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Rebuilding Arran's battered economy will not be easy

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The full extent of Arran's reliance on tourism has been laid bare in a new report on the scale of the economic impact of Covid-19 on the island.

The report by the respected Fraser of Allander Institute, commissioned by North Ayrshire Council, highlights the need for continued support to island communities which have been hit disproportionately by the economic impact of Covid-19.

With a third of Arran's economy reliant on the tourism and hospitality sector, the report warns that the loss of visitors and reduced ferry capacity could have 'long-term scarring effects in the local labour market' as the furlough and self-employed income schemes are scaled back.

The comprehensive 30-page report states: 'The tourism industry has clearly taken a

hit from the pandemic and Arran's dominant hospitality sector has meant that the immediate impact of coronavirus has been stark. The impact of reduced ferry passengers alone has been seriously damaging to the local economy. Due to the nature of this island economy, Arran is sensitive to the route map out of this crisis and the following economic recovery plan.

'Although Arran is a part of North Ayrshire, it is an island and policy must acknowledge this in the economic recovery strategy that follows this pandemic. This means that there should be a tailored approach to island economic recovery rather than a one-size-fits-all policy for the North Ayrshire economy. This report outlines the uniqueness of the Arran economy and the impact that Covid-19 has had on this island economy.'

The report found that Arran's

Continued on page two.



A single journey of the Arran ferry contributes around £13,200 to the island economy. Photograph: Norma Davidson

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New report warns th 'long-term scarring'

Continued from page one

GVA (gross value added), a key economic indicator, had taken a hit of as much as 41 per cent during lockdown and with a third of all employment on Arran in the sustainable tourism sector, the impact is clear. In July, it is estimated there were around 580 people on furlough on Arran - half of them in the accommodation and food services sector.

The report has also shown the obvious importance of the ferry to the island's economy, which contributes £170,000 each day of ferry operation to Arran, supporting jobs and livelihoods - amounting to £62 million a year.

It is the most comprehensive economic report ever compiled for a sub local authority area and it gives a set of island data that provides an economic baseline for which to argue for support and funding from the Scottish and UK governments and other agencies and is seen as a major breakthrough in island management.

Councillor Alex Gallagher, cabinet member for post Covid-renewal and the islands at North Ayrshire Council, said the report is a wake-up call.

'Nowhere has escaped the

economic impact of Covid-19 but some areas have felt it far more sharply than others - areas such as Arran,' said Councillor Gallagher.

'The report highlights that Arran's labour market has been more severely affected than surrounding areas and Scotland as a whole.

'Beyond this, the finding that each day of ferry operation contributes £170,000 to the island's economy shows the economic and social lifeline the ferry provides to Arran.

'Even as restrictions have eased, the report shows Arran is still struggling to recover and that there will be longer term impacts on Arran's businesses and communities. It is vital governments provide further support for islands given the unique challenges they face.

'The council launched its own economic recovery and renewal approach earlier this month to build back better, fairer and greener through Community Wealth Building and we are committed to supporting our islands to recover. However, it is clear that national intervention and support is required to support island economies at this difficult time.'

Arran's GVA - the measure of

the value of goods and services produced on the island - was estimated to be more than £77m in 2018. In the first half of 2020, GVA has fallen by 33 per cent as a result of a lower number of ferry passengers.

Mairi Spowage, deputy di-

'Like most island economies, Arran is constrained by its infrastructure and is reliant on its ferries, the primary mode of transport to and from Arran'

rector of the Fraser of Allander Institute, said: 'Arran is a unique part of North Ayrshire and is a strong island economy in Scotland. The current economic outlook for Arran is dominated by the impact of Covid-19. Like the rest of Scotland, challenging times lie ahead for our islands, both in the short and long term.

'Arran's dominant hospitality sector has made it particularly exposed to the initial lockdown restrictions and the ensuing capacity and social distancing regulations as the economy began to open back up.

'Like most island economies, Arran is constrained by its infrastructure and is reliant on its ferries, the primary mode of transport to and from Arran, for transport commuters and tourists. The Arran economy is highly sensitive to the route map out of this crisis and the following economic recovery plan.

'National policy must recognise the unique challenges that island economies are facing in the months and years ahead as we recover from this economic crisis.'

Linda Johnstone, co-founder and managing director of Auchrannie Resort, said: 'We are delighted North Ayrshire Council has commissioned this important research from the Fraser of Allander Institute which focuses on the impact of Covid-19 on the Arran economy.'

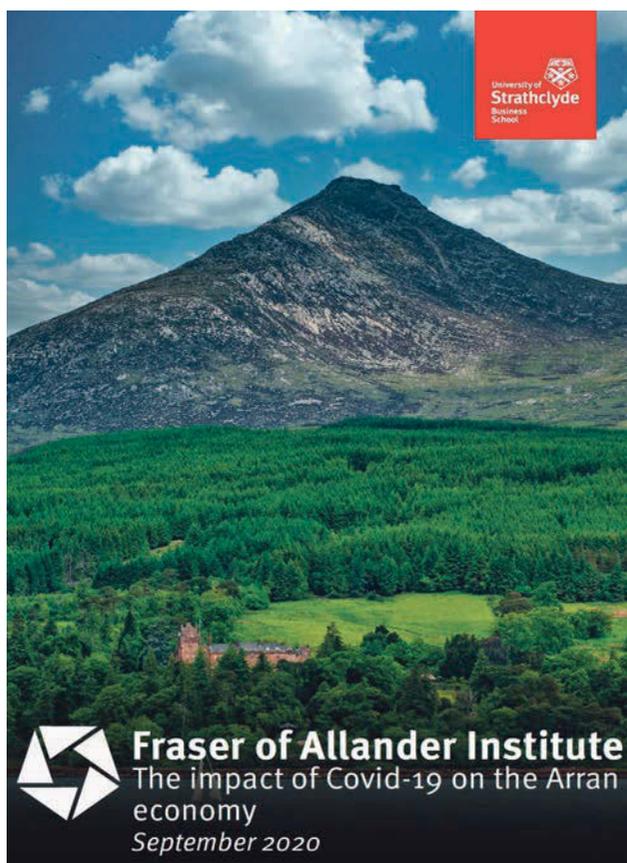
'For the island to recover successfully, it is absolutely essential individuals on and off the island understand the unique issues which affect us and this will be pivotal in ensuring the island receives the support it needs.'

The Fraser of Allander Institute at the University of Strathclyde is a leading academic research centre focused on the Scottish economy.

North Ayrshire councillor for Arran and Ardrossan Timothy Billings said: 'I am delighted that North Ayrshire Council commissioned this report as detailed information about the economy of Arran has long been needed, and no more so than during this Covid crisis. The report clearly shows the extent of the economic damage the Covid restrictions have caused to Arran.'

'Rebuilding Arran's battered economy will be no easy task and will require a truly co-ordinated approach for a successful recovery.'

'The hard data that this reports contains will help direct recovery efforts to areas most at need thereby creating the maximum benefit.'



The front cover of the report.



Pulling a pint in the Brodick Bar. A third of all jobs on Arran are in tourism. 01_B35bar01

What Arran faces from Covid-19



The MV Isle of Arran left the island this week at the end of the two ferry summer service, which was badly hit this year.

The key findings of the report are:

The current outlook for economic growth in Arran is dominated by the immediate impact of Covid-19. Although many of these economic shocks should be temporary, there is a risk that these disruptions may have longer-term implications. That is, as the furlough and self-employment income support schemes are scaled back and job losses increase, Arran could see long-term scarring effects in the local labour market.

■ Arran is a unique island economy in North Ayrshire and its industrial mix has made it particularly exposed to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. A large number of businesses in Arran depend upon so-called 'social spending' and its tourism industry along with tourism-facing industries have been disproportionately impacted by lockdown measures and subsequent capacity constraints in restaurants, bars and cafes.

■ The Fraser of Allander estimate that GVA on Arran was just over £77m in 2018.

■ Arran, like most island economies, is limited by its infrastructure and rurality and is highly

dependent on its ferries to transport commuters and tourists.

■ The Fraser of Allander estimate that, on average, each day of ferry operation contributes just under £170,000 to the island's economy.

■ Arran's GVA in the first half of 2020 has fallen by 33 per cent as a result of a lower number of ferry passengers compared to the first half of 2019. In cash terms, GVA in the first half of 2020 was lower by circa £9.3m compared to the first half of 2019. The effect was most severe.

■ In April and May, monthly GVA fell by around 41 per cent compared to the same months last year. As government begins scaling back its furlough and self-employment income support schemes, the true impact of Covid-19 on unemployment and living standards will begin to crystallise. Unfortunately, due to capacity constraints, a large number of businesses in Arran remain reliant upon government support despite eased lockdown measures.

■ National policy must recognise that the Arran economy is very different to the North Ayrshire and Scottish economy.

Money pours in for Tony McDowall memorial fund

Money has continued to pour in all week to the fund set up in memory of Tony McDowall.

The 28-year-old from Arran died in an accident on holiday in Turkey, as reported in last week's Banner.

Friends launched a JustGiving page with a view to raising £1,000 to help buy a headstone but, in the last week, the fund has soared to £14,398 and is still rising.

As the money has poured



Tony McDowall.

in, so have the tributes for this popular lad, who was brought up on Arran but was living in Glasgow.

Among those posted on the JustGiving.com page were: 'I don't have the words. Thank you Tony for the time we had.' And from one of his many football friends: 'It was a privilege to have shared a pitch with, partied with and call you a friend. RIP brother.'

Tony's funeral, which is expected to be on Arran, has not yet been arranged.

CalMac staff thanked by MSP

CalMac staff have been personally thanked for their commitment and dedication to passengers and colleagues during the Covid pandemic by Stuart McMillan MSP.

During a visit to the Gourock office, Mr McMillan, the MSP for Greenock and Inverclyde, met members of staff, who explained how restrictions throughout the past six months have impacted on their roles.

He was impressed to hear the efforts that people employed by CalMac continue to make

to ensure that the service has run as normally as possible, whilst keeping people safe and well.

Mr McMillan's visit happened as CalMac launched its Staff Gratitude Week, during which passengers are being encouraged to share their positive experiences of sailing with the company. He said: 'Clearly, staff have been very busy, whether working from offices, boats or from home. I would like to pay tribute to all of the staff, who have all been working so hard over the last number of months.'

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Greenock firm to outfit ferry passenger areas

Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow) Ltd has placed three contracts worth more than £15 million with Scottish companies to continue progress on the completion of the new Arran ferry MV Glen Sannox and her sister ship Hull 802.

Bosses at the government-owned yard in Port Glasgow say the requirements and costs are covered in Turnaround Director Tim Hair's report, which was published in December 2019.

The report identified a need for more than £40 million of materials and sub-contracted outfitting, which is included in the £110.3 million additional cost to complete the construc-

tion of the vessels which are more than three years late.

The three contracts are:

- The supply of electrical and control equipment by Wartsila's Scottish subsidiary, Wartsila Ships Electronics Services.

- The outfit of the passen-

These images of the interior of the MV Glen Sannox were first published two years ago and may have changed. The first, right, shows the original plans for the upstairs observation lounge.



ger areas of the vessels by Greenock-based Blu Marine.

- The manufacture of pipework by Babcock, Dales Marine and McEvoy Engineering.

Work continues to place additional contracts in the coming weeks, worth a combined total of more than £10 million.

Among the contracts are work for: electrical installation; engineering design support for Hull 802; heating, ventilation and air conditioning installation and fire alarm and suppression systems.

The second shows the 2018 design for the deck 5 aft lounge of the new ferry.

Ferguson's procurement team has spent the past six months managing supplier contracts to bring some supply contracts from the previous shipyard owner across to the new company and to put new contracts in place.

Mr Hair said: 'With these new contracts in place, we can press ahead with the work to bring the dual fuel vessels to completion. We estimate that, combined, more than 200 jobs will be created or secured in the supply chain through these contracts.'

The new Arran ferry is now due into service on the Ardrossan to Brodick route in April 2022.

Brewery owner buys Flying Firkin distribution firm

The owners of Arran Brewery have bought Lancashire-based Flying Firkin Distribution Ltd (FFD) from the company's prior majority shareholder SIBA Commercial Services Ltd, following a competitive tender process.

The value of the transaction has not been disclosed but FFD will soon continue to trade, distributing cask beer across the UK, following a period of non-trading due to coronavirus lockdown measures.

Brewery owner Gerald Michaluk made the purchase under his Glasgow-based Marketing Management Services Ltd, of which he is managing director.

Speaking on behalf of the SIBA Board, Ian Fozard, SIBA chairman, said: 'Following a small investment and business development by SIBA, Flying Firkin Distribution is a modernised and viable business which will continue to support independent brewers under its new stewardship by Marketing Management Services Ltd, which has proven experience in cask beer wholesale and distribution.'

Mr Michaluk said: 'Flying Firkin was saved by the prompt and responsible action of SIBA stepping in at a critical time and this intervention has been hugely beneficial to small independent brewers. We are looking to take over and grow the business despite these difficult times for the whole industry.'

'Flying Firkin is in good shape to stand up for itself once again.'

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Challenging winter ahead as Arran remains Covid-19 free

Arran has remained Covid-19 free for more than four months with no further positive tests, it was confirmed by Arran Medical Group this week.

'Many had suspected we would see outbreaks over the last couple of months, given the volume of visitors to the island, and while it is difficult to work out which measures, locally and nationally, have contributed to the lack of cases here, clearly they have been successful, said Arran clinical lead Dr Greg Hamill.

Overall there remain five positive tests on Arran, with an additional 20-30 cases clinically diagnosed in the early part of the epidemic - when there was limited access to testing.

However, there is no complacency among health professionals on the island and preparation for winter and Covid-19 outbreaks are well under way.

The work done to establish an Arran testing centre means there is now access to testing for anyone with possible symptoms of Covid-19, with systems in place to transport tests to the mainland and provide most results within 24 hours. There are very few island communities with this type of facility and more than 300 people have been tested and more than 400 tests carried out.

Dr Hamill added: 'Thank you to everyone involved in the work to establish this service and keep it staffed. In the coming months, Arran should gain access to rapid testing units that will allow samples to be processed on the island, with results provided much faster.

'As we move towards winter and with cases rising nationally the future months are once again uncertain. The systems in place mean the island is well prepared should we see increasing cases but it will



Dr Greg Hamill.

be a challenging winter for us all. Health and social care will continue to operate under difficult conditions, with a wide range of measures in place to assess and contain any suspected cases and to protect those in our care.

'Many of the changes in place at present in health and

social care will continue well into next year. This includes Brodick Health Centre being dedicated for use as a testing centre and Lochranza surgery remaining closed. Thank you once again for complying with advice regards face coverings and infection control when attending.

'Thank you for all the efforts made so far and for the determination that will carry us through into 2021,' he added.

Anyone displaying any of the following symptoms of Covid-19 is eligible for a test on the island: a new, continuous cough; a fever/temperature of 37.8°C or above or a new loss of sense of smell or taste.

It is vital anyone with symptoms and those in the household follow the advice to self isolate while awaiting test results. Call 01770 601033 to arrange a test.

Please do not attend without an appointment.

Flu campaign gets under way

The largest flu vaccination campaign seen on Arran was getting under way this week with more than 2,000 people eligible under the extended scheme to protect those most at risk during the coronavirus pandemic.

Letters have been sent to all those eligible for the flu jab and more than 700 appointments made. Clinics will be running in village halls and at the high school this year.

Understanding

Dr Hamill said: 'Several hundred appointments have been booked in the last few days - a great start but this has put a lot of pressure on the phone access at the GP practice and we know there have been delays in getting through. Thank you for your understanding. There will shortly be an upgrade to telephone systems that will give us a better service.

'We are here to help with any of your medical concerns and you can contact the GP practice as usual. Most people will first have a telephone or video appointment with a doctor or nurse. Face to face appointments are arranged at Shiskine surgery, Lamash Medical Centre or Arran War Memorial Hospital as required. Accident and emergency services continue at the hospital.'

More information is available at the Arran Medical Group website.

Extra funding for NHS Ayrshire & Arran welcomed by MSP

West Scotland MSP Jamie Greene has welcomed additional funding for NHS Ayrshire & Arran to support them during the coronavirus pandemic.

In a written answer by Scottish health secretary Jeane Freeman, it was announced NHS Ayrshire & Arran will receive an additional £38.8 million to support Covid-19 pressures in 2020-21.

This is out of a total £1.1 billion in additional support across Scotland.

Commenting, Mr Greene said: 'I welcome the additional funding for NHS Ayrshire & Arran to help them deal with the coronavirus pandemic. It is vital our frontline health and care services get the support they need and my thanks go to healthcare workers across our NHS for all they are doing day-in, day-out in the fight against Coronavirus.

'It is imperative that going forward, NHS Ayrshire & Arran receives the funding it needs to provide the best possible healthcare service to residents. For too long it has been underfunded by the SNP Government.



Jamie Greene MSP in the Scottish parliament chamber.

'This has meant persistent staff shortages and unacceptably long waiting times in recent years. I will continue to do all I can to call out the Scottish government on this and do my best to ensure residents get the health service they deserve.'

Meanwhile, Mr Greene has called on the Scottish government to provide much-needed clarity to students, following days of uncertainty surrounding whether they will be able to return home for Christmas.

Addressing the minister for further education Richard Lochhead, he questioned whether students would be able to return home to their

families for Christmas and whether they would also be receiving refunds in cases where students return home permanently.

Mr Greene said: 'The messaging from the Scottish government over the past few days regarding students in lockdown has been confusing at best and left many students worried and uncertain about if, and when, they can return home to their families.

'The SNP Government must provide clarity as soon as possible as well as give assurances students will be able to go home to see their families at Christmas.'

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Worthy report

We didn't need some of Scotland's top economic experts to tell us the ferry is vital to the island economy or that the tourist industry can't work without visitors.

However, the Fraser of Allander Institute report on the impact of Covid-19 on Arran is much more than that. For the first time, it provides Arran with 30 pages worth of statistics and analysis to take to the Scottish government, the UK government and any other funding bodies to say: 'We need money for this and here's why.'

That is why it is good to have information like if even a single ferry is cancelled around £13,200 is lost to the island economy. And that 32 per cent of all jobs on Arran are in the sustainable tourism sector.

And while our coverage this week mainly focuses on tourism, the report also goes into detail on other aspects of the island economy. For instance, while manufacturing does not employ as many people as tourism, it is the largest sector in the local economy. And it covers one of the most important topics on the island today - affordable housing. The report states: 'To encourage working age population growth, Arran will need to invest in affordable housing and community areas to attract young professionals and families to the island. This may in turn improve the supply of affordable housing on the island. However, many people have lost jobs as a result of the crisis and may struggle to purchase housing in the face of reduced earnings.' So there is much to digest in the report and it can only be a positive that Arran Recovery Group asked and, that North Ayrshire Council agreed, to have this valuable document produced.

Thought for the week

Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain. **1 Corinthians 15:58**

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Relative risks

Sir,
It is difficult to put one's head above the parapet at this time but I am not happy about the rules concerning the meeting of friends at home.

A good friend is visiting Arran next week. We cannot entertain her in our home but are allowed to meet her for a meal and a long chat in a restaurant. We are both over 70 and would like to ask an epidemiologist what are the relative risks to us of entertaining her at home as against spending a long time at a restaurant without masks?

Yours,
**John Cruickshank,
Whiting Bay.**

Golden opportunity

Sir,
I saw a comment on Arran Community Forum - also featured on this letters page - by Dr John Cruickshank remarking on the fact that an old friend from Cambridge was staying at the Auchrannie but he was unable to allow his friend to visit because of the new rules. He and his friend are both over 70.

Arran is arguably one of the safest places in the UK. There have been only five cases recorded on the island and no new cases since the beginning of June.

Is it really reasonable? Are we to be subjected to a 'one size fits all regime? This is not a university campus - we are not in a big city!

Arran depends largely on tourism for its livelihood. Hotels, restaurants, letting houses, shops, the distilleries are all largely dependent on tourism for their income.

The short season has become longer this year as people opt to spend their holidays, and their holiday money, in the UK. Arran is proving to be popular for the October holidays, which are a staple of the Arran calendar.

Gone are the golden beaches of Spain and the warm breezes of Tenerife. When visitors come to Arran, they can of course enjoy the warm hospitality that the excellent teams are providing.

But is Arran missing a golden opportunity? A simple testing procedure (10 minutes) and passengers would be allowed to board the ferry. Arran could then retain its claim to be 'one of the safest places in the UK'.

Yours,
**Sheila Noren,
Shiskine.**

Free flu jab plea

Sir,
Diabetes Scotland is urging everyone with diabetes to take up the offer of a free flu jab. People who are eligible for a flu jab should be contacted in the next few weeks with instructions on how to get their vaccine.

Getting the flu jab is the best way to protect yourself against the flu and reduce your risk of needing to go into hospital - which is even more important this year in light of coronavirus.

If you're living with diabetes, you're more at risk of getting the flu and if you catch it, you are more at risk of developing serious complications. Flu can also make your diabetes harder to manage and cause your blood sugar levels to rise dangerously high. This can lead to acute complications, which can often go unrecognised, and can even be fatal.

That's why it's essential everyone at high risk of serious illness from flu gets vaccinated as soon as possible - especially as it can take up to two weeks for it to be effective.

For more information about diabetes and flu, please visit the Diabetes UK website www.diabetes.org.uk/seasonal-flu

Yours,
**Angela Mitchell,
National director,
Diabetes Scotland,
Glasgow.**

Sight loss service

Sir,
Next week marks World Sight Day (Thursday October 8) and World Mental Health Day (Saturday October 10), two important reminders of the fragility and stress to which we are all vulnerable and which have been exacerbated during the current crisis.

Every day in Scotland 10 people begin to lose their sight. To those affected, the prospect of losing their independence and even their livelihoods can have an understandable impact on their mental health.

RNIB Scotland's Need to Talk service is available in Ayrshire and Arran. It offers free and confidential advice and support over the phone from trained counsellors, providing vital reassurance that help is available so people can find their lives again and come to terms with whatever sight loss condition they have.

Our Need to Talk service is there so no-one should feel alone or adrift at what can be a very sensitive time. It is also available to the family

PHOTOGRAPH
OF THE WEEK

Our hilarious photograph of the week is from Banner reader Sharon Wedge of Whiting Bay who captured this obedient bird outside the Coffee Pot in Whiting Bay adhering to the Covid-19 safety measures. If you have a photograph you would like to share send it to editor@arranbanner.co.uk

and carers of those experiencing sight loss. Need to Talk can be contacted by telephone at 0303 123 9999 or email needtotalk@rnib.org.uk.

Yours,
**James Adams,
Director, Royal National Institute of Blind People Scotland,
Edinburgh.**

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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.

CONTACTUS

Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ. Phone: 01770 302142

News editor: Hugh Boag;
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Reporter: Colin Smeeton;
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Advertising: Cecilia Paul;
adverts@arranbanner.co.uk

Head office: Wyvex Media, Lochavullin Industrial Estate, Oban, PA34 4HB.

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

The Editor welcomes letters for publication on this page. The Editor reserves the right to shorten, amend or to refuse to print them. Names and addresses MUST be supplied to indicate good faith, although these details can be withheld from publication. Telephone numbers, if available, should also be included. Anonymous letters will not be considered. Please write to: Letters, The Arran Banner, 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.



The lifeboat arrives at the ambulance at the fish farm jetty.

Shoreline casualty rescued by lifeboat

An elderly woman who took ill while walking at Kingscross was rescued by Arran RNLI crew.

The Arran lifeboat launched at 4.30pm on Thursday September 24 to help the ambulance team reach casualty at the coastline near the fish farm in Lamlash bay.

The woman was on the shoreline being attended to by a paramedic, however, they needed to be uplifted

by boat. With the casualty safely on board, the crew made their way to the pontoon at the fish farm where an ambulance was waiting.

The crew returned to the station and the boat was made ready for service at 5.35pm.

The lifeboat was launched again, at 1pm on Friday, to assist a 35-foot motorboat with engine trouble around one mile off shore near

Corrie. On arrival, it was assessed the vessel was too heavy for the lifeboat to tow in the sea conditions so Troon lifeboat was tasked to assist.

There was one male on board and no injuries so the boat was made safe while they waited for their colleagues at Troon to arrive.

They proceeded to tow the boat to Ardrossan.

Pirnmill road closure

There will be a temporary closure of part of the C147 at Pirnmill next week.

The road between Lenniemore and Auchamore will close daily between 8.30am and 4.30pm from Tuesday October 6 to Friday October 9, or earlier if the work is finished.

A North Ayrshire Council roads spokesman said: 'Due to the nature of these works and existing road widths, legislation requires that in the interest of safety of road users and the work force, a restriction of use must be put in place for the duration of the works. A signed diversion route will be in place.'

Fatal crash reported

A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal following a fatal road accident in Brodick.

About 3.30pm on Saturday September 19, a 78-year-old woman, who was visiting the island, was struck by a vehicle on Mid Mayish Road, Brodick, as reported in last week's Banner.

Emergency services attended but sadly the woman died at the scene as a result of her injuries.

Investigations were conducted by Road Policing Unit officers supported by local officers.

CONTACTUS

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Help shape Arran's dementia friendly future

Moves to make Arran Scotland's first dementia friendly island has taken a step towards becoming a reality.

Arran Community and Voluntary Service (ACVS) is inviting Arran residents to share their views about the needs of people affected by dementia in their community.

Input from residents will help shape the initiative and establish Arran as a dementia friendly island, first reported in the Banner two years ago.

Prestwick and Motherwell on the mainland have already established themselves as dementia friendly towns.

Jill Hunter, development officer for Arran CVS Dementia Friendly project, is keen to emphasise that input from residents with experience of these issues will be vital to the success of the initiative.

Jill said: 'It is only by understanding the needs of people living with dementia that

we can measure our success. Each individual's experience is unique to them and we welcome everyone's input.'

Local businesses have been quick to get involved and those already on-board include CalMac, the Co-op, Arran Graphics, the Douglas Hotel, Arran Active and Lochranza and Lagg distilleries.

Many staff and business owners have spoken out about their own experience of loved ones affected by dementia and are taking the opportunity to be proactive about the ways they can assist. The emphasis is on raising awareness within their workforce and taking a compassionate approach to customer service.

Arran CVS would also like to raise awareness of the Arran Befriending project which has allowed volunteers and members of the community to develop friendships across villages and generations.

Volunteers can be involved for as little as one hour per week. With the added difficulties of Covid-19, this has been an effective way for people to stay in touch, often by phone. If you would like to find out more about volunteering, or feel you or someone you know could benefit from this project, please use the contact details below.

To share your experiences with the Dementia Friendly Arran initiative, or to find out more about the Befriending Project, contact Jill on 01770 600116 or jill.hunter@arrancvsv.org.uk

Jill Hunter, development officer for the Arran CVS Dementia Friendly project.



Community hero awards

Openreach, the UK's digital network provider, has launched a nationwide 'community connectors' award programme to recognise people who have supported their neighbours during lockdown.

The company is asking every MP in Scotland and the rest of the UK to nominate an individual from their constituency. The Openreach team, whose key worker engineers have worked throughout the pandemic to maintain and build the UK's largest phone and broadband network, is seeking nominations for community heroes who have gone above and beyond the call of duty to bring people together, creating networks which unite, connect and care for the lonely and vulnerable.

Nominations for the awards will be judged by a panel including Openreach engineers and Chief Executive Officer Clive Selley, with winners invited to receive their award from their local MP at a virtual presentation in November.

The deadline for nominations is October 16.

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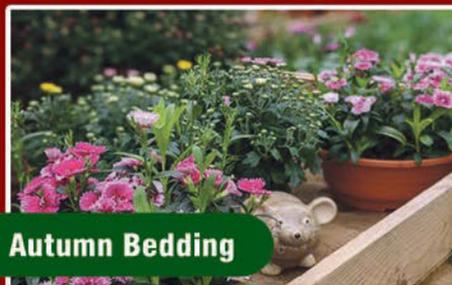
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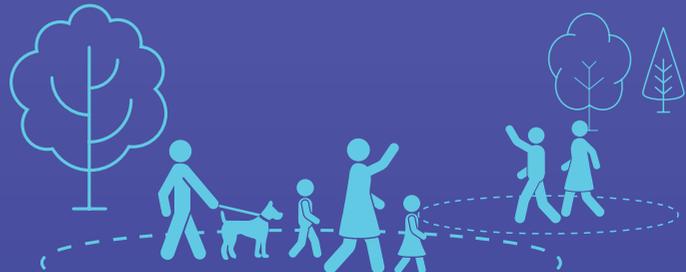
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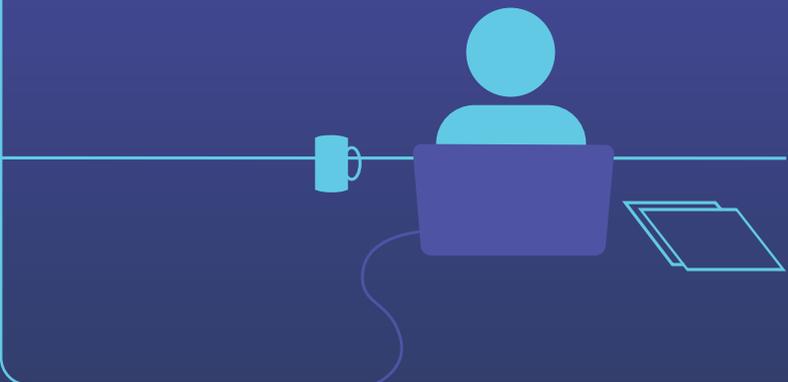
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14



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FACTS



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Avoid crowds



Clean hands



Two metres



Self isolate

MSP Gibson faces re-selection

Councillor welcomes contest to select Cunninghame

Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson is facing a re-selection battle within the SNP for his Cunninghame North seat ahead of next year's Scottish parliament elections.

Mr Gibson is facing a challenge from former Amnesty International director Osama Bhutta and former Ayr, Carrick and Cumnock MP Corri Wilson.

The seat has been held by Mr Gibson since 2007. Party members will decide in a ballot at the beginning of November.

Arran SNP councillor Ellen

McMaster this week welcomed the selection contest. She said: 'The Scottish Parliament election next May will be hugely important for Scotland's future and Arran needs to help send the right MSP to Holyrood to work for us and with us.'

'The SNP has a fantastic democratic tradition. The party constitution allows for ordinary members to select our candidates for public elections.'

'So it is heartening to see the level of interest in the competition to represent Cunninghame North and Arran.'

This is a welcome development as it creates an opportunity for open debate about the big issues that face us and an occasion for Arran's 180 SNP members to participate in selecting the best representative.'

Here is what the candidates had to say this week:



Kenneth Gibson.

'Building trust with constituents and devoting time, energy and resources to their concerns is important'

'The island never had the attention and representation it deserves, with perhaps a handful of visits per year, if that, which I am proud to have changed.'

'Never taking voters for granted, building trust with constituents and devoting time, energy and resources to their concerns is important. Since my first three surgeries on Arran on Monday June 11 2007, I have held 378 on the island, across nine communities, prior to lockdown in March.'

'From securing the Emergency Medical Retrieval Service and saving Corrie Primary School in my first year, I have also helped deliver the No Take Zone, a fuel derogation, the new Shiskine Health Centre and Road Equivalent Tariff - which I insisted should be included in the 2011 SNP Manifesto.'

'I have also helped secure an extension of the summer ferry service to six months, secured the £12.6 million MV Catriona from Gigha, saving the Lochranza to Claonaig Route, lobbied for construction of new harbours in Brodick and Ardrossan and the Glen Sannox and secured the resources to build 96 affordable homes.'

'I have also helped with the extension of broadband, intervened to stop HMRC closing

Arran Aromatics as it then was and dealt with thousands of individual enquiries.'

'I'm very active in parliament, speaking in every single ferry debate and after every ferry statement since 2007, constantly seeking improvements. I participate in the Arran Ferry Committee, was out with SNP activists helping to save the Brodick to Ardrossan route and always advocate strongly on behalf of Arran businesses.'

Constituents like having an MSP they can rely on.'

'In a big party like the SNP, there will always be a handful of people who don't see eye to eye and that's fine. It was their right to invite others into this constituency to run for selection.'

'I am, however, grateful for the outpouring of support from many island members, backing my reselection because they believe I am best qualified to represent Arran.'

'Of course, I joined the SNP in 1979 because I believe in Scottish independence. This isn't a licence to print money. I'd never insult people's intelligence by suggesting otherwise.'

'It's not a magic bullet. It will require hard work. Nevertheless, Scotland should shoulder its responsibilities and set our own course to a more prosperous, fairer, more equal future. It is always better to take one's own decisions than have them taken by your next door neighbour.'

'Having built the SNP's majority up to 8,724, it's hardly surprising my two challengers are keen to inherit it, rather than seek to win the Tory held constituencies they actually live in, both of which the SNP gained at Westminster level last December.'

Kenneth Gibson

'At the 2007 Scottish Parliament election, a hard-working, dedicated and enthusiastic SNP campaign team won Arran by 69 votes over Labour, to give us a majority of 48 in Cunninghame North, the first SNP parliamentary gain in the West of Scotland since the party's formation in 1934, helping us win 47 seats to Labour's 46 across Scotland.'

'This propelled the SNP into forming the Scottish Government for the first time.'

'As the island's newly-elected MSP, I was already aware Arran, with just under seven per cent of my electorate, had long been neglected by MPs and the MSP I replaced.'

Corri Wilson

'I was approached by several local members asking me to consider standing and, after careful consideration, I agreed. As a party activist and member for many years I passionately believe in democracy. Members should have an input into their party's direction and have the right to choose who their candidate is.'

'I have always advocated and practiced joint working with councillors and activists in Ayrshire for the sake of a stronger voice at

Holyrood and Westminster. Cunninghame North is a beautiful part of the world but, of course, has its challenges. Along with local issues, the Brexit outcome and the recovery from the Covid pandemic, there will be much work to do. With many veteran MSPs retiring, we need to fill that gap with experienced parliamentarians, not just with a political background but with a working knowledge of the private and third sector too, and I am confident my background in the above and my time as an MP will be an excellent foundation for going forward to get Scotland back on track and to facilitate independence if that is the will of the Scottish people. In achieving independence, our core values and integrity will be important as never before.'

'Whilst it is not easy unseating a sitting MSP, it is right members have a choice. I'm



Corri Wilson.

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ion battle e North candidate



Osama Bhutta.

Osama Bhutta

A senior leader with human rights giant Amnesty International, Osama Bhutta has left his job to run for election in Cunninghame North next year.

For the last four years, Mr Bhutta has been Amnesty's global communications director, overseeing its output and working with activists around the world to advance its causes. Before that, he worked in the Middle East during the Arab Spring for broadcaster Al Jazeera and was the SNP's Glasgow Central candidate in 2010.

He said: 'Working on other people's causes has been incredible but now I want to come back to my own. Amnesty is non-political, so I had to decide between the comfort of staying in my job or throwing my hat in the ring to campaign with the people of Cunninghame North. I chose the latter. Now I hope they'll choose me too.'

Explaining why he would make such a dramatic move, Bhutta

'The next crop of MSPs entering Holyrood will face planet-size problems. We need major shifts to deal with climate change, to make things fairer for people after Covid-19 and to create our new state.'

explained: 'The next crop of MSPs entering Holyrood will face planet-sized problems. We need major shifts to deal with climate change, to make things fairer for people after Covid-19 and to create our new state. All of these things will be driven by people power. It's people who make change and MSPs have to be part of that.'

'The old model of a parliamentarian standing up to make a speech every now and again and turn up for a photo opportunity is dead. When I said I was thinking of standing last month, I said there was too big a gap between parliament and the street.'

'The main thing I was looking for was constituencies which wanted to do things in a modern, collaborative, people-powered way.'

'That's how the conversation with SNP members in North Ayrshire started.'

'They seem like an amazing group of people and I would love to work with them on everything we need to achieve together for our people in the next few years.'



'It is right members have a choice. I'm sure if Kenneth has been doing a good job he will have nothing to fear and will welcome the contest.'

sure if Kenneth has been doing a good job he will have nothing to fear and will welcome the contest. If not, having worked with many activists from North Ayrshire over the last few years, it's clear to me there is an excellent, experienced group of committed people who want to be part of our journey going forward and I welcome that. I'm ready to take up the mantle and be a strong voice for Cunninghame North working with and for members and constituents alike.'

Concern at drop in cancer treatment referrals

The number of eligible referrals for cancer treatment in Ayrshire and Arran between April and June this year dropped by 30 per cent compared to the same period in 2019.

Figures released by Public Health Scotland this week revealed that between April 1

and June 30 2020 there were 216 eligible referrals for cancer treatment by NHS Ayrshire and Arran, compared to 308 in 2019.

Labour MSP Colin Smyth said: 'The large drop in cancer referrals in Ayrshire and Arran is a serious concern. At the start of the pandemic, many

NHS services and clinics were rightly stopped to prepare our health services for the serious consequences of Covid-19. But what really worries me is that a lot of people stopped going to see their GP during lockdown and as a result, there are people in our region whose cancer diagnosis might have been

delayed. With the number of referrals plummeting, we are running the risk of thousands of Scots receiving treatment too late and even more missing treatment. The time has come for the Scottish government to prioritise cancer services and support our amazing NHS staff to do their jobs.'

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Drone film promotes coastline

Award-winning Scots photographer and filmmaker Jason Baxter has released a free drone film to help businesses promote Scotland post-lockdown.

Jason's latest film, entitled 'Scotland's Coast', looks to reconnect people with the natural beauty of Scotland's coastline in Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters and hopes to provide a hidden perspective on some natural 'gems'.

The four minute 32 second film, shot using an unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) or drone, is available as a free release to help in the promotion of Scotland as a location and to help others in their marketing efforts for their own business, as well as for personal use.

The film contains a specially produced soundscape and no commentary so it can be used universally.

Speaking of the film, Jason Baxter said: 'We are so fortunate to have such wonderful unspoilt and unparalleled landscapes in Scotland. A key part of the film is to remind people of what we are entrusted



Neist Point on Skye which features in the drone video.

with and the need to safeguard it for future generations. With the impact of lockdown across the country, I am hoping the tourism sector will want to use this film to highlight the natural beauty of Scotland's coast and promote the country as a great tourism and business location.' The footage includes

Luskentyre beach (3m 40sec) on the Isle of Harris as the last rays of the sun light up the sand dunes into the deep rich tones of sunset; Aberlady Bay (35sec) in East Lothian on a sunny summer afternoon as a fly-over of the beach at low tide; and the first rays of sunlight illuminating the remote

lighthouse at Tarbat Ness in Tain (3m 13sec). Throughout the film, the approach has been based on creating drone footage that captures the raw beauty of nature from a creative viewpoint and not just from a standard stock view of a scene. The film was shot in especially remote locations, which meant

travelling hundreds of miles at short notice to be in the right place at the right time. The film took over two years to create, including editing over lockdown. The film is available at <https://vimeo.com/452989856> and can be embedded on blogs, online media channels and social media with credit.

Creative writing entries sought in memory of Robin Whyte

Robin Whyte, who sadly died in 2015, was a much respected Irvine lawyer and a creative writer of poetry, lyrics and prose, as well as being an erudite and witty after-dinner speaker, not least as a past president of the prestigious Irvine Burns Club.

As a tribute to Robin's creativity, a trophy, in the form of an open book crafted locally in oak and ash, plus a cash prize of £200 will be awarded for a fictional piece of creative writing of 1,000 to 1,500 words or for a poem of no less than 24 lines.

Entries are invited from local writers, Ayrshire born or based in Ayrshire and Arran, amateur or professional, of 16 years of age and over. The closing date is November 30 2020. The theme this year is: The Declaration!

Typed entries should be submitted as a double spaced word document to Denise Morton at: dmrwa2020@gmail.com or by post to 28 Greenside, Bourtrees Hill, Irvine KA11 1LP.

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Arran's Food Journey secures funding boost

Arran's Food Journey, a new group that aims to grow a thriving food and drink network for the island, has secured funding to champion local produce.

The group, made up of a diverse group of members including food producers, farmers, manufacturers, environmental and community groups, is receiving the funding from industry leadership body Scotland Food and Drink as part of a new national £250k fund, supported by the Scottish government, to back the ongoing development of Scotland's regional food groups.

Founded recently, Arran's Food Journey is one of Scotland's newest regional food groups which will join the 13 other established groups which includes: Appetite for Angus, Ayrshire Food Network, Bute Kitchen, Discover Inverclyde's Food and Drink, Eat Drink Hebrides and East Lothian Food and Drink.

The group aims to collate and

tell Arran's food story to encourage more sustainable food tourism, improving collaboration between food businesses, increasing sustainability and encouraging consumers to champion local products.

In recent months Arran's food producers and community growing initiatives have embarked on a major drive to make local food accessible to Arran's community.

The island's food and drink brands have already expanded to become recognised on a national and international level with Arran ice cream, beer, whisky, cheese and oatcakes among the contemporary favourites.

The fund will benefit 14 groups across the country by resourcing co-ordinator posts and will include match-funding from partners including local authorities.

It aims to create an active network of regional ambassadors who work in conjunction with local authorities to promote

regional food and drink and tourism strategies. Regional food groups like Arran's Food Journey plan and deliver projects such as increasing consumption and supply of local produce; upskilling food and drink businesses; hosting events; improving digital de-

velopments and e-commerce with local companies and, crucially, developing food and drink tourism.

Group co-ordinator Cameron Bruce said: 'Supporting local food and drink businesses is a key way in which people can help bring balance to their lo-

cal community, economy and environment. Buying from local producers and supporting community land initiatives bring a sense of belonging. Money spent locally will stay in the local economy benefiting the place you live.

'There are great environmen-

tal benefits including reducing food miles by sourcing food locally to where it is produced.

'With this new funding from Scotland Food and Drink to recruit and resource a co-ordinator, Arran's food and drink scene can – and will – continue to flourish.'



First Minister Nicola Sturgeon during a cabinet visit to Arran where delegates learned about the food and drink offerings from the island.



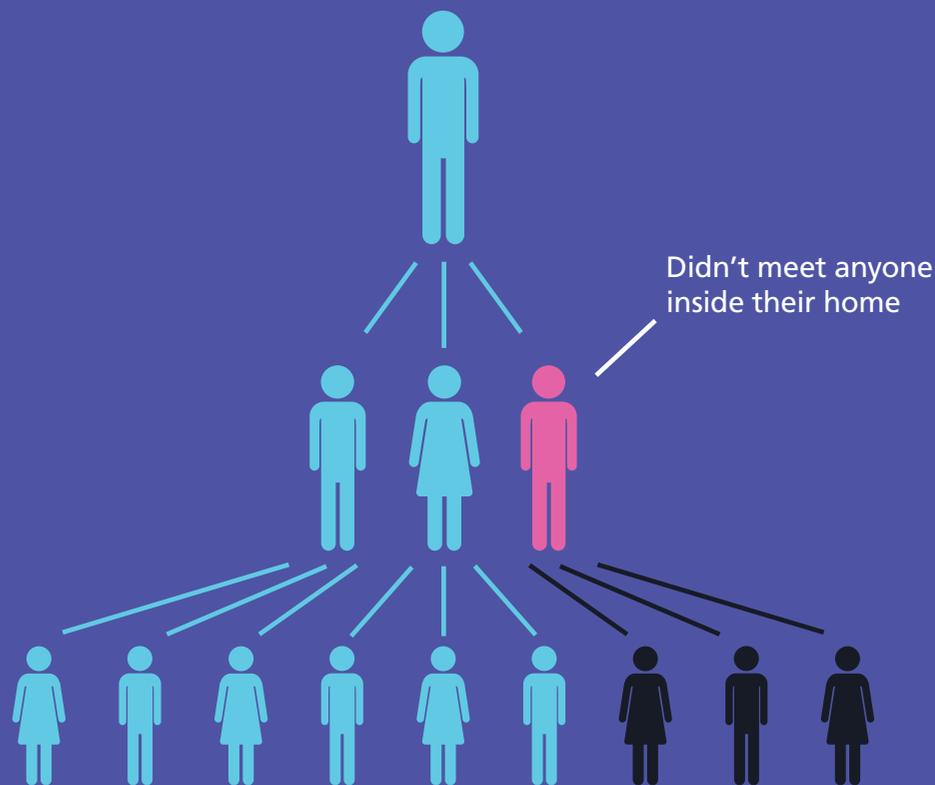
A food producing allotment at the Arran Community Land Initiative.



A fruit box from Woodside Farm social enterprise in Kildonan.



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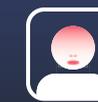
Avoid crowds



Clean hands



Two metres



Self isolate



The Arran Staycation –

If you had to stay put during the school holidays, where in the world would you rather live than on the beautiful and award winning island of Arran? We are incredibly lucky to have the plethora of beaches, walking trails, cycle routes, adventure activities, wildlife, home-grown produce, arts, crafts, the heritage museum and a world-class spa resort - not to mention 7 outstanding and world-renowned golf courses.

Everyone is doing what they can to ensure a safe and warm welcome. Covid-19

has thrown up a myriad challenges for businesses on Arran – but they continue to work hard to stay open and ensure that they stick to the government guidelines for the safety of their staff, locals and visitors. For the latest help, advice and inspiration, visit www.visitarran.com for the all important information.

Whatever you choose to do on your doorstep this Autumn, breathe in the air, take on the sideways rain front on and smile, because you live on Arran.

Table d'Hôte @thePHT

Cut out & keep!

You can enjoy a three-course lunch (1-4pm) for £22 or dinner (5-9pm) for £27 with an amazing extra **25% discount** for Arran residents.

This week's choices:

Starters

- Mussels in a white wine shallot cream sauce
- Caramelised goats cheese tartlet with pine nuts and a red onion chutney
- Wild mushroom pote serve with Arran oaties and apple & ale chutney (vg)

Mains

- Mixed seafood tagliatelle in a creamy garlic sauce.
- Slow braised beef bourguignonne with tarragon, carrots, silverskin onions and wild rice.
- Mixed vegetable and lentil lasagne served with fries or salad (vg)

Desserts

- Ginger & syrup sponge with custard
- Cranachan cheese cake – whisky soaked oats with raspberry
- Raspberry & chocolate brownie (gf)
- Mixed berry compote with ice cream (vg)

Regular bar menu also available

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Here come the October Holidays!



How's this for some great Autumn fun?!

'The Tattie-Bogle Trail'

Join in the scarecrow fun at Brodick Country Park!

Make your own scarecrow then bring it along to Brodick Country Park and get free family entry to the gardens and estate for the day.

Leave it with us and we will install it on our

tattie-bogle trail.

Come back and see your scarecrow during the holidays and at the end of the holidays there will be a grand scarecrow competition, the winners decided by public facebook likes!

Tattie-bogles will be along the fairy trail for all to see from 3rd - 30th October.

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BRODICK CASTLE, GARDEN & COUNTRY PARK



There is plenty to see and do this autumn.

'The Tattie-Bogle Trail'

Join in the scarecrow fun at Brodick Country Park!

Make your own scarecrow then bring it along to Brodick Country Park and get free family entry to the gardens and estate for the day. (see pic attached)



Fairy Door Trail

Take part in the autumn themed fairy door trail inside the Castle

Pumpkin Carving!

Carve your own pumpkin at home and enter a picture in to our competition on the Brodick Castle, Gardens and Estate Facebook page.

All events run from the 3rd - 30th October.

Badger Watches may be scheduled during the autumn holidays. Check out our Facebook page Arran Ranger Service, for more details.

Lochranza Distillery



With a full gift shop, new whiskies to try and different tasting opportunities available daily, we cannot wait to see you soon!

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At busy times in the shop we hope you don't mind
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LAGG DISTILLERY

As we slowly go back to our normal we are extremely happy to offer
smoky tastings, a new café menu and exciting pop-up food events!

Open all week 10am - 5.30pm

Kilmory Café fully open for hot drinks and cakes 10am-12pm
& lite lunches 12pm-4pm

Machrie Moor tastings available daily at 10.30am, 12.30pm and 3pm,
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Face coverings must be worn within the building
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BOOKINGS@LAGGWHISKY.COM



Janet Mulholland (Mackinnon)

30 April 1929 - 18 July 2020

In 1795, in the township of Burican - now Glenree farm - a son was born to tenants John Mackinnon and Catherine Cook. His name was also John and he and his family were cleared from Burican to Torrylinn around 1825 to make way for the sheep.

John married Janet Mackenzie in 1838 and they had a son called Peter in 1840. In an interview in 1912, regarding the clearances, Peter recalled how 'his father 'the old man' used to tell how a sword which had done duty at the Battle of Bannockburn by his ancestors was stolen from a cart during the removal to Torrylinn'.

Three children

Peter married Janet Cook and they had a son called Peter born in 1883 who married Mary Maclean whose family hailed from Skye. Peter and Mary had three children - Janet, Lachlan and Morag (Reid).

As convention goes, Janet should have been called Janet Cook Mackinnon, for obvious reasons outlined above, how-

ever, Peter was so excited at the birth registration he forgot to mention the Cook part. This brought a smile to Janet's face many a day.

At the age of 14, Janet left school and began working at the Post Office in Lagg - now Kilmory House. She was the relief postie covering the Kilmory area as far as Auchaleffan and Slidderly water. When a telegram arrived, she was despatched to deliver it by hand, on foot, immediately.

Later Janet was one of the first people in Kilmory to get a bicycle as during the war only essential personnel were issued with them.

Her bookkeeping skills served her well in the Post Office and it wasn't long before she secured a position in the creamery at Bennicarrigan, recording the milk deliveries from the farmers.

Following this employment, Janet took up a new position with Stewart's Motors of Corricravie as a conductress and it was during this period she met a mechanic working for Stewart's, Duncan

Mulholland. Duncan had recently returned from the Palestine police and it was not long before they were married in 1953 at the Free Church, Bennicarrigan. The wedding reception was the first to be held in Kilmory Hall.

A honeymoon in Ireland was planned, however, a truck that Duncan had his eye on down south became available early. In true Mulholland style, the truck won and the plans were changed to go down south and pick up the truck and stay with great family friends, the Craigs.

Fortunate

It was fortunate for Janet and Duncan, their six children, 20 grandchildren and 23 great grandchildren that the honeymoon plans were changed as the ferry Princess Victoria that was to take them to Ireland floundered in a storm with great loss of life.

Janet and Duncan initially stayed at Ashgrove, Corricravie, from where Duncan ran his agricultural contracting and haulage business.

During this period they had three children, Alexander, Peter and Isabelle, however, in 1960 it was decided to move to Canada and the business was sold to Bannatyne Motors.

The venture to Canada did not last long with the family returning to Claynod in 1961 and Duncan starting a timber contracting business.

Sons Duncan and Gordon were both born whilst at Claynod and finally Iain, shortly after the family returned to Torrylinn. Janet was home again.

You can imagine Janet's hands were full most of the time with farm work and six children to bring up, however, it did not phase Janet and hundreds of children will testify there was never any problems regardless of the number of children cascading from 'the terrace'.

Involved

Janet was heavily involved in Kilmory district with regards to the church, Kilmory Hall, SWRI and further afield in Arran Gaelic Choir. A trip to the Mod was her Christmas.

Her pancakes and her tablet were, and still are, legendary. Who knows which grandchild has the elusive recipes?

It was always certain she would win something at the rural event the day before the annual cattle show.

We all know she was a big gambler. Never been heard not to win a raffle anywhere anytime even without buying a ticket. Lotteries of every description and to be fair she won a few, much to the disappointment of her dear friend and paper boy David Crossley.

She loved her volunteering spell at ArCaS and always looked forward to it. Meeting up with her friends for a chat and a cuppa made her day.

Never a great holidaymaker, rather she catered for visitors to the farm. Many became great friends and visited year after year without fail.

That is not to say she did not travel, twice to Canada and Australia to visit friends, family and distant relatives which she enjoyed immensely. On the whole though, people came to visit Janet.

Pleased

With the loss of Duncan in 1997, there was little time for Janet to mourn his passing as the seeds had been sown and the little blighters had found her doorstep.

Nothing pleased Janet more than visits from her grandchildren and her great grandchildren.

Following a successful 90th birthday party at Kilmory



Janet Mulholland and one of her grandchildren, Rachael, on her 90th birthday at Kilmory Hall.

Hall, she enjoyed seeing many of her friends and family again but this was to be Janet's last party. A few months later, after a fall, Janet's mobility deteriorated and this led her to be confined, for the most part, to her Linnholme cottage at Torrylinn.

Towards the end of her life, she was cared for at home by numerous personnel in the health system and close family. Covid restrictions curtailed any more visits from friends and family, however, remaining at home was a blessing rather than admission to the hospital where severe visiting restrictions applied.

Even her sister Morag, who

lived less than 100 yards away, was unable to visit. She described her as 'not only her sister, she was my best friend'.

Brother Lachlan (Lachie) never missed a Sunday phone call which she always looked forward to and he always looked up to his big sister even if she got the first bike those many years ago.

On the morning of July 18, Janet passed away and on her death certificate the cause is listed as 'old age' - a rare thing these days.

The doctors commented that they had rarely come across such a strong heart but we all knew that any way.

Duncan Mulholland.



Janet with a trophy at the 1988 Arran Show.



Janet Mulholland, Lachlan Mackinnon and Morag Reid.

THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday October 7, 2000

Cooling down

CalMac is continuing to enforce its 20 degree rule to the annoyance of farmers.

This is the regulation announced two weeks ago that livestock could not be carried on the car deck if the temperature was 20 degrees or more.

However, such was the outcry when Arran farmers were turned away from the boat, that a small concession has now been gained.

Discussions between the National Farmers Union and CalMac have gained agreement that animals being carried on single or two tier wagons may be carried on journeys of less than an hour – and that means Arran.

With winter months ahead, the situation will present less of a problem but pressure is still being placed on CalMac to look at adequate

ventilation in the car deck, something they were advised of prior to the ship being built.

No change

Alldays has been sold, although nothing will change for the Brodick shopper.

In fact, although called Alldays, the owners were a franchise, West Scotland Convenience Stores, which ran a number of stores in this part of the country under the Alldays name.

However, part of the franchise agreement was that, after five years, Alldays could buy them back. When poor trading figures were turned in this year, the management decided to buy in West Scotland among others.

What it meant for Mike Gordon and Jim Milne who ran West Scotland has been £1.35 million each. But no obvious or immediate change in Brodick.



Two farming families on Arran were united last Friday when Alison Tod and Alastair Currie were married at St Molios Church, Shiskine. 01_B40TYA01



A party of guests line the new bridge in Brodick which was officially opened by Councillor John Sillars. The bridge is estimated to have cost around £40,000 which was provided by Brodick Improvements Committee. 01_B40TYA02



Arran's young farmers years ago at the Whiting Bay Hotel when they celebrated their 40th anniversary, having formed the Young Farmers Club in 1946. 01_B40TYA04



Sheila Gilmore, Lynda Miller, Georgie Henderson, Helen Cranwell and Donna McCallum with son Moir are the faces of the new North Ayrshire Out of School Care service established on Arran. 01_B40TYA05



The reason this building may hold a familiar name, but look altogether unfamiliar, is that it is located in Ontario, Canada. Sent in by reader Lachlan MacKinnon, the name originates from an Arran family who emigrated there around 1810. 01_B40TYA03

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Job Opportunity with North Ayrshire Council

Roadworker | NAY06792
37 Hours per Week | £22,442.87 to £23,138.17

Arran

Closing date 17 October 2020

For further details and to apply visit
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North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Air a Tuath



We are an equal opportunities employer so please inform us of any special needs you may have.

Job Opportunity with North Ayrshire Council

Facilities Assistant (Casual) | NAY06762
1 Hours per Week | £9.34 per hour

Various Locations in Arran

Closing date 4th October 2020

For further details and to apply visit
www.myjobscotland.gov.uk/councils/north-ayrshire-council



North Ayrshire Council
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We are an equal opportunities employer so please inform us of any special needs you may have.

PUBLIC NOTICE

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

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined online at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk
Comments should be made online at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 23.10.20. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1) 20/00807/PP; Site of Former Primary School, Kilmory, Brodick, Isle Of Arran; Erection of 7 no. detached dwellinghouses (renewal of 19/00476/PP).

Craig Hatton
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Air a Tuath

WHAT'S ON

EVERY DAY
Eco Savvy and Co-op food share at Big Co, Brodick and Lamlash 8.15pm
Arran Heritage Museum
Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am to 4.30pm.
SATURDAY 3RD
OCTOBER
Tattie -bogle Trail, 10am
Brodick Castle and Country Garden Park.

PRIVATE SALES

WANTED

VINYL RECORDS - Good and accurate prices paid for well looked after records. No classical or easy listening. All other genres considered. Contact Jamie on 07983624634 Or 01770600969

FREE TO UPLIFT

PINE DOUBLE BED solidly made in Sliderry together with mattress if required. Phone Bruce in Machrie on 07785 577 438.

GRADUATION



Sheila Welford

Grateful today and always will be for achieving a BA (Honours) in Health and Social Care with the Open University.

I want to thank all my friends and family for their support especially, my dear husband Roy for his patience, Dr Elizabeth White and husband Bob, for their great support in achieving this degree. Big cheers ????, Here to serve.

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Police Scotland are seeking a 5 bedroom en-suite property for let between May and October 2021 and 2022.

Interested parties are asked to contact the following
E-mail address for further information
no later than
31st October 2020
ayrshirebsu@scotland.pnn.police.uk

CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

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

Independent but working together

Parish Assistant: Mrs Jean Hunter:

As numbers will be limited at all services places will need to be booked by the Friday.

Congregations will be advised who to contact for each Church to book a place. For Shiskine please contact John Kerr on 01770 860498.

There will be a streamed service weekly, this can be found on the three Church websites, www.stmoliosshiskine.org.uk, www.brodickchurch.org, www.lochranzachurch.org.uk
Sunday 4th October

Lochranza Church 9.30am Morning worship.

Pirnmill Church 10:45am. Morning worship.

Shiskine Church 12noon. Morning worship.

Corrie Church at 12noon. Morning worship.

Please note that Brodick Church is still accessible for the Food bank

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass will be said on Saturday Vigil and Sunday Morning.

Capacity in church is severely restricted. Please note attendance at Mass is by booking only. Please telephone 600595 or email peterdwilko@gmail.com to book a seat. Please book by the Friday before each weekend Mass. Strict social distancing and hygiene restrictions apply including the wearing of your own face covering.

IF YOU ARE DISPLAYING ANY COVID 19 SYMPTOMS, FEELING UNWELL OR HAVE CONCERNS ABOUT RETURNING TO CHURCH AT THIS TIME, PLEASE DO NOT COME TO MASS. THE OBLIGATION TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS REMAINS SUSPENDED.

Please access www.rcdai.org.uk to check the availability of online Mass from Bishop's House Oban.

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
Sunday 4th October

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity
Holy Communion - 11 am.

Revd Adrian Fallows

ALL WELCOME

We follow strict SEC guidelines

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(Charity Number: SC014005)

Reopening of church
Sunday 4th October 2020:

Worship will be conducted by the minister
Rev Elizabeth Watson
at 10.30am

Our capacity will be greatly reduced due to the two metre social distancing. We have introduced a booking system.

You are asked to please phone Mrs Enid Halliwell 600010 by the Friday lunchtime if you want to attend Sunday worship.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

WHITE, John Kate, Helen and family greatly appreciate the cards, flowers and sympathy given to them by family, friends and neighbours after the unexpected death of John. Thanks to the staff at Ayr Hospital and for those who paid their respects to the funeral cortege and at Brodick Cemetery.

DEATHS

BEDDOWS - Gwendoline. Peacefully at Crosshouse Hospital on Wednesday, 23rd September 2020. Gwendoline, beloved wife of Roy, much loved mum to Catherine and Robert, gran and great gran to the family. Sadly missed and loved by all. Funeral private due to the current circumstances.

SCOTT - Joyce Stewart. The family of Joyce Scott announce with great sadness her passing on Friday, 25th September at Montrose House, Brodick. A service will take place on Thursday, 8th of October, 13:00 at the Clyde Coast and Garnock Valley crematorium. Because of the current restrictions, could anybody wishing to attend please get in touch with Joyce Tobin on 07852638591.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
BANNER

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BANNER



Shiskine Golf Club

Shiskine Golf Club ladies section had another fantastic, sunny, wind free day for Pink Day on Thursday September 24 to raise funds for Breast Cancer Research. With the Covid rules, we were unable to hold a raffle, so I decided to wave the entry fee and have donations only. This year's outfits varied from Rara skirts to onesies, all wee stunners!

1 Sheila Gray, Ruth Hardy, and Yvonne Brothers BIH; 2 Fiona Henderson, Jenni Turnbull, and Jessie Hutton; 3 Fiona Scott, Shelagh Rae, and Pat Adamson; 4 Isobel McDonald, Esther Henderson and Jerry Arthur.

All the players and some members who were unable to attend donated raffle prizes and money. Enormous thanks to all the participants for being there, to James Chocolates for our prizes, to Shiskine tearoom staff and the greenkeepers of their hard work. Between us we raised £443.45, just over £100 more than last year. This was quite unexpected in the circumstances.

Sunday September 27, Shiskine Ladies Away Golfing Society at Corrie, Team Tri-am (best 2 nett scores). 1 Alice Anderson, Jerry Arthur and Jenni Turnbull 56. 2 Clare Buchanan, Piet Johnston and Kema Genda 63.

Singles: 1 and scratch Alice Anderson 39-9=30, 2 Jenni Turnbull 40-9=31, 3 Kema Genda 40-6=34. Nearest Pin @8th Kema.

Sunday September 27, gents 12 hole medal. 1st Class - 1 and scratch S Black 46-6=40 BIH, 2 C Watson 47-7=40, 3 J Morrison 49-5=44. 2nd Class - 1 R Traill 50-9=41 BIH, 2 C Rutterford 55-14=41, 3 W McNally 51-9=42. Magic twos Q Oliver and R Traill.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday September 23, The Bannatyne Cup. A total of 14 played and enjoyed superb golfing conditions although fading autumn light reduced the number of players competing in the evening. CSS stayed at 63, academic for Gus MacLeod really as he carded a superb net 57 to win by eight shots from a clutch of players on 65.

1 Gus MacLeod (13) - 57 and lowest gross, 2 Kevin Jackson (8) - 65 acb, 3 David Brookens (12) - 65 acb, 4th John Pennycott (12) - 65.

Two magic two were record-

Ladies in the pink at Shiskine



'Hole in onesie' for the Shiskine ladies at their annual Pink Day.

ed; David Morrison @4th and Kevin Jackson @16th. Sunday September 27, The Cooper Angus par 3 competition. It is some time now since Cooper Angus caravan park sponsored this competition but owner Jim Meehan left us a beautiful trophy to play for and the September weekend weather did its bit by providing a beautiful crisp morning to play it on. The 'par 3' is always a fun day with some intriguing hole layouts and a good number turned out for the 2020 edition. Continuing his fine run of recent form, the winner was John Pennycott with a net 49.

1 John Pennycott (12) - 49, 2 Nicol Auld (4) - 51 & 1/3, 3 Scott Adair (5) - 51 & 2/3
A good number of lady golfers took part and Trish Tait was the best placed with a score of 54. There were 23 magic twos scored. Too many to list here. Thanks to Ronnie Mann, our main sponsor this year, and also to captain Andy Martin and Stewart Hammond who each chipped in with generous donations.

Fixtures: Sunday October 4, Stableford Sweep, yellow tees. Wednesday October 7, The Tam Young Tankard winter stableford.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday September 24, Summer Cup, CSS 67. 1 Ian Bremner 73-8=65, 2 John O'Sullivan 91-24=67, 3 Neil Young 72-5=67, 4 Paul Cowan 73-5=68. Best scratch Neil Young 72. Magic twos Ian Bremner and Willie Currie



Winner of the Captain's Prize Rab Logan alongside Corrie club captain Peter McKinnon.

@5th, hole 4 drawn - roll over continues. Winner of Summer Cup (best 4 scores) Serge El Adm 63+64+65+56 = 248 total. Runner-up Neil Young 61+64+60+64 = 249 total.

Saturday September 26, Texas Scramble, 36 played. 1 Iain Murchie, Ian Bremner, Val Crawford and Alistair Crawford 55-4.6 equals 58.4, 2 Willie Currie, Craig Young, Susan Butchard and Neil Young 55-3 equals 52.

Sunday, September 27, Medal Shield, CSS 67. 1 Serge El Adm 77-11=66, 2 Iain Murchie 72-5=67.

Best scratch Iain Murchie 72. Magic twos Iain Murchie@5th hole which was drawn out so Iain won accumulator.

Winner of Eclectic Cup - Stuart Campbell net 52 BIH over runner-up Iain Murchie net 52.

Fixtures: Sunday October 4, Glenburn Cup, 9.30am and noon starts.

Thursday, October 8, front 9 Medal. Make up own groups, see starter for times.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday September 26, Captain's Prize. A good turnout celebrating Peter McKinnon's final year in office.

Despite the beautiful weather conditions scoring was held in check by some pin positions which were to say the least 'challenging'. Someone must have upset the greenkeeper!

Result: 1 R Logan 36pts, 2 G Andrews 34pts BIH, 3 A Smith 34pts. Magic twos from W Paton, R Logan and D K Henderson.

Fixtures: Saturday October 3, season ending Corrie Medal. Make up your own matches and register in normal Covid system.

Brodick Golf Club

Sunday September 27, Brandon qualifier, 27 played, CSS 66. 1 Tam McNab 73-13=60, 2 Donald McKinnie 76-11=65, 3 Jimmy Armit 80-14=66 acb. Scratch Greg McCrae 72.

Fixture: Sunday October 4, Brandon qualifier.



Active Schools co-ordinator Lauren Gilbert with the pupils who took part in the golf competition. 01_B40AHSgolf01

Big entry for golf contest but Kyle retains trophy



Left to right: Rory Curry, Thomas Gilmore, Kyle McNicol and Lauren Gilbert. 01_B40AHSgolf02

Kyle McNicol has retained the Arran High School golf trophy.

However, he had a much tougher time this year as the annual golf competition drew a record entry this year with 21 pupils competing for the cup.

Taking place at Lamlash Golf Club, under the watchful eye of Active Schools co-ordinator, Lauren Gilbert who organised the event, the competition was played on a pristine course with a prizegiving later in the day.

After a day of quality golfing, Kyle McNicol won the cup with 42 points with Thomas Gilmore following closely only

one point behind. In third place, with 38 points, Rory Curry took the final medal.

Jack Popplewell won the nearest to the pin award and Donald Currie won the longest drive.

Lauren Gilbert said: 'Thank you to everyone who took part and congratulations to all of the winners.'

'A good day was enjoyed by everyone and the course is looking fantastic. Huge thanks must go to Lamlash Golf Club who offered enthusiastic support throughout the day and for providing food, green fees and mentoring.'

The competition this year, despite coronavirus restrictions, was a remarkable success with a record-breaking attendance compared to last year when the competition only received four entrants, Kyle McNicol among them who, once again, took first place.





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