

THE ARRAN BANNER

On behalf of the Arran Banner staff, our readers and advertisers **THANK YOU** to our amazing **NHS** and key workers

Volunteers get on e-bikes to help in crisis

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Arran's community volunteers and health workers have cycled an impressive 1,000 miles since the start of the lockdown.

Riding their Eco Savvy e-bikes they have been commuting to work, delivering prescriptions and helping Arran increase its supply of locally grown vegetables.

The latest story from the army of volunteers helping across the island comes at the end of what appears to have been another quiet week on the island in relation to the spread of the virus with no further positive tests on Arran in recent days.

There have been five positive cases in total and there continues to be several symptomatic cases in the community that are regarded as presumed positive, though unconfirmed as testing has not yet been available for community cases, according to the North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership.



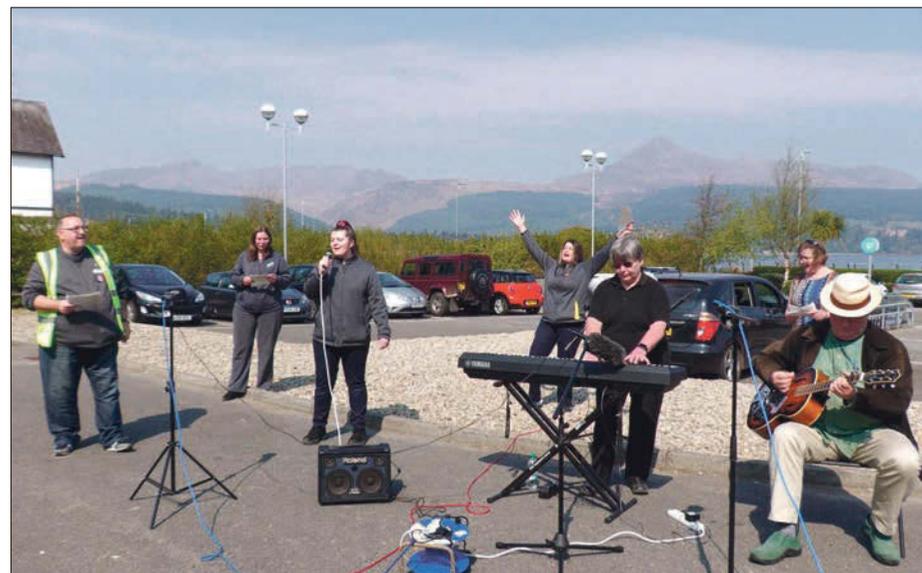
Volunteers help deliver prescriptions on their e-bikes in Corrie.

Meanwhile, the e-bikes, while still fulfilling their original objective to reduce car miles on the island, have been repurposed and assigned to COVID-19 volunteers and health workers. The bikes allow them to get to work safely and build in a bit of exercise to their daily

routines. While e-bikes take the sting out of hills you still have to push, if you don't the bikes stop! With quiet roads and good weather, two of the key issues for cyclists, it's never been better for cycling- as long as we stay

continued on page two

Working 5 to 9 to keep us fed



The Big Co Breakout Band put on an impromptu performance in the Co-op car park in Brodick last Saturday to the delight of shoppers.

They were recording their own version of Dolly Parton's 9 to 5 which they have rewritten round their own new working hours of 5am to 9pm to keep the shop filled with stock and serve the customers.

Recorded by Positive Pictures it was shown

on Graham Chappell's Facebook show 'What's Happening On Arran' last Sunday and is available to watch on YouTube.

Manager Liz McLean said: 'We are just trying to keep things as normal as possible and say thank you to all our customers for their continuing support for all the staff.'

Now they are receiving requests for their next song.

Photograph: Positive Pictures

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 Lamlash Garage

Helping to keep Arran talking

A new service has been launched for people on Arran who wish to connect with others locally and chat through these difficult times.

Keep Arran Talking has been launched by Arran CVS to help people have a friendly blether and a catch up on Arran matters or other subjects of interest.

Flyers advertising the service have been posted through letter boxes across the island. There is no cost other than the first call to leave your details.

A spokeswoman said: 'We are just a few Arran people who want to connect with you and keep you connected with others. This way we should be able to lift each others spirits.'

Call Keep Arran Talking on 600611. The office is open Monday to Friday from 9am to 3pm.

The service differs from the Arran Ear Service, which you should call if you are anxious or stressed about the current situation, if you are worried about others or cannot sleep. They have a trained team to support you. Call 649505.

Day trippers not welcome during May holiday weekend



All tourist facilities on Arran are closed as this photograph of a deserted crazy golf in Brodick shows. 01_B18crazy01

Arran does not want day trippers during the lockdown was the clear message this week as CalMac hopes for a repeat of Easter this May holiday weekend when people heeded the advice to stay at home.

The ferry operator is reinforcing the government's stay home, protect the NHS, save lives message after seeing a recent increase in people trying to travel for day trips, particularly to Arran and other islands on the Clyde.

CalMac turned away 35 people from Ardrossan, Largs

and Wemyss Bay over the last weekend. CalMac is continuing its checks on people travelling for non-essential reasons with port staff now asking for proof that they are an island resident, or evidence that they are a key worker, before being allowed to board.

'The good weather may tempt people to get out and about, but I would urge everyone to continue to follow government guidelines and stay home,' said CalMac director of operations, Robert Morrison.

'A day trip to the beach is not essential travel and we will have no hesitation in refusing anyone who does not have a legitimate reason to sail with us.

'There has to be an element of personal responsibility taken and people really need to be asking themselves is my journey really necessary.

'If it's for leisure and recreation the answer is clearly no.'

The MV Caledonian Isles was expected to return to service today after her starboard engine was repaired.

Grants of £13.87m awarded to North Ayrshire businesses

Grants from the SNP government to help businesses survive the coronavirus pandemic totalling £13.87 million have been awarded to 1,246 businesses across North Ayrshire, including Arran, so far.

A total of 3,597 small business grant applications have been received to date. Of these, 1,152 have been successful, with awards of £11.52 million and 72 unsuccessful. North Ayrshire Council (NAC) staff

are working hard to process the rest as quickly as possible.

Of 127 retail, hospitality and leisure applications received, 94 have been successful, with £2.35 million awarded. Eligibility for the scheme is linked to non-domestic rates.

A £10,000 grant is available to non-domestic ratepayers with properties in receipt of: small business bonus scheme relief or rural relief; nursery relief, disabled relief, business growth accelerator, discretion-

ary sports; enterprise areas relief or fresh start.

This grant supports small and medium-sized businesses in the retail, hospitality and leisure sector, liable for non-domestic rates. Charities are also eligible.

A £25,000 grant is available to the ratepayers in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors for properties with a rateable value between £18,001 and £51,000. Applications for grants on additional prop-

erties will open from May 5. Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'I am delighted that £13.87 million in grant has already been awarded to businesses across North Ayrshire. This is due to the hard work of NAC staff who are processing applications - which often require additional information - as quickly as possible.

'I urge any eligible Arran business in that has not yet submitted an application to do so now.'

Volunteers get on e-bikes to help in coronavirus crisis

Continued from page one within lockdown guidelines.

Riders delivering prescriptions for those self isolating in Corrie and Sannox have used the bikes to get to work at Lamlash Medical Centre, as well as delivering prescriptions to our more vulnerable islanders on their days off.

A local health worker, Janette Head, of Arran Medical Group has been commuting to work on her ebike and said: 'I've not used my car for weeks, the e-bike is very useful during the crisis. The one I have just bought is stuck in Glasgow due to the lockdown.'

On the food front Simon Ross-Gill has been working hard on improving our vegetable supplies and working with other volunteers to set up new community growing areas. Simon said: 'The crisis has highlighted our depend-



Simon Ross-Gill with an e-bike and COAST van - they lent Eco Savvy their van to facilitate e-bike deliveries.

ence on imported food and the need to grow more of it on Arran.'

Eco Savvy is delighted with the response to their ebike initiative. Andrew Binnie, their cycle co-ordinator, has

been working hard to make sure the bikes are serviced and safe during the crisis and said: 'It's fantastic to see the ebikes being used for such a positive outcome in difficult times.

'At Eco Savvy we are trying to be as imaginative as possible during the lockdown with a Tuesday film night, on line quizzes, reorganised Co-op food share and much more. We are engaging with our fellow islanders through social media and trying to help out where we can.'

Andrew would also like to remind readers to complete the Brodick to Lamlash cycle route questionnaire, as featured in last week's Banner.

You can access this on the WYG consultants facebook group www.facebook.com/groups/Brodick-toLamlash-DesignProject/ or go directly to the survey: www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/VGYCT29

Bored and Stuck at Home?

Given most of us are self-isolating why not use this time to start your research into air source heating and find out if it's suitable for your home.

The Government's Renewable Heat Incentive grant can cover as much as 75% of the total cost.

And the Scottish Government additional funding package has just been renewed for another year.

Arrange a quote from your home in minutes.

To access the survey simply visit our TK Murray Facebook Page and click on the link "Air Source Heat Pump Survey" or email me on Norman.paterson@tkmurray.co.uk and I will send you the link.

Once I have this information I can email you a report for your home within five days. Then if that is of interest to you I can arrange to call round once travel has been deemed safe again.

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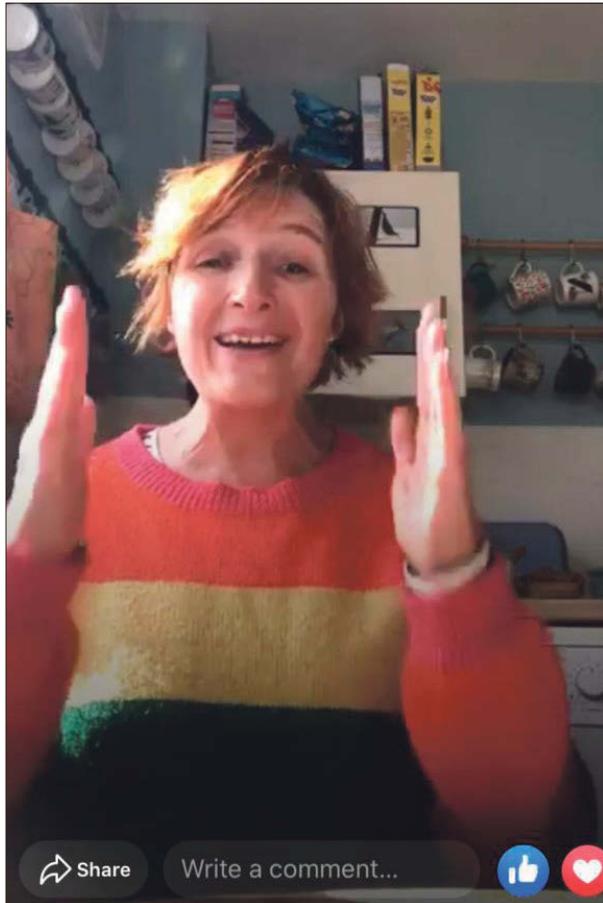
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Nickey still first for fun



Since lockdown began local librarian Nickey Summer – seen here singing a song on Facebook – has been hosting a sing-along event for local children through her Facebook page. Much like the Bookbug sessions she usually hosts in Brodick library, these sessions have all the familiar songs and a little story. Caroline McArdle from Lamash said: 'They are such fun and many of us are very grateful to Nickey for continuing to entertain our kids.'

Banner caught in chopper airlift spin

But, more importantly, Ian is on the mend

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



An Arran man is recovering in hospital after being airlifted in a RAF Puma helicopter evacuation last week.

However, Ian Good does not have and never had coronavirus – despite claims to the contrary by the Scotland Office and other agencies, which were printed in good faith last week by the Banner.

Instead the 74-year-old was flown off the island to University Hospital Crosshouse near Kilmarnock in a diabetic coma and remains in intensive care.

His wife Helen, who lives in Kildonan, told the Banner: 'He was very poorly last Thursday night but has rallied and is now comfortable, but still on a ventilator, and progressing slowly.'

However his family have still to receive any apology from the Scotland Office who issued the original press release stating that the patient airlifted



Patricia Gibson.

'showed severe symptoms of coronavirus'.

In good faith the Banner printed the story last week only to learn hours later from the family that this was not and never had been the case. We also were concerned at the unnecessary alarm this may have caused around the island.

His wife Helen said: 'The government needs to be more careful. The statement frightened a great many people on the island. I appreciate it was unintentional by the media, but it was intentional by the government spin people.'

On learning the truth the Banner immediately updated the story on our website and Ian's daughter Sara took to social media, after the evacuation was widely reported in the national media, to let people know her dad did not have coronavirus so people would stop worrying unnecessarily and she received more than 100 responses from people thanking her for letting them know and wishing her dad well.

This was the first island medical evacuation of a patient in Scotland to be carried out by one of three RAF Puma helicopters based at Kinloss as part of a Aviation Task Force to support the government's response to the coronavirus, which is why it was seen as 'big news'.

The Banner has contacted the Scottish Office seeking an apology, but is also still waiting.

The issue was raised by North Ayrshire and Arran MP Patricia Gibson, who asked

Scots secretary Alister Jack to investigate telling him: 'I am sure you would agree that no one wishes to misreport any aspect of the spread of this virus, but the release from the Scotland Office raises serious questions about how information pertaining to local communities and coronavirus is checked for accuracy before being released to the wider public.'

However, in his reply, which has been sent to the Banner by the Scotland Office, does not address the issue but only states: 'Thankfully, it was later established the patient had not contracted COVID-19. However, thanks to the RAF they were taken to the most appropriate healthcare facility very quickly.'

Mrs Gibson said: 'It is disappointing that in Mr Jack's response the point raised about checking these releases for accuracy is ignored and he focuses on the fact that the patient was airlifted to hospital, which was never in question.'

Home computers helping to find a cure for coronavirus

Islanders are contributing to medical research seeking a cure for COVID-19 by donating home computer resources.

The world's fastest supercomputer has been created from volunteers loaning spare time on their home PCs to fold proteins, a scientific task that could prove instrumental in the fight against the coronavirus.

According to Folding@Home, the organisation that

runs the distributed computing effort, the combined power of the network broke 1,000,000,000,000,000,000 operations per second – or one 'exaflop' – on March 25.

That made it six times more powerful than the current world's fastest traditional supercomputer, the IBM Summit, which is used for scientific research at the US's Oak Ridge National Laboratory. By Monday, it had more than

doubled that, hitting a new record of 2.4 exaflops, faster than the top 500 traditional supercomputers combined, thanks to almost 1 million new members of the network.

And Arran residents are already joining in. One of the first was Andrew Rigby in Shiskine. He said: 'After signing my computer up, I created a team called Isle of Arran and put an article on the Facebook Arran Community Forum.

We now have a further six island and family members.

'It would be great to have further islanders signing up - it's free and easy to install and works in the background allowing a PC to remain in use as normal. You can join in by installing a free app. Folding@home works out the virus's physical structure and how drugs may stop its replication.

'You decide when it runs and how much of your computer's

processing power it uses - no need for a high-end machine. If you want, the app will run when it detects you're not using the computer for anything else. Also, there's no need to be continually connected to the internet - handy for reducing computer virus attacks!

Folding@home is found at foldingathome.org

A similar project, Rosetta@home, is found at boinc.bakerlab.org/rosetta/

which also works on some Android phones.

Andrew added: 'My partner, Fiona, and I would usually be taking islanders and tourists out for Kayak Arran trips were it not for the virus. I'm also looking forward to getting back to Arran Kayak Club coaching and leading trips. Shame not to be on the water in this great weather following the successful pool sessions of the winter.'



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Kenneth J Gibson MSP

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Cunninghame North Constituency

During the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, my office remains closed until further notice. However, staff and I continue to work from home full-time.

Should you require any assistance or information, please email me on kenneth.gibson.msp@parliament.scot or call **01294 833687**.

kennethgibson.org

 Kenneth Gibson MSP



Horticultural show is latest Arran event to be cancelled

by Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The annual Arran Horticultural Society summer show is the latest event which has been forced to cancel.

The long-running show always attracts a bumper entry and, ironically, this year with its early summer sunshine and people having more time to spend in their garden, could have been even bigger and better.

However the committee have decided to postpone it now, rather than wait to nearer the time.

A society spokesman said: 'The committee have had to make the tough decision to cancel the summer show, in line with the Arran Show and the Brodick Highland Games.

'Strange times indeed, but

stay safe. And stay sane by keeping on planting and enjoying the labours of your fruit, veg, and flowers.'

The show usually turns Arran High School into a sea of colour with cut flowers, pot plants, decorative arrangements, fruit, vegetables, baking produce, handicrafts, photographs and the, always popular, children's categories – but there will be none of that this year.

As reported in last week's Banner, Brodick Highland Games, the Arran Farmers Show and the SWI handicraft show are just the latest victims of the coronavirus pandemic, with a huge number summer events on Arran all affected.

The society had already had to cancel the annual Spring Flower and Bulb show which had been due to be held at the end of March.



All the winners and their prizes at last year's show won't get a chance to compete in 2020. 01_B34hort36

CORONAVIRUS NEWS IN BRIEF

Extra PPE supplies

The Scottish Government has acted to ensure supplies of personal protective equipment (PPE) will be delivered to more than 1,000 care homes across Scotland due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'Care home staff are increasingly in the front line of ensuring COVID-19 does not spread to some of the most vulnerable people in our communities.'

'It is important that care homes, such as Cooriedoon and Montrose House remain as well supplied as colleagues on the mainland and Scottish Ministers are determined to ensure that is the case. These additional supplies will be welcomed by staff and relatives whose loved ones reside in care homes to provide both safety and reassurance.'

Stock will also continue to be provided to the Arran Hub which supplies PPE to other social care workers.

Immunisations

Immunisation appointments for children and pregnant women are continuing during the coronavirus outbreak.

Scheduled immunisations are an important and legitimate medical reason to

leave your house, and people who have an immunisation appointment should attend as planned. If an individual – or a member of their household – is showing symptoms of COVID-19, then they must not attend but should call the number on their invitation to rearrange the appointment.

Impact survey

The Arran CVS are trying to understand the impact COVID-19 is having on our community. In particular, we are looking into:

1. Whether help is getting through and what are the immediate needs and solutions needed.

2. Examples of kindness and help that are really making a difference.

3. Changes that are happening now that may last for the long term.

They are hoping to use the evidence you provide to support the community's immediate needs as well as enable us to plan for Arran's recovery.

Some of these questions may not be relevant, but please state that if it's the case otherwise we risk not being able to count any answers in our analysis.

Please contact Lorraine.hewie@arrancvs.org.uk if you want more information or visit the ACVS Facebook page.

Intake deferred

The COVID-19 emergency has forced ferry operator CalMac to defer its 2020 intake of Modern Apprentices (MAs).

CalMac had been planning to recruit 20 MAs into Deck, Engine and Hospitality roles this year, but the process has now been postponed until next year from the 450 applications already received.

Contracts

North Ayrshire Council has decided to extend the contracts of its current Modern Apprentices and Skills for Life trainees by three months.

A total of 35 apprentices with the council were due to complete during July and August but it's been decided to extend the contracts of these young people by three months due to the impact of COVID-19.

Club draw winners

The winner of the Brodick 200 Club £50 prize was Kyle Farquhar of Brodick.

The Lochranar and Catacol 200 Club April draw winners were: 1 Archie Cumming; 2 Richard Henderson.

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Gordon Ghee

Fighting for newspapers hit hard by pandemic

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



A call has been made to the UK and Scottish governments to support local newspapers which have been hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic.

North Ayrshire and Arran MP Patricia Gibson has lodged an Early Day Motion in the House of Commons calling on the UK Government to support the industry.

The move came after politicians across the country were contacted by the owners of the Arran Banner, Wyvex Media, asking for help.

Local papers have suffered a significant fall in sales revenues, a drop of up to 35 per cent in some cases, as people are venturing to the shops less often and vulnerable older people, an important section of their readership, are asked to stay at home. This drop in sales has been coupled with a slump in advertising revenue of up to 75 per cent, leaving many local weeklies with staff on furlough, struggling for survival.

Oban Times group editor Susan Windram admitted: 'If this continues even the short-term future of the Arran Banner is in grave doubt.'

'In extremely difficult circumstances, the Banner



The SNP's Patricia and Kenneth Gibson have raised their concerns about the future of the Arran Banner and other weekly newspapers at Westminster and Holyrood. They are pictured on a visit to Arran in happier times last year.

has continued to reflect what our readers are doing to get through the crisis, to recognise their achievements and keep

them informed about services. Maintaining community cohesion will be vital in the weeks to come and we firmly

believe we will also have a key part to play in the recovery whenever that may be.'

In her early day motion, Patricia Gibson states: 'Weekly local newspapers are part of the identity and make-up of our communities, where they play a key role particularly now during the coronavirus crisis. They share stories of how people are coping with the lockdown, highlight community events and accomplishments while providing important information on local services.'

'Despite this, the coronavirus threatens the existence of many papers. I have therefore written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, calling on the UK Government to introduce a package of support for local newspapers during the coronavirus pandemic.'

'The UK and Scottish Governments have taken out adverts in newspapers to share public health information which has helped to provide revenue but this alone is not enough. The Scottish Newspaper Society has requested the UK Government transfer advertising to news print media, an emergency fund for media companies and instructions to banks to make lending available to legitimate and trusted news operations.'

'The survival of some papers is in doubt because many readers cannot get out to buy print copies and advertising revenue plummets.'

'We must ensure our well-loved and essential local papers are not another casualty of coronavirus. The UK Government must urgently consider these proposals and do all it can to ensure the survival of local papers which are so essential to the social fabric of communities.'

Meanwhile at Holyrood, Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson last week raised his concerns.

In a parliamentary question he asked: 'I am sure the cabinet secretary will agree newspapers are vital to maintaining community cohesion and morale at this time, by reflecting their achievements and keeping them informed. However, the survival of some newspapers is in doubt because many readers cannot get out to buy print copies and advertising revenue plummets.'

'Much of the assistance

required to support newspapers is reserved to the UK Government. What will the Scottish Government do to assist local, regional and Scottish newspapers? For example, will ministers consider 100 per cent rates relief for news publishers for the current financial year?

Economy secretary Fiona Hyslop replied: 'I will consider the request that Kenneth Gibson has made. We are already in active dialogue with the newspaper industry. It is vital people understand what is going on in relation to the COVID-19 crisis.'

'Although some have done so, newspapers are not necessarily in a position to furlough staff because they want to stay active. In addition, some newspapers were vulnerable prior to COVID-19. We will therefore have to look at all such areas in respect of consideration of support for the newspaper industry.'

'I thank Kenneth Gibson for raising the issue. We are in active discussions and every suggestion and idea in relation to support will be considered. He mentioned that a number of issues are reserved to the UK Government. I commit to raising them as part of the quadrilateral meeting I take part in with the Welsh and Northern Irish governments and the relevant UK minister.'

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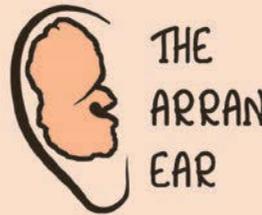
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or The Editor, Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8AJ

Tough times ahead

The news that people have been trying to come to Arran on day trips is worrying indeed. What part of 'essential travel' do these people not get?

It has happened down south as well, with one police officer in Yorkshire describing the abuse she got when asking people to go home as 'worse than from drunken idiots outside nightclubs'.

So, too, front line staff at CalMac are being put in the impossible position of deciding what is essential travel and what is not.

That 35 people had to be turned away from Ardrossan, Largs and Wemyss Bay last weekend is concerning ahead of the holiday weekend.

Easter was thankfully quiet and the lockdown is being well observed on Arran, but what happens when restrictions begin to ease.

Already there has been talk, mainly for the north of Scotland, of opening the islands first. However, any such move would have to be carefully thought out for Arran.

There may be a case in the not too distant future of some businesses being able to open up on the island, where social distancing can be maintained, to get the local economy moving again.

But when visitors can come back, that is a different question and the tourist trade may be in for some tough months ahead before they can get back to work.

In the meantime they must take advantage of the myriad of government schemes to help them survive the crisis, with some cash eventually beginning to filter to where it is required most.

Thought for the week

The stone which the builders rejected as worthless turned out to be the most important of all. **Psalms 118:22**

GETINTOUCH

email us at editor@arranbanner.co.uk
telephone 01770 302142



One view from the webcam overlooking the old and new Brodick piers. 01_B18webcam01



The webcam overlooks the Douglas Hotel lawn which is resplendent with the flowers of spring. The anvil Big Davy dragged up Goatfell can also be seen. 01_B18webcam02

Webcam streaming live

If you are stuck at home, or maybe far from Arran's shores, you can always get your daily fix of island views on the Arran Banner Cam.

The webcam outside our office in Brodick has spectacular views over Brodick Bay and shows live pictures 24 hours a day.

It is already very popular and well used, but if you have not tried it why not visit the Arran Banner website and follow the webcam link. All content on the website is currently free to access so you can check out all your Arran news at the same time.

Holiday not happening

Sir,
I have a booking on the Ardrossan-Brodick ferry on July 23 at the start of a one week holiday. Following the first minister's advice today that social distancing of six feet will be required for months to come and, car passengers cannot remain isolated in their vehicles during the crossing, what measures are CalMac going to introduce to allow visitors to go to Arran this summer? Or should all holidaymakers cancel their holidays now?

I attach for your interest the reply from CalMac regarding the feasibility of holidaymakers going to Arran on the ferry this summer.

I had hoped they would describe possible ways that social distancing on board could be achieved, but none is offered at this time. Hence it looks like this year's holiday will not be happening.

Yours,
Ian A Brown, Blairgowrie.

Here is the CalMac reply: 'Good morning. Thank you for your e-mail. Please accept our apologies in the delay in replying to you - we have been receiving an unprecedented number of enquiries.

'As of March 22 our services are for essential travel only - either permanent island residents or for key workers servicing the islands - and this will be in place until further notice so we are unable to definitively say what the situation will be for July yet.

'It is against MCA regulations to allow passengers to remain in their vehicles and we currently have no control to change this however we are liaising with the Scottish Government and Public Health Scotland daily and once the situation is clearer for the summer we will update the COVID-19 section on our website.

The safety of our customers and staff is always our utmost priority so please be assured we will do everything we can to ensure a safe travel environment.

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PRESSPOLICY

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

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

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

'If we can assist you further in any way then please do not hesitate to reply.'

Condolences to Jim's family

Sir,
I was sad to learn of the passing of Jim Campbell, formerly of Strathwhillan Farm, Brodick and offer my condolences to his family (Arran Banner of Friday April 24).

During the 1950s and 1960s, my mother, father, late brother and I used to spend our fortnight's holiday at the farm.

I seem to recall at some point Jim went away to join the RAF, probably on National Service, but when he was at the farm he was always good fun to be with.

My late brother and I spent most of our time helping Jim's brother Ian in and around the farm, apart from the early morning cycle ride downhill all the way to Wooleys.

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

CalMac funding boost for three Arran youth groups

by Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Three Arran youth groups are set to benefit from ferry operator CalMac's community fund.

The Arran Youth Foundations (AYF), Arran High School mountain bike club and Shiskine Primary School parent council were all given awards to help them develop projects that will engage the island's young people.

AYF's award will enable the group to organise 16 weekly activities, including inter-generational activities, art psychotherapy, LGBT+ club and one-to-one mentoring. Based in Lamlash the group has been giving young people a place to go and offering support and activities for young people since 2008.

As reported in the Banner they recently had the ownership of their Portacabin home



at Arran High School given to them in a community asset transfer by North Ayrshire Council.

'We were delighted to learn

we were successful in securing funding from the CalMac Community Fund. The activities we provide really help the young people of Arran to

develop and these funds will go some way to supporting that work,' said Arran Youth Foundations project manager Graeme Johnston.

Members of the mountain bike club on a ride out last year.

The mountain bike club began as a community group six years ago and aims to encourage young people to choose cycling as a sustainable form of transport through mountain biking.

The award will enable the group to organise free bicycle workshops in primary schools and villages on the island and also allow them to undertake trail maintenance in partnership with other community groups.

The third award, to Shiskine parent council, will be used to organise swimming and life saving lessons and give pupils the opportunity to maintain and grow a school garden.

CalMac's community fund drives social value by support-

ing non profit organisations, based in a mainland port or island the company serves, delivering projects to benefit the lives of children and young people living in west coast communities. Organisations can apply for an award between £500 to £2,000.

So far the fund has supported 76 projects, from woman's football in the Outer Hebrides, to the Campbeltown Sea Cadets and a Gaelic youth club on Skye.

Each application was judged by a screening panel of young people recruited from across the company's network, in partnership with Young Scot.

'I hope these three awards go some way to removing barriers that young people living on an island face and opens up new some opportunities for them,' said CalMac's corporate social responsibility manager, Gordon McKillop.

Find out if coronavirus is affecting your regular waste and recycling collections.

Some waste and recycling collections may be operating with fewer staff because of coronavirus. That means these services might be disrupted and you have to manage your waste differently. But this disruption will not be in place any longer than it needs to be. To keep up to date with the changes in your area and for guidance on how to manage waste visit:

managingourwaste.scot

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Arran CVS – serving the community

The ACVS
office in
Lamlash.
01_B13acvs02



Arran Community and Voluntary Service (ACVS) has core responsibilities in supporting not-for-profit groups and organisations.

In 2019, its quarterly networking forums brought together organisations that would not generally connect. Support and information from North Ayrshire Green Health Partnership, Arran Geopark, Arran Eco Savvy, Big Lottery, Just Enterprise and North Ayrshire Community Benefits was also received.

Through discussions at forums, the team identified training requirements which led to local delivery of vol-

unteer management, adult support and protection, basic book-keeping, social media and General Data Protection Regulation courses.

A shared resources register was created electronically by development officer James Conlan. This holds information on who has equipment which can be shared, borrowed, hired or loaned, saving groups time and money should they host events or activities in need of particular items.

The link is available 24/7 for any group to add equipment to or browse for borrowing. ACVS also provides one-to-one support for anyone needing help with governance, funding applications and training. This year, 97.5 per cent of users felt services met or exceeded expectations.

Involvement with health and social care integration continues to increase and allows the small organisation to take on a big role within its development, having lead responsibilities as third sector representative for all of North Ayrshire and Arran.

ACVS chaired two of the quarterly forums which bring together children's services and health and care providers across North Ayrshire.

These forums include bigger charitable organisations that provide valued services and are a mechanism for them to engage with local authority and other partners to discuss needs, share issues and learn about new developments.

At a local level, ACVS is involved in discussions which address priorities and gaps in provision. This involves working with other groups and organisations and sharing information through email, website or the Third Sector Interface newsletter.

ACVS hosted the only hustings in North Ayrshire and Arran prior to the general election. This well-attended event gave people the chance to meet and question candidates.

The charity continues to raise awareness of relevant policy, including the Islands Bill, and encourage and support Arran residents and service providers in feeding back their concerns during public consultations.

Examples of consultations disseminated include the provision of counselling at the schools; mental health law review from the perspective of professionals and people with personal experience

link worker (Cumbrae and North Coast) Michelle Trainer, community link worker (Arran) Lorraine Hewie and administrator Nikki Thom.

While a lot of its work is island based, the group also has responsibilities on the mainland in North Ayrshire and nationwide on relevant policy issues.

Vicki said: 'As a charity, we are governed by a board of directors. It is a very supportive board, dedicated to the work of ACVS and its benefits to the Arran community, while on the ground we have an amazing team.'

This week the Banner looks at the work of ACVS over the past year.

ACVS host projects fitting with charitable aims. In 2019/20 it sourced funding for an alcohol and drug research post to investigate the scale of hidden use and map support improvements required for those affected and their families, as previously featured in the Banner.

Community link worker Lorraine Hewie continues to help residents in need of non-medical assistance and smoking cessation and weight management. This year the link worker arranged 548 appointments, helped 14 people quit smoking and 29 people to lose enough weight to improve health conditions including type 2 diabetes, hypertension, liver/heart disease and cancer.

ACVS also raised awareness of the Arran Churches

ACVS also raised awareness of the Arran Churches

ACVS also raised awareness of the Arran Churches

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Youngsters from Lamlash early years with pensioners at a special ACVS Halloween lunch at the McKelvie Centre.

01_B45lunch01



The ACVS team Joao Goncalves, Carol Kane, Heather Still, Lorraine Hewie, Vicki Yuill and Nikki Thom. Photograph taken in March. 01_B13acvs01



Above: Sarah Cowan with her befriending dogs Corrie and Mini at a ACVS Befriending Project lunch in Lamash. 01_B46friend01

Together foodbank via the reverse advent campaign and the need for contributions.

Additionally, employment of a link worker on neighbouring Cumbrae and North coast has proved successful. Supporting people in vulnerable situations with one-to-one assistance, setting up mental health groups, providing food and clothing bank support, other community activities and appointments have all been achieved.

Social isolation projects featured highly. Befriending Arran has embedding itself in the community with volunteers securing successful matches leading to positive stories around reducing loneliness and isolation, which is as harmful to health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day.

A second lunch club has been launched and continues to thrive with both clubs providing regular social contact for older people plus a delicious hot meal.

The weekly Umbrella project also provides vital connections and craft activities selected by participants.



Sue McIntoch presents Carol Kane and staff at ACVS with their Carer Positive award in November 2018. 01_B46care01

It has increased its scope by venturing out to other areas of interest.

Arran Acorns brings together the young and young at heart in a sheltered housing complex for fun activities and interaction which lifts the spirit of participants and melts the hearts of observers. In 2019, ACVS delivered 136 sessions across both lunch clubs, Umbrella project, Befriending Arran project and Arran Acorns which, in turn, provided 1,621 opportunities to combat social isolation.

Supported

Projects are supported through co-ordination and administration by the ACVS development officer where gaps and need have been identified by the link worker or through work with health and social care partners. These positive outcomes would not be achieved without the ACVS's much appreciated, friendly, dedicated and trained volunteers,

of which there are 31, who give freely of their time and expertise.

This year volunteering awareness has been increased, especially around new Saltire arrangements for young people and the benefits available to them. To date, 32 certificates have been awarded. A quarterly volunteer newsletter continues to promote vacancies offering island opportunities. ACVS has taken the lead on developments of the Dementia Champions group which is driving forward training and plans to create a Dementia Friendly Arran Community.

This includes supporting free island wide dementia friendly training for public facing businesses.

New volunteers are encouraged to join and support this or any of the activities of the group when lockdown is over. Telephone 600611 if you want to get involved in the future.



The general election hustings organised by ACVS last year. 01_B48elect03



the Road sheltered housing complex.



At the Cheese Shop we are all well, still open and working safely.

We have created lots of bargains, to enable you to get a great deal whilst supporting several Arran producers. These can be viewed on our Facebook page and our website.

Of course we still have all our usual produce plus Arran Ice cream.



Local's Cheese Board
Only £15 (RRP £28)



Arran Goodies Only £29.80

Delivery - you can phone your order and collect safely from the shop.

We will deliver Island wide at no cost to you on a Friday.

Shiskine folk, I can bring your order to you on my way home.

To order call us on 302788

Stay safe, best wishes, Gordon.

We're here to help on Arran

This list of business services has been compiled by the Arran Community and Voluntary Service (ACVS) to assist everyone who is self-isolating or unwell. There are a range of food delivery services and other resources to keep you busy while staying at home. Please bear in mind that although most of the deliveries are free, the businesses are doing this by goodwill and if you are placing an order be considerate of volume vs cost. Thanks to all concerned for providing information and adapting what they do in these challenging times. Shop local, support your community!

Scotland's Citizen's Advice Helpline will provide advice to the whole of Scotland. Tel: 0800 028 1456.

Message from pharmacy

Please do not hand in repeat prescriptions at this time. Instead telephone the surgery order line on 01770 600516. Order all items on your repeat and collect from here in no less than four working days

FOOD:

Lochranza Centre

Hot meal orders delivered between the hours of 5.00pm and 7.00pm on Tue, Wed and Sun (please do not go to the centre, phone on 01770 830 637). These are in a 'disposable' takeaway form. Kitchen is fully compliant with food safety regulations and we have sufficient stocks of sanitiser etc. Payment should be made through their Justgiving page. Phone for details. Lochranza Centre can be contacted on 01770 830637. They can pick up shopping for people from Pirnmill Stores or the Co-op if you phone the stores direct and place the order. For any other assistance anyone in Pirnmill/Lochranza/Catacol can phone the centre and they will try and help.

Pirnmill Shop

Grocery provision orders to be picked up or delivered via the following means: Order via telephone: 850235 or email: pirnmillpo@gmail.com - Facebook message: www.facebook.com/pirnmillvillagestore/ Payments by card over the phone or by bank transfer, the bank details for this are as follows Name: Pirnmill Village Store - sort code: 83-23-13, account no: 00601644.

Wooleys of Arran Bakery Shop, Brodick

Shops are now closed to public. Fresh bread, rolls, potato scone and frozen pies and quiche can be ordered and delivered to Brodick and Lamlash. Order via telephone - 302280 by 11am for next day delivery or contact via Facebook messenger.

Co-op, Brodick

Groceries for home delivery, call the store to order. For vulnerable and self-isolating residents. Order via telephone - 302515 or email elizabeth.mclean@coop.co.uk (preferred) including your name, address, telephone number and membership details - it may take up to one day to be called back. Delivery schedule: Monday: Corrie, Sannox, Glen Estate, Brodick. Tuesday: Lamlash, Cordon, Whiting Bay. Wednesday: from Whiting Bay to Blackwaterfoot. Thursday: Lochranza, Pirnmill, Machrie. Friday: Brodick and surrounding areas.

Foodshare at the Co-op, Brodick and Lamlash

Short-life orange label food (use by and best before) will be available for the public to collect for free every evening at 6.15pm from the foodshare table within the big Co-op in Brodick and Co-op, Lamlash. This scheme is open to all, help yourself to stop food from going to landfill. Please adhere to the 'touch it and take it' policy.

Bay Kitchen and Stores, Whiting Bay

Drive thru groceries - call ahead - we will bag and bring your shopping (even if just your paper) out to you. Delivery service, suggested spend no less than £10 for Whiting Bay and £20 if further away please, free contactless payment. Order via telephone - 700229 Mon-Sat 9am-4pm, Sunday noon- 3pm, deliveries and kerb side pickups.

The seating area is now closed, however takeaway coffees/teas and pastries still available. Free hot drinks to any NHS and Coastguard/helicoptering staff/any front line staff and their spouses who all deserve medals too. Deliveries are not only for self-isolators but for any front line staff who need a break.

The Shore, Whiting Bay

Frozen meals available for collection and will come complete with easy to follow instructions for heating in your oven at home. Order via telephone - 700161 - visit www.theshorearran.co.uk - seven days a week, 3pm - 6pm A & C Camerons, Blackwaterfoot

Home delivery from the shop as normal for those distancing, or lambing! Home deliveries cover the whole Shiskine Valley, Machrie and as far as Lochranza and Kildonnan on specific days. Order via telephone - 01770 860 220 or email blackwaterfoot-po@live.co.uk.

Blackwaterfoot Bakehouse

Opening times Tuesday-Saturday weekly, please see Facebook page for developments. www.facebook.com/bakehouseblackwater/ Their bread will also be available at their usual locations elsewhere on the island.

Arran Meals 2 Go, Shiskine

Shiskine/Machrie and Brodick Kebab and Pizza deliveries available Friday and Saturday Nights. Pre-order anytime before 5pm or call between 5pm and 7.30pm. £8 a pizza, toppings: Buffalo Chicken, Pepperoni, Ham, Mushrooms, Pineapple, Sweetcorn, Red Onion, Jalapenos. Free delivery and online payments available. Social distancing rules adhered to, we will leave them on your doorstep knock the door and run away Call 860572.



Kilmory Hall and Community Centre

Groceries available as previously at the little community shop for those who need to use it. A review will be made at the end of April. Contact us please email kilmory.hall@btinternet.com.

Arran Cheese Shop

Open 9am until 4pm for collection of orders safely at the door. Orders can be phoned in on 302788. Also delivering to Shiskine Valley most days and island wide on a Friday. Loads of deals on cheese, deli and ice cream - see our Facebook page, or website www.arrancheese.com, or call and ask. Also deliveries to the mainland via Parcelforce - send your loved ones an Arran treat.

Arran Butchers, Blackwaterfoot

Still trading, shop closed to public. Orders can be placed by phoning the shop to arrange a non-contact delivery anywhere on the island - pay for by card. A full range of stock remains at all three Co-ops and at Bay stores. A 20 per cent discount on all home delivery island wide. Order via telephone - 860354.

Blackwaterfoot Lodge (Hotel)

Take our meals for drive thru collection or home deliveries available Friday and Saturday nights from 5pm-8pm. Delivery in Shiskine Valley area. Weekly menu available on Facebook page or phone 860202.

Wiltshire Farm Foods

Frozen meal deliveries to Arran are every two weeks to order you can either call 01294 551734 or via website http://www.wiltshirefarmfoods.com/If you require to be put on the referral list please contact Social Service on 600 742 for a brochure. For any further enquiries you can also contact Chris on 830252.

CLOTHING:

Bells Boutique, Brodick

Most of the clothing stock can be viewed with prices on Facebook and Instagram, some photos of stock is also available on Google page Bell's of Arran. Contact Elizabeth via email bellsofarran@gmail.com Call 01770 860597 (Bridgend Campsite) - Whatsapp 07881 400064 (no phone signal at home) / via Facebook bellsofarran.

Arran Active

Any kind of stock requirements can be delivered for free or can be picked up from outside the store. Payment taken over the phone. Order via telephone - call Andrew on 700508 to arrange.

Chameleon Arran

Basics (t-shirts, underwear etc) and spring clothing. Full e-commerce store online - www.chameleonarran.com/shop. Free delivery island-wide. Email lynn@chameleonarran.com. Messages may be left on 07740 866522.

Old Byre Showroom

Although the doors are closed we are happy to deliver. Online sales receive a 10% discount, use MAYUBESAFE at checkout. www.oldbyre.co.uk/ you can also contact on Facebook or telephone 01770 840227.

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

Home & Garden, Brodick

Household items or essentials can be delivered free by arrangement or left outside for collection. Order via telephone - 302648 - card payment via phone contact.

The Shiphouse, Lamlash

Newsagent, pet supplies and hardware store. Open 8am to 1pm Monday to Saturday. Deliveries available - please call 600231.

Arran Haulage Service/Armitage, Brodick

Continue to deliver all items as usual adhering strictly to all preventative measures and national guidelines. Armitage is providing regular services and Arran Haulage are still delivering goods, animal feed, coal and gas as normal, island wide. Order via telephone - 302777 - Can be paid online.

Albion Gas

Free delivery on bottled gas, 01770 600113/07884258837.

Arran Heat Pumps

Quality heat pumps supplied and installed. Service and repair, 24 hours call out island wide. Please call for a free estimate 07385 215 140 01770 601214 or email arranheatpumps@btinternet.com.

MBS Building and Timber Supplies

Our click and collect service continues to be very popular, however due to the continuing lockdown and for safety reasons we are now only operating

Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Fuel will be available between 8am-9am on these days and in store orders, 8am-noon, which can be phoned in 01770 700202 or by email at mbsbuild@yahoo.co.uk. Items can be collected from the shop forecourt by arrangement and the home delivery service for orders over £25 is still available to customers with transportation problems.

Sliderry Supplies

Deliveries on Tuesday and Friday. Phone or email your orders as early as possible to allow us to collate orders and plan delivery times. Order via telephone - 870225/348 - or email sliderrysupplies@yahoo.com

Brendarran Electricals

Carrying out repairs on appliances but only essential appliances like cookers, washing machines, fridges and freezers. Non-essential repairs will only be carried out when the lockdown has been lifted. Taking all necessary precautionary measures as outlined in government guidelines. Telephone - 07956 324546.

Bay Petrol, Brodick

Monday, Tuesday 9am-1pm, Wednesday closed, Thursday 9am-1pm, Friday -1pm-5pm, Saturday 9am-1pm. Sunday closed.

Lamlash Garage - John Thomson Engineering

Open 8am -5pm for vehicle repairs and MOT's. Please call first on 600328 as restrictions apply.

Whiting Bay Garage

Open 12-2pm Monday-Saturday for petrol, diesel, Calorgas, logs, kindling, also some repair work.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE/ESTATE AGENTS:

Jas. Campbell & Co, Brodick

Solicitors, financial advisers, estate agents. Normal services but appointments will be by phone rather than face to face. Telephone: 302027

Arran Estate Agents, Brodick

Normal services but by phone or email rather than face to face. Telephone - 302310 or email: sales@arranestateagents.co.uk

CRAFT SUPPLIES AND OTHER ITEMS:

Book and Card Centre/ Brodick Post Office

Newspaper delivery. Books, puzzles, batteries, stationary etc can be delivered too - in Brodick only at moment. Payment over the phone - Order via telephone - call Tom on 302288

The Harbour Shop, Blackwaterfoot

Opening hours are Monday to Saturday, 10am-2pm. Sunday CLOSED. We are also delivering newspapers and any other items required. Phone 860215.

Bay Wool & Crafts

Wool, haberdashery and craft supplies. To purchase anything from any of our makers and crafters, please contact them direct first - these can also be delivered from the shop. Also operating a delivery service. Orders via Telephone: call Kat and Steve Sparshott on 600110 or Linda MacCallum on 302875 with requirements.

Arran Vets

We are currently open 9am-2pm Monday-Friday, 9.30-11.30am Saturday. Everyone must phone first before travelling to the surgery and inform us if they are self-isolating or have symptoms. Call 01770 302511 for all enquiries and emergencies.

Bay Pet Care

Dog walking, veterinary transportation, waits with dog and returns. Cover from Brodick to Kildonnan. Uses own leads. An element of paperwork will be required, possibly online. Julie is police checked and insured and hasn't been off the island since Christmas. To arrange dog walking call 700541.

Bogarrie Kennels

We have lots of customers that purchase dog food from us and at this time we can still possibly deliver. We are asking for email communication and bank transfers to ensure safety. Bogarriekennels@mail.com - we are on the Ross Road.

Muddy Paws Arran

We are able to walk dogs of vulnerable or isolated people in accordance with the government policy. We only cover Corrie, Brodick, Lamlash and Whiting Bay. If you are vulnerable or isolated there is no charge for this service. Tel 01770 302054 or 07789 730548 or email info@muddypawsarran.co.uk

Arran Foodbank

If in crisis, Brodick Church Building remains open and the foodbank is still operating just inside the front doors for anyone who needs this service. If deliveries are required due to self isolation or otherwise please contact Susan Dobson 01770 302365. Food and other donations for the foodbank would be greatly appreciated, especially during this difficult time, and can be dropped off at the church or big co-op or can be collected by contacting Susan.

Arran CVS Office - hearing aid batteries

Hearing aid batteries can ordered via telephone on 600611 or via emailinfo@arrancvs.org.uk and will be posted out.

Hear to Help

To order hearing aid batteries or get support for your hearing aid telephone 07391 017781 or email: heartohelp.ayrshire@hearingloss.org.uk

Talking Arran Banner

Enjoy your favourite local paper in audio format. Equipment is available for those with sight impairment. For more information call 07743 367866 or 302158.



HM Government

NHS

Coronavirus Got symptoms – even mild ones?

DO NOT leave the house at all for 7 days.

Still have symptoms after 7 days?

DO NOT leave the house until they go.

EVERYONE else in your household must
not leave the house for 14 days.

Do not go out even to buy food or essentials.
Stay at home to exercise.

nhsinform.scot/coronavirus

STAY HOME ▶ PROTECT THE NHS ▶ SAVE LIVES

One party – three gardens

Celia celebrates 80th birthday in fine 'lockdown' style



Celia receiving her MBE from the Queen in 2011.

Celia Butler celebrated her 80th birthday in style last week, despite the lockdown.

With her family ensuring social distancing was adhered to at all times, they gathered in their adjacent gardens in Whiting Bay to celebrate their mum's special day last Thursday.

As part of the celebrations, pipers Beverley and Patrick Scott played a few tunes, well-wishers came to her gate, car horns tooted and people waved.

Celia was born on Thursday April 23, 1940. She founded Cooriedoon Care Home with her daughter Sandra in 1988 and received the MBE in 2011 for services to older people on the island.

Sandra told the Banner: 'She is a nurse, first and foremost, and has dedicated her life to caring, just like her mum before her. She has been a widow since 1982 when our dad Peter Butler died. She bravely started a nursing home with no husband by her side, only me.



One birthday party – three gardens.

'My brother Greg and his partner Sam, his step children Curtis and Corey, his children Kyle and Kieran, myself, my partner Graeme and my step-daughter Sarah, plus mum's

partner Alan, all attended, separated by fences.

'We cooked sausage rolls and pizzas in our kitchens and brought our own plates, glasses and wine. I printed off pages of

good wishes from Facebook and we all made cards. Pipers Beverley and Patrick made

it incredibly moving. There wasn't a dry eye when they were playing.'



Celia waves to a passing car with daughter Sandra next door in her garden.



Birthday girl Celia chats to well wishers at the wall of her home.



Celia enjoys listening to the pipe tunes of Beverley and Patrick Scott.

What we are doing to help

- We are continuing to bring you accurate and trustworthy news in-paper and online
- We are working with our wholesale and retail partners to make sure that your newspaper is still in the shops

Keeping our community informed
All the information on our website is available free - you don't have to log in

If you want to get the "page turner" version of the newspaper and can't get to the shops we have halved the price of our digital edition for the next 3 months. We will review this on an ongoing basis.

Stay safe, we're in this together **THE ARRAN BANNER**

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THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday May 6, 2000



Marette Pringle, last year's lady champion, throws the first bowl of the season at Whiting Bay Bowling Club, watched by other members. 01_B18tweY03

Lost pigeon

Dogs travel free of charge on CalMac but how much might they charge for a pigeon? This injured racing pigeon hitched a free ride on the 3.15pm boat on Monday.

Andy Parry of Whiting Bay was in the observation lounge when the homing pigeon walked in through the open door. It apparently landed on the boat as it was leaving Ardrossan harbour.

Andy, a farrier, helped the crew catch the bird and took it home to Whiting Bay and set about finding the owner, a Mr Blaney of Lancaster, almost 200 miles away, who was delighted to get the call.

He had released 30 birds on Saturday and 29 had long since returned.

Ardrossan is beyond their flying range so the pigeon on the boat must have got lost after being injured. Arrangements are being made to get the bird home.

Folk festival

There is a great line-up of musicians heading to Arran next month for the 12th Arran Folk Festival. Traditional musicians and singers coming over for the week-long event include Deaf Shepherd, The Wrigley Sisters from Orkney,

Chris Stout from Shetland and the amazing accordion player Kepa Junkera and his band from Bilbao in Spain.

There will also be Gaelic song and Highland music from Clìar, bluegrass from the Moonshiners and from the new traditional courses on offer in colleges there will be Skipinnish, Demlinn, The Loop and Trudge Euphoria. Island musicians and singers will also be performing throughout the week at the Festival Club in the Ormidale Hotel.



The Anthony Nolan Bone Marrow Trust raised £360 last Saturday at the Kinloch Hotel. This was due in no small part to the volunteers who allowed the trust's Arran representative Jan Murchie loose on their crowning glory. Our photographs show Mac MacAleavy resigned to his fate, top, and Callum Weir, Willie Murchie and Mac after being shorn. 01_B18tweY04 and 01_B18tweY05



Andy Parry with the injured homing pigeon. 01_B18tweY01



Lamlash and Shiskine Kiscadale Salver teams before the competition final at Shiskine Golf Club last Saturday. Shiskine defeated the defending champions. 01_B18tweY02

BANNER CLASSIFIEDS

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The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Jamie Greene MSP

Member of Scottish Parliament for West Scotland Region

Jamie Greene MSP – Coronavirus Update
Whilst I've had to take the difficult decision to temporarily
close the regional office and suspend surgeries, my team
and I are still available to help.

If you want to get in touch or have any questions, please
email: jamie.greene.msp@parliament.scot.

Many people will have concerns during these difficult times,
please go to

<https://www.nhsinform.scot/coronavirus>

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

or

<https://north-ayrshire.gov.uk/coronavirus/Coronavirus.aspx>

for official guidance on COVID-19

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- All hot-dipped galvanised finish
- 3000mm (3m) long
- Includes all joining pins/stakes

OPTION 1

10-foot race and 8-foot holding pen
£1450.00 + VAT

Comes with aN 80-foot holding pen and 10-foot
race, 2x 2 feet swing gates and all joining pins/
stakes included. Our system will safely hold 100
fully grown sheep (approx.)

PARTS LIST:

- 10 x 3m (8 railed) sheep hurdles
- 12 x Joining pins/stakes
- 2 x 2 feet swing gates



For more information or
to place an order please
send Farm Gates (UK) Ltd a
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Ronnie Finney 07789 276354

Email: farm.gates@yahoo.com

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OPTION 2

20-foot race, 100-foot holding pen
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Comes with a 100-foot holding pen and 20-foot
race, 2 x 2-foot swing gates and all joining pins/
stakes included. Our system will safely hold 150
fully grown sheep (approx)

PARTS LIST:

- 14 x 3m (8 railed) sheep hurdles
- 12 x joining pins/stakes
- 2 x 2-foot swing gates



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As standard, our Mobile Cattle System comes with a
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The system is easy to move and erect where
required and can be easily modified to suit your
requirements. Also ideal for TB testing and the
cattle sliding gate gives full control of the livestock
from outside the race and stops the race from
spreading out.

MAIN FEATURES:

- Made from high-tensile steel
All hurdles are 6 railed x 1.75m high
- A funnel is incorporated into the race-way
- All hot-dipped galvanised finish
- 3000mm (3m) long
- 20-foot race
- 60-foot holding pen. Includes all joining pins/
stakes
- Total 200-feet of penning

PARTS LIST:

- 10 x 3m (6 railed) cattle hurdles
- 12 x joining pins/stakes
- 1 x sliding gate

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Closing date 17th May 2019

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CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

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 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.

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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

With regret, due to the threat of Covid-19,
**ALL CHURCH SERVICES ARE CANCELLED
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran, Brodick, Corrie,
Lochranza, Pirnmill and Shiskine

Although the Church is still closed an internet
service at 11am Sunday morning and over the
rest of the week can be received at
www.brodickchurch.com or www.stmoliosshiskine.org.uk
Please note that Brodick Church
is still accessible for the Food bank.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Bishop Brian McGee, of the Catholic Diocese of Argyll
and the Isles, will celebrate Mass daily at 10am from
his Oratory at Bishop's House, Oban.

You can access these Masses and other services, live or
recorded, via the diocesan website www.rcdai.org.uk

If you are not receiving a weekly Parish Bulletin but would
like to do so please email peterdwilko@gmail.com.

*Bless O Lord this Isle of Arran
St Roch, patron of the sick, Pray for us
Our Lady of the Isles, Pray for us
St Columba, Pray for us*

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide
Anglican Church)
St. Margaret's, Whiting Bay
During the shutdown
Rev'd Canon Simon
Mackenzie will conduct
Sunday Eucharist at 11 a.m.
online @
ChristchurchLochgilthead
All are welcome to join

WHAT'S ON

EVERY DAY

Eco Savvy & Co-op Food
Share Big Co, Brodick. 6.15pm

TUESDAYS

Savvy Film Club | Online--
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THE ARRAN
BANNER

Lamlash historian talks about Clearances at historical society event

Jim Henderson of Lamlash gave a talk on the Clearances in Scotland at the last meeting of the Arran Historical Society held on Monday March 16.

The Clearances started around 1700 in the Lowlands and continued up to 1830. Changing circumstances meant there were various reasons over the 130 years during the farming modernisation with the people concurring to it or resisting it. Jim's appetite for the subject was whetted by his research into the history of Arran and the connection between Arran and the 18th and 19th immigration to Canada. He called his book, Arran to Canada – one way.

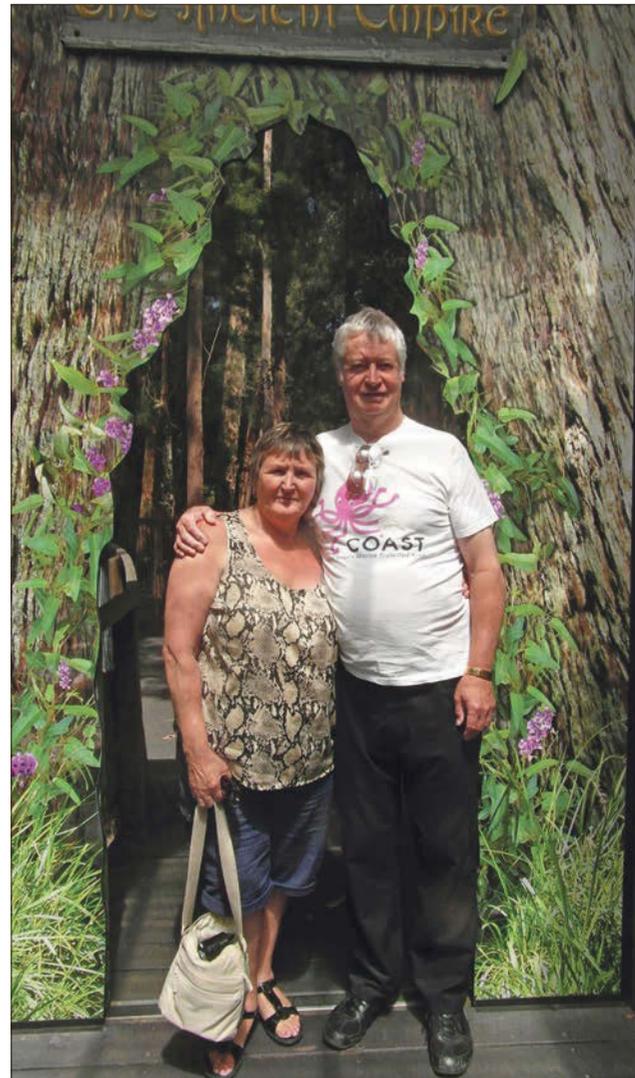
His education in the 40s and 50s did not mention the Clearances. He feels this is a very important subject and every Scot should be aware of the Clearances.

The Clearances started around 1700 in the Lowlands and continued up to 1830.

The island of Britain has the mostly infertile rocky Highlands isolated at the northern extremity. For centuries the Highland people had an independent lifestyle, based on loyalty to the clan, the chief and by the 17th century had a different religion, language and supported the Stewarts Scottish claimants to the British throne.

The people south in the Lowlands for centuries looked down and distrusted the Highlanders. The Highlanders in the west had Viking heritage following the Lord of the Isles, one of many leading Scottish families who undermined the power of the early Scottish Kings. They did support Robert the Bruce in the wars with England. Any other king who tried to 'civilise' them was distrusted and was fair game. They were considered to be very brave and loyal, fighting rather than talking to settle disputes.

In the 17th and 18th century



Speaker Jim Henderson
taken in Perth, Australia in
2013.

associated with Arran were the geologist James Hutton, who visited the island, and publisher Daniel MacMillan.

This was a time of population increase and industrial development which supported in the Lowlands initially gave employment. There were still influences and large unemployment when demand fell.

There were economics factors: employment - starting in 1707 with jute and hemp production - the end of the runrig farming system, the destruction of 'fermtouns' in the Lowlands, development of commercially viable farms and the potato famine in 1846.

After the defeat at Culloden immigration from the Highlands increased to avoid persecution, and after modernisation of farming destroyed the Highland way of life.

The long ocean voyages on the small sailing ships and the prevalence of aged, overcrowded conditions resulting in rampant disease has been recorded in detail, as one advance in Scotland had been education of many.

Jim related as an example the Arran immigrants of 1829 to Megantic who had a terrible voyage and immense hardship, and many other similar stories of Highlanders many of them displaced after 1745. The problems initially in Canada with a more extreme climate and integration was only averted by help from the local Abenaki tribe.

On conclusion, Jim was thanked with round of applause. Due to the pandemic meetings of the historical society are all cancelled until further notice.

Hugh Brown

their chiefs supported the Stewart dynasty which was on the wane. The Highlands and islands had a subsistence economy with one cash product, whisky, desired in the lowlands. Taxes imposed in the 18th century were used by the British state to finance continental wars. This caused smuggling on a large scale until the 19th century when whisky became a modernised industry.

They were also cruelly persecuted for their support of the Stewart dynasty from the Glencoe massacre in 1692 up to the Battle of Culloden in 1745.

Between 1620 and 1700, about 60,000 Scots immigrated to America, England, Europe and Ulster due to famine, religious freedom and modernisation. These were

mostly Lowlanders. There were severe famines all over Europe when it is estimated that three million died, including an estimated 180,000 Scots.

During the 1700 the Lowlands were influenced by famines and then population growth, and accepted modern farming ideas earlier and over a longer time than the Highlands. The Lowlanders were more integrated with England but still retained a Scottish identity. There was political integration with the union of the parliaments in 1703 after the disastrous Darien Scheme.

During this time developments in science, farming, technology and government advanced. This was called the age of enlightenment. The advances were driven by many famous Scottish names and

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Sannox shop and Post Office for northend



The Sannox Bay Hotel which is under renovation.



Sannaig Cottage will be knocked down to make way for the new convenience store.

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Sannox is to get a new convenience store and Post Office to serve the north end of the island.

The company renovating the Sannox Bay Hotel this week confirmed it had bought the cottage next door and were investing £296,000 on the construction of a new store, which will have a cash machine.

Scotslion/Argyll Group bought the hotel, which closed in November 2015, in February 2018 and have been renovating the building. It has now bought Sannaig Cottage, previously Ingledene Cottage, to the south of the hotel. This was sold off many years ago and traded as a holiday home for more than a decade.

This will be demolished to make way for the convenience store.

The company's Russ McLean told the Banner: 'Thanks to North Ayrshire Council and community support, in the midst of the coronavirus nightmare, we have a bit of good news.'

'This week my shareholders and I took the decision to invest at least an extra £296,000 in the construction of a new convenience store and post office for the north end of the island.'

'If all goes according to plan,

Hotel group confirms plans to demolish cottage to make way for new convenience store

we will be creating an additional six jobs. The hotel will create five jobs.

The south end from Brodick to Lamlash and Whiting Bay has many shops and three excellent supermarkets. The north-east part of Arran has no shops, yet it lies between two of the busiest ferry routes in Scotland - Ardrossan to Brodick and Lochranza to Claonaig.

'When we floated the idea of a north-end convenience store on the Arran Community Forum, the best of Arran was displayed and a lot of folk made supportive comments. Arran is a tight-knit island and local support is important.'

'For those who think village and town shops are no longer viable, we have a proven track record going back two decades. If the rents of investment properties are kept at a fair level, and a good amount of mentoring and support given to newstart businesses, they thrive.'

'Scotslion/Argyll Group commend North Ayrshire

Council for a prompt, efficient and professional planning service.'

'This decent, fair minded council granted our 2019 planning application that has resulted in our group committing to invest an additional £296,000 at the site next door to the Sannox Hotel. This is 100 per cent equity funded.'

'There was a positive line of communication from North Ayrshire Council and the staff understand new jobs are important to the viability of local communities.'

'We rank North Ayrshire Council number one, based on our experience during 2018/2019 when this council worked with us to map out a plan for renovating and reopening the Sannox Hotel.'



What we are doing to help

- We are continuing to bring you accurate and trustworthy news in-paper and online
- We are working with our wholesale and retail partners to make sure that your newspaper is still in the shops

Keeping our community informed
All the information on our website is available free - you don't have to log in

If you want to get the "page turner" version of the newspaper and can't get to the shops we have halved the price of our digital edition for the next 3 months. We will review this on an ongoing basis.

Stay safe, we're in this together **THE ARRAN BANNER**

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