

rightmove **Zoopla**
Smarter about property

OAKDENE, PIRNMILL
DETACHED
4 BED VILLA
Offers over £280,000

01770 302310 sales@arranestateagents.co.uk

Arran
ESTATE AGENTS
ARRAN'S ONLY LOCAL ESTATE AGENCY

THE ARRAN BANNER

01770 302310 sales@arranestateagents.co.uk

Arran
ESTATE AGENTS
ARRAN'S ONLY LOCAL ESTATE AGENCY

CHECK OUR WEBSITE
FOR NEW PROPERTIES

For your safety, please make an
appointment by calling 01770 302310

MAKE THE SWITCH
Switch to our digital edition and save money

THE ARRAN BANNER
www.arranbanner.co.uk

Confirmed Covid-19 cases on Arran are wake up call

Hospitality on the island receives another blow

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Arran has recorded its first positive coronavirus cases since April, it was confirmed as the Banner went to press.

NHS Ayrshire & Arran's health protection team is carrying out contact tracing following a small number of confirmed positive Covid-19 cases on the island.

'Close contacts identified through this process are being advised to self-isolate for 14 days by the test and protect team. The risk to the public is low,' said Dr Joy Tomlinson, joint director of public health at NHS Ayrshire & Arran.

'To respect and maintain

patient confidentiality, it is not possible to release any further information at this time,' she added.

The public are reminded that symptoms of Covid-19 are a new persistent cough; high temperature and/or loss of taste and smell. Anyone who develops any of these symptoms should book a test and self-isolate immediately.

Complacency

The news is being seen as a wake up call on the island where, it is thought, some complacency in following government rules given how few cases the island has seen.

Meanwhile, as many as half the businesses on Arran are at risk of closing and more than 50 per cent are planning to

release staff before Christmas, according to early results from a new business survey.

That news came as First Minister Nicola Sturgeon announced a further blow to the hospitality industry with an extension to the current restrictions which has forced the closure of all pubs and restaurants on the island, with some hotels following suit including The Douglas in Brodick, which will re-open on Monday for residents and takeaways.

However, the restaurants and pubs will have to stay shut for at least another week. After that will depend on what tiered restrictions are in place under the new five-tier system. It is almost certain Arran will face

Continued on page two.



The Arran Trust was delighted to receive the keys to the wishing well by remaining Rotarians Penny Brass, Jim Lees and Kenny Bone at a socially-distanced presentation.

The Arran Trust has taken over custody of Brodick's famous wishing well at Brodick Pier from the Isle of Arran Rotary Club which has folded on the island.

The outgoing Rotarians donated their remaining funds of approximately

£6,000 to the Trust, and agreed they would also be the best local organisation to take over their wishing well, which was established by the Rotary back in 2002.

As the island's visitor gifting charity, the Arran Trust are extremely grateful

for this generous donation and the opportunity to raise funds for Arran's environmental and conservation groups, at an area of great visitor footfall.

To find out more about the Trust, check their website www.arrantrust.org

JTC John Thomson Construction Ltd
HOUSE BUILDING | CONSTRUCTION | HAULAGE | AGGREGATES | PLANT HIRE

WE'RE OPEN...

Main Office: Mon - Fri 8am - 5pm

Building Materials & Petrol Station: Mon - Fri 8am - 4.30pm

Social distancing requirements apply.
Card payments and orders accepted by phone.

www.thomsonconstruction.co.uk | 01770 600 242 |



Gravel/Pebbles



Gabion & Armour Stone



Type 1 Hardcore



Angular Chips



Clean Stone



Large Cobbles

Call us for a competitive quote for:

Aggregates (incl. chips, stone, gravel & sand)

Ready Mix Concrete (BSI certified)

Skip Hire

Haulage & Operated Plant Hire

Timber & Building Materials

Also available at JTC in Lamlash:

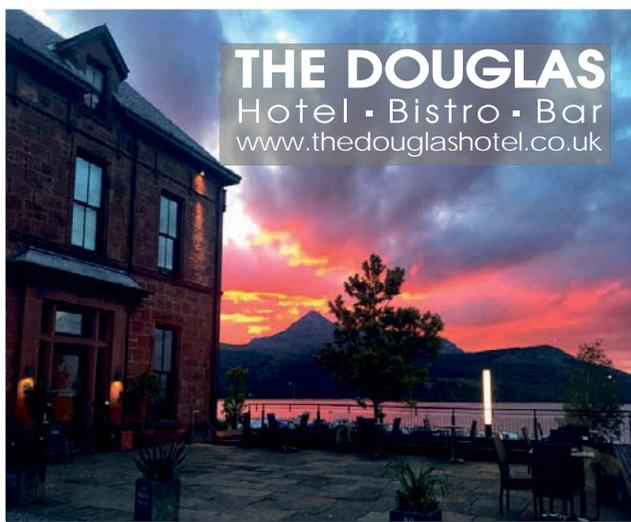
Petrol & Diesel Station

Building Materials & Supplies

Timber Workshop

Lamlash Motor Garage





THE DOUGLAS
Hotel • Bistro • Bar
www.thedouglashotel.co.uk

RE-OPEN MONDAY 26TH OCTOBER



BREAKFAST SERVED 8-11AM
(non-residents)

LUNCH SERVED 12-5PM

DINNER SERVED 5-8.30PM

BAR OPEN UNTIL 10PM DAILY

Bookings are strongly recommended

Dinner bookings are essential

**TAKEAWAY MENU AVAILABLE
ON OUR WEBSITE & FACEBOOK PAGE**

Starting Monday 26th October

dine@thedouglashotel.co.uk

book online or via Facebook

www.thedouglashotel.co.uk

Tel: 01770 302968



We look forward
to welcoming you

THE DOUGLAS
Hotel • Bistro • Bar
www.thedouglashotel.co.uk

COME AND TRY OUR NEW MENU

CUT OUT THIS VOUCHER FOR

20% OFF FOOD!

Present voucher when you are next dining with us
to receive your discount

Redeemable from 26th October 20 - 21st December 20
Available to non residents to use for Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Please note that discount is for food items excluding takeaway and cannot
be used in conjunction with any other offers.
Alcohol & beverages not included

Confirmed Covid-19 cases on Arran are wake up call

Continued from page one
the same restrictions as those in mainland North Ayrshire.

The first minister also made it clear people should not travel from their health board area to another unless it was absolutely necessary.

The current restrictions have also indirectly led to the closure of accommodation providers by significantly reducing the reasons visitors might visit and, through a reduction in visitors, the removal of ancillary income from restaurants and bars.

In addition, this is having a dire impact on the island's supply chain which is incurring the same costs to support a reducing volume, according to the latest report from the Arran Recover Group, compiled before the latest announcement.

As a result, it says it is imperative to ensure the Arran community and businesses are taking full advantage of Government support packages that already exist and have now been extended.

They also want to ensure government fully understands the direct and indirect impact of restrictions on communities, infrastructure and economy as well as identify gaps or inadequacies in impact versus support required.

And the group issued a warning: 'Government organisations appear to think 'everything is okay now' but in fact it is worse than in March when the lockdown was introduced as the true effects are now being felt.'

The new grants are part of a £40m package announced



The Arran Covid-19 test centre at Brodick health centre. 01_B43test01

by the Scottish government last week. It will include a Coronavirus Restrictions Fund which will provide one-off grants of up to £3,000 to bars, restaurants and other businesses required to close by newly extended restrictions.

Other businesses will have access to a smaller discretionary hardship fund administered by the local council with grants of between £1,000 and £1,500, to support some businesses that can remain open but are directly impacted by the restrictions – including those in the direct supply chains of firms that are closed.

Meanwhile the Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson asked the Scottish government for its response to the Fraser of Allander Institute report, highlighted in the Banner earlier this month.

Fergus Ewing, cabinet secretary for rural economy and tourism replied: 'I agree that the situation is concerning.

'We know Covid-19 contin-

ues to have a profound impact on our island communities. We are currently working closely with our partners, including North Ayrshire Council, Taste of Arran and the Arran Economic Group.

'I do not underestimate the impacts and I understand a tailored approach will be necessary. Our £30 million pledge to deliver the national islands plan and our new £2 million

islands green recovery programme will be vital in stimulating new economic activity across our islands, helping businesses recover from the impacts of the pandemic and creating new high-quality jobs.

'I know that Mr Gibson, who has been a forthright advocate for Arran over the years, will continue to ensure the arguments are kept to the fore,' he added.

Community survey in this week's Banner

Now it is your chance to have your say. The second community survey to be conducted by the Arran Recovery Group is on page 13 of today's Banner and is also available online.

The group welcome your insight and feedback but there had been concern with the previously hastily arranged survey about availability and the ability of those with the lack of technology or computer literacy skills to take part.

That is why a paper version of #WeAreArran Community Survey 2 has been made available in this week's edition which, when completed, should be handed into any Co-op store, Bay Kitchen and Stores, Pirnmill Post Office or On a Roll by Friday October 30.

Third of pupils would have had exams downgraded

More than a third Arran High School pupils would have had their Higher results downgraded if the Scottish

Government had gone ahead with its proposed moderation system, it has been revealed by new analysis.

The number of pupils who would have had their qualifications adjusted down would have been 34.6 per cent, with just 0.5 per cent adjusted up. A total of 16.3 per cent of pupils would have had their Highers adjusted from 'pass' to 'fail'.

The analysis by Barry Black, a Glasgow University researcher and associate of the Urban Big

Data Centre, has revealed the full impact on pupils on Arran and across Ayrshire.

With exams cancelled, the Scottish Government approved an alternative way for the Scottish Qualifications Agency (SQA) to calculate pupils' grades using an algorithm which would have meant many teacher forecasts of students' achievements were adjusted downwards.

The system resulted in a huge disparity depending on postcodes and a school's past attainment, rather than individual performance, with up to half of higher results in

some Ayrshire schools set to be downgraded.

However, Labour tabled a vote of no-confidence against education secretary John Swinney in the Scottish parliament, forcing the Scottish government into a humiliating U-turn and agreeing to use teacher projections based on a pupil's work throughout the year.

South Scotland MSP Colin Smyth said: 'This analysis lays bare the extent to which the Scottish Government were about to jeopardise the future of hundreds of young people across Ayrshire and Arran.

'It is no coincidence that in state schools the level of changes to results about to be imposed were in most cases twice that of private schools.

'The so called algorithm used by the SQA was biased against poorer pupils and it makes me angry that the government were prepared to go ahead with such inequality until Labour forced them into a U-turn by tabling a vote of no confidence in Parliament on Education Secretary John Swinney.

'However, pupils, parents and teachers across Ayrshire and Arran will not forget this scandal.'

Harriet the heron sets up home in Lamlash garden

After Stevie the seagull last week, the bird theme continues this week with Harriet the heron.

Harriet has been a regular visitor to the garden of Ruth and Alan Thompson in Murray Crescent, Lamlash, for 23 years.

But recently, for the first time, she brought a mate.

Ruth told the Banner: 'It is the first time in 23 years she has allowed another heron into the garden. She got so friendly she used to come into the house but we had to stop that as with a 14ft wingspan she could easily do some damage.'

It is believed Harriet is from the heronry in the Whitehouse Woods.



Harriet in the Thompson's home in July 2009.



Harriet with her mate in the Thompson's garden.

Early ferry would help get goods to Arran on time

At last week's meeting of the Isle of Arran Ferry Committee (AFC) it was acknowledged the reliability of the 7am ferry from Ardrossan has been severely impacted with the MV Caledonian Isles berthing in Brodick.

This has meant goods and services are not arriving on Arran until the 10.40am boat instead of 8am, leading to disruption and inconvenience.

The AFC has proposed for winter 2020 that if the vessel is to potentially berth in Brodick overnight, the 7.20pm that evening is cancelled in favour of an earlier ferry at 5.40am from Brodick, thereby allowing the 7am to depart Ardrossan to schedule and deliveries to be on Arran as per normal.

There was also a suggestion that in winter 2021 Arran considers swapping the timetable round so that the 7am would leave Brodick and 8.20am leave Ardrossan and so forth throughout the day.

Ardrossan harbour was also discussed and it emerged the repeated failure of the Arran berth relates to one fender which there is dispute over responsibility for. A meeting has been arranged with Transport Scotland, CalMac and the AFC in a bid to find a solution.

There was also clarification on the current 80/20 split on the ferry. Eighty per cent of passenger capacity is released for booking in advance and on the day 20 per cent is released for foot passengers to turn up and go. This was negotiated to support islanders wishing to travel at short notice. Cars cannot turn up and go unless, at CalMac's discretion, it is determined there is capacity on the car deck after foot passengers are boarded. In short, cars should book in advance to be certain of travel. The AFC has requested that the area operations manager (Clyde) will undertake an review of this matter.

Cladach Sawmill and Garden Centre

BARE ROOT PLANTS
APPLES, PEARS, PLUMS, GREEN GAUGES, GOOSEBERRIES, REDCURRANTS, STRAWBERRIES, RASPBERRIES, ORNAMENTAL CHERRIES.

Up to 30% cheaper than potted!
Save money and get better establishment.

Order now for delivery/collection in February.

We are agents for Frank P Matthews, for inspiration go to www.frankpmatthews.com, Please contact us for more information

Open Monday - Saturday 10am - 5pm
subject to government guidance

Tel 01770 302622
email: cladachsawmill@btinternet.com
www.cladachsawmill.com

Delivery service available if required

MAINLAND TAXIS

01294 463 556

Tel: 01294 463 556
Mob: 0792 199 8457



Glasgow City Centre..£50.00 Kilmarnock..£25.00
Ayr..£30.00 Crosshouse Hospital..£20.00 Ayr Hospital..£32.00
Ayrshire Central Hospital..£15.00
GLASGOW AIRPORT £37.00
PRESTWICK AIRPORT £27.00
EDINBURGH AIRPORT £110.00
RETURN BOOKINGS WELCOME
HOSPITAL TAXI SHARE & OTHER QUOTES AVAILBLE ON REQUEST
Friendly Reliable Service GUARANTEED

6 & 7 Seater Taxis Available on Request

CONTACTUS

email us at editor@arranbanner.co.uk
telephone 01631 568000

Public encouraged to report signs of Covid fraud to Crimestoppers

TV presenter Matt Allwright has joined Crimestoppers Scotland in helping the public spot signs of Covid fraud

Support comes as the charity launches its Crimestoppers Covid fraud hotline and appeals for public to report anonymously those illegally benefiting from government grants and loans.

In an initiative between government and the independent charity Crimestoppers, the public can now call the new Crimestoppers COVID Fraud Hotline on 0800 587 5030 anonymously and free of charge to report suspected fraudulent activity or a simple and secure anonymous online form can be completed at Covidfraudhotline.org.

More than 150 Covid support schemes have been introduced by the government to help those struggling financially, but a minority of individuals have been abusing these schemes by claiming loans and grants illegally.

TV presenter and journalist Matt said: 'It's been a really difficult time for everyone and it seems fraudsters are taking the opportunity to profit. You



TV presenter Matt Allwright.

has information or knows of someone who has fraudulently claimed government grants or loans to contact our charity anonymously and tell us what you know.

'The Crimestoppers Covid Fraud Hotline is open 24/7, 365 days a year on 0800 587 5030 or fill in form at Covidfraudhotline.org. You'll be doing the right thing to help ensure the public purse is protected from fraudsters.'

Although fraud is a hidden crime and can take a great deal of time to be discovered, Matt is helping the public look out for tell-tale signs to stop them becoming victims of fraud

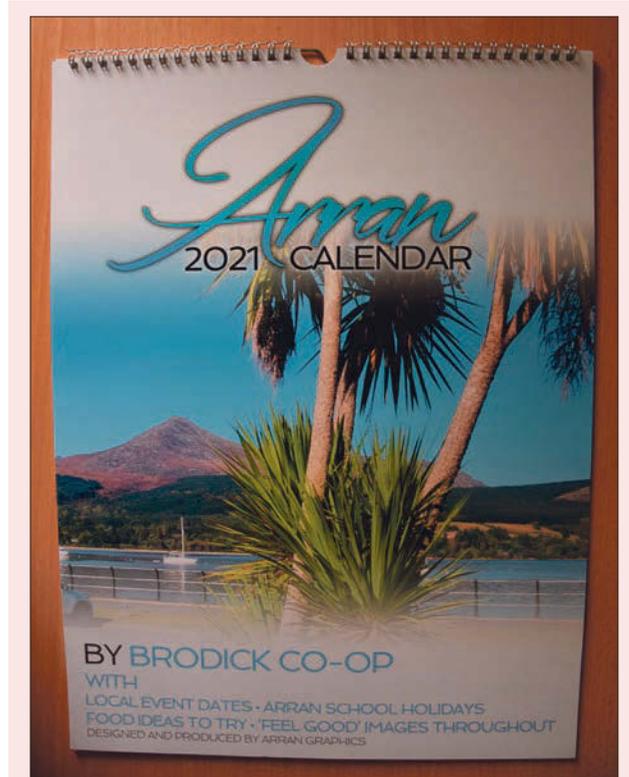
These include unusual buying activity by companies and individuals and cold calling by those falsely claiming they are from the government offering money for schemes.

Specific types of fraud could include identity theft to obtain loans, false claims for grants, misrepresentation and use of mule accounts.

can help the Crimestoppers Covid fraud hotline give vital information on those fraudulently taking advantage of Covid support packages. Always check your accounts and if there are any anomalies ask yourself, who has got in touch with your business recently as they could have used your identity and taken out a loan or grant on your behalf.

'If you are worried and think you may have been defrauded, please call the Covid fraud hotline and remember it's completely anonymous.'

Angela Parker, Scotland national manager at Crimestoppers, said: 'Fraud against the public purse denies access to vital funds that benefit us all. It's crucial that anyone across Scotland who



Feel-good calendar will raise charity cash.

Feel-good calendar will raise charity cash

A new fundraising Arran 2021 calendar has been produced by Brodick Co-op with all profits going to community projects.

The A3 calendars feature mostly feel-good images from around the island.

It has been produced and designed by Graham Chappell of Arran Graphics at cost price. He says on the calendar notes: 'Normally when designing a calendar for Arran, much of the time is spent looking for images that match the weather for particular months and these photographs can sometimes be rather dark and depressing during the winter.'

'So, with that in mind, and with the year we have had on Arran in 2020, I felt it more important to brighten things up and show images that are not specific to each month but have proved that Arran, as a home, has been one of the best places to be during a pandemic.'

The 2021 calendar is on sale now priced £10, with an initial run of 300 produced. It is also available online. Check the Arran Graphics facebook page for more information.

Campbell Fuel Oils

Is your current supplier letting you down?
Why not contact Campbell Fuels for a reliable service

The most frequent service on the Isle of Arran supplying heating oil, tractor diesel, derv and a wide range of lubricants

Call us on **01563 521925**
Hurlford Road, Riccarton, Kilmarnock KA1 3LS
www.campbellfuels.co.uk

If you are feeling isolated or anxious, call the **ARRAN EAR** to speak with a friendly local listener in confidence

01770 649 505

Call any day between 9am & 5pm

All it costs you is a local call

Supported by Foundation Scotland

ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

Scottish Charity Number SC002089 Telephone 01770 302636
Web site: www.arranmuseum.co.uk email: info@arranmuseum.co.uk
Rosaburn, Brodick, Open Daily 10.30am to 4.30pm until 25th October

Three days a week opening starts 29th October
Wednesday to Friday 11am to 3.30pm
(With social distancing and other restrictions)

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

Archives and Genealogy service by appointment, Wednesdays only.

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



UK Government
Scotland

NHS

I make
space to
protect
you.



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

LETTERS

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

Time to get involved

The community survey in this week's Banner gives everyone the chance to have their say on just how Arran can recover from the coronavirus pandemic. This was brought sharply into focus this week with the news that the island has recorded its first positive Covid-19 cases in six months which is a worry.

Concerning, too, is the effect the current restrictions, and the proposed tiered system due to be introduced next month, are having on the island economy, with around half of businesses reported to be at risk of closure.

The #WeAreArran2 community survey asks a range of questions, both personal and asking people's views on a variety of issues to gauge what is important to the people of Arran going forward.

This is important as it allows the Arran Recovery Group and other organisations with proof of what they are saying if they are seeking funding or other support from the Scottish and UK government, the local authority or any other body.

And no one should think that their voice does not matter. The survey may be anonymous but, be in no doubt, every single paper and online submission will be closely scrutinised and its contents added to the final results.

We hope that the residents of Arran will embrace the survey as their way of making their contribution to the recovery of island.

Clearly there is still a long way to go and as First Minister Nicola Sturgeon made clear this week there are many sacrifices still to be made in the fight against the pandemic.

There is no doubt this week's news of a small number of new Covid-19 cases has been a wake up call on the island and we hope everyone will now follow the government guidelines to keep everyone safe in the months ahead.

Thought for the week

'Blessed are those who dwell in thy house, ever singing they praise!' **Psalm 84: 4**

The spectre of yet more intensive salmon farming

Fish farm letters special

Sir,
The Banner front page last week is spot on in relation to a SEPA licence to pollute. The size had to be reduced and those of us who think this entire development proposal is a bad idea are in action again.

The Scottish Salmon Company has a new owner, again offshore, but they have kept their distance and seemingly have no intention of selling their revamped project to the sceptics that we are. Innovation is a distant memory with what was heralded as a huge step forward in rearing the flabby fish in overcrowded pens being summarily dismissed for whatever reason: probably because it was never going to work anyway.

At least a lower stocking density is now proposed at four full-sized fish per cubic metre of water rather than six, still crowded and confined like all intensive animal farming; disease incubators. The entire perimeter or footprint is almost the same but the two groups of cages are much more spread out. That way it is easier to meet SEPA's environmental limits for pollutant dispersal.

Is this development so good for Arran it is worth soiling what is probably the most valuable stretch of isolated coast around the Clyde region with a landscape and seascape to die for?

The 'plus' side is said now to be six jobs, the majority relatively low paid, and no certainty servicing would be centred on Arran. After all the Clyde base of the company is at Ardyne on the mainland with ease of recruiting and not much further by sea than Lamlash Bay. As for supply and service contracts, these are almost always open to competitive tender so no guarantee there.

It seems to me, Arran has much more to lose with permanent damage to its economy through a loss of one of its most valuable natural assets as perceived by so many of our visitors who come here just for that experience. Of course

we need a stronger economy than simply providing holidays and second homes and there are creative conversations taking place right now in the community which can give us, particularly younger members of our society, hope for their secure future. What does this aquaculture industry really do for Scotland? Is it the North Sea oil replacement? Well no actually.

Sure it is short term 'klondiking' so to say - low capital investment requirement and if all goes well the cash rolls in almost immediately. Long term debt is not a worry. But where does that cash go? Mostly offshore to multi-nationals and private investors. The Scottish Government, us collectively, pick up the crumbs. If you want chapter and verse on this have a read of a recent publicly available report* probing the real truth behind this industry in domestic economic benefit or the lack of it, contrary to the propaganda from Edinburgh.

Meanwhile, we see from month to month how vulnerable this salmon aquaculture is to disease pandemics and catastrophes probably related to climate change. We are humans also. The events played out recently at Carradale in Kilbrannan Sound on our doorstep with huge escapes of genetically compromised fish and huge tonnages of carcasses having to be removed and destroyed is common place today in this industry across the west of Scotland. You only need to look back to what happened in Lamlash Bay last year where at the end of the production cycle 80 or more tonnes of dead fish in one month were surreptitiously removed and shipped off to the mainland for onward disposal whilst the company scrambled to save some monetary value from the fish that survived.

This development is not the saviour of Arran in its current repressed Covid driven condition. We see visitors still coming, avoiding travel packages elsewhere and, staycations, so called, will remain a driver of our economy so no uncertainty there. This salmon industry does have an alternative in terms of location. It can move

on to land and stop polluting our seas. A site at Hunterston is available now. Costs would be higher but disease transmission could be better managed without all the toxic chemicals.

Of course this does nothing in terms of sustainability. As with all industrial intensive farming, the demands on primary resources to produce processed animal feed are robbing our diverse ecosystem and compromising our future survival. Stripping our seas of protein on which others are so dependent for their very survival simply to feed farm animals destined for our markets is no answer for the world's population. Aquaculture has a role in feeding the five thousand but not in the way it is currently practised in our Scottish seas.

*<https://www.sift.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Riddington-Radford-Gibson-Economic-Contribution-of-Salmon-Aquaculture-to-Scotland.pdf>

Yours,
**John Campbell,
Lamlash**

Ban fish farms

Sir,
I was so shocked to read about the unhealthy condition of the farmed salmon kept in cages in the fish farm near Arran with their deformed and damaged jaws and fins. The fact 48,834 of them escaped and can breed with our endangered healthy wild Scottish salmon leading natural lives in our rivers and oceans is unthinkable.

Not only is it incredibly cruel to keep any living creatures in cages and deprive them of their natural lives and freedom, it is also harmful to the health of the seabed and the waters of the ocean, especially as so many chemicals are used for the fish farm - chemicals which destroy the natural health of the fish and all other marine life in the area as well as the seabed. Humans are destroying our planet in every way possible



ARRAN DELIVERIES

We deliver the goods, not excuses

Daily collection throughout Ayrshire, Glasgow and surrounding districts

www.arrandeliveries.co.uk 

Glasgow Depot

c/o Hebrides Haulage
149 Balmoral Street
Glasgow, G14 0HB
Call us on 01475 676255
Open 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday

We've been in our Glasgow depot for 25 years, our long time friends Hebrides Haulage operate it and provide a great service. We can accept all size of deliveries into Glasgow. Our trucks call in daily to collect all goods destined for Arran.

Anything in before 1pm is guaranteed next morning delivery on the Island. Let us know your requirements when you book in with our office, as well as our speedy parcel service, we offer 2 man delivery and Tailift Service throughout the island. Forklift at depot.

Ardrossan Depot

Arran Deliveries
Parcelpoint Ardrossan
Ayrshire, KA22 8BZ
Call us on 01475 676255
Open 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday

We are open to accept all your deliveries large and small. A lot of companies won't deliver to Islands, why not use us as your mainland address and let us bring it to your home. We have all the national parcel companies and pallet networks calling in daily to our Parcelpoint. If you are ordering from a few different companies we can

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.

through their greed for money. Instead of farming salmon, why not try to increase the numbers of our endangered healthy wild salmon in our rivers and seas around Scotland. In future there will be more storms and extreme weather with climate change, and if more of these unhealthy captive salmon escape from their miserable cages, it is likely wild salmon will soon become extinct. There are only 20,000 left now. The harm done to this intelligent species of fish will be total and it is against nature.

These fish farms need to be banned completely before it is too late. They are completely destructive in every way for our oceans and our planet.

The consumption of deformed, unhealthy species of sea creatures can only be extremely detrimental to the health of human beings. Future generations will be horrified we have allowed fish farms to exist. Isn't normal fishing in the sea good enough for us as our ancestors did before us for generations?

They did not harm the planet in such a terrible way as we are now doing. Everything we do in future should be for the health of our planet, for our oceans.

Please do not allow any more fish farms to be created in Scotland. Let's set an example to the world.

Yours,
Devika Rosamund,
Lamlash.

Last nail in coffin

Sir,
When the Banner produced its fine article on the dreadful situation regarding the escape of reared salmon from North Carradale along with stunning graphic photographs of deceased dead salmon, it was a shocking sight with all the hallmarks of a huge and lasting problem.

I thought then this must be the last nail in the coffin for the proposed fish farm at Millstone Point.

I look forward to reading many knowledgeable letters about to descend on the editor's desk in support of Arran's clean waters and continuance of the fight against the Millstone Point project for any number of fish farms proposed. To me, it also exposes the cruelty aspect to fish for commercial gain.

Yours,
Edward Jackson,
Glasgow.

Friends demonstration

Sir,
Could I make a correction to your headline article in last week's Banner.

Last year's demonstration by more than 200 people and the ongoing campaign against an unsustainable and polluting proposed open pen salmon feedlot was organised by the Friends of Millstone Point, an island group comprising of hundreds of individuals and numerous island groups. The Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) is just one of the groups supporting the campaign for North Ayrshire planners to turn down this unwanted application.

Yours,
Co-Founder COAST,
Howard Wood OBE.

One councillor plea

Sir,
I respectfully take issue with the October 16 Arran Banner editorial. In my opinion, Arran is best served by one full time councillor representing Arran alone in a single member ward.

This view is to cast no aspersions at the status

quo before I go any further, though members of the community can sometimes be unsure which councillor to consult on what in a multi-member ward. Issues raised by the public shouldn't be influenced by political party affiliations.

Being the only member on NAC carries a certain 'weight' for the island which is lost when two or more members take opposing positions on council committees. The downside of only one member is, of course, the reliability, integrity and effectiveness of that one member. Another decided advantage is that the member is an independent candidate who can first and foremost represent island interests before party allegiances.

Arran was well served in the past by single members. Councillor Evelyn Sillars MBE was the longest serving member since Arran was part of a mainland ward and a role model to many. She was followed by John Sillars, myself and John Bruce. I was, in two terms, both a party affiliate and an independent when I learned what an advantage it was to be independent especially in council where Arran's interest transcended party politics on many occasions. A single ward status would ensure an island member on the council, which is essential in any island's interest.

With the right person in place who can listen to every opinion and deduce the proper outcomes and who has the respect of the community, fellow councillors and council officers, Arran will have the best representation.

It is a commanding job, not least because of travel to Irvine, but also with evening meetings regularly on the island. I would commend it as a very interesting job indeed which I was privileged to hold for a time.

Yours,
Margie Currie,
Blackwaterfoot.

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.

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.



WE DON'T WANT TO ALARM YOU BUT

The law has changed in Scotland and time is running out to install an interlinked fire alarm system in your home by 1st February 2021.

#ProtectYourFamily

www.aico.co.uk | 01691 664100 | enquiries@aico.co.uk

an  Company

Roads team gearing up for winter weather onslaught

Dedicated road crews have been out across Arran with their snowploughs – before there is even a hint of snow in the air.

North Ayrshire Council undertook its annual 'dry run' to ensure their fleet of snow clearing and gritting vehicles are well prepared in advance of the winter weather on Arran and on the mainland.

The test run enables staff to carry out essential preparatory checks on equipment and vehicles, as well as familiarise themselves with gritting routes.

Councillor Jim Montgomerie, cabinet member for green new deal and sustainability, said: 'This is an invaluable exercise which allows the team to make sure we are well positioned to deal with ice and snowfall.'

'We take our responsibility as roads authority very seriously and put in an enormous amount of effort to ensure

priority roads and footways are kept clear and safe during winter.

'Our team has robust plans in place and I'm confident we're well prepared despite the additional challenges presented by the ongoing pandemic.'

A squad of drivers and multi-purpose vehicles will be available 24/7 to keep the island's priority routes in use throughout winter. These round-the-clock measures will be in place from late October to mid-April.

On-call

The council will also be on-call over weekends and public holidays from November to February to help treat main footways in the event of ice and frost.

Arrangements are also in place with local contractors and farmers to call upon their assistance in case of severe weather conditions.

Some 1,400 tonnes of road

salt will be stockpiled at the depot at Brodick in Arran. Salt is also stored at strategic points in grit bins throughout the island for use by residents who can collect salt for personal use on roads, driveways or footpaths.

Forecasts

Weather forecasts are relayed three times a day – morning, noon and night – to the roads team who use the information to determine whether or not a snow or ice alert is issued.

The weather stations, including one on the String Road, are fitted with cameras, which help the council winter controllers and supervisors monitor weather conditions.

Visit <https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/roads-and-travel/winter-gritting.aspx> for information including updates on gritting decisions, where to find your nearest grit bin and advice on clearing snow and ice from public footways.



A gritter at work last year in Douglas Place in Brodick. 01_B42winter0

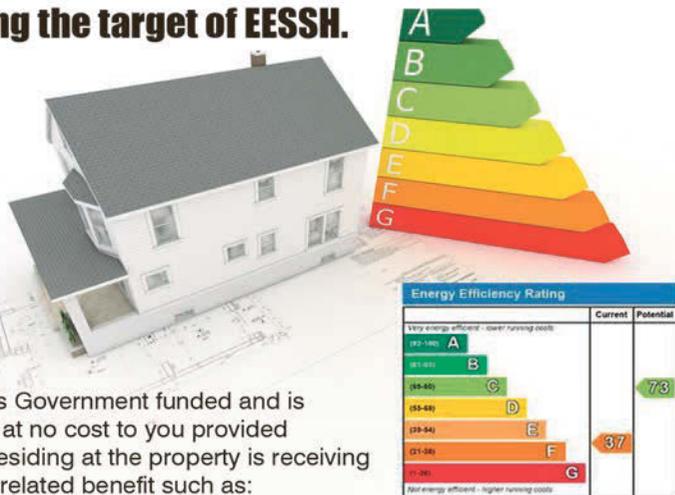
Eco Energy 2

FREE LOFT, INTERNAL WALL & CAVITY WALL INSULATION

FREE ELECTRIC HEATING UPGRADES

AVAILABLE UNDER THE ECO 3 GOVERNMENT SCHEME

To improve your energy efficiency to at least a band D, meeting the target of EESSH.



This work is Government funded and is carried out at no cost to you provided someone residing at the property is receiving an income related benefit such as:

1. Child Tax Credit
2. Working Tax Credit
3. PIP or Disability Benefits
4. Child Benefit
5. ESA
6. Income Support
7. Job Seekers Allowance
8. Pension Credit

REMEMBER, THIS INCLUDES CHILD BENEFIT, SO IF YOU HAVE CHILDREN, YOU WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR THIS FUNDING.

Also available for paying customers

Please contact our David Coogan, on **07949 091 294** or **0800 074 8674** to arrange an appointment.

Public consulted on Gaelic language plan

Education Scotland's draft Gaelic language plan for 2020-2025 is available for public consultation. The draft plan will remain open for comment until November 29 2020.

Gayle Gorman, HM chief inspector and chief executive of Education Scotland, is keen to hear from those from across Scotland on their views of education and the draft Gaelic Language plan.

She said: 'Education Scotland recognises Gaelic is an integral part of Scotland's heritage, national identity and current cultural life. We are committed and proud to work with and alongside the profession and partners supporting Gaelic,

through the curriculum, professional learning and the way in which we define Gaelic education. As we look ahead, we want to hear the views of Scotland's education workforce, stakeholders, partners and members of the public on our draft Gaelic Language Plan.

'The Gaelic language plan is part of our corporate plan and helps to exemplify further how Gaelic is embedded in our role. It builds on our previous successes and is ambitious for Gaelic.'

The new plan articulates with the aims of the national Gaelic language plan 2018-2023 to: increase the use of Gaelic,

increase the learning of Gaelic and promote a positive image of Gaelic.

'We continue to work in collaboration with stakeholders, learners, practitioners and communities to improve educational experiences and outcomes for those in Gaelic education which in turn contributes to enabling a sustainable future for Gaelic language in Scotland. We invite stakeholders, partners and members of the public to take part,' Ms Gorman added.

Please email comments regarding the content of the plan to EdSGLPPublicConsultation@educationscotland.gov.scot before the closing date.

CalMac staff get mental health training

A fleet of CalMac employees has been trained to support colleagues who may be struggling with mental health issues.

As part of the ferry company's commitment to staff well-being, more than 60 workers recently qualified as mental health first aiders. Based across the network, they have been trained to spot signs of mental distress and to be available for colleagues who need to talk about any concerns they may have.

The training, which takes two days and is accredited by NHS Scotland, is open to all members of staff. The mental health first aid programme is the result of a well-being project set up by CalMac and the National Union of

Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers. This is in conjunction with mental health charity See Me and Scottish Union Learning, with funding from the Scottish government.

CalMac is also encouraging employees to access a range of online learning resources from See Me as part of their overall health and safety training.

Robbie Drummond, managing director of CalMac, said: 'As employers, CalMac has a duty to care for and to protect the people who work for the organisation. My goal is that staff work in a safe environment in which they feel supported and that they have the chance to talk about mental health if they need to.'

Largest network of virus testing facilities covering all of Scotland

The UK Government has put in place the largest network of diagnostic testing facilities created in British history, setting up a state of the art network of virus testing facilities across Scotland. In support of the Scottish Government, the UK Government is providing all COVID-19 testing in Scotland outside of NHS settings for people in Scotland. Support

includes six drive-through centres, two new walk-in sites with more to follow, 20 mobile units as well as home testing kits, testing for care home staff and residents, and – highlighted here – the Glasgow Lighthouse Lab, operating around the clock to process an estimated 50,000 swabs each day, hoping to soon hit a daily target of 85,000.

THIS TIME last year, every single one of the estimated 400 people who work at the Lighthouse Lab in Glasgow were doing something else.

There was simply no need for a virus testing lab of this scale and ambition in the UK. What a difference a year makes.

The Glasgow “megalab” that now stretches over four floors of a specially commandeered building in Govan is a vital part of the largest network of diagnostic testing facilities yet created by any UK government.

As Chief Operating Officer for the College of Medical Veterinary Sciences at the University of Glasgow, Carol Clugston (pictured) has been involved with the Glasgow Lighthouse Lab since its inception.

“The very first day we started, in April,” she recalls, “we did 41 tests. Now we’ve just passed 2.5 million cumulative tests.”

Facilities like the Glasgow Lighthouse Lab are helping to maximise testing capacity in Scotland

and across the UK. Increasing the number of people tested is a key part of easing lockdown restrictions and getting people back to work.

Shortly after the Glasgow lab opened, in May, a partnership deal was struck with medical research specialist BioClavis, whose company president Harper Van Steenhouse became the lab’s new director.

“It’s amazing what people can do,” he says. “We have taken a bunch of bright, motivated, ambitious people and given them a singular focus – almost, quite truthfully, attempting to save the world. It’s going to pull these people through and provide a skilled

workforce for the future. Once the pandemic is over, we’ll have a huge number of skilled people right around the corner.

“As somebody who runs a small business that hires these sorts of people, I’m keen that they’re learning these skills.”

Let’s hope this ill wind does indeed leave something good behind.



VIRUS TESTING: The Glasgow Lighthouse Lab operates around the clock.



HOW IT WORKS

People get tested if they have COVID-19 symptoms or have been asked to seek a test. Their swab is delivered for analysis to the lab.

“Your swab is inside a tube, which is inside a bag, which is inside a box,” explains lab director, Harper Van Steenhouse. “The samples get processed out of their packaging.”

Individual patients can’t be identified from swabs. “All we monitor are barcodes. The scientific team only gets the tube, with the swab in it. And it’s the liquid in the tube that is the patient sample,” assured the company chief.

From there lab assistants get the RNA – the virus genetic material – from samples. The data file that comes out the end has the same barcode associated with it.



High temperature?

Continuous cough?

Loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste?

If you have symptoms stay at home and get a test to protect your loved ones.

Learn more at scot.nhs.uk/coronavirus

All together >

Arran fish farm campaigners



The Millstone Point camp out.



A sweeping view of the proposed fish farm site at Millstone Point.

The Arran Banner revealed last week that the Scottish Salmon Company has submitted a revised planning application significantly reducing the size of its proposed fish farm at Millstone Point on Arran in a bid to secure planning permission later this year. The proposal is bitterly opposed on the island and here the Friends of Millstone Point outline why.

Last weekend fish farm objectors set up camp at Millstone Point and laid the first stones of a community cairn to demonstrate their outright opposition to any fish farm at this pristine site.

Following Covid-19 rules, the two Friends of Millstone Point camped out and protesters were invited to walk by in family groups the next day to add a stone to the cairn.

Stones were added by new objectors and on behalf of the more than 200 people who formally objected last year and the nearly 7,000 who have already signed the online petition. A camp-out vigil will now be held at Millstone Point each week with supporters asked to walk out individually to add a stone and follow this up with a written objection. The cairn stones will be returned to the shore when the application has been defeated.

The new application made by the Faroese-owned 'Scottish' Salmon Company was submitted to North Ayrshire Council last month following previous objections. It is viewed as a tactical manoeuvre by the company in an attempt to appear to be compromising on cage numbers, while still establishing an extensive factory farm off one of Arran's most loved shore lines. The company now proposes 12 x 120m circumference cages plus associated barge feeder.

Arran residents and visitors, many from Scotland's central belt, have been delighted by the appearance of bottle-nosed whales and dolphins and many harbour porpoises this year. It is unfathomable to islanders that, just as sea life is recovering along Arran's coast line, an off-shore company is proposing to set up a salmon factory farm that will use

Acoustic Deterrent Devices (ADDs - these sound like an underwater fire alarm going off) to scare seals, which will also keep porpoise, dolphins and whales away. The same company already operates a fish farm in Arran's scenic Lamlash Bay where these creatures are rarely seen. The ADDs are usually operated around the clock and can be heard constantly by local and visiting wild swimmers.

Objections to the fish farm are well founded. Sea lice, which spread to wild fish, the chemicals used to reduce lice numbers on salmon, the effluent from so many fish crowded into cages, together with the accidental releases of genetically variant salmon are all well-documented as having serious detrimental impacts on the surrounding environment and native salmon. Only last month, 50,000 salmon escaped

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCE MARCH 22 CLOSING DATE FOR AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP INCENTIVE

Arrange your home survey today to make sure you do not miss out

"My house is now always warm and cozy and my bills have halved"
"I no longer worry about the cost of heating my home in the winter"
"I have been delighted with the Service provided by T K Murray: from initial contact they were friendly, helpful and professional. The staff were all really great: no mess, tidy installation and they did the job in less than two days"

- Funding available from both the UK and Scottish Government
- Over 175 heat pumps installed on Arran alone.
- Full systems installed in less than two days

Air source heat pumps are set to become the most popular way to heat your home. Right now there are very generous Government incentives which cover most of the cost.

To find out how they work and how much you would get, contact us today.



T K Murray Electrical Ltd



Contact Norman Paterson on:
07912 346360

2 U.P. Road, Kilsyth, Glasgow, G65 0BH.
Telephone: (01236) 730 579
FAX: (01236) 730 579
E-mail: info@tkmurray.co.uk



Camping protestors Andrew Binnie and Simon Ross-Gill with a copy of last week's Banner which galvanised opponents.



James from Saltcoats adds his stone.

camp out in creative protest

from a MOWI fish farm at North Carradale and 30,000 died. Escaped fish are being caught in rivers throughout the Clyde region and as far afield as Cumbria, yet again highlighting the dangers of these farms to wild salmon. Promises of a few jobs appear weak when compared with the long-term health of our environment.

Residents and Arran visitors also have reasons for opposing the factory farm in the North Arran National Scenic Area.

As one of the remotest but still accessible stretches of Arran's Coastal Way, the route is frequently walked by young and old and many remember their first walks along the path with their parents and later with partners and young children.

Mairi and Stephen Brown who brought stones from Kildonan to place on the community cairn said they 'really value the beauty and wildlife of this lovely place, the views northwards towards Bute and the Highlands beyond'.

James and Sarah, a young couple from Saltcoats walked

by during the protest. James said: 'I often come here to camp with my friends. There should absolutely not be a fish farm here. We love jumping on the ferry and enjoying the peace and quiet when we get here'.

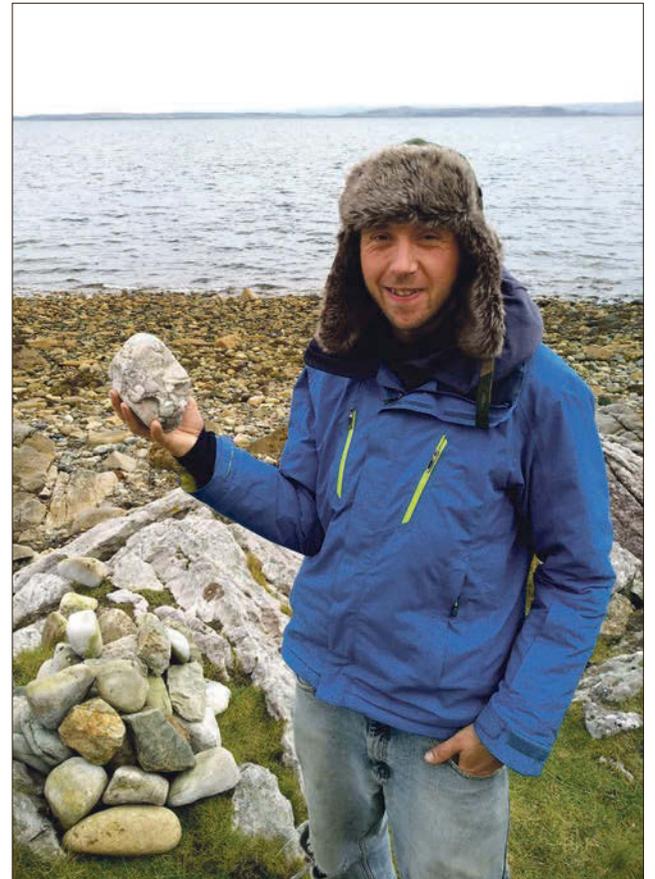
Donald and Susan McNicol brought a stone each from Kings Cross. Susan said: 'I love this place for what it is, unspoiled with no roads or cars.'

Pat Green from Arran's south end commented: 'This is the only place I have seen a basking shark on Arran.'

The diverse collection of campaigners working under the banner of Friends of Millstone Point are stressing to supporters they must write again to North Ayrshire Council. They do not have to repeat all the comments they made before, but they should make it clear why this latest application is not acceptable. Comments can be left on the NAC planning website under the same reference as before 19/00609/PPM. Key points will be circulated on the new lovel-millstonepoint.com website. See also letters pages.



Marion and Stephen Brown add their stones to the cairn.



Simon Ross-Gill with a large stone for the cairn.

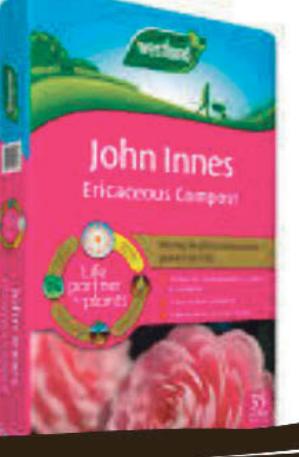


The community campaign cairn.



Andrew Binnie adds a stone.

MIBS BUILDING AND TIMBER SUPPLIES 

Spring Bulbs Now In!

Free Island Wide Delivery 01770700202 - mbsbuild@yahoo.co.uk
Whiting Bay, Isle of Arran, KA27-8PR
Open Mon - Sat 8am-5pm

Arran's on a food journey

Arran's Food Journey, the island's new regional food group, held its first full meeting on Thursday October 15 when more than 20 organisations with an interest in Arran's food and drink sector from farming, manufacturing, retail, hospitality, community and environmental enterprises were represented.

The new group is one of 14 set up across the country, funded to the tune of £250,000

by Scotland Food & Drink, to promote local produce.

Arran group co-ordinator Cameron Bruce outlined the evolving food journey that Arran has been on over the centuries, from illicit whisky stills to today's state of the art distilleries, from pastoral, and more sustainable farming where produce was grown for own use and sale around the island to today's community growing and high quality

farming produce. He summarised that Arran has a fantastic food and drink product that the group should seek to build on with its three overarching goals:

■ Support Arran's producers and food enterprises.

■ Stronger Arran food supply chain and environmental standards/quality credentials.

■ Arran's food story is told and is having a positive impact on sustainable food tourism.

The key aims of Arran's Food Journey are to facilitate and aid cooperation, to set up different teams to develop opportunities, to act as a collective and not be a large organisation giving top down leadership.

Everyone attending the meeting was given the chance to outline what they hoped to get from the group and the opportunities they saw it having for them and Arran.

Two opportunities came to the fore for the group to develop: telling Arran's food story to encourage people to eat and drink local produce and encourage sustainable tourism as well as encouraging education and well-being.

Journey

The group discussed how Arran's food story starts with its fantastic raw product such as meat, milk or barley for the distillery from island farmers or fruit and vegetables from the community and on-farm growers. The journey is carried on by manufacturers who turn that raw product into delicious food and drink, then island retailers supply it to consumers. Many of Arran's hospitality providers showcase Arran's food to residents and visitors.

The group discussed ways of collecting and telling Arran's food story and how each sector can play a part, be it through showcasing the food and drink product, getting stories in the news or using the group's new social media tag #WeAreArranFood.

It was pointed out that the lack of multi-national chains on Arran gives us the oppor-



A tractor at work at Bellevue Farm.

tunity to present both the holistic and true vision of food and drink from Arran and our efforts to maintain the balance between our community, environment and economy.

Participants at the meeting also spoke with passion about the varied opportunities of education and well-being around Arran's food.

Facts

These included giving visitors the chance to learn the full facts of Arran produce from farm to fork including what makes Arran produce so special, its land, microclimate, history and people and the reality of the £ per kilo return needed to make a commercial farm viable.

Tours give an opportunity for young folk from Arran and beyond to see the different jobs that take Arran's food and drink from production to service in the hospitality sector.

Community growers out-

lined how their initiatives are increasing and evolving. This included how they provide opportunities for individual learning about growing and our environment, improving well-being by working on the land and helping others in the community. This will be much needed in the tough times we face ahead.

Arran's Food Journey has made a fast start in building support and engagement. As well as the opportunities outlined above, it is keen to progress ideas that help Arran's food chain, environmental standards and food quality recognition.

To do that the group would like to engage with the widest possible group from across the commercial and community food organisations. If you would like to find out more or get involved, email Cameron at arransfoodjourney@gmail.com



Cows in the field at Bellevue Farm.

Tel: 01770 302113
facebook.com/arranactive
Email: info@arranactive.co.uk

Arran Active

More than just an Outdoor Shop

Sprayway Ladies Winter Boots £50

New Autumn/Winter Weird Fish Clothing in Stock

Arran Active • Shore Road • Brodick • Isle of Arran • KA27 8AJ

Open Hours

Mon-Sat 9.30 - 5.00 & Sun 10.30 - 5.00

New smoke alarm laws are delayed by a year

New legislation which requires all homes in Scotland to have interlinked smoke and carbon monoxide alarms will be delayed until 2022.

The moves followed criticism from Age Scotland and opposition politicians over the lack of public awareness.

The new measures, which would cost an estimated £220 for an average three-bedroom home, were due to come into force in February next year. The Scottish government said MSPs would now be asked to approve a 12-month delay.

Housing minister Kevin Stewart said: 'Given the impact of Covid-19, and the difficulties this is likely to create for people seeking to install new smoke and carbon monoxide alarms, we have listened to concerns and decided to ask the Scottish Parliament to delay implementation.

'If this delay is approved, we will continue to

work with partners to spread awareness of the changes before the new deadline. Our focus will be on supporting householders to ensure satisfactory fire alarms are installed so we can improve the safety of their homes.'

Under the new legislation all home owners and landlords must ensure they have a ceiling-mounted smoke alarms in their living room, hallways and landings.

All kitchens must have a heat alarm and, crucially, the system must be interlinked, either through fixed wiring or a wireless system. This means if one alarm is activated it will trigger the others. Finally, a carbon monoxide alarm must be fitted where there is a fuel burning appliance or a flue.

If a homeowner is unable to fit their own system then they will need to pay the additional cost of an electrician.

#WEAREARRAN COMMUNITY SURVEY 2

Arran Recovery Group is running another community survey as much has changed since June

We welcome your insight and feedback below

There is an online link to the survey and if you can we'd ask you to complete that at this link

<https://forms.gle/YzkQWCUR61ETzp6RA>, however, if you can't do that, please feel free to complete the survey below:

No questions are mandatory but any information you share strengthens the Arran community voice and helps to inform the best way forward.

Once completed, please remove this page and hand in to the Co-ops, Bay Kitchen and Stores, Pirnmill Post Office or On a Roll by Friday 30th October. Please circle relevant answers, thank you.

1. Are you primarily a:

Student Employed Self Employed Out of work and looking for work
Out of work and not looking for work Unable to work Retired Volunteer

2. What is your age range?

0-15yrs 16-30yrs 31-45yrs 46-65yrs 66+ Prefer not to say

3. On Arran, the general public have complied and responded appropriately to Covid-19 guidelines, please answer on a scale of 1-7

Strongly Disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Strongly Agree

4. Currently the ferry's reduced capacity means that 20% of passenger tickets on sailings are not available until the day of sail. How do you feel this service works for the Arran community? Please answer on a scale of 1-7

Very Poorly 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellently

4a. Please explain your answer to Q 4 if you want

4b. Looking forward, how important do you feel it is, that a percentage of tickets are retained for sale on the day? Please answer on a scale of 1-7

Not important 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Extremely Important

5. Has the reduced ferry capacity affected you personally in any of the following ways (please tick all that apply and rate on a scale of 1-7):

Affected me Greatly 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Not affected me

Unable to see loved ones Unable to attend health appointments
Unable to go on planned holiday Unable to fulfil work commitments
Unable to receive home renovations/services

5a. Any information you wish to share regarding this

6. As an islander, on a scale of 1-7 you have had enough of the following:

Strongly Disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Strongly Agree

Information Support Funding Services

6a. Please comment if you wish

7. Since June 2020, on a scale of 1-7, how positive do you feel about Arran's community working together to solve problems our island community faces?

Very Negative 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Very Positive

8. How would you describe your physical health?

Very Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

9. How would you describe your mental health?

Very Poor 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Excellent

10. What is concerning you most at present (please tick all that apply):

Job Security Mental health of yourself Mental health of your loved ones
Physical health of yourself Physical health of your loved ones
Education (you/your or child/children) Financial concerns Housing
Food security Heating & Energy Not seeing anyone Climate change
Fear of the unknown Childcare

10a. Please comment if you wish

11. Which four priority areas in the Arran Recovery Plan (<https://www.arranrecoverygroup.co.uk/document/draft-recovery-plan/>) will be of most benefit to you if proposals and actions are fulfilled:

Health & Social Care Quality of Life Education Travel & Transport
Affordable Housing Food localisation Tourism & Business Energy & Buildings
Circular Economy Green Recovery Land & Nature Restoration
Marine Environment Skills Development Digital Recovery Governance (increased local decision making) All Equal Benefit

11a. Please comment on Q11 if you wish

12. Arran should utilise this period of change to mitigate against and adapt to the climate crisis:

Strongly Disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Strongly Agree

12a. Please explain your response above and if you agree, any suggestions on how this might happen are welcome.

13. Since June, what has been your predominant mode of travel?

Walking/Running CarBike Bus Ferry Not Applicable EBike
Motorcycle Other

13.a Since June, do you feel you are using a car more instead of walking or cycling, and if so why?

Concerns about social distancing on buses Car sharing not recommended
Weather Roads are busier Lack of alternatives Unaffordable public transport
Lack of eBike hire Public transport timings not suitable for socialising
Public transport timings not suitable for work Public Transport not recommended Not applicable

14. Arran businesses have responded appropriately and safely to Covid-19 guidelines:

Strongly disagree 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Strongly agree

15. At present, how do you feel about Arran's economy:

Very negative 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Very positive

16. Businesses/organisations only - what sector do you operate in?

Construction and Trades Manufacturing Retail Activities/Attraction
Hotel/B&B Self Catering Food & Drink Agriculture
Public Sector Third Sector/Non-profit/Voluntary Services not listed

17. Businesses & organisations only: To what level has the Scottish Government Route Plan reduced your ability to provide a service? (e.g social distancing, PPE.)

better than expected there was no difference
-10% -30% -50% -70% more than -70%

18. Finally, what has been the most positive aspect of the Covid-19 restrictions and what you would like to preserve going forward?

Working from home Time with loved ones Time for myself
Lower carbon living (e.g. travel, food, energy consumption) Diet
Time spent outdoors Food delivery service Community spirit and support
Digital connectivity and improved technological skills Employer support & communication There have been no positives

Other:.....

Is there anything else you would like to share?

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING

For updates and survey results please check the Arran Recovery Group website: www.arranrecoverygroup.com

CLASSIFIEDS

CRAFTS WORKSHOP

THE WHINS CRAFTS WORKSHOP
HOME OF THE ARRAN STONEMEN
North Newton, Lochranza 01770 830650
Hand painted stone characters and animals, decorative candles and woodwork.
Handmade on the premises by working craftsmen.
Open to the public 7 days a week. 10am - 6pm.
Walking only please...signposted from Lochranza.

..and also

Lochranza Decorative Candles
Handmade candles at the Whins Crafts Workshop.
Ornate and unusual designs for gifts or your own home.
Lochranza • 01770 830650

PAINTER AND DECORATOR

FULTON
decorators

LAMLASH
TEL/FAX 01770 600705
Est. 1985

- All paintwork undertaken
- Any job, large or small
- Paper hanging
- Floor sanding & sealing
- Phone Gavin Fulton for a free estimate

INSURANCE SERVICES

Sponsored by NFU Mutual
Campbeltown. Call Chris Husthwaite
on 01586 552 428 for your
insurance needs



Agent of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited.

BANNER BANNER
CLASSIFIEDS CLASSIFIEDS

PUBLIC NOTICES

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

Alexander Lammie and Stuart Lammie trading as Albion Gas of Arran of 16 Murray Crescent, Lamlash, Isle Of Arran, North Ayrshire, KA27 8NS is applying for a licence to use Market Road, Brodick, Isle of Arran, North Ayrshire, KA27 8AU As an operating centre for 2 goods vehicle and 2 trailers.

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representors must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

PROPERTY

FOR SALE
Magdala Whiting Bay
Isle of Arran KA27 8PZ
Offers Over
£300,000

IMPRESSIVE DETACHED SEVEN APARTMENT HOUSE

If you would like to arrange a viewing, please call
Jas Campbell Estate Agents & Co Tel: 01770 302027
or visit our office at Unit 2, Douglas Centre, Brodick, KA27 8AJ
Authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority for financial services

JAS CAMPBELL & CO
ESTATE AGENTS

Find our properties at: rightmove onthemarket primeconnections epsc zoopla

Looking for Property to Buy

Elderly person is looking for a property to buy preferably Brodick, Lamlash or Whiting Bay but anything considered.

Looking for 1-2 bedrooms which can be easily heated in winter and with a small easily maintained garden.

Please call 01248 681098

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

FOR SALE

LGP COSY HEAT 2 MOBILE HEATER. 3 heat settings, new in box, never been used. H 720mm, W 410mm D 360mm with gas cylinder. Please call 01770 830322

WHAT'S ON

EVERY DAY

Eco Savvy and Co-op food share at Big Co, Brodick and Lamlash 8.15pm



like us on
facebook
www.facebook.com/
arranbanner

RECRUITMENT

WILTSHIRE

EST. FARM 1991

FOODS

WE'RE HIRING!

Would you like to join an award-winning company?
We're recruiting for a driver to deliver orders to our valued Arran Customers.

Our deliveries are made fortnightly on Thursdays & Fridays.

We're looking for a driver who is friendly, confident and positive with a 'can do' attitude & an excellent knowledge of Arran roads & the local area.

You'll be the face of Wiltshire Farm Foods. You'll feel comfortable working independently & providing great service with a smile.

If you think this could be the job for you please email Glenda.McWatt@wiltshirefarmfoods.co.uk for further information. Alternatively, please call 01294 551734.

Interviews will be held in Arran on Thursday 5th November.

FREE

index

2021

Keeping your business in the forefront throughout 2021

Book your entry NOW in our local telephone directories

If you would like to be in it or change a listing

Email Cecilia at
adverts@arranbanner.co.uk
01770 302142

• RESIDENTIAL • BUSINESSES • SERVICES • TRADES •

HENDRY
FUNERAL SERVICES LTD

15 Glen Avenue, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8DQ
Tel: 01770 302233 Fax: 01770 302883

Independent Funeral Directors • All Funeral arrangements
Agents for Golden charter Funeral Plans &
Robertson Memorials. A member of S.A.I.F

Telephone David or Clair Tel: 01770 302233

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. For Brodick please contact Liz Lawrie 01770 302782.

There will be a streamed service weekly, this can be found on the three Church websites, www.stmolioshiskine.org.uk, www.brodickchurch.org, www.lochranzchurch.org.uk
Sunday 25th October

Lochranza Church 9.30am. Morning worship

Pirnmill Church 10.45am. Morning worship.

Shiskine Church 12noon. Morning worship.

Brodick Church 10.30am. Morning worship.

Corrie Church 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 25th October

Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

Holy Communion - 11 am.

Rev'd Adrian Fallows

ALL WELCOME

We follow strict SEC guidelines

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(Charity Number: SC014005)

Sunday 25th 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

DEATHS

FERRIS - John. Peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital on Saturday 10th October 2020, John aged 70 years. Beloved husband of the Late Sheena and a much loved dad to Sean and Martin, also his sister Margaret, who will be sadly missed. Due to the current restrictions a small family service will take place at Masonhill Crematorium. Donations if desired may be made to Arran War Memorial Hospital in memory of John.

HOSKINS - Constance (Connie) Anne (née Price) died peacefully on Tuesday 13 October 2020 aged 98 cared for by the dedicated staff at Montrose House. Adored and sadly missed by all who knew her. Anne's funeral is to be held in Ayr at 11.15 am on Friday 23 October with family only.

Life-changing impact of sports in North Ayrshire schools

New research into the work of sportscotland has shown the life-changing effects sport has on those who take part in participation programmes delivered by the national agency for sport.

The research looked at sportscotland's contribution to the Scottish government's Active Scotland outcomes framework and highlighted the work of several national programmes such as Active Schools, which nationally has helped 97 per cent of participants surveyed feel happier, while four per cent of participants are now no longer inactive due to taking part in the programme.

In North Ayrshire survey responses were gathered from 1,346 pupils who take part in the Active Schools programme, including Arran High School. Some of the key findings were: 97 per cent of pupils feel healthier, 86 per cent feel happier, 80 per cent have made friends and 87 per cent feel included.

The North Ayrshire responses also showed that three per



Youngsters enjoy playing football at a community football club.

Photograph: Alan Peebles

cent of pupils were no longer considered inactive thanks to taking part in Active Schools while 66 per cent have been helped by Active Schools to be more active outside of school.

Chief executive of sportscotland, Stewart Harris, welcomed the research, he said: "This report demonstrates the life-changing impacts of sport participation in schools in North Ayrshire and across the country. With the help of our partners across the sporting system we are determined to keep creating more and better opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to take part in sport.

"Scotland's sporting system has shown incredible resilience during what is an extremely difficult period for us all. It has not been easy for Scottish Governing Bodies of Sport and local partners but there has been a shared commitment that has allowed us to continue to progress.

"We remain in the middle of a public health emergency, but as these findings show sport and physical activity is crucial for the nation's physical and mental health and we are fully aware of the importance of sport's role in the country's recovery from the pandemic."

Minister for public health,



Continued from page 16.

Fixtures: Sunday October 25 Sweep, Yellow tees, winter rules in place. Until further notice there will be no draws for partners and members should arrange their own groupings.

Lamlash Golf Club

Sunday October 18, Glenburn Cup. 1 Hugh McLelland 83-20=63; 2 Derek Harrison 85-21=64. Best scratch Ian Bremner 75. Magic twos Alan Smith @16th. Fixtures: Sunday October 25, Winter Stableford, 9.30am and noon starts. Thursday October 29, Yellow Medal, draw at 11am.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Hendry - Iain. Lavinia, Janet, Bert and family would like to thank everyone for the flowers cards and support received since the loss of Iain. Thank you to the Rev Ian MacLeod and Jean Hunter for the comforting service at the graveside.



Fiona Scott and Clare Buchanan of the winning Shiskine Tri-Am team.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday October 17, Sweep: 1 J McGovern 72-13=59.

Monday October 19, Monday Cup: 1 J McGovern 71-11=60; 2 A Smith 73-12=61. Magic twos A Smith.

Fixtures: Saturday October 24, 18 hole Sweep, arrange your own games and register by email. Monday October 26, Monday Cup, shotgun start at noon.

Brodick Golf Club

Sunday October 18, Winter Cup Stableford, 24 played, CSS

37 points: 1 David Hendry (14) 41 points; 2 Greg McCrae (5) 40 points; 3 Bruce Jenkins (7) 39 points.

Fixtures: Sunday October 25, Winter Cup Stableford. Saturday October 31, Saturday Cup Stableford.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday October 20, Lochranza Hotel Cup: 1 Brian Sherwood 34 points; 2 Phil Betley 32 points; 3 Alistair MacDonald 30 points.

Fixture: Tuesday October 27, Winter Cup, tee off noon.

AGA fixture

Sunday November 1, Winter League (Duncan Trophy), at Machrie Bay Golf Club. Tee Times will be as follows: 8.30am, 9.20am and 11.50am. Machrie Bay v Corrie - 8.30am; Brodick v Shiskine - 9.20am; Lamlash v Whiting Bay - 11.50am. Please note that there will be no catering. Team representative should inform Brian or Hamish of the result after the game.

SUBSCRIBE
www.arranbanner.co.uk/subscriptions



Rory and Jack victorious in junior championship



Shiskine Golf Club

Four juniors took part in the rescheduled Shiskine Junior Championship on Wednesday October 14, playing for the Handicap Trophy which was won by Jack Dunn with a fantastic Nett 32.

This was followed on Friday with a competition for the Scratch Trophy when Rory Currie beat Donald Currie and Stanley Tod in a close match. In a closely contented Match Play the following day, Rory beat his cousin Stanley on the 12th hole to win the Scratch Trophy and the Junior Club Championship.

Congratulations to Rory and Jack but well done to all four who were a credit to themselves, their parents and the club. The club acknowledges Clare Buchanan and her helpers for all their hard work in organising this event as without them this wouldn't happen.

Thursday October 15, Shiskine Ladies Away Golfing Society at Brodick Golf Club: 12 holes: 1 Alice Anderson 54-11=43; 2 Jenni Turnbull



Rory Currie, Stanley Tod and Jack Dunn receive their trophies from Captain Fiona Henderson.

twos: B Sherwood, W McNally, A Bannatyne, P Johnston, W Paton, R Crawford, R Traill and A Napier.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday October 11, Bogey competition. It's been so long since we played a Bogey, players had chat about how to score it before we started. Still, once we all understood what we were doing - you don't often hear that at WBGC - we all enjoyed a fine morning's golf.

A total of 20 played with half the field bettering or tying the course. Dougie Auld did it in style by finishing 7 up on the course to win by 3 holes from David Blair. Result: 1 Douglas Auld (18)-7up; 2 David Blair (13) 4 up acb; 3 Patricia Tait (29)-4 up acb, 4 Ronnie Mann (12)-4 up.

Continued on page 15.

56-12=45; 3 Sheila Gray nett 48 BIH; 4 Yvonne Brothers nett 48. Scratch Ann May 52. Team Tri-Am: 1 Alice Anderson,

Clare Buchanan, Fiona Scott 83; 2 Jenni Turnbull, Yvonne Brothers, Jerry Arthur 86; 3 Liz Kerr, Isobel MacDonald,

Mary Tod 91. Sunday October 18, gents 12 hole medal: 1st class: 1 A Napier 45-7=38 BIH; 2 and scratch R Crawford

43-5=38; 3 A Stewart 47-7=49 BIH. 2nd class: 1 R Currie 48-13=35; 2 A Leek 55-16=39 BIH; 3 A Kerr 47-8=39. Magic



LAMLASH GARAGE

SERVICE & MOT APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

ALL VEHICLE MAKES SERVICED & REPAIRED.
CAR & MOTORCYCLE MOT TESTING. LASER WHEEL ALIGNMENT

For fast, efficient, friendly service - contact our reception on: 01770 600328
Strict COVID-19 operating rules apply. Garage office closed to the public. Card payments by phone only

f Lamlash Garage