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Major summer events on Arran are cancelled again

... but the island is all set for a bumper season

by Hugh Boag
 editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Major summer events on Arran are cancelled again

Two of the most popular events in the Arran summer calendar have been cancelled for a second time.

Brodick Highland Games has been forced to cancel for the second year running because of concerns over potential crowd numbers at Ormidale Park on what should have been the 133th staging of the games. And the hugely popular Arran Farmers' Show has also been cancelled for 2021.

As many as 4,000 spectators would usually be at the Highland games to watch the pipe bands, races and heavy events and enjoy the stall attractions, while the farmers' show also attracts thousands



to Glenkiln Farm to see the judging of the animals, the tractors, the horses and the guest star attraction on the

day. This would have been the 184th staging of the show.

In a statement, games committee chairman Donald

Mckelvie confirmed: 'It is with great sadness that following a reluctant committee decision we are cancelling the 2021

The mass pipe band march at the Highland games will be much missed on Arran this summer. 01_B16games01

Brodick Highland Games. The health and safety of our community remains paramount during these unusual and difficult times.

'I am hoping along with the committee that come August 2022 we will be back to some normality and can revisit Ormidale Park to celebrate a spectacular 2022 Brodick Highland Games.'

Farmers' Society chairman David Henderson expressed his 'sadness' at having to cancel the show, after a meeting on Wednesday night, but said: 'This was a very tough decision to make but with uncertainty over continued Covid restric-

tions it was felt we couldn't proceed with the show.

'We are, however, going to run a virtual online show in the summer which we hope members and the general public will take part in. We look forward to welcoming you all back to a sunny Glenkiln for our show in August 2022.'

Arran SWI Federation had been waiting on the decision to decide on their annual handicrafts exhibition, traditionally held on the same day. That is also now expected to be called off.

And they will not be the only casualties of the summer season. There will be none of the popular special event days at Arran Heritage Museum over the summer, the committee has agreed. The village gala

Continued on page three.

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Lord Lieutenant offers deepest sympathies on Prince Philip's death

The Lord Lieutenant of Ayrshire and Arran, Sheriff Iona McDonald OBE, has offered her deepest sympathies to the Royal Family on the death of His Royal Highness, The Duke of Edinburgh.

Sheriff McDonald said: 'His Royal Highness has featured in the life of the nation for many years, as he worked alongside Her Majesty The Queen, supporting her in so many ways during her long and busy reign.

'He will also be remembered for his own contributions and, in particular, The Duke of Edinburgh Award programme which he instigated in 1956 and which has helped countless young people meet challenges in their lives.

'Her Majesty The Queen and all the members of the Royal Family are in our thoughts and prayers at this very sad time.

'An online Book of Condolence is now available to capture thoughts and



Sheriff Iona McDonald

memories of the late Duke and messages of sympathy to the Royal Family.'

It can be accessed through the following link: www.royal.uk

The funeral of the Duke of Edinburgh, who died last Friday at the age of 99, will be held at St George's Chapel in the grounds of Windsor Castle at 3pm tomorrow (Saturday) and is being widely televised.



The games hall at Arran High School which has been converted into the vaccination centre on the island.

Second Covid jab rollout on Arran continues apace

by Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk



All residents over the age of 70 on Arran, and those in the shielding category, have received their second Covid jabs, with the uptake in excess of 95 per cent.

Those over 50 will all have received their second jab by the end of next month and as the vaccination rollout continues apace on the island, health officials say it has been a great success so far, with the latest clinic again being held at Arran High School last weekend.

In a statement, Dr Greg Hamill, Arran clinical lead of the North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership, said: 'On Arran there have been fewer than five positive coronavirus cases since January 2021. Despite this low number, it remains important the residents of Arran continue to make use of the testing facilities available to them and continue to follow the FACTS guidance to help protect our communities from the spread of the virus - even after vaccination.

'The Covid-19 vaccination programme has been a great success so far. Those in priority groups one to nine have been offered first vaccinations and uptake on Arran has been high. This includes those aged over 50 years, those identified in the higher risk groups aged between 16-50 years old and health and social care staff.

'Most recently, clinics saw

second doses completed for patients aged 70 and over, as well as those in the shielding group.

We are awaiting confirmation of figures after the weekend but it appears that the uptake of second doses will be close to that seen with first vaccinations in these groups, in excess of 95 per cent of those eligible.

'Currently, vaccinators are continuing to offer second doses to housebound patients, with the aim of completing that group at the end of this week.

'Next month appointments will be offered to everyone else over the age of 50 to come forward for their second dose as well as patients aged 16-50 who are in the higher risk group. We are awaiting confirmation of a date for vaccine delivery for first doses for those in the younger age group. As residents become eligible, we will get in touch to arrange an appointment. There is no need to book in for this.

'The national guidelines are to receive the second dose of vaccine within 12 weeks of the first. It is important you return for your second vaccination when invited to do so, as this will provide the maximum level of protection against Covid-19, for a longer duration.

'Thank you to everyone involved across the Health and Social Care Partnership and community and to everyone who has taken up the offer of a vaccine so far,' Dr Hamill added. Across NHS Ayrshire and Arran, more than 200,000 people have received at least one

dose of the vaccine as part of the local vaccination programme.

The milestone was reached as the vaccination programme entered its fourth month, with the first vaccinations given locally on December 8 2020. By last Sunday, 204,178 people had been vaccinated in Ayrshire and Arran and 32,803 people have completed both of their doses.

Joint director of public health Lynne McNiven said: 'The uptake has been tremendous and we can see the positive impact the vaccination programme is having in our communities, with fewer hospitalisations and lower transmission levels. The best way to maximise the efficacy of the vaccine is to have both doses, so I would really encourage everyone offered an appointment for that second vaccine to do so. The vaccination programme is the largest of its kind we have ever delivered and it has come about thanks to the hard work of an army of vaccinators and support staff from the health and social care work force. The effort has been hugely appreciated.'

Locally the board is currently using two of the vaccines authorised for use in the UK, the Pfizer BioNtech and the AstraZeneca vaccine. The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Authority issued updated information on very rare side effects for AstraZeneca vaccine recently and as a result adults under 30 will be offered an alternative vaccine, if available.

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Flying in for a pint

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



A Lamlash pub is recreating a significant piece of aviation history on a giant mural.

The dramatic work in the Pierhead Tavern in Lamlash will depict an aircraft which used the famous lily pad runway in Lamlash Bay during the Second World War and will take centre stage when the pub and restaurant re-opens later this month.

Near the end of the war in 1945, an experimental airstrip known as the lily pad, which was like a floating island, was trialled in Lamlash Bay. Undulating with the waves caused by a motor launch passing at speed, aircraft are able to land and take off with motion of the strip. Now its memory is being remembered in a mural being recreated by artist Zabdi Keen after the background was prepared by Lucas Wollawitz. The wall, which used to be the back of stage of the PHT, will depict a Fairey Swordfish biplane, torpedo bomber and reconnaissance aircraft, which used to land on the lily pad runway. There is an extensive display about the lily pad runway at the Arran Heritage Museum which is due to re-open its doors on Wednesday April 28.



Above: a photoshop mock up of how the finished mural will look and, below, artist Zabdi Keen at work on the mural.



A Fairey Swordfish biplane on the lily pad runway, top, and, above, two officials walk on the floating runway.

Major summer events on Arran are cancelled again

Continued from page one.

weeks will also have their activities curtailed to a significant degree and it is highly unlikely Lamlash Heather Queen events will go ahead, although no final decision has been made. Other events will be smaller or moved online.

Despite these disappointments, Arran is gearing up for what could be a record breaking summer season after First Minister Nicola Sturgeon confirmed this week it was all systems go from April 26.

And there was confirmation the islands will be able to open up along with the rest of the mainland from that date, which had been a serious concern. And even from today

(Friday) people are free to travel across Scotland to see family and friends, but they should not stay overnight. Up to six households can also meet outdoors.

But it is from a week on Monday that a major opening up will be seen on Arran and across Scotland as shops, hotels, B&Bs and self catering accommodation can all re-open, although not fully. And their remains doubt for large self catering properties, as to when they can welcome multiple households.

With the peak tourist season almost upon us, the First Minister Nicola Sturgeon said this week she was acutely aware of the need for the islands to

re-open, welcome visitors and rebuild their economies as the pandemic continues to recede.

She said she had consulted with island communities whether they wanted to stay at level 3 or move down to level 2. Ms Sturgeon said: 'It is fair to say there is no universal opinion here so I know neither option will please everyone.

'However, based on the balance of opinion, we have decided on the latter option - aligning islands with the rest of the country for a period so that travel, and therefore parts of the economy that so many islanders rely on, can operate more normally from April 26.'

See back page for one event which is going ahead.

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Bench made from Arran wood gifted to castle

by Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk



A new bench made on Arran from wood grown and processed on the island has been donated to Brodick Castle and Country Park.

The bench, currently located near the ponds below the walled garden, also has a design, which is registered, inspired by 'A' for Arran.

It was made from Arran-grown Douglas fir by local craftsman John Connell from Kildonan, who not only wanted to create a sustainable product but was keen to support the Arran Ranger Service's native woodland revival project on the Goatfell property.

He developed the idea of making and selling sustainable benches using Arran timber, with a portion of the sale of every bench donated to the Glen Rosa habitat revival project. The Arran bench donations will be used to help plant new trees, thus completing the cycle.

By commissioning an Arran bench, you are also supporting sustainable small local businesses - John's own woodworking business and Woodside Arran CIC's small-scale sawmilling operation, where the timber is processed.

The Arran bench is a unique, environmentally-friendly and ethical alternative to



The bench, above, is made from wood grown and processed on Arran. Right: the 'A' for Arran design on the bench.

mass-produced garden benches with a sizeable carbon-footprint, as they are often manufactured cheaply overseas and potentially made from unsustainable timber sources.

A spokeswoman for the Arran Ranger Service said: 'Thank you John for your generous support.'



The Hebridean Isles passes HMS Bangor in Brodick Bay on Wednesday. The Royal Navy minehunter has been on exercise this week off Arran. 01_B16ferry01

MV Caledonian Isles due back in service

The MV Caledonian Isles was due back in service today (Friday) after repair works were completed.

The Ardrossan to Brodick route has been served since last Thursday by two smaller vessels - the MV Hebridean Isles and the MV Isle of Arran - with extra sailings to try and ease the reduced capacity on the vessels. However, bad weather has disrupted some sailings.

The MV Caledonian Isles who has been having work completed to the 28-year-old vessel's stern seal tubes, which was outstanding from her annual overhaul at the start of the year, at the Camel Laird yard in Liverpool. This had already overrun by a week owing to problems with her gearbox which

required parts sourced from Norway.

CalMac confirmed that she was due to undock just before midnight on Wednesday before making her way up to Ardrossan on Thursday.

She was then undertaking a berthing trial at Gourrock before resuming service on the 7am from Ardrossan today (Friday).

Meanwhile, the CalMac summer timetable across the fleet will start on Monday April 26, the date when shops, hotels and tourist businesses will re-open.

The second Arran ferry, the MV Isle of Arran, will come into service three days later on Thursday April 29, however restrictions will still apply on the ferries.



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First Waverley passenger wins crash compensation

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



A victim of the Waverley paddle steamer crash has secured a five-figure sum in damages – the first confirmed pay out over the incident on Arran last year.

And it is likely to be the first of many as 24 passengers were injured when the world famous vessel collided with the pier at Brodick last September, with some airlifted to hospital for medical treatment. There were 213 passengers and 26 crew on board at the time of the crash.

The injured person, who cannot be named, suffered a broken arm and last month the owners of the vessel accepted liability and agreed to pay an out-of-court settlement.

Mark Gibson, partner at Digby Brown, said: 'I can confirm that last month we settled a claim for a client in relation to an injury sustained in the Waverley crash at Brodick.

'We are glad to have been able to assist in the swift conclusion of this civil action but we act for several other victims affected by this same incident, so it would be inappropriate to comment further at this time.'

As reported in the Banner in November, Digby Brown are not the only legal firm acting for injured passengers. Thompsons Solicitors in Glasgow are acting for two passengers who were holidaying in Scotland and are said to



have suffered 'terrible injuries' in the collision and had their entire trip ruined.

Solicitor Nicola Thompson, who is handling the legal action, said previously: 'We know from eye witness reports that the vessel approached the pier at Brodick at a substantial speed and struck with an enormous force. Many passengers who were queuing to disembark

were propelled forward at excess speed. This inevitably led to significant injuries to a large number of passengers as they crashed against walls and bulkheads on the ferry.'

Police, paramedics, fire brigade, coastguards and rescue helicopters were scrambled to the scene after the alarm was raised shortly after 5pm when the Waverley hit the pier as



Left: The Waverley minutes after she collided with the pier. The damage can be seen clearly, above. Photographs: Colin Smeeton

she was returning from a trip round Arran.

Of the 24 casualties, at least six were airlifted off the island to hospital, with other

casualties taken to Arran War Memorial Hospital in a fleet of ambulances, while others, described as 'walking wounded', were treated at the scene.

Colon capsule helps detect bowel cancer

NHS Ayrshire and Arran has opened its first SCOTCAP (Scotland's Colon Capsule Endoscopy Service) clinic at Ayrshire Central Hospital in Irvine.

Clinicians at the hospital are using this new technology, a tiny camera inside a pill called a colon capsule, to help early detection of bowel cancer and reduce waiting times.

As part of their Covid-19 remobilisation plan, NHS Ayrshire and Arran will use this technology as an alternative to a colonoscopy for suitable patients.

Mr Christopher Ray, consultant colorectal surgeon and clinical lead for the project, added: 'We are excited



The colon capsule contains a tiny camera.

to be able to offer this as an alternative to the conventional colonoscopy diagnostic method. Since the start of the pandemic, we have not been able to perform as many colonoscopy procedures in a day as we could before Covid-19. This new procedure will allow us to see and treat more patients and reduce waiting times.

'The colon capsule endos-

copy is a painless procedure suitable for many patients. It uses two tiny cameras inside a capsule. Once the capsule is swallowed the cameras take pictures of the lining of the bowel, enabling us to detect or exclude cancer more quickly and reduce the need for other more invasive tests. Patients are able to return home whilst the cameras do their work.'

SCOTTISH FIELD

May



Sam Heughan...

My life in Scotland...

Stunning interiors... West Coast photography...
Bill Paterson's Credo... Kirkeudbright gardens...
Samuel Peploe's artwork... Gordon Setters...
Horse trekking... Brilliant baking recipes...

LETTERS

Write to us: editor@arranbanner.co.uk
or The Editor, Arran Banner, Brodick, Arran KA27 8AJ**Good times are just around the corner**

Things are definitely looking up. More and more people on the island are getting their Covid jabs and the rollout programme is ahead of the mainland.

From today you can travel where and when we want, provided you can get booked on the ferry.

But Monday April 26 is the day that some sort of sense of normality will return - and for most it cannot come soon enough.

We have spent months not seeing family and friends and being 'marooned' on the island has, for many, made the isolation that bit worse.

But while there may be light at the end of the tunnel, people must not throw caution to the wind or we may well end up back where we started.

Some of the images this week of crowded beaches, high streets and pubs down south have been concerning and already there has been an outbreak of a new South Africa variant in south London, although that is thought to have been brought in by an individual.

There is no doubt Arran will be extremely busy this summer, if bookings taken so far are anything to go by, and with foreign holidays still off the agenda, there is no doubt there will be a staycation holiday boom.

We welcome the easing of restrictions and the confirmation Arran will be in step with the mainland when opening up as every one of our tourist businesses need to start making money again.

Let's make it a good time for everyone.

Thought for the week

'Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.'
Isaiah 41:10

HAVE YOUR SAY
emaileditor@arranbanner.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK

This photograph, titled 'Arran Light', helped Dylan to the top prize.



This photograph taken on Arran has helped Dylan Nardini to be crowned this year's Scottish Landscape Photographer of the Year.

Hamilton-based Dylan won the prestigious title with his winning portfolio - three stunning images shot on Arran and in his local area of South Lanarkshire. They include 'Arran Light', which captures the dynamics of typical Scottish changeable April weather on the island, 'Submerged', a dramatic image of winter light peppering the landscape near Leadhills, the highest village in Scotland, and 'Vice Versa', which is an intimate late autumnal shot of vibrant fallen foliage on cold blue rocks of the banks of Avon Water in Chatelherault Country Park. Freight train driver Dylan, 47, said: 'I am absolutely thrilled

to have been chosen as the overall winner of Scottish Landscape Photographer of the Year, a competition I admire in its process of judging of not just one image but a portfolio of work from each photographer. Knowing that the judges have seen something pleasing in my work is so flattering and has given me a huge boost in what has been a very tough year for so many. I'd like to thank my wife Louise, children Gypsy and Martha for putting up with me going on about light everywhere we go and disappearing early on so many mornings to hunt those little magical moments that highlight our beautiful country.'

The winning images will be showcased in a limited edition book and exhibitions when restrictions allow.

Candidates views sought on nuclear weapons

Sir,
With the Scottish election now three weeks away, we have all been receiving countless leaflets through the post from candidates with multifarious reasons why we should vote for them.

Not one has made any reference as to why Scotland should say 'no' to nuclear weapons.

The UK government has declared its intention to increase its nuclear stockpile. This will result in bringing more lorry loads of yet more weapons to mass destruction to Scotland to be stored on the Gairloch - upstream from Arran.

This election must be made to count for nuclear disarmament.

May I use your columns to invite each candidate standing in this constituency to declare his or her support on the recent United Nations Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons and to use all power to outlawing nuclear weapons in Scotland or, if unable to do so, to state their reasons?

Yours,
John G Webster,
Kings Cross.

Traditional melody

Sir,
I read that the tune 'Selma', used in unaccompanied psalm singing and hymnary, was adapted by R A Smith from a traditional melody from Arran.

Another source claims that Smith might've fibbed about the attribution and that Smith composed the tune himself. I wonder if anyone who has made a study of traditional Arran music might be able to tell me if the tune was adapted from a folk melody or not.

Can anyone suggest where might I direct my enquiries?

Yours,
Mark Allen O'Connell,
orangehaggis@gmail.com

■ Editors note: An internet search reveals that Robert Archibald Smith was precentor at Paisley Abbey from 1802 to 1817, then at St George's Church, Edinburgh, from 1823 to his death in 1825, and that he composed or arranged about six hymn tunes, including Selma, but little else.

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PRESSPOLICY

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.

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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.

Jan's Pots of Sunshine brighten up the day

A retiring Co-op worker was determined to put a smile on the faces of customers on her last day at work, after the year we have all had to face, writes Hugh Boag.

Jan Murchie from Shiskine has retired from the Big Co in Brodick after 15 years' service. To say goodbye she prepared some little Pots of Sunshine with plants and pots she had prepared with help from donations from the Co-op.

There were small window-sill plants as well as larger doorstep plants and, while it had not been her original intention, she raised more than £150 in donations which she is planning to split between Arran Mountain Rescue Team and the Scottish Association for Mental Health (SAMH).

Afterwards Jan said: 'Thanks everyone who picked up a



Left: Jan Murchie with her little Pots of Sunshine in the Co-op on Saturday and, right, Veronica Jeffrey from Lamash picking up a Pot of Sunshine from Jan.



pot of sunshine today and for donations kindly given. I hope that everything grows and flowers and raises a smile or two when you look at them.'

Brodick Co-op manager

Liz Mclean posted on social media: 'After 15 years' service you have retired in full bloom. Thank you for everything. You will be missed by all the team and our customers. You have,

and always will be, known for your laughter and kindness.'

Jan plans to continue her second job at James Chocolates and has extra babysitting duties coming up.

First branch of new Alba Party on Arran

The first branch of Alex Salmond's Alba Party has been formed on Arran.

They held their inaugural meeting on Tuesday April 6, the day of the Alba Party



Councillor Ellen McMaster is standing for the Alba Party in the West of Scotland regional list after leaving the SNP.

campaign launch for the Scottish parliamentary elections. Campbell Laing is the first branch convener.

Councillor Ellen McMaster, who represents Ardrossan and Arran on North Ayrshire Council, is standing for the Alba Party in the West Scotland regional list, after leaving the SNP.

She has welcomed the launch of the Alba Party's women and equalities policy statement as 'ground breaking' following a women's conference attended by 400 women from across Scotland on Saturday April 10.

In a statement, Councillor McMaster said: 'Not only am I proud to be standing for Alba as a candidate but I am delighted to be one of Alba's

18 women candidates out of a total of 32 candidates standing across Scotland. As well as standing for independence, Alba stands for equality for all.'

The other parties standing in the West Scotland region are (alphabetically): Abolish the Scottish Parliament, All for Unity, Freedom Alliance,

Independent Green Voice, Reform UK, Scotia Future, Scottish Conservatives, Scottish Family, Scottish Greens, Scottish Labour, Scottish Liberal Democrats, Scottish Libertarian,

Scottish National Party, Scottish Renew, Scottish Trade Unionist and Socialist Coalition, UKIP and two individual regional candidates.

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REGULAR DELIVERIES TO ARRAN

The French Fox wins mystery box cooking competition

Five Arran hospitality businesses took part in an Arran Dairies and Taste of Arran mystery box cooking competition last week, writes Hugh Boag.

With support from supply partners Brakes and Mark Murphy, they filled mystery boxes with an assortment of premium produce from their range and asked their competitors to design and create a one- to three-course meal using as many of the ingredients as they could.

Taste of Arran products included Wooley's Oaties, Paterson Arran Hot Beetroot and Caramelised Onion chutneys, Arran Blue cheese, Arran milk and Arran Ice Cream.

Businesses taking part were: Auchrannie Resort, Kinloch Hotel, Pierhead Tavern, Crofters Arran and the French Fox, each showing their own style and flair.

Michelle Te Ohaere of Arran Dairies and Taste of Arran said: 'We are very impressed with the results and love the range of ideas that have come out of this challenge. Arran is lucky to have so many incredible restaurants and talented

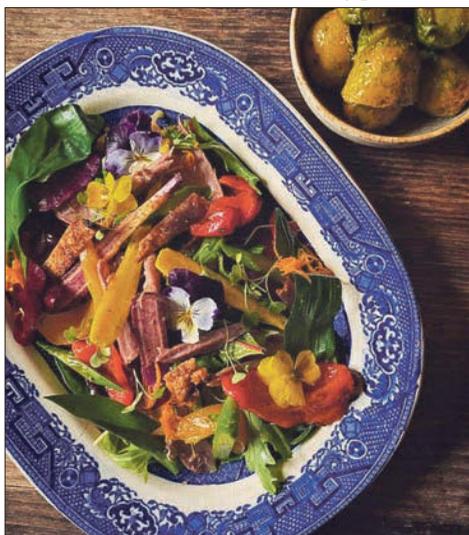


A Cadbury Creme Egg brulee with panna cotta ice cream.

chefs, all using top quality Arran produce.

'Congratulations to the winning business – The French Fox – with their impressive amount of effort they have put into using as many of the ingredients as possible and creating unique and beautifully presented dishes.'

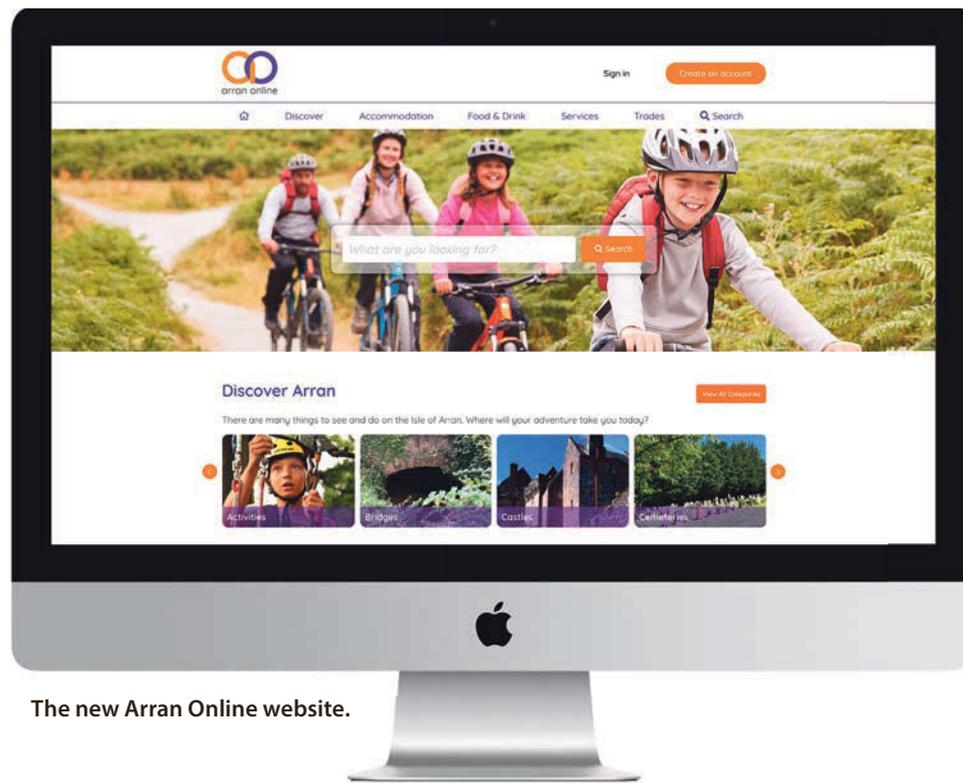
The three-course winning menu, consisted of an asparagus and Arran Blue cheese tart with hot beetroot chutney, a confit duck salad with roasted new potatoes with a wild garlic and rocket dressing, finished with a Cadbury Creme Egg brulee with panna cotta ice cream.



A confit duck salad with roasted new potatoes and wild garlic and rocket dressing.



An asparagus and Arran Blue cheese tart with hot beetroot chutney.



The new Arran Online website.

Arran Online relaunches with free app

by Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Arran is about to be online as never before. A new website and app have been built and populated with local businesses, including places to stay, eat and drink, things to see and do – even showing the location of all the island's bus stops and post boxes.

Island residents can access local trades, while visitors can book their accommodation directly with local hotels and B&Bs, saving those businesses Online Travel Agency (OTA) commission. To fill empty rooms, accommodation providers can advertise late availability daily.

The new site has been developed as a non-commercial project by Chris Attkins to help the island recover from the effects of the pandemic.

ArranOnline.com comes with a free companion app, available to download from the Apple and Google app stores, that anyone can use to access local information, including walking and driving routes to any selected point of interest.

The app and website share the same login details, meaning you can easily set bookmarks



Arran Online is also available as an app to download to your smartphone.

on one device and access them on another.

Through the website, local businesses can add and amend their own listings, under as many categories as they wish, providing links to their own websites and social media platforms and publishing their opening hours and prices. An alert can reach all users if, for example, a road is closed or some other incident arises.

And all this is entirely free of charge to Arran businesses and visitors, thanks to the generosity of Peroosh, the innovative web platform that already hosts several island websites, such as the Arran Ferry Action Group, Heather Lodge and several accommodation providers.

Peroosh business partners Graeme Attkins and Colin Abercrombie have devoted much of their time throughout

lockdown to developing this new platform for the island.

'We're using Arran as a pilot project, with a view to offering similar sites to other communities around the world in the near future,' said Graeme, who has been closely involved with a variety of Arran-based projects for more than 20 years.

Chris added: 'You may remember the island had its own community portal 15 years ago, pre-dating Facebook. This early version of ArranOnline.com proved popular with island residents, but was not readily accessible to visitors since it also pre-dated smartphones. The new app takes full advantage of GPS and mobile data, literally putting Arran on the map.'

Download the ArranOnline app from Google or Apple's app store or visit the website at arranonline.com

arran online
Your FREE pocket guide for the Isle of Arran
Visit: arranonline.com/app

Scan for more info

Mother and son team up for musical charity project

by Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk



An Arran-born mum and her son have teamed up with a musical project to fundraise on behalf of Haemophilia Scotland and the contaminated blood fund.

Love, Blood & Covers is a new musical project currently releasing their debut recordings to help raise funds towards the creation of The Contaminated Blood Tree - the contaminated blood fund's proposed tribute in recognition of those infected and affected by the contaminated blood scandal.

It was started in 2019 by actress and singer Julia Gordon-Smith - formerly Julia Dow - a native of Arran who left when she was 16 but still has relatives on the island, along with musician/producer Iain Gordon-Smith. The



mother and son's connection to this cause stems from their respective father/grandfather Peter Gordon-Smith.

A well-respected Edinburgh jazz musician, Peter died in July 2018 of liver cancer, a direct result of hepatitis C which he contracted through contaminated blood products administered in the treatment of his haemophilia during the 1980s. His is one story out of thousands of others who have had their lives torn apart through contaminated blood.

Having been off the stage for nearly 20 years, Julia received a blessing from her father on

the final birthday she enjoyed with him to 'keep singing, keep acting, keep on being you'. Armed with this 'final wish' and having also recently attended the infected blood inquiry hearings in London, Julia quickly enlisted Iain and a band of friends to help create this body of musical work in Peter's honour, using the cause of contaminated blood as the motivation she needed to sing for her dad and for all of those who have lost someone in this way.

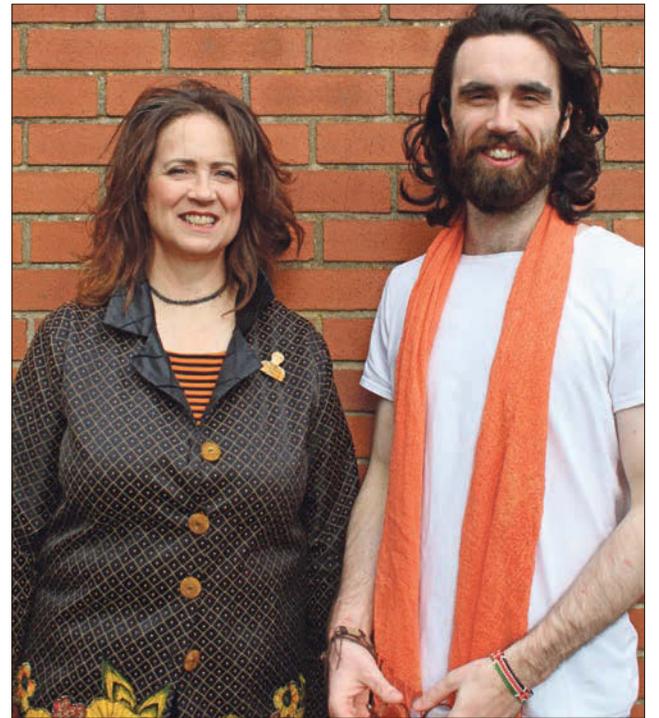
Having released their first song in January, the six cover numbers were chosen and worked on with nothing other than love, care and attention to detail, with all songs holding a particular relevance and meaning towards this cause. The themes at the emotional core of these performances are ones of loss, accountabil-

ity and the need for change. They have already released the Bonnie Raitt song, My First Night Alone Without You, Step Inside Love by Cilla Black, I Can't Stand the Rain by Ann Peebles and Everybody Oughta Make a Change by Sleepy John Estes.

Still to come is I Need Your Love So Bad by Peter Green, to be released on April 20, and These Boots are Made for Walking by Nancy Sinatra on May 11.

Check out all of their musical, social media and fundraising (Virgin Money Giving) links at: linktr.ee/lovebloodandcovers

Mum and son Julia and Iain Gordon-Smith have teamed up for a musical fundraising project.



Businesses encouraged to take part in 'meet the buyer' event

Buyers and sellers on Arran and across North Ayrshire are being invited to come together for a special virtual event later this month.

The free 'meet the buyer' online event - organised by the three Ayrshire councils and the supplier development programme - will take place on Wednesday April 28 at 9.30am until 2.30pm.

Its aim is to bring both sides of the procurement process together so that local businesses can speak directly to purchasers and decision makers from the public sector and large private organisations.

This will help SMEs better understand the tendering process and how to improve their chances of success when bidding for contracts.

North Ayrshire Council launched a new Community Wealth Building strategy last year which sets out a bold and fresh approach to rebuilding the local economy with local people, local businesses, local spending and local jobs at its heart. One of the aims of the new economic strategy is to support more local procure-



ment and the meet the buyer event provides a good opportunity for local businesses to find out about support that is available in this aspect.

During the event, a presentation will be given by energy giant Vattenfall UK, and civil engineering firm R J McLeod on the opportunities available related to a renewables project at South Kyle Wind Farm. They are particularly keen to maximise opportunities for micro and small businesses, including those from the third sector in Ayrshire - from local food and drink and cleaning businesses through to civil contractors, portable cabin manufacturers and crane operators.

They are also interested in speaking to garages for vehicle services and MOTs, electricians, plumbers, mobile blacksmiths, agricultural suppliers, timer mills, builder merchants, specialist equip-

ment hire, tool suppliers, straw suppliers, accommodation, plant hire and more.

Attendance is welcome from a wide range of companies from diverse backgrounds.

Caitriona McAuley, head of economic development and regeneration, said: 'Supporting local businesses and helping them grow has always been a priority for us. However, it is more vital now than it has ever been due to the challenges our businesses have faced over the past year and the economic fallout of Covid-19.'

'That's why this meet the buyer event is so important. It can be to the benefit of us all as we actively promote business in this way and share our expertise across the public and private sectors.'

'We would strongly encourage our local business based to sign up and tune into the event.'

Places are free, but registration is required and can be done on the supplier development programme website: www.sdpscotland.co.uk/events/ayrshire-virtual-meet-the-buyer-event-1090

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Arran Well-Being
FOR HEALTHY HEARTS AND MINDS



Who would have thought this time last year when the three-week lockdown in the UK took place that it would be one year on before the roller coaster of restrictions would finally start to ease, and we could alight?

Whilst life is somewhat different now, we have a so-called "new normal" and light at the end of the proverbial tunnel. It has been well documented how magnificently the community on Arran responded during the pandemic, but as we now look to moving forward, the articles below show how some of the groups & organisations on the island are getting ready to welcome back their members as the restrictions ease.

To enable you to meet outdoors, we now have two large gazebos, folding tables and chairs available for free to non-profit groups and organisations as well as a stock of hand sanitiser, handwash, masks and gloves to get you started.

Arran CVS have an online Resource Register where resources such as gardening equipment, venues, catering equipment etc can be sourced and shared for free or for a small cost.

Our next Community of Arran Network meeting is on Monday 26th April at 1pm via Zoom – come along and get involved! To access any of the above please contact Arran CVS by email on info@arrancvs.org.uk or telephone 01770 600611.

Well-Being cafes for people diagnosed with dementia, their Care Partners and also those who have felt lonely and isolated over the past year. Starting in May "pop-up cafes" in Lamlash, Brodick and Blackwaterfoot rotating the villages on a Wednesday. Contact Jennie at Arran Well-Being on 07983448511 or email: info@arranwellbeing.com
Supported by North Ayrshire Participatory Budget Fund

Arran Youth Foundations

Arran Youth Foundations cannot wait to welcome the island's young people again. We know this has been a challenging time for you all, and we are keen to support you as soon as we can.

For now, we are providing outdoor youth work and school-based support.

As soon as restrictions allow - we do not currently have a date for this - we will welcome you back inside the youth cabin and start to provide all the usual fun and games - pool, video games, cooking, guitar tuition, art therapy, LGBT+ support, and loads more.



Parents can visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AYFparents> and young folk can join <https://www.facebook.com/groups/arranyouthfoundations> to stay up to date on what we are offering.



The Trinity Active Travel Hub's "Stroll with It" Health Walks

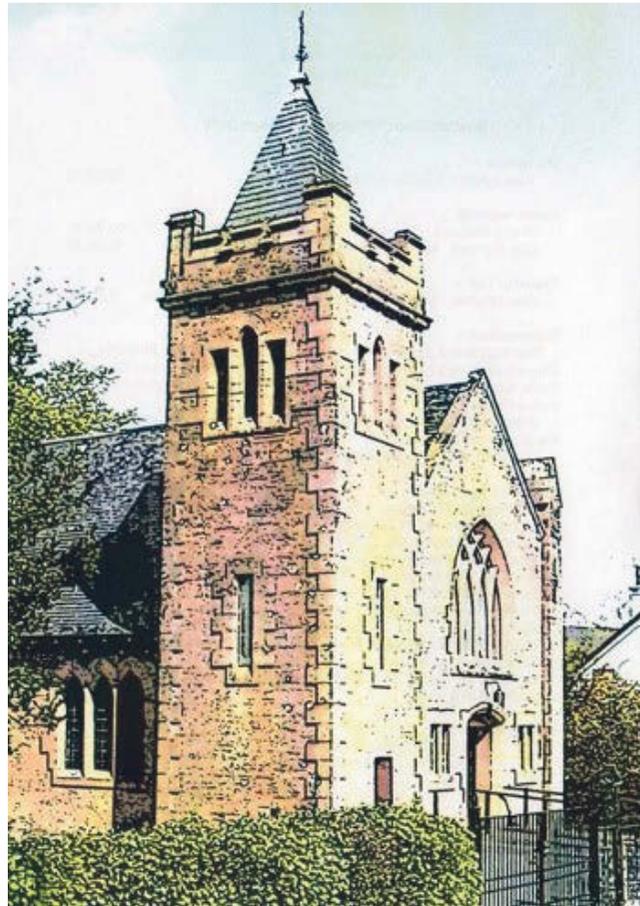
Walking is a great way to stay healthy and get fitter as well as being good for our mental health. If you would like to walk more, build up your confidence and explore Arran, joining a health walk could be the answer.

This summer the "Stroll with It" programme run by North Ayrshire Council's The Trinity Active Travel Hub plans to start regular walks, (subject to any Covid restrictions) led by trained local health walk leaders. Walks will last 1 to 1.5 hours, go at a gentle pace, be risk assessed and aim to fit in with bus times. Look out for details for when the programme will be starting.

Isle of Arran Elderly Forum

The Pandemic has prevented Arran Elderly Forum from holding its monthly meetings for over a year now. Unfortunately, our group falls into the category of those most susceptible to the Covid Virus and although it may be some time yet before we are given the go-ahead to recommence our meetings, better days are on the horizon. Therefore, I would like to see our support group sharing ideas as to how we can find innovative ways to reconnect. It would be helpful if members could contact me in order to update our records and keep you up to date with developments. If you would like to learn more about A.E.F. or want to get involved, enquiries will be most welcome. David Napier david.napier01@btinternet.com

St. Brides Church, Brodick



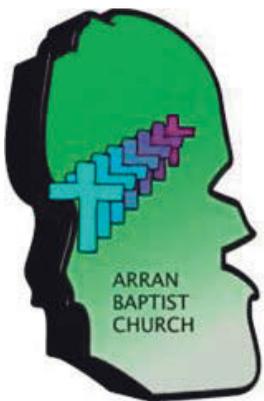
Services in Brodick Church resumed again on 28th March, Palm Sunday, with places limited due to continuing COVID restrictions, bookable by phone (01770 302782).

Internet services have been broadcast weekly throughout and will now continue fortnightly for the foreseeable future. We very much look forward to a time when we can worship without limit, sing hymns and praises, and give a warm welcome to all.

Meanwhile Arran Churches Together food bank has remained very active and thanks to the generosity of donors and volunteers has expanded to include a delivery service where required.

A subsidised shop is also being piloted with very promising reports.

Arran Baptist Church



Arran Baptist Church usually meets in the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, due to distancing and hygiene requirements we have been unable to meet 'in person' since the first lockdown. We are putting a weekly mini service on our webpage and sending that out on cd to those who cannot access the webpage. Our hope is that once restrictions – especially on distancing ease, we can resume our services and other activities – including the popular Thursday Lunchbox. However, we are still available, and our minister can be contacted on 600222.

The Umbrella Group



The Umbrella Group usually meets every Monday from 10:30 to 12 in Lamlash. Each week we do various craft activities from different types of painting to making simple jewellery. At present the group are exploring options on how they can meet safely outdoors, until restrictions on indoor meetings ease.

The Arran Community Land Initiative



The Arran Community Land Initiative ('ACLI') based above Whiting Bay, looks forward to welcoming all volunteers to the site on Thursdays from the 15th of April. Being on a former farm we have plenty of space and a wide range of activities to suit all interests. These can include working on our newly extended community garden, planting trees, improving drainage, managing hedges, or working 'indoors' within one of our poly-tunnels'.

Needless to say, special care will be taken to work within Government Guidelines and all of our sessions are supervised by Darren Townsend of Green Futures Arran.

If you are interested get in touch at our email (arranaccli@gmail.com) or turn up on a Thursday at 10 am and try it for yourself!"



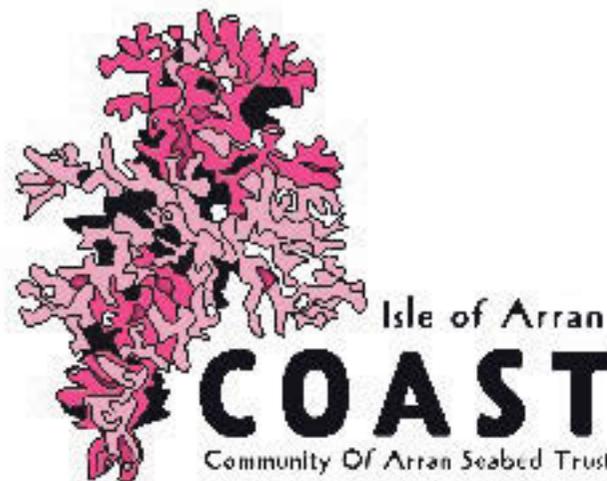
leisure

KA Leisure Health Walks began on Arran in December 2020. The walks are suitable for all levels of ability and is a great way to get outdoors and benefit from taking part in physical activity in the company of others. Those taking part meet in the car park adja-

cent to the North Ayrshire Council offices, Shore Road, Lamlash on Sunday at 11am. The walks are led by a fully qualified Paths for All Walk Leader and social distancing is adhered to at all times throughout the walk.

KA Leisure are also looking to recruit new vol-

unteer walk leaders. Full training will be provided, and no experience is necessary. If you are interested in coming along or getting involved as a volunteer, contact the Active Lifestyles Team on 01294 605128 or activelifestyles@kaleisure.com



We're following Scottish Government guidance regarding easing of lockdown and anticipate opening our Discovery Centre to the public sometime in May. We'll be adhering to recommended advice on social distancing and household mingling, and any events will be planned with relatively short notice-periods and limited spaces. All updates on Centre opening and event details will be available primarily on our facebook page (arran.coast) and website: arran-coast.com



Arran Kayak Club is new and growing and welcomes new members. We offer trips, outings, club days, training and social events throughout the year. Join us and make some kayak buddies for lots of fun on the water.

E: info@kayakarran.co.uk
T: 07931 803799
W: www.kayakarran.co.uk
also on Facebook

Spring is a great time to be watching migrating birds



Blackcap is one of many species contributing to the increasing spring chorus.

Photograph: Arthur Duncan



Gannet numbers built up slowly in March.

Photograph: Brian Couper

Spring is an exciting time of year, awaiting the arrival of our summer visitors and seeing the last of our winter visitors leaving.

The timing of the northerly spring migration is dependent on the weather, not just locally, but throughout the whole length of the migration route. On Arran, March was warmer and dryer than February. March mean temperature was two degrees higher and the rainfall in March was half that of February's. Overall, this March was similar to last March with some settled spells. It was during these more settled spells that a few pioneer summer migrants did arrive. On the 17th the first chiffchaff were reported singing, one in Auchenhew Bay and one on Holy Isle. By the end of the month chiffchaff were widespread.

Also, on 17th the first white wagtail was a pied wagtail on Silver Sands. The first wheatear report was two from Shannochie on 25th and on 31st 30 sand martin were reported from Catacol and three from Clauchlands. These were all the migrant species reported in March. April should see improving weather and the arrival of other migrants like willow warbler, sandwich tern, Manx shearwater, swallow, house martin, common sand-piper and cuckoo – all signs of the approaching summer. Please keep me posted.

Bird notes

by Jim Cassels

MARCH



Clockwise from left: Little egret, a long-staying bird first reported on October 20.

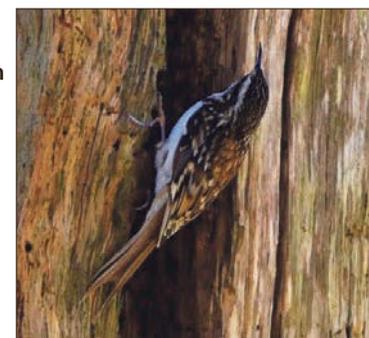
Photograph: Nick Giles

Wheatear is one of the first spring migrants.

Photograph: Dennis Morrison

Treecreeper is one of more than 100 species seen in March.

Photograph: Howard Sargeant



Whiting Bay on 8th, 20 turnstone in Lamlash Bay on 15th, 42 golden plover in Catacol Bay on 13th and a bar-tailed godwit in Auchenhew Bay on 21st.

Gannet sightings began to slowly increase during the month with six off Pirnmill on 28th, the largest group reported. In addition, there was an increase in numbers of goldfinch and siskin at garden feeders, from several areas as these species began to move north.

In a month when more than 100 species were reported, here is a small selection of other interesting March records: two goosander in Whiting Bay on 1st, four little grebe in Loch Ranza on 13th, a treecreeper on Holy Isle on 19th, two dipper in Strathwillan on 25th and six common crossbill in High Kildonan on 26th.

Throughout March, reports of the long-staying, colonising species little egret, nuthatch and white-tailed eagle continued. Little egret was first reported on 20 October 2020, the nuthatch was first reported on 1 October 2020 and the pair of white-tailed eagle was first reported on 22 November 2020.

In February reports of the little egret were mainly from Brodick Bay and Lamlash Bay, the nuthatch reports were all from Pirnmill and the pair

of white-tailed eagles mainly from the west coast of the island.

Spring is a great time to be birding, as most birds are getting on with the business of breeding.

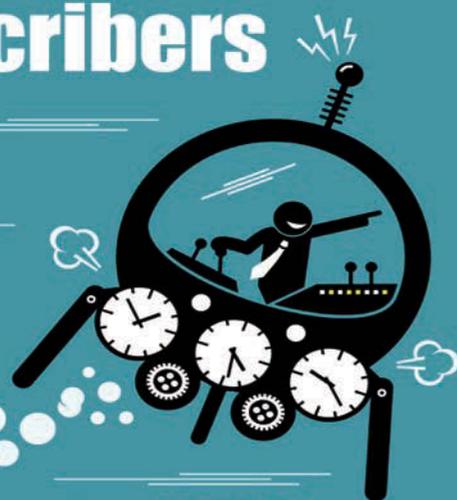
The business of breeding involves attracting a mate by song, courtship display and ritual, defining a territory, nest building, and generally establishing relationships.

In March the signs were there: a grey heron carrying nest material in Lagg on 1st, great spotted woodpecker drumming in Merkland Wood on 13th, 50 eider courting off Cosyden on 19th, eight black guillemot in breeding plumage on Pladda on 24th, blackbird carrying food in Kildonan on 29th and many species singing including a blackcap in Auchenhew Bay on 31st.

I am interested in all records of arriving summer migrants and any signs of breeding birds. Enjoy your birding and keep safe. Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at jim@arranbirding.co.uk. I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran, purchase the new Arran Bird Report 2020, and the Arran Bird Report, the first 40 years. Plus visit the arranbirding website.

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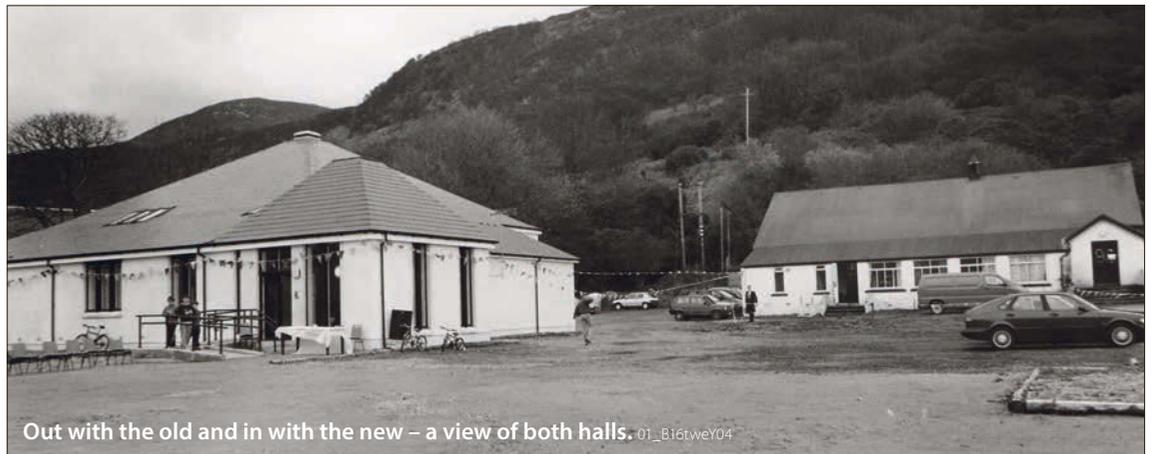
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Saturday April 14, 2001



Tom Knox, left, the chairman of the project committee, gives the opening address as the guests of honour look on.

01_B16tweY01



Last Saturday afternoon the new Lochranza and Catacol Hall was officially opened. Designed and even part finished by the villagers, the hall is a source of tremendous pride in the village.

It is also Arran's first new hall for a long time, the last being Pirnmill Hall in the mid 1980s.

There were three guests of honour at the opening. The Lady Jean whose father, the Duke of Montrose, had gifted the land to the people of Lochranza and Catacol specifically for building a community hall; Mrs Janet Gilmore who is the oldest person born, brought up and still living in Lochranza; and Mrs May Fenton, who was representing the trustees of the hall.

Mrs Janet Gilmore presents each child with a scroll.

01_B16tweY03



Piper Calum Gilmore leads the village children to the new hall. 01_B16tweY02



Two businesses on the island have changed hands. The Balmichael Visitor Centre, left, which was started four years ago, has been taken over by Darryl and Lucy Urquhart-Dixon and, after nine months, Corrie Stores, right, reopens today (Friday) with the lease being taken over by Marvin Elliot and Marian Logan.

01_B16tweY05 and 01_B16tweY06



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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 07.05.21.
Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 Regulation 20(1)
21/00312/PP; Site To West Of Glaister Farm, The String, Brodick, Ayrshire; Erection of replacement 17m tower with antennae and dishes with associated ground level works including additional cabin, standby generator and separate VSAT dish link.

Craig Hatton
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



HUSTINGS

Scottish Parliament Election
Cunninghame North
Constituency

Wednesday 28th April 2021

7.30pm

Via Zoom

Arran Community and Voluntary Service are hosting a Hustings online via Zoom. This will be a chance for the public to meet the candidates and question them on issues that concern them! Contact Arran CVS on info@arrancvs.org.uk to get joining details or call 01770 600611.



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Trinitron dv3 TV with stand and remote in full working order. Large style TV and very heavy. FREE. Contact 07808401178

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Used/old grow bags for filling new raised beds. Can collect. Please call 07824 390553

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Lightweight folding wheel-chair, as new. Only £80 Please call 01770 600805

FOR SALE

Good quality chopped silage bales £25 each.

Delivery can be arranged.

Please contact Alastair Mackenzie
01770 700 348

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CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Parishes of North Arran, Brodrick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill and Shiskine *Independent but working together*

There is a booking system at Brodrick & Shiskine churches as the numbers are still limited.

Liz Lawrie 302782
& John Kerr 860 498

There will be a streamed service weekly, this can be found on the three Church websites.

Sunday 18th April 2021
Lochranza & Pirnmill Churches:

Service at Lochranza Church
Morning worship at 10:15am
Shiskine Church, Morning
worship at 12 noon
Brodrick Church, Morning
worship at 10.30am
Corrie Church, Morning
worship at 12noon

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland

Charity Number: SC014005
Sunday 18th April

Worship will be conducted by
Rev Ian Hook at 10.30am.
As our Sunday Worship
capacity is greatly reduced
due to the two metre social
distancing we have introduced a
booking system.

You are asked please to phone
Mrs Janet Redfearn 700 244 by
the Friday lunchtime if you wish
to attend.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Kilmory linked with Lamlash

*"A faith to proclaim ~ a
fellowship to share"*

Scottish Charity SC015072
Sunday 18th April

Kilmory at 10 am
Lamlash Church Hall
at 11.30 am

Due to our reduced capacity,
if you wish to attend Sunday
Worship in Lamlash, please
phone Mrs Vivienne Haigh on
600092 by midday on Friday.
All welcome

We will be observing all socially
distancing procedures

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide
Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday 18th April

Third Sunday of Easter
Holy Communion
at 11 am.

Revd Adrian Fallows
EVERYONE IS WELCOME
We follow strict SEC guidelines

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

A reminder that our mini-
service is still available every
week on our website: www.
arranbaptistchurch.btck.co.uk
If you go to the homepage and
look below the map picture you
will find the link to pick up the
service. To access click on the
first letter of the link.
We would love you to join us.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Our Church is now open for
public worship, subject to social
distancing, wearing of face
coverings and NHS Test and
Protect requirements. Services
are as follows:

Saturday 17th April
Vigil Mass at 5pm

Sunday 18th April
Morning Mass at 11am
Capacity in church is strictly
limited.

Attendance at all the above
services is by booking only. Tel
600595 or email peterdwilko@
gmail.com to check availability
and confirm your place

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

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARRAN BANNER GOLF



Lamlash Golf Club

Ladies section: Wednesday
April 7, Fleet 1, 1 Yvonne
Brothers 87-20=67; 2 Kate
McAdam 87-17=70. Scratch
Susan Butchard 83.

Thursday April 8, Summer
Cup. 1 Andy Smith 85-18=67;
2 Serge El Adm 80-11=69, BIH
over 3. Paul Cowan 73-4=69.
Best scratch Paul Cowan
73. Magic twos Andy Smith
@17th

Sunday April 11, Carpenter
Rosebowl. 1 Stuart Campbell
68-6=62, BIH over 2 Ian
Bremner 70-8=62; 3 Paul
Jameson 74-10=64. Best
Scratch Stuart Campbell 68,
BIH over Dougie Macfarlane.
Magic twos Stuart Campbell
and Paul Jameson @16th,
Ian Bremner and William
O'Connor @13th.

Winner of Carpenter
Rosebowl, Stuart Campbell,
runner up, Ian Bremner.

Fixtures: Sunday April 18,
Hugh Hutchison Greensome
(pairs competition), noon
start. Thursday April 22,
Summer Cup, make up own
groups and see starter for
times.

Brodrick Golf Club

Wednesday April 7, Summer
Cup, 44 played. 1 Bruce
Jenkins 69-9=60; 2 Iain
MacDonald 70-9=61; 3 Frazer



The Hugh Hutchison Greensome pairs competition will be played at Lamlash on Sunday.

Barr 70-8=62. Scratch Ewan
McKinnon 68.

Sunday April 11, British
Legion 36 holes, round 1, 32
played. 1 Iain MacDonald
70-8=62; 2 Greg McCrae
68-5=63; 3 Bob McCrae
73-9=64 acb. Scratch Greg
McCrae 68. Fixture: Sunday
April 18, British Legion Cup,
incorporating round two
of British Legion 36 holes
competition.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday April 7, Summer
Trophy, 27 played. 1 Andrew
Martin (16)59; 2 Gavin Mainds
(8)63 acb; 3 Graeme Crichton
(13)63; 4 Fergal Talty (25) 65.
Lowest gross Jamie Macpher-
son (3) 65. Magic twos Jamie
Macpherson @12th and 17th.

Sunday April 11, Yellow
Tees Stableford. Summer
competition abandoned due
to winter weather.

Fixtures: Sunday April 18,
medal. Wednesday April 21,
Summer Trophy. Until further
notice there will be no draws
for partners and players
should arrange their own
groupings.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday April 7, 18-hole
medal. 1 A Napier; 2 A Smith.

Fixtures: Saturday April 17,
18-hole medal. Wednesday
April 21, 18-hole medal.
Please arrange your own
pairings and abide by latest
Covid regulations.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday April 6, Peter Sutton.
1 Alex Morrison-Cowan 63; 2
Reuben Betley 66; 3 Hamish
Bannatyne 72. Magic twos
Alex Morrison-Cowan and
John Pennycott.

Tuesday April 13, Peter
Sutton. 1 Brian Sherwood

63 BIH; 2 Hamish Bannatyne
63; 3 Alistair MacDonald
67. Magic twos Hamish
Bannatyne (2).

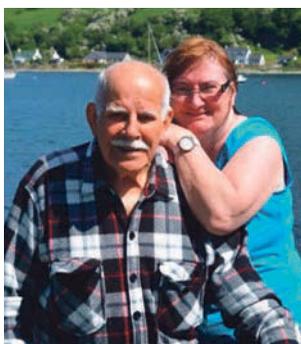
Fixtures: Tuesday April 20,
Peter Sutton/Lady Mary,
tee-off 12.30pm/5pm.

Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday April 8, ladies
12-hole medal. Silver: 1 and
scratch Jenni Turnbull 58-
11=47; 2 Liz Kerr 61-10=51.
Bronze: 1 and winner Julia
Salton 59-19=40; 2 Elizabeth
Kelso 59-13=46.

Sunday April 11, gents
Daniel Ferguson Trophy. 1st
class: 1 Sandy Kerr 46-6=40; 2
Alan Stewart 47-6=41 BIH; 3
and scratch Robbie Crawford
45-4=41 BIH. 2nd class: 1
and winner Dougie Davidge
51-13=38; 2 Willie McNally
49-10=39; 3 Marc Campbell
51-11=40. Magic twos D
Logan, W Paton, R Crawford, S
Crawford, Wm McNally, S Kerr
and D Davidge.

DEATH



HUSEYIN - Betty (née
Hughes). It is with much
sadness that we announce the
passing of Betty Huseyin on
7th April, aged 79. Much loved
wife of Huseyin Ali, to whom
she was married for 60 years, a
wonderful mum to Leyla and
Ayse and a much-loved grand-
ma to Bonnie, Abby, Calum,
Amber, Sofia and Amelia.
Betty will be hugely missed by
all her family and friends.



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Facebook

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GOLDEN WEDDINGS



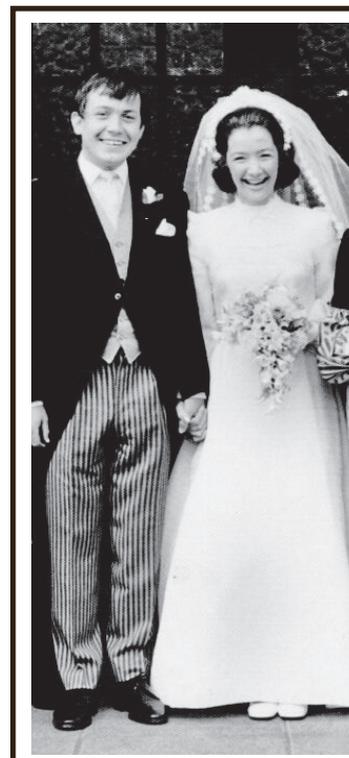
50 years!

CONGRATULATIONS
RUSSELL & JAN
ON YOUR
GOLDEN
WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY!

22 April 2021

Lots of love from Julie & Pete, Kirsty & Lee,
Calum & Jenny, Jamie & Becca, Ross & Hannah
and your 16 grandchildren! xxx

BANNER BANNER
ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS



GOLDEN WEDDING
ANNIVERSARY

Congratulations to our
amazing Mum & Dad
in celebrating their half
century of marriage,
with all the love and
sanity of newlyweds.
You're an inspiration
to us all and we can't
wait to all be together
to celebrate.

With all our love Susie,
Donald, Stuart, Annie
& families xxxxxxxxxx

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The Witches Step guided walk at the last festival in 2019. Photograph: Corinna Goeckeritz

Mountain festival Good to Go

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



One event definitely going ahead this year is the Arran Mountain Festival.

Booking lines for the 2021 festival open today (Friday) at 5pm and the popular walks and other events always sell out fast.

Having skipped a year for the first time in its 14-year history, this year's festival is being held from May 14 to May 17.



The walks are graded depending on the stamina required and this year, for

the first time, there will be mountain bike rides as well. The events have been revised to start and finish in the same place and participants will have to make their way to the start points from Arran's population centres.

A mountain festival spokeswoman said: 'We were devastated to have to cancel last year's event but we're delighted to confirm that we are back for 2021 and there is something to suit all abilities and levels of experience.'

'Whilst we are unable to put on the usual full festival fun, we are thrilled to be able to bring you a slightly smaller but Covid-safe event and share our stunning Arran mountains with you again.'

'Before booking your walks, please double check that you will be able to travel to the 2021 Arran Mountain Festival. Check out VisitScotland's latest advice at www.visitscotland.com/about/practical-information/covid-19-recovery-phases

'We recommend that you also check ferry and accommodation availability as soon as possible.'

'The festival is Good To Go accredited and all our procedures comply with Covid requirements to keep you and our team of fabulous volunteer walk leaders safe.'

The walks programme is available at www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk where guided mountain bike sessions, courtesy of Ride Arran MTB Guiding, are also listed.

CONTACTUS

EMAIL US AT

email us at editor@arranbanner.co.uk

CALL 01770 302142





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MOT Testing Station