa Resort, 9.30am - 10.30am
Hydrofit Auchrannie House Hotel, 9.30am - 10.30am
Kettlercise Auchrannie Spa Resort, 5.30pm - 6.30pm
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 & Co-op Food Share Octopus Centre, COAST, Lamlash, 9pm
Tom's Open Mic Night The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

Saturday 14th March

Flow Yoga Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 9am
Arran VegFest 2020 Arran High School, Lamlash, 10am - 5pm
Young Naturalists Club - Rhodie Bashing Rangers' Centre, Brodick Castle, 10.30am
Rink Bowls Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club, Blackwaterfoot, 1.30pm
Live Music - Mike Edwards Crofters' Music Bar and Bistro, Brodick, 7.30pm
Live Music - Dopesickfly The PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Live Music - Jeremy Levif The Douglas Hotel, Brodick, 9pm
Eco Savvy & Co-op Food Share Kilmory Hall, Kilmory, 9.30pm
Over-21's Disco Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 10pm



THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday March 11, 2000

Bus dispute

A degree of uncertainty hangs over Arran's bus services as officials of the Transport and General Workers Union meet with Stagecoach representatives to discuss a final pay offer. A potential strike is on the cards following a long standing discontent among island Stagecoach drivers that they are not being treated equally with the company's drivers on the mainland.

The principal cause of complaint is that Arran drivers are paid £5.15 per hour while mainland drivers are paid £5.50 per hour. There are 16 drivers on Arran and the hourly rate is just one of several reasons for discontent they say. If there are to be any strikes they will take place on Saturday and next Thursday and while there will be buses for two ferry sailings, there will be none crossing the String and it is not known what will happen with school runs.

What's in a name

The announcement that Frank Dobson is to stand as the Lord Mayor of London may cause confusion as there is, of course, a Labour

candidate with the same name. We have had a confusion over names twice here on Arran although not with the same amount of acrimony.

In recent years the council candidates have been the unrelated Evelyn Sillars and John Sillars. Who knows how many were confused into voting for one when they meant the other? More recently we have our MP called Brian Wilson and an MSP called Allan Wilson. Last week Brian had a surgery on Arran and at least one person who went to see him was surprised not to find Allan sitting behind the desk.

Bridge woes

The damaged road bridge at Largymore was completely rebuilt just six weeks ago after the pipe laying operations had left it in a weakened state.

At the time we commented that it was now probably the strongest section of road in the Southend. Not any more. The new bridge was broken up this week as the water pipeline contractors came back and dug a large hole in one side of the road. It was nice while it lasted.



Cooriedoon nursing home founder Cecilia Butler and daughter Sandra, together with assistant matron Marilyn Sutton, receive an Investors in People award from Rosie Milne of Argyll and the islands Enterprise. 01_B10tweY01



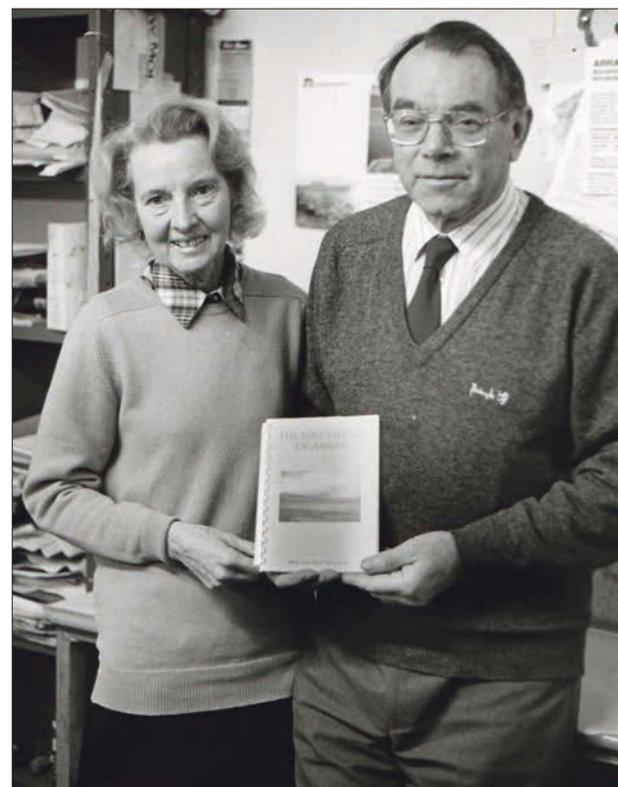
Representatives from sports development visited the Lamlash Community Centre to oversee the third Arran Sports Athletics competition and to select the winners for a composite Arran team to compete in the mainland semi-finals. 01_B10tweY03



Direct action, direct result. This is the section of road at Levancorrah where southend people protested last Friday morning. On Monday morning workers were using gabions to shore up the crumbling road before resurfacing work can begin. 01_B10tweY02



Alison Bell has been doing a roaring trade since moving her silk painting studio to The Wishing Well at Lagg. Not just a studio, it is also a classroom where two students, Judith and George Baines, can be seen setting up rings and starting to paint. 01_B10tweY05



Ruth and Alan Thompson of Lamlash have catalogued and repaired the 79 milestones on Arran and have now also released a book, with detailed information on each one, called The Milestones of Arran. 01_B10tweY04

PUBLIC NOTICES



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ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

A.G.M.

**Friday 27th March at 2pm
in Brodick Church Hall.**

Come and hear about **YOUR** museum's past
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ALL VERY WELCOME.

This will be followed by a talk by
retired local vet Malcolm Wheeler.

Kenneth Gibson MSP



**Kenneth Gibson MSP will hold advice
surgeries on Monday 9 March at:**

Whiting Bay Village Hall 14.00 - 15.00

Brodick Health Centre 15.30 - 16.30

To contact Kenneth outside these times, please do so at: 01294 833 687

15 Main Street, Dalry, KA24 5DL Tel: 01294 833 687

Email: Kenneth.gibson.msp@parliament.scot

Facebook: [Kenneth Gibson MSP](https://www.facebook.com/KennethGibsonMSP) web: www.kennethgibson.org

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appointment
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Genuinely interested parties should contact:

Mark Currie on 07977 208481

69%
of the business community
read the regional press



Source: Business Choice II, The Newspaper Society

Regional Press
closer to home

Machrie Bay Golf Club

AGM

To be held at the clubhouse

on

Thursday 19th March 2020

at 7.30pm.

RECRUITMENT

Old Byre Visitor Centre Machrie

**The Shoe Bothy, Arran's new shoe shop at
the Old Byre Visitor Centre requires
enthusiastic staff who love shoes!**

This exciting role involves delivering
1st class customer service, feet measuring,
merchandising, stock control, writing copy for
our website, social media and administration.

Training will be given but some
experience would be an advantage.

Candidates must have great people skills,
good written English and be able to work under
pressure. As you will be part of a team a versatile
approach and willingness to float between
the Shoe Bothy and the Old Byre Showroom
would be expected.

Full time and part time positions available.

Please apply in writing

with CV to lorna@oldbyre.co.uk

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**For three bedroom
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Other months reasonably flexible

**Please call Caroline Fleming
07836 346902 c@cefleming.co.uk**

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

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 8th March

Lochranza and Pirnmill Churches together, 10.15am

Morning Worship at Lochranza, followed by the Stated Annual meeting.

Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship.

Brodick Church, 10.30am Morning Worship.

Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer Meeting, 12noon

Morning Worship.

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

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland

Charity Number: SC014005

Sunday 8th March

Worship will be conducted by Rev David Watson, Convener of the Local Church Review Team, at 10.30am. Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service. All welcome.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"

Sunday 8th March

Guest Speaker: George Hazel, Sannox Centre Kilmory at 10am

Lamlash at 11.30am

All welcome, including families: children's area Scottish Charity SC015072

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)

Sunday 8th 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 8th March

Morning Service at Shiskine at 11am there will be a DVD. No Evening Service in Brodick due to flooding

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Church)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday 8th March

Second Sunday of Lent Sung Eucharist at 11 am.

Revd Canon Simon Mackenzie

Coffee after service

Wednesday 11th March

Holy Communion at 11 a.m. ALL WELCOME

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

Sunday 8th 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 8th March

Service at 11am

Ormidale Pavilion

Tea and coffee after the service

Wednesday 11th March

at 7.30pm Home fellowship group for bible study and prayer.

Everyone warmly invited.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday 8th March

Sunday Morning Mass at 11am

DEATHS

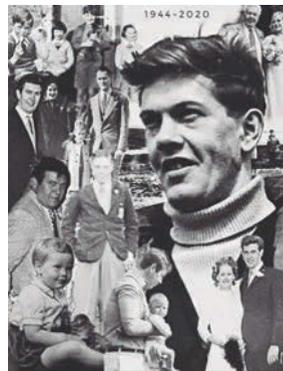
DALE - Alexander (Alex) of Learig, Pirnmill.

Peacefully at home on 3rd March 2020 surrounded by family, dearly beloved husband of Elizabeth (Liz) and a very dear father and grandfather. Funeral at 11.30 am on Tuesday 10th March in St Molios Church, Shiskine, Isle of Arran to which all are welcome. No flowers please. Donations if desired to ArCaS and St Molios Church.

KINNAIRD - Elinor. Died peacefully at home on 28th February. All welcome to join us at St Molios Church, Shiskine on Friday 13th March at 11.30am to celebrate her life and afterwards for soup and sandwiches at The Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot. No flowers please. Donations to ARCAS would be most welcome.

Mr William Derek Hall (Derek)

30 September 1944 - Wednesday 26th February 2020
Suddenly at home.



Derek was born and grew up on Arran as a son to Jenny and Willy and brother to Isabelle and Chris in Lamlash. Although he went to school on Rothesay and University in Glasgow, he returned to Arran to support his clients as a Chartered Accountant in the 1980s and 90s. He regularly visited family and friends on Arran. He was an adored husband, father, uncle, son, brother, son in law and father in law to family. In addition, he was a wonderful friend to many. His loyalty and love for many resulted in him keeping in touch with lifelong friends on Arran and developing new friends in Glasgow through his love for mountaineering.

He was a wonderful gentleman and solid figure in everyone's lives. Derek's passing will leave a void in the lives of many but his values, love of family, friends and Arran will remain in the hearts of us all.

Rest in peace Dad. Forever loved.

Funeral 1.30pm 19th March 2020 at Clydebank and then 20th March a private family burial at Lamlash cemetery.

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Archie McNicol opens the scoring with his first of four goals for Arran

Arran draw with Kilbirnie in second midweek tussle

Arran AFC	4
Kilbirnie Utd	4
Ayrshire Sunday League	

In their second of two midweek games Arran AFC travelled to Beith Astro on Tuesday night to take on Kilbirnie Utd FC in a midweek pre-split 'home' fixture.

The team were hoping

to build on the success of their first game, from just the week before, when they beat Irvine CSC 6-0.

However, Kilbirnie were not to be outdone by the Arran side and played valiantly to secure a 4-4 draw in a match that saw striker Archie McNicol notch all four goals for his team.

But it was forward Johnny Sloss who was nominated man of the match for his determined work on the field.

The next fixture for Arran will be tomorrow (Sunday) when the team have a second chance to beat top of the league Kilbirnie, this time in an away league match which will take place at Garnock Campus, Glengarnock with a 2pm kick off.



Congratulations to Lamlash golfers

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday March 1. Whiting Bay rounded off its winter league campaign with a comprehensive 4-0 victory over a depleted Corrie team, leaving Whiting Bay in fourth place after three defeats and two wins.

With the recent weather it was quite an achievement to get any golf played at all and many thanks are due to Stewart and Corey for ensuring the course was fit for play. That said, conditions were far from pleasant and all who participated are to be congratulated on their endurance.

Congratulations too to Lamlash GC on retaining the trophy with an undefeated record of three wins and 1 drawn match.

Fixture: Sunday March



8, Winter Cup, one draw at 10am.

Lamlash Golf Club

Sunday March 1, Winter league/Duncan trophy.

Congratulations to the Lamlash team who retained the Duncan Trophy at Whiting Bay with a final result of Lamlash 4 Shiskine 0 in difficult playing conditions.

Thank you to all the players who contributed to the team throughout the winter.

Many thanks to Whiting Bay for their usual, kind

hospitality on the day.

Fixtures: Sunday March 8, Glenburn Cup, 9.30am and noon starts. Thursday March 12, Yellow medal, 11am ballot.

Corrie Golf Club

Monday March 2, Monday Cup. 1 A Smith 73-11-62 BIH, 2 A McDonald 75-13-62. Scratch J McGovern

Fixtures: Saturday March 7, Winter Cup, ballots at 9am and 1pm. Monday March 9, Monday Cup, ballot at noon.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday March 3, Winter Cup. 1 Phil Betley 70pts, 2 Brian Sherwood 74pts.

Fixtures: Saturday March 7, Lochranza Hotel Cup, tee off noon. Tuesday March 10, Winter Cup, tee off noon.

Brodick Golf Club

Sunday March 8, Brandon Qualifier, 9am and noon.

Arran draw with Kilbirnie
in second midweek tussle

Congratulations to
Lamlash golfers



The Lamlash Winter League team celebrates the win and, right, Nicol Hume picks up the runners-up shield for Brodick from AGA president Brian Sherwood.

Lamlash golfers retain their winter league title

Lamlash successfully defended the AGA Winter League/Duncan Trophy for 2019/2020 with a comfortable 4-0 win on Sunday March 1 over Corrie in the fifth and final round at Whiting Bay.

The club has now won the trophy five out of the past six years, only losing out to Brodick in 2018, and the club went into the final round this year as leaders again.

Brodick were in the hunt and did the job against Machrie Bay, picking up the runners-up shield. Whiting Bay used home advantage to win against Corrie.

The final round at Whiting Bay had been seriously in doubt with all the rain the

island has been having and a huge thanks went to the greenkeeping staff for their preparation in getting the course ready.

The AGA would also like to thank all the greenkeepers on Arran who have faced very challenging weather conditions this winter.

Thanks to David Brookens, Andy Martin and all at WBGC for their help in completing the AGA Duncan Trophy and to John Simmons and his catering staff did a great job in providing superb food for the 48 golfers.

The round five results were: Whiting Bay (4) Corrie (0), Brodick (2.5) won against Machrie Bay (1.5), Shiskine

(0) lost to Lamlash (4).

So final table is: Lamlash 9pts, Brodick 8pts, Machrie Bay 6pts, Whiting Bay 4pts, Corrie 2pts, Shiskine 1pt.

Alan Smith is delighted to win the Duncan Trophy for Lamlash.

Photographs: Andy Martin, captain of Whiting Bay Golf Club



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