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As lockdown restrictions ease many more business on Arran re-open - 9 page feature inside




Walkers on top of the world

Walkers take a well-earned rest at the top of Windmill Hill which offers stunning views of the hills and mountains of Arran.

The 17km guided walk exploring the Sheeans and Windmill Hill is one of the many exciting walks offered during the Arran Mountain Festival which started last Friday. Our photograph shows the group near the top of Windmill Hill with walk leaders Jo Totty, centre, and Franny Schlicke, far left. Further details about Arran Mountain Festival will be featured in an upcoming edition of the Arran Banner. 01_B21mountain01

Urgent call for more ferries

Arran businesses fear pandemic recovery will be thwarted if visitors can't get to island

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Businesses on Arran fear their recovery from the pandemic will be thwarted if visitors can't get to the island as a result of limited ferry availability. Most companies on the island

enjoyed a welcome resurgence this week with day visitors and tourists taking advantage of the relaxation of government restrictions which have been eased to level two across most of Scotland.

But accommodation providers say many visitors have been unable to secure ferry book-

ings. Others have cancelled trips and holidays fearing they will be stranded on the island if the ferry is full. Others are simply not able to book their preferred dates.

Concerns grew this week when ferry operator CalMac announced that the much-anticipated return of Arran's

second ferry, MV Isle of Arran, would be delayed until 'at least' Monday May 31.

The issue started at the end of April when MV Isle of Arran had to be redeployed to Ullapool as a temporary replacement for MV Loch Seaforth which experienced

Continued on page two.



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Urgent call for more ferries

Continued from page one catastrophic engine problems, resulting in it being removed from service. This left Arran without its second ferry which usually adds additional capacity on the busy Ardrossan to Brodick route at the start of the summer.

The loss of custom and visitors to the island was conservatively estimated by the Arran Recovery Group to cost Arran around £500,000 in lost revenue. This was estimated from the start of the month until Monday May 17, when MV Isle of Arran was first expected to return. The return date then slipped to Monday May 24, and then to Monday May 31 – all within the space of one week – which will now almost certainly double the initial estimate and take it closer to, if not exceed, the £1million mark.

The return of MV Loch Seaforth to the Stornoway-Ullapool route has been delayed five times and the knock-on effect means Arran will be serviced by a single vessel for the entire month.



Left: Jamie Greene MSP, has called for the Ardrossan to Brodick ferry route to be restored to full capacity. Kenneth Gibson MSP, right, has called for a meeting with Scottish Ministers, making the suggestions that replacement vessels should be leased to ensure a lifeline service.



Coupled with Covid-19 curbs on passenger numbers, enforced by the government and outwith CalMac's control, this will equate to a reduction of carrying capacity usually offered by the two vessels to less than half what is usually available at this time of the year.

CalMac Managing Director Robbie Drummond said: 'This is frustrating news, as we were

expecting to see the Loch Seaforth return to service sooner than this. We will continue to work closely with customers to keep them updated of the latest situation and to minimise further disruption.'

Businesses are also concerned about the future reliability of the rest of the fleet available to CalMac, as any further disruption across network could have, and has

had, repercussions for Arran. This was clearly demonstrated recently when shortly after being sent to Ullapool, MV Isle of Arran developed issues and had to be removed from the route.

CalMac's second-largest vessel, the MV Isle of Lewis, also suffered technical difficulties over the weekend, leaving island communities in doubt about the situation improving any time soon and concerned about the future reliability of the ageing fleet.

The situation has prompted Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson, along with two other SNP island MSPs, Na h-Eileanan an Iar MSP Alasdair Allan

and Argyll and Bute MSP Jenni Minto, to call for an urgent meeting with Scottish Ministers about the ferry situation.

Mr Gibson said: 'Many of my Arran constituents and businesses are in despair at the current situation.'

'Even once the current situation is resolved, the next crisis will surely be just around the corner.'

'Vessels are available in Europe to lease. Scottish ministers, Transport Scotland, CMAL and CalMac need to check them out now, lease additional boats and ensure our island communities and businesses have the lifeline service they need, expect and deserve.'

Mr Allan added: 'This situation is becoming increasingly intolerable for island communities.'

'CalMac simply does not have enough vessels for there to be proper cover when ships inevitably encounter technical issues. While the delay of the two vessels under construction at Port Glasgow has unfortunately had a big impact, we cannot go on like this or wait until 2023.'

'The west coast needs additional ferries, whether they are built or chartered from elsewhere, as a matter of urgency.'

Scottish Conservative Jamie

Greene MSP said: 'While we all understand the need to support other island communities, Arran residents will nonetheless be disappointed to learn they have to endure another fortnight with a reduced ferry service, after already putting up with years of chaos and disruption on the route.'

'The SNP's inability to renew our ferry network has left Scotland with an ageing fleet that is struggling to meet the needs of island communities.'

'Ministers in Edinburgh must make restoring full capacity to the Arran ferry route – and finally delivering the long overdue Glen Sannox – a priority. Arran residents have put up with delays and disruption for long enough.'

To try and make up for the shortfall while the Ardrossan to Brodick route remains a one-vessel service, CalMac has increased sailings on the Lochranza to Claonaig route, doubling its capacity, but this service is not bookable and entails a lengthy detour.

To help support customers who have urgent medical appointments on the mainland CalMac has introduced a protocol for residents who are unable to book their vehicle on the ferry. This can be found on their website or by calling the CalMac Customer Contact Centre on 0800 066 5000.

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PS Waverley gets ready for summer sailings

Paddle steamer Waverley, which has endured a tumultuous year, beset with expensive repairs and other difficulties, has emerged from dry dock, passed its sea trials and is now being prepared for the 2021 sailing season.

Following Waverley's £2.3m boiler refit between January and August last year, and the cancellation of sailings owing to Covid, Waverley spent three weeks in dry dock in Greenock where six paddles were renewed, steel work was replaced in the paddlebox, the bow was repaired, and her hull was repainted.

After leaving dry dock, Waverley undertook sea trials to test the main engine. This allowed engineers to make an assessment on any further maintenance work required before she starts operating next month. The trials went well and a top speed of more than 17 knots was achieved.

Over the next three weeks, operators will conclude annual survey work before the crew join with the hope of starting passenger sailings for the 2021 season around the third week in June on the Clyde. Current Covid regulations mean capacity will be restricted to just 35 per cent to ensure appropriate physical distancing.

A spokesperson from Waverley Excursions said: 'We are delighted to report £350,000 has been raised from individuals towards Waverley's Covid-19 Relief Appeal. We send our sincere



PS Waverley in Glasgow following her successful sea trials last week.

thanks to everyone who donated. A staggering 2,700 donations have been received with many opting to have their name on our virtual donor wall. We have only been able to undertake the refit work this past winter thanks to the generosity of so many.

'We are actively seeking crew members for several positions and would reach out to anyone who is suitably qualified as a deck or catering rating who would like to join Waverley for the summer season.'

Passengers will be able to book a place on the last seagoing paddle steamer in the world as soon as docking arrangements are agreed with port and pier owners so that a 2021 timetable can be set. Given reduced capacity, advance booking will be strongly recommended.

Violet celebrates her 100th birthday

Violet Stephens of Whiting Bay celebrated her 100th birthday this week.

When Violet's parents celebrated the birth of their second child – Violet Rosetta Johncock – it is hard to imagine a new born baby as a centenarian, so it probably never crossed their mind that exactly 100 years later their daughter would be celebrating her 100th birthday with a card from Her Majesty The Queen.

Violet turned 100 on Wednesday May 19 and well-wishers found her Whiting Bay home adorned with festive balloons and enjoyed music played by local musicians. A delicious locally-made birthday cake rounded off the day.

Violet moved to Arran to live with her daughter Christine Wolter after the death of her husband in 2012. She loves Arran for being friendly and safe and appreciates the caring community. She was welcomed into the Whiting Bay Book Club where she was able to pursue her love of reading and she was a regular at the Tuesday morning 'social' at The Coffee Pot. She also enjoyed going to lunch around Arran with Christine and friends and had many holidays at Melfort Village near Oban.

Violet's father, Albert Edward Johncock, always known as John, was born in Kent in the 1870s and at 14 started as an apprentice with Thames Waterman following the family tradition.

At 21, he went to sea as a ship's carpenter, often sailing



Left: Violet Stephens of Whiting Bay is celebrating her centenary

Below: Violet, aged 2, with her sister Esme, aged 4.



to China. As steam ships took over from sail, he lost interest in sea-faring and entered the theatre where he used his skill as a carpenter to build scenery. He also wrote lyrics for several celebrities, including Harry Lauder. Being a modest man, he did not copyright any of his work.

Violet was born in Liverpool in 1921. In addition to her older sister Esme, she had three half-brothers and a half-sister. Violet came from a family of merchant hauliers and bakers on her mother's side. She did well at school, but at 14 she left to take up an apprenticeship at a local confectionery firm. She

became an expert in the trade and later ran her mother's busy confectionery shop and tea room until 1953.

On the bus to work, Violet's mother befriended a young lady called Aileen Stephens and Violet's family were later invited to lunch at Aileen's home in Bartle on Boxing Day 1939. Violet was seated opposite Aileen's younger brother, Charlie. The sheer number of people sitting round the table that day made conversation between them impossible, but Violet recalls that her first impression of Charlie was that he

was kind and had lovely blue eyes and nice hands.

On January 17 the pair met again at a dance at Woodplumpton Village Hall when Charlie was still in the Home Guard and they became firm friends. Violet and Charlie met every fortnight, cycling to dances in the village halls, until he joined up in 1940. He was on the Naval Atlantic convoys which were launched from the Mersey. On February 23 1942 the pair were married while Charlie was home on leave.

The couple were happily married for 70 years and had two children, Christine and David, who were both born in Preston. They enjoyed ballroom dancing and frequented the Floral Hall in Southport and the Tower Ball Room in Blackpool. A love of travel led them to holiday in Austria, Germany, Cyprus, Spain, Malta, Ireland and the Canaries where they enjoyed sightseeing and trying out new foods, such as German plum pudding. It was on holiday in Germany that Violet learnt to



Violet married Charlie Stephens in 1942 and remained happily married for 70 years.

swim at a local spa at the age of 70! In 1957, the family left Preston and had a house built in Wilmslow where Violet and Charlie lived for 30 years. When Charlie retired the pair moved briefly to Canonbie in Dumfriesshire where Charlie had enjoyed fishing the Esk since boyhood, but being a

true Lancashire lass, Violet never really settled and they returned to Lancashire until Charlie's death.

Since her school days, Violet showed great prowess in needlework, knitting and leatherwork. At the age of 11, her needlework teacher, Miss Miller, singled her out for sewing courses, which allowed her to use the only Singer Sewing machine in the school. Miss Miller helped her to make a complicated dress which involved stripes meeting up at the bodice. As children and later grand-children arrived into Violet's life, she enjoyed knitting for them and sewed dresses for Christine. She still has Christine's first pair of knitted booties. Violet has two grandsons, Edward and Fred. Her grand-daughter Alex sadly died in 2012. Fred and his partner Annabel are expecting a baby in September and Violet excitedly awaits her new status as great-grandmother.

We wish Violet a very happy birthday.

Alice Maxwell.

Free Covid testing kits for islanders

Free Covid-19 testing kits are available at Invercloy car park, behind the small Co-op in Brodick, for those without symptoms.

Available between 11am and 3.30pm, from Monday to Thursday, the test kits can be collected by anyone on Arran as long as they don't have a new continuous cough, high temperature or a loss or change in sense of taste or smell.

The free test kits are part of a community testing initiative which aims to drive down local Covid-19 rates and transmission by identifying positive cases more quickly, as people can spread the virus to others before symptoms appear.

Lisa Davidson, assistant director of public health for NHS Ayrshire and Arran, said: 'Testing will help us to identify more cases of the virus and

give us all a better chance of stopping it from spreading.

'It is important you are tested regularly, particularly if you are a key worker and must attend work. Even if you have been vaccinated, it is still important you get tested regularly. This is particularly important if you are visiting a loved one in hospital or a care home.'

Alternatively, you can arrange to have a test kit delivered to your home. To order a test, visit <https://test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/order-lateral-flow-kits/>. Your order will contain one pack containing seven tests and it will be delivered to your home in one to two days.

These tests, for asymptomatic people, are lateral flow device (LFD) test kits and can produce a result in around 45

minutes. Any positive results can be confirmed by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests which can be booked by calling 01770 601033. Anyone on Arran with Covid-19 symptoms, or anyone who has been identified as a close contact, should call this number and book a test.

Anyone who receives a positive LFD or PCR test result will be asked to self-isolate. Dedicated support is available to anyone who needs to self-isolate, including food packages and financial support: <https://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/coronavirus/Coronavirus.aspx>

Further advice and information is available from www.nhsinform.scot. Current travel advice to any Scottish island is to take two lateral flow tests before you depart.

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Jet-skier rescued off Corriegills shore

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



A jet-skier had a lucky escape last week when he had to be rescued from the coast off Corriegills by a passing vessel and Arran RNLI.

The emergency will be ingrained in the memory of the unlucky victim and by a member of the Arran crew as his first call-out.

The incident happened last Wednesday when the RNLI was alerted to a broken down jet-ski with someone potentially in the water.

The RNLI crew made its way to Corriegills shore to find the jet-ski driver but on arrival found he had been helped out of the water by another boat.

The lifeboat crew took the jet-ski under tow and transferred the driver to their boat, making sure he was stable, and then arranged to meet the coastguard at the slipway in Brodick.

The jet-skier's parents were at the slipway to meet them and they took

him into their care whilst the crew helped get the jet-ski out of the water.

Helm Mark Nelson said: 'It was a glorious sunny evening, visibility was good and we found the casualty straight away, but he had been in the water for around 40 minutes and was starting to feel the cold when we got to him.'

'It goes to show that even though he was prepared to be out on the water and wearing a wetsuit and buoyancy aid, the sea is still cold, especially when you've been in it for any length of time.'

It was also a memorable evening for Richard Godfrey, who joined the RNLI crew last year during Covid restrictions, and was out on his first 'shout'.

He said: 'It was great to start putting the training into use for the first time. The rest of the crew were supportive as always and certainly kept me busy with jobs during the rescue.'

'It was great to see the casualty was prepared to be out at sea and that



Richard Godfrey of Arran RNLI experienced his first shout since joining the organisation last year.

despite the incident he remained in high spirits. The best feeling was being able to help someone whom you could relate to. I know how I would feel if I lost my craft like that and it could happen to anyone who uses our waters. Getting him back to shore and the jet-ski out of the water

was a real sense of achievement. I was delighted to see how others had responded and come to his aid before we arrived and had done such an excellent job. Ironically one of the rescuers turned out to be the daughter of one of the Arran RNLI crew. 'For me the experience of making

a positive difference whilst being supported by a great crew on my first shout made the wait and training worthwhile.'

The jet-skier was unharmed and he thanked crew members for their hard work and for saving his sinking jet-ski.

Historic Dutch sailing barge in early morning Brodick Bay visit



Volharding, built in 1884 at Maldon, England, will be used for sailing experiences.

Eagled-eyed and early rising marine enthusiasts were treated to a rare glimpse early on Saturday morning of the 137-year-old Dutch sailing barge Volharding.

The 85-foot, authentic ketch rigged sailing barge made the flying visit to Brodick Bay at 7am after a two-day sail from Carlingford Lough on the border between Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland.

The fully-restored vessel is part of a new venture, Crofters Cruises, by the owner of Crofters

Restaurant in Brodick. Crofters Cruises will offer those with a love for sailing and traditional grassroots music and good food and drink the opportunity to sail on Volharding during the summer season.

The idea is the brainchild of Dónal Boyle, who is passionate about sailing and who has offered similar experiences previously.

Ealana Boyle, project and operations executive of Crofters, said: 'Crofters Cruises is inspired by a love of sailing, traditional

grassroots music and good food and drink.

'In 2019 we brought the full Crofters' experience on board a tall ship, The Lady of Avenel, and Crofters Cruises was born.

'Guests and crew will be able to enjoy day trips or days of cruising, eating, drinking and live entertainment all based on a sustainable and circular business model supporting island economies and thus the Scottish economy with food and drink locally sourced and possibly even caught by our

guests themselves in the Firth of Clyde.

'As soon as we can, we'll be offering day trips, overnight stays, week-long cruises, along with corporate training, team building and events - all combined with great food, drinks, music and humour from us here at Crofters.'

Volharding, which translates to perseverance or persistence, is berthed at Ardrossan Marina where it will remain while it is being prepared for service and certification.

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Captain Sir Tom Moore's legacy lives on in NHS

Kind-hearted and inspirational fundraising by donors has helped to raise more than £554,000 for NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

Captain Sir Tom Moore provided inspiration and positivity during difficult times at the peak of the Covid-19 pandemic and inspired others to raise funds to support the health service battling through the crisis.

The late World War II veteran had originally aimed to raise £1,000 for NHS Charities Together by walking in his Bedfordshire garden but in a public whirlwind of support he raised almost £33 million.

Derek Lindsay, health board director of finance, said: 'NHS Ayrshire and Arran received £554,384 from NHS Charities Together, the charity into which the funds raised by Captain Sir Thomas Moore and many other public donations were paid and then distributed to all health boards across the UK.'

Captain Sir Tom died with coronavirus on February 2 this year, aged 100. He will be remembered for being a national inspiration during the pandemic and for his contribution to the NHS for his 100th birthday.

Shannochie Post Office removal plan withdrawn

A planning application submitted two months ago for the demolition of the old Shannochie Post Office has been withdrawn.

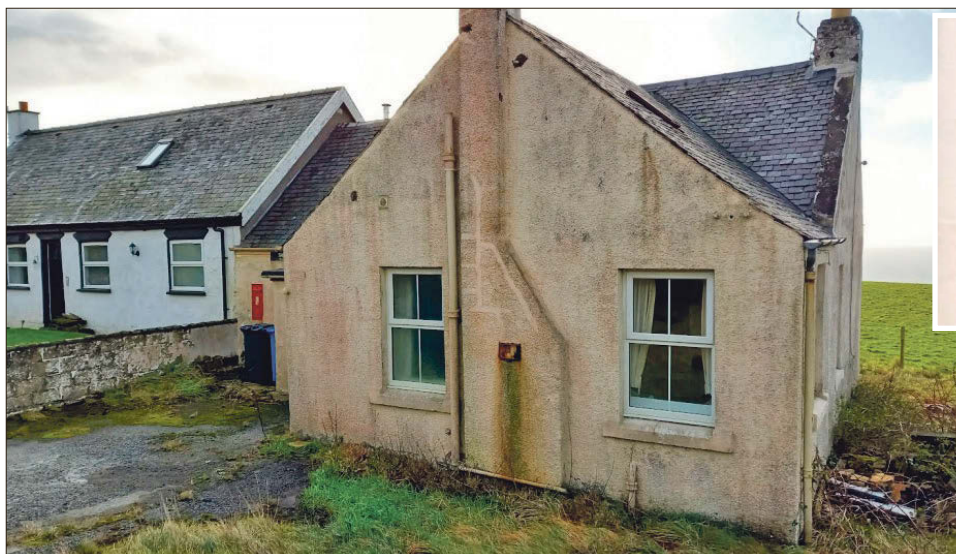
The old post office, which is in a poor structural state, is between Kilmory and Bannan Head and in its heyday included the village's general store and a public telephone box.

Once an Arran landmark, with its distinctive thatched roof and 19th century appearance, the post office shut in 1976 and was converted into a house.

Its thatched roof, last rethatched in 1969 by Jock Picken of Lenamhor, was removed in 1986, making it one of last post offices in Scotland to have a thatched roof.

Because of issues with the fabric of the building, its layout and access problems, the applicant - named as Mr M Symb in planning documents - had lodged plans to tear it down and use the space for a new four-bedroom house near the demolition site.

The application, first submitted in March, was then subject



A recent image of the old post office submitted as part of an application by architect Alastair Howe and a front page story from the Banner, September 27, 1986, describing its conversion as the 'end of an era'.

to the usual planning considerations and five homes within 20 metres of the site boundary were notified.

There were three objections, including from the Arran Civic Trust which said, in its view, such houses as the old post office were ripe for renovation and should not be demolished to make way for a modern house.

It added that the new house

was too close to the road, over large for the site, too close to a hedge and 'appears to be a house suitable for holiday lets'.

The house had recently been weather-proofed, it claimed, by a couple wanting to buy it but unable to fund the purchase and it would be ideal for a family wishing to make a home on Arran.

In the recent past Arran Civic Trust has proposed

to the planners that small houses should be preserved, modernised and used for the community benefit,' said the trust's statement. 'The cottage retains a historic value in this Arran locality, formerly the post office and the last thatched post office.'

'What a shame if it is demolished, replaced with yet another less characterless house, with little in the way of

features to link it to the sense of place in the south end of Arran.'

A further objection to the application noted that the post box held historic significance, bearing the Royal cypher of King Edward VIII, who reigned for less than a year in 1936, and is most likely the only one remaining on Arran. The proposal was withdrawn by the applicant last week.

Banner readers' favourite Where's Archie?

Archie, one of Arran's best known dogs who regularly featured in the Arran Banner, has died at the ripe old age of 12 years and 10 months.

The star of the popular feature, Where's Archie?, the well-loved black Labrador was introduced to readers in 2009 after the death of Murphy, who had been the Banner Labrador from 2007.

Between them, the two dogs appeared in hundreds of editions and hundreds of locations round Arran as the unofficial mascots of the Arran Banner.

Banner readers eagerly anticipated the arrival of the paper each week to spot

Archie and guess his whereabouts.

Archie was a much-loved family member of the late Howard Driver and his family, the former stalwart reporter of the Banner.

There were not many people on Arran who did not know Howard thanks to his involvement with the paper, his community work and his gentlemanly character.

Howard joined the Arran Banner in the mid-1980s and retired, along with Archie, in 2013, after 28 years.

It was Howard who introduced the Where's Archie? feature which became

Where's Archie?.

Howard passed away on October 5 2018 following a long battle with cancer.

In a social media post for Arran residents who might remember Archie, Howard's wife Helen posted: 'Where's Archie? Well my youngest grandchild tells me that grandad was lonely so Archie has gone up to heaven to be with him.'

Howard Driver outside the Banner office on his retiral and Archie, inset, in his farewell message from Helen Driver.




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Delay and disruption

The so-called lifeline ferry service on Arran has been discussed ad-nauseam in this paper and in numerous national titles.

Two ferry lobbying groups on Arran, numerous politicians on all sides of the political divide, local businesses and a cancer charity are all calling for improvements to the ferry service yet, here we are again, facing critical issues with transport when it is needed most.

It barely needs mentioning that this island community, and many just like it, have been patiently waiting for the day we can open up again and start on the long road to economic recovery after a ruinous year owing to Covid. Businesses are on the verge of insolvency, cafes and shops are crying out for custom and people's mental health has suffered. But now restrictions have been eased, we face another obstacle to recovery. Anecdotally, for some the unreliability of the ferry has become the proverbial straw that has broken the camel's back and they have moved house to the mainland. Thankfully, most tourist businesses on Arran are location-specific, so there will not be a mass exodus to mainland locations where customers and businesses can be united.

But therein lies the problem, businesses on Arran are, for the most part, 'stuck' here and subject to the vagaries of the ferry service.

There is no easy solution and the news that more than half of CalMac's fleet is operating past its life expectancy will offer cold comfort for those concerned about the future. What is clear though, is that a drastic shake-up, and nothing less, is urgently required.

Thought for the week

'I know that your goodness and love will be with me all my life; and your house will be my home as long as I live.' Psalm 23:6

HAVE YOUR SAY
emaileditor@arranbanner.co.uk

Placemaker returned

Sir,
On behalf of Arran Arts Heritage Trail, I would like to express my thanks to the Arran community, local and further afield, for their help in our search for the missing Catacol placemaker.

The marker, made from reclaimed red Arran sandstone, is dedicated to the Wingate family of artists who painted along the west coast of Arran. It went missing on April 28 this year.

I am delighted to inform readers the placemaker turned up unscathed last week, almost in the exact spot it went missing from in Glen Catacol carpark. I am very grateful to the Catacol community for informing me of its safe return and for their vigilance looking for it.

We are delighted the placemaker has been returned. This will allow us to complete the physical trail of 20 placemakers across the island dedicated to artists who were inspired by the landscapes of Arran.

A huge thank you to the fairy folk, human folk, or others for its safe return. We really are most grateful. If anyone feels like sharing the story of 'Wingates Wanderings' we would love to know more - no repercussions of course.

Yours,

Ruth Impey, Project Manager, Arran Arts Heritage Trail.

Narrow escape

Sir,
I recently got into a bit of trouble whilst parking my car in front of the War Memorial Hospital in Lamlash.

I thought I had applied the footbrake correctly, but the car didn't stop and I ended up on the grass verge on the edge of a steeply sloping bank. I was in a state of shock and would like to thank the very kind driver who helped me by reversing

the car out of danger. This incident made me realise that driving on Arran is not as simple as it may seem. There are many pitfalls for the unwary, as the island demands a different set of skills from those needed in towns and cities.

Yours,

Ian Swindale, London.

Nominate your hero

Sir,

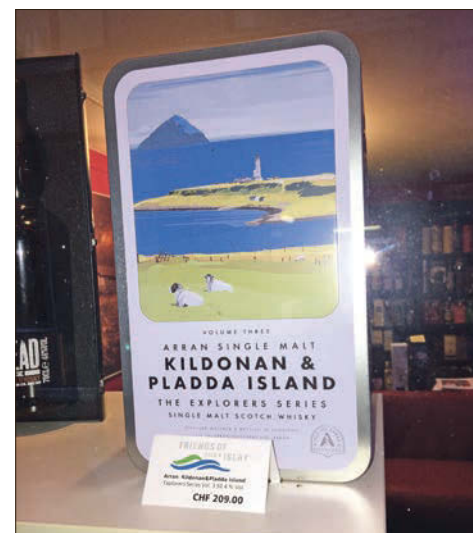
The annual search is on for the UK's favourite National Lottery funded people and projects which will recognise individuals and organisations who have made an extraordinary impact in their community.

National Lottery players raise £30 million every week for good causes and we know this money is being used in amazing and inspiring ways. We want to celebrate those whose selfless dedication and fantastic work makes such a difference in villages, towns and cities across the country. Encompassing all areas of National Lottery funding, you can nominate local legends and hometown heroes in the following categories: culture, arts and film, community/charity, heritage and sport. In addition, there will be a young hero award for someone under the age of 18.

Groups or organisations are eligible to enter The National Lottery Project of the Year category with shortlisted finalists going to a public vote later in the year. All award winners will receive a trophy and £3,000 for their organisation. Nominations can be made by completing an entry form at www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/awards. All nominees must have been funded by The National Lottery or be associated with a National Lottery funded project. Entries must be received by midnight on June 7 2021.

Yours,

Jonathan Tuchner, National Lottery Awards.



The Kildonan and Pladda Island whisky tin that caught George's eye in Switzerland.

Spotted in Lucerne Old Town, Switzerland

If there was ever any doubt about the extent of Arran's influence and just how wide its appeal and reach is, this short story from Swiss resident George Mann certainly proves the point.

George is no stranger to Arran. He owns a self-catering house in Kildonan and although he was born in Saltcoats, he first came to Arran 74 years ago. His brother, Ronnie Mann, still lives on Arran, while he has lived in Switzerland for 41 years. Before the pandemic, George visited Arran two or three times a year and cannot wait to get back.

Recently George was walking past a small upmarket liquor boutique in Lucerne Old Town in Switzerland when he noticed a familiar sight in the window. It took a while for the penny to drop, as it seemed so out of place, but when taking a closer look, he recognised the picture was of Pladda.

Far removed from his house in Kildonan and its spectacular view of Pladda, George had stumbled upon a Kildonan and Pladda Island whisky tin from the Arran Explorer Series. A number of other Arran whisky expressions were available too.

George is impressed by the marketing reach of Arran whisky and was pleasantly surprised at the welcome reminder of his home away from home.

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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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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.

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Arran Deliveries
Parcelpoint Ardrossan
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Call us on 01475 676255
Open 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday

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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.

Safety first as shops reopen

Hairdressers to hotels, cafes to cinemas, pub chains to independent shops ... high streets across the country are opening up again. But it is important it happens safely!

Businesses are ensuring they comply with COVID-19 safety measures such as social distancing signs, PPE and hand sanitisers. Restaurants, salons and theatres

are among the venues to put in place new booking procedures, ensuring we can all enjoy meals or watch shows in relaxed and safe environments. It is vital all

customers also obey the rules ... hands, face, space and fresh air. For the latest on government guidance, retailers should visit [gov.uk/workingsafely](https://www.gov.uk/workingsafely)

'We ensure measures are effective'

PAUL BAINES, MANAGER, STEPHEN JOSEPH THEATRE, SCARBOROUGH

THE CURTAIN goes up again at Stephen Joseph Theatre on May 17 while Eat Me Cafe, in the bar area, and a gift shop, in the foyer, will also reopen.

"We were open for nearly six months of last year. We did a huge amount of work including introducing a one-way system, social distancing measures and putting down markers," said theatre manager Paul Baines.



"One of the biggest challenges was getting people in and out safely.

"We have to ensure the measures are genuine and effective and they are

visible. Visible reassurance is important for customer confidence.

"It is a juggling act because you have to balance creating a too clinical atmosphere with offering a unique theatre experience."

The theatre has been awarded the VisitEngland We're Good to Go industry standard mark, signifying that it adheres to government and public health COVID-19 guidance, also approved by UK Theatre Seat Safety.

'People need care and pampering'

ROSIE FRASER, OWNER, THAT ROSIE GLOW, EDINBURGH

ALONGSIDE FAMILIAR COVID-19 safety measures, Rosie Fraser has introduced a new service called "Silent Treatment".

"We love a good chat but we also understand some people prefer not to," said Rosie, whose beauty salon opened in 2019.

"Clients can see the service as soon as they look at the online booking menu and add it with whatever treatments they are having.



"We still carry out a full consultation and then let them just relax."

Also in place are bespoke engraved screens between stations, extra time for

cleaning, screening forms for track and trace, PPE and sanitising measures. Rosie emphasises that it is safety with style!

Members of the seven-strong team are carrying out rapid COVID-19 tests at home thanks to the UK Government asymptomatic testing initiative.

"We have exciting plans for this year in expanding. COVID-19 and lockdown has reaffirmed how much people need care and pampering to feel good."

'Trade boost from vaccine confidence'

JOHN LAVERY, OWNER, FISH CITY, BELFAST

INVESTMENT HAS helped Fish City in Belfast continue operating.

The award-winning seafood restaurant extended its seating, installed outdoor heating and started a delivery service. Since reopening for outdoor dining, it has been doing a brisk trade bolstered by confidence in the vaccine programme.

Reopening indoors is scheduled to start on May 24. "We created a dining room



upstairs with a completely different feel," said John, who owns the restaurant with his wife Grainne.

Safety processes include a digital thermometer

mounted at the door which all staff and customers are required to pass before entering. Anyone recording a high temperature is refused admission.

Hand sanitisers are also available. Kitchen and front of house staff are required to wear masks and wash their hands regularly. Tables and chairs are cleaned rigorously after every diner. The restaurant's commitment to the safety is also seen in its recognition as COVID-19 Compliant by Tourism NI.

'We worked hard to train all the team'

MEURIG JONES, LOCATION MANAGER, PORTMEIRION VILLAGE, PORTMEIRION

"IF I could do cartwheels, I would" is one retail chief's response to welcoming the public back.

"When we saw the first trickle of people coming back last month, it was lovely," enthused village location manager Meurig Jones.

"Portmeirion needs people here.

"It's lovely but it isn't what it should be without people



appreciating it. It's easier this year in that it was such a new thing when we opened in July.

"We had to do a lot of work to train the staff into a

new way of working. We're constantly improving and we're learning as we go on."

App orders and one-way systems will ensure ongoing safety.

Outside seating, pods and marquee are also available. Misting machines, meanwhile, will keep hotels "squeaky clean - safe for staff and guests".

Meurig added: "There's hand sanitiser outside every shop and we ask people to wear masks indoors, but not outside."



Enjoy your high street safely

Remember hands, face, space, fresh air when you're out and about. For information visit [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

All together >

Arran brand's partnership pledge to dementia charity

Arran's internationally-known soap and body care brand has chosen Alzheimer Scotland as its charity partner for 2021.

Arran Sense of Scotland will raise funds for Alzheimer Scotland and inform people of the charity's work to help those living with dementia while supporting their friends, families and carers.

The organisations will collaborate on some key events, including the charity's annual Memory Walk and a 'summer of challenges' for staff. They will also take part in training to become Dementia Friends, as Arran Sense of Scotland moves towards a more dementia friendly business.

Part of the partnership will explore how Arran Sense of Scotland can support some of Alzheimer Scotland's existing outdoor initiatives.

This includes its tipi pro-

ject - forest therapy which enables groups of people with dementia to come together in a woodland tipi and take part in activities, learn new skills and discover the therapeutic benefit of nature.

Kevin Meechan, Chief Executive Officer of Arran Sense of Scotland, said: 'When Alzheimer Scotland first approached us, we were, of course, keen to help however

we could. And as we explored more options for how we could work together, we discovered our key philosophies are very much aligned.



we could. And as we explored more options for how we could work together, we discovered our key philosophies are very much aligned.

Commitment

'As a brand, our purpose is to help people to create meaningful connections with nature, something that has also been shown to be beneficial in the

treatment and care of those living with dementia. When we heard about the amazing tipi project, which promotes the benefits of immersing those with the condition in nature and the outdoors, as well all the other work this fantastic charity does, we decided that rather than support them on a one-off basis, we



Arran Sense of Scotland is based at Home Farm in Brodick. 01_B21AAromatics02

profile of the tireless work being done in the community for those living with the disease and their families. We're very excited to see what a difference we can make over the course of the next year.'

Arran Sense of Scotland aims to raise enough to expand Alzheimer Scotland's network of dementia advisors over the next 12 months.

It will also supply hand sanitiser free of charge for some of the larger fundraising events across the year and will identify areas that can make its shops and offices more accommodating to those with cognitive impairments.

A range of best-selling Arran Sense of Scotland products will also be sold via Alzheimer Scotland's webstore over the coming months and 50 per cent of retail sales will be donated to the charity.

should make the commitment to appoint Alzheimer Scotland as our official charity partner.

'Dementia is one of the biggest health crises of our time; one in three people will be diagnosed with some form of dementia in their lives.

'Sadly, it is a cause that does and will continue to affect many of our staff, customers, and wider Arran community.

'We want to help raise the

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UK Government
Scotland



COVID-19

Going to work?

Make space.

Around 1 in 3 people who have Covid-19 have no symptoms and are spreading it without knowing, so keep a safe distance.

Let's take this next step safely.



Kelp and other seaweeds

Scotland's Year of Coasts and Waters has officially been extended to 2021, given many events and promotions couldn't go ahead last year as a result of the pandemic.

To recognise this, and to raise the profile of many exciting habitats and species we find in Arran's seas, many protected by the South Arran Marine Protected Area, the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) is running a year-long media campaign to raise awareness.

Each month, they will focus on a particular habitat or collective group of inter-linked species and here is their instalment for May. For more information on COAST see their social media or visit www.arrancoast.com.

It's spring and as the days warm and lengthen, vegetation is waking up and greenery is blossoming.

Just as on land, a similar transformation is happening underwater in the shallow, well-lit waters surrounding Arran as our most common marine plants – seaweeds – start to flourish with clean, luxuriant new growth.

Unlike seagrass, which featured in the Banner last month, seaweeds are relatively simple plants, although in some ways their biology is far from simple. They are often referred to as algae, organisms that have been on earth since before the first dinosaurs. Fossils of the early relatives of our current seaweeds can be found which are 1.6 billion years old. Although they might be viewed by some as simply a slippery hazard on rocky shores, seaweeds play a vital role in our seas.

While they lack the roots, stems and leaves of flowering plants, seaweeds have similar-looking structures: a holdfast, which anchors the seaweed to the seabed; a stipe, a stalk-like structure that holds the plants up, and fronds, the more leafy-like part of the plant.

Variety

In contrast to seagrass which grows in sand, seaweeds require a hard material for the holdfast to attach to, therefore they are most abundant in rocky areas. This said, even a small stone or piece of shell can be enough for them to hold on to, meaning seaweed can

also be found growing in sandy areas and on gravel. There are a huge variety of seaweeds which are generally categorised as being either brown, red or green.

The February Banner article about rocky reefs explained how seaweeds, like plants on land, need light to grow so are most abundant in shallow water. All seaweeds contain chlorophyll – the pigment in plant cells that gives them their green colour – but brown and red seaweeds also contain other pigments. The additional pigments in red seaweeds mean they can use different wavelengths of light, enabling them to survive in slightly deeper water where light levels are lower.

Microscope

The varied seashore and seabed habitats around Arran provide opportunities for a range of different seaweed species to thrive, but identifying these is not always straightforward. Some species can be quite easily identified upon sight, whilst others – such as different species of maerl – need to be examined under a microscope. The time of year can help with species ID, as some seaweed plants are present all year round, while others are annual or survive over winter as just small, insignificant crusts or stalks.

In spring, as light levels and seawater temperature increase, denser seaweed cover appears in rockpools and underwater. This new seaweed growth can have a clean, almost polished appearance which creates a vibrant under-



Kelp and other seaweeds.

Photographs: C Paul Kay.

water seascape, particularly in shallow, sunlit water. Seaweed growth can be very dense. The large brown kelp plants that dominate parts of shallow rocky areas around Arran can create underwater forests which provide a home for many other plants and animals. The nooks and crannies of a kelp holdfast, which superficially resembles contorted roots, can shelter between 30 to 70 species, including anemones, sea squirts, marine worms and crustaceans. Kelp stipes, on the other hand, can often be found covered in red seaweeds, sea mats, clusters of feather stars and other encrusting marine life.

In contrast, kelp fronds produce a slippery mucous that makes it hard for animals to attach to, so they can often look devoid of attached life. However, by the end of summer they, too, have often become covered in marine life such as sea fans and sea mats which in turn provide food for animals including sea slugs and iridescent blue-rayed limpets. These kelp forests provide essential feeding grounds for some of Arran's favourite megafauna – the Eurasian otter – and support commercially important lobster and crab.

As well as supporting a rich diversity of life and commercial fisheries, seaweeds provide humans with many other benefits. For a long time, seaweeds



Above: Shore wracks when the tide is in.



Left: Janolus cristata nudibranch on red seaweed.

have been valued as food and for providing thickening and gelling compounds used in a wide range of products such as toothpaste, cosmetics and ice cream. Kelp forests provide a natural form of sea defence by absorbing and reducing the power of waves impacting on the coast and they are now recognised as an important blue carbon habitat as they absorb

carbon dioxide into the plant tissues which can ultimately be locked up as organic matter in marine sediments when the plant tissue breaks down.

While there is growing interest in farming kelp and other seaweeds for food, fuel and chemical production, we need to make sure we look after our wild seaweed communities. Increasing seawater temper-

atures as a result of climate change are having a marked effect on the abundance and distribution of some seaweed species. It is in our own interest to help seaweeds thrive, but this requires urgent and effective climate change action on a national and global scale, as well as the spatial protection provided by Arran's Marine Protected Area and the No



Blue rayed limpets and sea mat on kelp.

We're open for business

There are already signs that Arran is returning to business as usual with the number of visitors and tourists increasing as every day goes by.

Businesses of all types are experiencing an upsurge in customers, particularly over the weekend when day-trippers can be seen populating village restaurants and bars.

It is an inspiring sight and optimism is growing that Arran will bounce back from her enforced slumber and business will once again boom on Arran as it did before lockdown.

The influx of visitors has been slow at first, giving businesses a gentle introduction to trading again, but it is widely accepted that once things take off, hold on to your hats, because staycations and tourism is about to surge in a manner not seen for years.

And now, after almost a year of limited trading, near-hibernation or complete closure, Arran's businesses are ready, and very willing, to offer visitors and locals all of their favourite products and services that have become synonymous with Arran quality.

Shoppers will be treated to everything that they need, or could want, for comfortable island living and while there will be some changes, there is also a renewed vigour and energy in anticipation of a busy summer season ahead.

Arran's businesses are well known for their exceptionally welcoming attitude and willingness to help and now, like never before, they are ready to welcome you back with enticing offers and deals to attract your patronage.

For the good of the local economy, your community and retaining a variety of island-owned industry, shop locally and help support Arran's road to recovery.




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Children's play park with lots to entertain.

Smaller sister shop in Brodick "The Byre at Brodick" open 6 days







Braid Salon *Looking forward to welcoming back clients again*
We are now open!

Government recommendations will be adhered to re COVID-19.

Please telephone
01770 860456
Blackwaterfoot,
Isle of Arran,
KA27 8ET

Bay Wool and Crafts

Bay Wool and Crafts in Whiting Bay are delighted to have reopened. They have expanded their extensive range of yarns, have work by additional craftspeople on display and have rearranged their layout to accommodate the restrictions, adding mobility access. They are thrilled to be welcoming customers, friends and visitors back to the shop to see the largest range of yarn and island-made gifts on Arran, plus tubs of Arran ice cream. Thanks to everyone for adhering to the restrictions and helping to keep our island safe while everywhere slowly reopens. They look forward to seeing you all soon. Tel: 01770 700481

Ann Hume Jewellery

Ann creates unique botanical jewellery in Sterling Silver. She uses hand forging and folding techniques. Her inspiration comes from flowers, leaves, seaweed, anything botanical. Ann has been making jewellery for 17 years and four years ago she opened her own studio beside her home in Brodick. The studio is situated in her garden on the edge of Stronach wood. If you're lucky on your visit you might catch sight of a red squirrel or a heron nesting in the scotch pines above her studio. Please wear a face-mask when visiting. All Covid measures are in place.

Arran's Cheese Shop

Arran's Cheese Shop are really looking forward to welcoming customers back after four months of relative quiet. They have been busy making cheese orders for farm shops and deli's on the mainland, doing their own mail orders and making their own chutneys for sale throughout the year.

Arran's Cheese Shop have created an extremely safe environment for all their customers with traffic lights, perspex and sanitiser. On a visit you can see the cheese being made in the dairy and can select from a huge range of Arran and Scottish cheeses, their own chutneys and their own farmed Highland cow beef. They also stock other Arran food products and deli items. Tel: 01770 302788

Arran Apartments

Arran Apartments are so very happy to be able to welcome their visitors back to Arran as safely as possible. To prepare for this they have achieved their 'Good To Go' certification and have enhanced cleaning protocols in place including rotating and isolating all linen, books, dvd's, etc, between visits. Their visitors can be assured of a very comfortable stay in a totally self contained 4 Star Visit Scotland, TripAdvisor Certificate of Excellence home from home. Sea views will be enjoyed from the furnished decking shared only by the regular visitors - red squirrels and a variety of birds. Tel: 01770 600682

BAY WOOL & CRAFTS
Delighted to have reopened
Open Mon-Sat 11am-3pm

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Gift Vouchers Available

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Open 10 to 5 Mon to Sat

Red Door, Brodick, Isle of Arran. 01770 303549
Gift Vouchers Available

Isle of Arran Distillers Ltd

Isle of Arran Distillers Ltd are delighted that their Lochranza and Lagg Visitor Centres have re-opened from Monday April 26, initially with both of the Visitor Centre shops and takeaway cafes opening from that date.

Then, from Monday May 17, both Lochranza and Lagg Distilleries will have indoor sit down café facilities and daily tastings available. These must be booked in advance as both will be following all Scottish Government guidance on Covid safety measures and restricted numbers.

You can book for Lochranza by contacting bookings@arranwhisky.com or calling 01770 830264 and for Lagg on bookings@laggwhisky.com or 01770 870565.

Chameleon

At Chameleon Ladies' Boutique, they are delighted to be open again and spring has well and truly arrived. They have a shop packed full of comfortable stylish fashion brands with something to suit everybody.

In addition to Chameleon's wide selection of clothing they also have a range of sandals from leading footwear brands Fly London and IGI, plus scarves, bags and artisan jewellery.

Whether you prefer to browse uninterrupted or would like some help to choose from their fabulous styles you can be sure of a very warm welcome. All necessary Covid precautions in place. Find them in Lamlash at Hamilton Terrace. Tel: 01770 600201. Open Monday to Saturday 10:30am - 5pm and always open online at www.chameleonarran.com.

The Lighthouse Restaurant

Situated in Pirmill, with stunning views, you will find The Lighthouse Restaurant where their friendly staff look forward to welcoming old and new visitors alike. Open six days a week, Tuesday to Sunday, from 10am - 3pm (including bank holidays), serving teas, coffees and home baking along with delicious, light lunches and evening meals from 5pm - 9pm. The food is cooked to order and is great value for money with good sized portions of fresh local produce and seafood, their strawberry meringues are a must.

Evening bookings are advisable and you are welcome to bring your own wine and there is no corkage charge. The Lighthouse also caters for small functions. Please call 01770 850240 to book.

COAST Discovery Centre

The COAST Discovery Centre is Good to Go! Their marine tank has creatures from the bay waiting to be marvelled at, and our shop is bursting with new eco-friendly and ocean-themed gifts waiting to be taken home. For your safety, they will be following recommended advice on social distancing and household mingling. They rely on volunteers so please check their website (www.arrancoast.com) and Facebook page ([arran.coast](https://www.facebook.com/arran.coast)) for the most up-to-date opening times. If you fancy volunteering at the Discovery Centre, and learning more about marine conservation on Arran, please drop them a line (email@arrancoast.com).



COAST Discovery Centre

Be inspired by Arran's marine life.

Shop for unique sea-themed gifts.

Support community marine conservation.

WE'RE GOOD TO GO

For opening hours visit: www.arrancoast.com

LITTLE ROCK

WE ARE OPEN

Daily from Saturday 1st May 9am - 5pm
(Kitchen closing at 4pm)...

except Sunday's 9.30 - 5pm (Kitchen closing at 4pm)

Inside and outside seating as well as takeaway available for food, cakes, shakes, hot chocolates, tea and of course coffee!!

The Wee Deli is stocked and ready to go!

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Coffee shop, Crafts and Gifts
Open Tuesday to Saturday, 11am till 4pm
Last orders 3.30pm

Shore Road, Lamlash. Isle of Arran
Tel: 01770 600384 karen.madeinarran@hotmail.com

Old Byre Showroom

The Old Byre Visitor Centre in Machrie is delighted to reopen. There's plenty to see with the new Shoe Bothy where there is an extensive selection of shoes, sandals, casual, boots, slippers and wellies on offer from brands such as Dubarry, Birkenstock, Helly Hansen, Aigle, Start-Rite school shoes – along with their feet measuring service. Opposite is the revamped Old Byre Showroom, offering sustainable fashion brands, beautiful knitwear from Scotland and Ireland, and there's also bags, throws and accessories.

Café Thyme offers freshly made soups, home grown salads, flatbreads and pides (Turkish pizzas) from their wood burning oven. There is no need to book, just turn up, if they're full they'll give you a pager and you can browse the shops until a table is available.

The playpark has swings, slide, digger den, football, volleyball, climbing wall and lots more. This family business is keen to get going again and you'll get a warm welcome whenever you go. www.oldbyre.co.uk Tel: 01770 840227

Brae Salon

Brae Salon has been established on Arran for over 40 years, with Alice Anderson at the helm, providing first class service in hair cutting, colouring, styling and beauty treatments from her salon in Blackwaterfoot. Life has been challenging this past year but the 'bad hair days' will soon be a thing of the past as Alice is open again. For many of us getting back in the hairdressers chair and relaxing with a coffee and magazine is going to be one of our main priorities. We long to lose the split ends, get the roots touched up and get our messy manes back in shape. Brae Salon is ready and waiting. To book please call 01770 860456 or email: andersonalice@btinternet.com

Made in Arran

Made in Arran, in Lamlash is looking forward to welcoming everyone back after a long and disrupted year whether you are having morning coffee with fresh scones and warm pancakes or a light lunch with homemade soups and tasty toasties. There is always a large selection of amazing cakes to tempt you.

If you are looking for a holiday memento or just want to treat yourself, they have a wide range of quality gifts and locally made crafts from Arran Stonemen, Candles, Ailsa McNicol's Jewellery and Arran Leathers with their sporrans and accessories and more goodies arriving weekly. Tel: 01770 600384



auchrannie
resort

Welcome back to Auchrannie, open daily to non residents.
for more information see:
www.auchrannie.co.uk

Auchrannie Resort
Brodict
01770 302234



three restaurants and bars



segways, archery and bike hire available



massage & beauty services



two swimming pools



drinks served all day, indoors and out

Brodict Bar & Brasserie

New garden area now open, a warm welcome awaits friends old and new



Love Food, love the Brodict Bar

01770 302169
brodictbar.co.uk

Red Door

The Red Door girls are delighted that Red Door is back open for all your retail therapy needs! As always there is an incredible array of ladies summer scarves, brand new Edblad jewellery and beautiful new Roka bags! Not to mention a great selection of goodies for children, plus gift ideas for the whole family, and some stunning new Marc Peters Glass and a fully stocked Dog section for the four pawed family members! Pop in and say hello and see what's behind the Red Door, open 10 to 5 Monday to Saturday.

The Whins Craft Shop

The Whins Craft Shop is the home of Arran Stonemen, a collection of painted stones which have been gathered from around the shoreline of Arran. The stones are wonderfully sculpted into little stonemen, all with their own unique character and appearance. The Whins Craft Shop also has a collection of decorative ornate and unusual candles handmade at the workshop. The workshop is open to the public seven days a week from 10am to 6pm and can be found by walking up the North Newton track on the north side of the loch at Lochranza. Tel: 01770 830650

Brodick Bar and Brasserie

The Brodick Bar and Brasserie is delighted to be open again, the McKinnon family and all of the team would like to extend a warm welcome to all of their customers. The garden area offers a new addition to the premises both for meals and drinks. Everything is cooked from scratch and all fish and shellfish are locally sourced. Vegan, vegetarian and gluten free options are an intrinsic part of the menu. Open seven days a week, from 12noon and 12.30pm on a Sunday. Please call 01770 302169 to book.

Arran Active

Arran Active are looking forward to a busy season, where the emphasis will be on being outdoors. As ever, they have clothing, footwear and accessories to suit whatever conditions the Arran weather throws at us, and new for this year is a "Summer Shop" with wetsuits, aqua shoes, rash vests, bodyboards, sunhats, flip flops, etc. As last summer, camping looks like being very popular again and Arran Active have an extensive range of tents, camping furniture and accessories. Andrew and his team look forward to welcoming you back and, as ever, they will do all they can to ensure a happy and safe shopping experience.



ann hume jewellery
delicate • intricate • contemporary

Stronach Cottage
Douglas Place
Brodick
KA278DG

Open 11-4pm Wed, Thurs & Friday. Out with these times, if my sign is at the main road, I am open.

CLOSED THURS 27TH MAY UNTIL WED 9TH JUNE

www.annhumejewellery.co.uk

07975589432



THE DRIFT INN
Lamlash



Seafood/Grill Restaurant and Bar.
Stunning Seafront views
Family and Dog friendly with a covered outdoor patio area.


Open 7 days and 12 until 10 at the moment,
(will be till late when we can really open up!)

Tel: 01770 600608
E: Info@thedriftinn.co.uk
Follow us on Facebook

Turn left at Lamlash bowling club.




NATIONAL TRUST for SCOTLAND



Brodick Castle, Gardens and Country Park are excited to welcome you back to visit

The Gardens, Country Park and Playpark are open from 10-5pm daily, the Castle itself is open Saturday to Tuesday 11-4pm (last entry 3.30pm)





TAYLOR MADE BEAUTY

WELCOME BACK - WE ARE OPEN!

T: 07789043108
CONTACT@TAYLORMADEBEAUTY.INFO

Auchrannie Resort

The Auchrannie Resort team is ready to welcome you back to their two 4 star hotels, 35 star self-catering luxury lodges, 14 retreats, two pools, gym, spa, outdoor activities and, of course, their three iconic restaurants – Cruise Bar Brasserie, Brambles Seafood and Grill and Eighteen 69. Unfortunately the Playbarn and games hall will remain closed for the time being. Safety remains their number one priority and they will continue to have all the appropriate measures in place to protect guests, team members and the local community. Book now at : www.auchrannie.co.uk or call 01770 302234

Brodick Castle

Brodick Castle, Gardens and Country Park are excited to welcome you back to visit. There is plenty to see and enjoy at the property. Explore the gardens and grounds, the colours from the extensive collection of Rhododendrons are very impressive at the moment. Take in a tour of the Castle to see the wide selection of art on display and discover how the Hamilton family lived. Or simply enjoy a visit to our Isle be Wild adventure play park. The woodland café is also open, offering a selection of takeaway food. The Gardens, Country Park and Playpark are open from 10-5pm daily, the Castle itself is open Saturday to Tuesday 11-4pm (last entry 3.30pm).

Cladach Sawmill

Cladach Sawmill and Garden centre has grown during lockdown! Home to probably the widest range of composts/soil improvers, including peat free, and the broadest range of plants for sale on the island. It is still your first choice for sheds, timber garages, fencing and gates but includes an ever-increasing range of garden essentials. In our large greenhouse we have plants available to view whatever the weather throughout the year. We stock an extensive range of pots, seeds, hand tools and much more beside. Located conveniently beside the Cladach visitor centre, Brodick with ample customer parking Open Monday to Saturday from 10am to 5pm. Tel: 01770 302622

Arran Fine Foods

Arran Fine Foods is most pleased to welcome all customers, existing and new, to their shop located in the picturesque village of Lamlash on the east coast of the island. Their small factory started life in the early 1970s, producing mustard, and now owing to the quality of their products, and the huge demand, they produce a wide range of delicious products known throughout the world for their quality and superior flavour. You are invited to browse through their selection of chutneys, jams, mustard and gifts, suitable for all the family, safe in the knowledge that they have taken care of your safety with all necessary measures to ensure your shopping experience is as safe and relaxed as possible. Tel: 01770 600118.

glenisle
hotel & restaurant

Welcome Back

NOW OPEN FOR

Breakfast
Teas & Coffees
Lunch
Outdoor BBQ
Evening Dining

...or enjoy drinks in the garden

RESERVE A TABLE ONLINE
www.glenislehotel.com
OR CALL US ON - 01770 600559



ISLE OF ARRAN

ONE ISLAND
TWO DISTILLERIES

WE ARE OPEN

arranwhisky.com
laggwhisky.com



Little Rock

Little Rock, which can be found in the centre of Brodick, wish everyone on Arran and all visitors a happy and healthy return. Following their soft opening these last few weeks they are now back to their usual trading hours, kick-starting the bank holiday weekend with their breakfast menu served from 9am. Little Rock are open daily from 9am to 5pm, (kitchen closes at 4pm), and on Sunday from 9.30am to 5pm (Kitchen closed at 4pm).

As well as inside and outside seating, takeaway is available for food, cakes, shakes, hot chocolates, tea and, of course, coffee. They will continue to work on a first come first serve basis and operate the pager system during busy times. The Wee Deli is stocked and ready to go too, offering some fantastic foods, heat at home meals, an excellent range of fine wines, Champagne, craft beers, liqueurs and lots of deli goodies. Tel: 01770 303886



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



ARRAN FINE FOODS

**Arran Fine Foods
Kitchen Shop**

Choose from a full range of Arran Fine Foods Products and a selection of gifts and kitchenware.

The Old Mill, Lamlash, KA27 8AR
01770 600118



**Cladach Sawmill and
Garden Centre**

Spring is here and so are we for all your garden needs...

Large selection of;
Herb and vegetable plants
Spring colour
Fruit Canes
Fruit Trees, Fruit Bushes
& Fruit Plants
Vegetable, Herb
Flower and Grass
Shrub

**FULL RANGE OF SUMMER BEDDING
AVAILABLE NOW!**

Large selection of
compost and a great
range of pots and
garden essentials

Delivery
service
available

Garden Furniture
Sheds
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Timber
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Open Monday
Saturday 10am -5pm
Tel 01770 302622
email:
cladachsawmill@btinternet.com
www.cladachsawmill.com



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7 DAYS

**WINEPORT
CLADACH, ISLE OF ARRAN
Bar·Bistro**

**Family Friendly Dog Friendly
Bar Bistro**

Relaxed atmosphere

Open every day from 11am serving
delicious coffee and homemaking,
fabulous lunches and drinks in the sun!

CLADACH, BRODICK 01770 302101





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Dean Lodge
Lamlash
**Luxury 1
bedroom
cottage**
(cot available)

Tel. **01770 600682** www.arranapartments.co.uk

Find us on
Facebook 

The Drift Inn

The Drift Inn in Lamlash are looking forward to welcoming everyone back to their popular beer garden with stunning views overlooking Lamlash Bay and Holy Isle. During lockdown, they have made some changes which will guarantee that those first pints aren't tainted with our famous Scottish rain water. Another exciting announcement is the fabulous Seagate Brewery, just down the road from them, have created their very own 'Two Doors Down' blonde ale which is now available. As per the rules, they will only be serving alcohol outside for now. The Drift Inn also serve delicious lunches and evening meals with the menu changing daily, depending on what the local suppliers have for them that day. Visit www.driftinnarran.com or call 01770 600608 to book a table.

Glenisle Hotel

The Glenisle Hotel is nestled in the charming village of Lamlash the hotel boasts one of the most beautiful locations on the Isle of Arran; looking across Lamlash Bay toward the Holy Isle which rises 1,000 feet out of the sea. Once you have experienced Arran from the comfort of the Glenisle Hotel, with its amazing rooms, delicious food and friendly staff you might find yourself, like so many others, coming back year after year for a regular break which both relaxes and revitalises. Call 01770 600559, email enquiries@glenislehotel.com or visit www.glenislehotel.com to book.

Crofters

Based in Brodick on the Isle of Arran, are excited to welcome you back. Crofters has evolved from a family-run music bar and bistro into much more. Crofters offers experiences to nourish body and soul, from food and drink by Crofters Larder and Crofters Still, to music from Crofters Music and unique cruises on the West Coast of Scotland with Crofters Cruises. Everything they do is aligned with a sustainable, circular and inclusive Scottish and local economy. Upon their reopen they will be introducing an alfresco dining area showcasing our authentic Crofters hospitality. Follow their social channels and sign up to our newsletter on www.croftersarran.com for their re-opening details.

Taylor Made Beauty

Taylor would like to wish everyone a warm welcome back to Taylor Made Beauty after a substantial period of time having to close due to COVID-19. We are sure everyone is in need of a good pamper and treat after a tough couple of months and Taylor has all of your beauty needs covered! The stunning setting of Machrie Bay is the perfect place to retreat for some TLC whilst receiving a treatment of your choosing which is sure to enhance the way you look and feel. Simply get in touch via Facebook, Instagram, telephone: 07789 043108 or email contact@taylormadebeauty.info to book.

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

WINNER
The Great **Outdoors AWARDS 2020**
SILVER INDEPENDENT RETAILER
Welcome back!
*Late night opening on
Thursday 3rd June
until 8pm*



Open Hours
Mon-Sat 9.30am - 5pm Sun 10am - 5pm

CROFTERS
*Experiences to nourish
body and soul*



Re-opening soon!
enquiries@croftersarran.com
www.croftersarran.com

The Douglas Hotel

The Douglas Hotel is a unique boutique hotel set within the scenic landscapes of the Isle of Arran. Their wonderful team of chefs use seasonal, fresh ingredients locally sourced from Arran, Ayrshire, and Scotland. Delicious food with a modern and varied style can be enjoyed in our Bistro and Bar all day with our understated décor and friendly, hospitable service combining to ensure a memorable dining experience. The outdoor terraces are the perfect place to soak up the sunshine and enjoy a freshly prepared cocktail, whilst taking in the breath-taking sea views looking over to Brodick Castle and Goatfell.

The Arran Gift Box

The new Arran Gift Box will be open this week in Brodick.

Situated next door to the Book & Card Centre they will be stocking the very best of Arran products including Arran whiskies, gin, cheeses, chocolates, oatcakes, aromatics, prints and much much more.

They also now have a range of wonderful gifts and homeware from inspired Scottish designers that we're really excited about. And - just like the website at www.thearrangiftbox.com, you can also pop in to the shop, buy a gift box and arrange for it to be delivered for you there and then with a personal message card included; they will take care of the delivery for you! They look forward to seeing you soon!

The Wineport

The Wineport can be found at Cladach, Brodick, and is situated in a picturesque spot at the foot of Goatfell.

It is the perfect stop for drinks in the bar, fabulous snacks and meals, hot drinks and delicious home baking. They have a great outdoor space and a lovely relaxed atmosphere which is suitable for adults and children. Dogs are also very welcome.

Open every day, their provisional opening hours will be: Monday to Thursday, 11am-5pm, food served from 12pm to 4pm, and from Friday to Sunday from 11am-7pm, with food served from 12pm to 6pm.

These hours may be extended as the season progresses and restrictions are gradually eased. They would encourage people to eat outside when weather permits although they do have limited availability indoors.

Bookings for tables is absolutely essential, please telephone 01770 302101 or contact The Wineport's Facebook page.



THE DOUGLAS
Hotel • Bistro • Bar
www.thedouglashotel.co.uk
telephone : 01770 302 968

We Are Open!



THE
ARRAN GIFT BOX
OPENING
SOON

SHOWCASING THE VERY BEST
OF ARRAN PRODUCTS,
PLUS OUR CHOICE OF SCOTTISH
INSPIRED CREATIVE GIFTS

SHORE ROAD, BRODICK
(next door to Book & Card centre)

01770 303556

THE CHEESE SHOP
IS OPEN

9AM UNTIL 5PM MONDAY – SATURDAY.
10AM UNTIL 4.30PM SUNDAY.

WE STOCK: Our own flavoured cheddars – Arran Brie, Arran Camembert and Arran Blue made from local milk – Our own reared Highland Beef – Our own handmade Chutneys – Arran Oatcakes, Arran Chocolates, Arran Jams, Arran tablet, Arran ice Cream and Arran Dog Biscuits.

Plus our own Hampers and lots of mainland deli & cheese products.

Pop into the shop or check us out online.
www.ARRANCHEESE.com

Isle of
ARRAN
Cheese Shop



GRAHAM CHAPPELL
ARRAN GRAPHICS

UPDATE FROM ARRAN GRAPHICS 01770 303698 (Mon - Fri, 9am - 4.30pm) email: graham@arrangraphics.com

Arran Graphics is 25 years old this year. The business is **no longer at Cladach** and presently has no retail outlet of its own, so it is concentrating **solely on commercial printing** for many Arran businesses as well as certain supercar companies in Edinburgh. Print orders are varied to the extreme - from stickers to exhibition carpeting and all manner of leaflets, stationery, branded clothing, banners, books, calendars, postcards, etc. We are also supplying our clothing and souvenir items to a select few retailers on the island, especially Arran Active, A Touch of Enchantment and the Harbour Shop in Blackwaterfoot.

ARRANMEDIA



video • audio • music • live shows • recording services

Arran Media Ltd

facebook: [@arranmedia](https://www.facebook.com/arranmedia)
www.arranmedia.co.uk

Graham Chappell & Heather Macleod.

Arran Media is the 'parent company' of our live facebook show (see far right). The company was set up to assist businesses get more out of video and audio, particularly for social media but also for anyone requiring us to help with raising awareness of new products or services on the island. There's a lot more on www.arranmedia.co.uk.

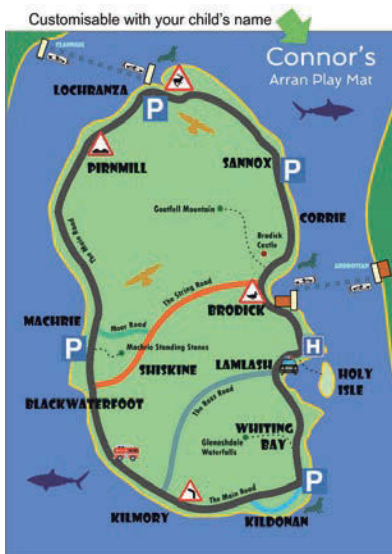
To assist our own productions and to raise funds for things like full page Banner ads ;-), we do come up with some unique things for you to buy. An online shop is available through the web link above

Customised Arran Play Mat £45

Printed on polyester with a soft backing foam, this mat measures over 1m x 75cm and features Arran, the villages, the ferry and other areas of interest.

Customised with your child's name.

Go to the shop at www.arranmedia.co.uk



WHOA!

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON ARRAN

LIVE FACEBOOK SHOWS : SUNDAYS 4pm
facebook: [@arranlive](https://www.facebook.com/arranlive)
Archived shows at www.arranmedia.co.uk

Heather Macleod & Graham Chappell

"critical during the lockdown",

"a great way to keep in touch with the island"

Our live Sunday broadcasts attract an audience of hundreds - often thousands - of viewers each week. We have now completed 68 live shows and we've not missed one (yet!). With occasional special guests, live interactions with our audience and stuff to give away, we bring Arran to you - no matter where you are in the world. In fact, we have viewers in many countries and far-away places, including Rarotonga, Quebec... and Corriecravie.

WHOA! (What's Happening on Arran) is on Facebook **every Sunday at 4pm.** [@arranlive](https://www.facebook.com/arranlive)

SPONSORSHIP FOR A TENNER

For businesses, WHOA provides an excellent way for you to show off your latest products and services. Usually reaching over 500 people within 24-hours of broadcast and with our shows being viewed further into the week, we are an ideal and cost-effective way of getting your message across.

We often review products and services on our 30 - 50 minute live facebook shows and to be sure we can feature yours, get in touch today.

01770 303698
info@arranmedia.co.uk
or message us through FB.



Arran Graphics' Current Promotions

2m x 50cm **Outdoor Banner** with hems and eyes **£28+VAT**
(valid thru till June 10th 2021)

350mm x 120mm **HOUSE SIGN** printed on aluminium in full colour with a weatherproof coating. **£15** inc design

MORE PRICES FOR ALL SORTS OF PRINTING CAN BE FOUND HERE:

SCAN THIS WITH YOUR PHONE



Or go to www.designfiles.co.uk/priceexamples.pdf

WHOA!

WHAT'S HAPPENING ON ARRAN
LIVE SHOW EXTRAS

Sundays at 4

LIVE ON FACEBOOK

ARRANMEDIA

PRODUCT PLACEMENT	£10
PRODUCT REVIEW (POSITIVE)	£20
PRODUCT / SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT	£20
SHOW SPONSOR LIGHT (LOGO/MENTION)	£40
SHOW SPONSOR FULL FAT (LOGO ON SCREEN, PRODUCT REVIEW AND PRODUCT PLACEMENTS)	£60

REACH OVER 700 PEOPLE FROM JUST **£10**



ARRAN ART TRAIL

Heather is an established artist working from her Studio in Whiting Bay.

Her vibrant paintings reflect the local landscape with a distinctive style.

Reflections of a small Scottish Island

Arran Studio

Heather Macleod
Artist



Original Art & Picture Framing



Original work,
Prints & Candles



"Gimme that ferry...I'll fix it"

"Dusty"

www.heathermacleod.com

Open Thurs, Fri, Sat 12 - 3pm or by appointment

THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday May 19, 2001



Left: The Milton Mountaineers, a group of blind climbers, enjoyed a visit to Arran. Led by island guides, the group climbed Goatfell, walked to the fallen rocks and enjoyed the path up Glen Rosa. 01_B21tweYAP05



Right: Illia Price, whose premises caught fire and burned to the ground last week, has already secured temporary premises and is buying tools and equipment to return to business. 01_B21tweYAP03



Lindsey Thomson of Brodick primary and Alasdair Lockhart of Lamblash primary became champion of champion swimmers at the primary school gala at Kinloch pool. 01_B21tweYAP01



Right: Primary children cheer on their classmates at the primary school swimming gala last Wednesday. 01_B21tweYAP06



Married at Lochranza Church by the Rev Elizabeth Watson were Lisa, daughter of Dr and Mrs Robert Cummings of Traquair, Peeblesshire, and David, elder son of Marc and Jeanette Head of Whiting Bay. 01_B21tweYAP04



With a general election less than four weeks away, Conservative and Unionist candidate Richard Wilkinson and his wife Anne visited Arran to meet some of their island supporters. 01_B21tweYAP02

RECRUITMENT

Arran Community
and Voluntary Service



Administrator

Salary: £9.50 per hour

30 hours per week (9am to 3pm) - Lamlash

Exciting opportunity to join the enthusiastic team at Arran Community and Voluntary Service. Candidate should have good all round admin skills. Experience essential.

For a recruitment pack with full job description, contact Carol Norton on 01770 600611 or email carol.norton@arrancvs.org.uk

Closing date for applications

Wednesday 2nd June 2021



Deputy Manager (RN only) and Staff Nurse post available at Coorie Doon Nursing Home, Whiting Bay.

Please enquire for details to coorie.doon@outlook.com or phone Jackie on 01770700247

Person required to assist housekeeper with cleaning only on Saturday change overs in Machrie

May to September
Good rates of pay

Contact Helen 01770 840 252

ARRAN MEDICAL GROUP

**2 x Trainee Reception/Administrative Assistant
12 month fixed term contract**

35 Hours Per week – Monday to Friday

Exciting opportunity for self-motivated and enthusiastic individuals to join our busy team. These are structured 12 month trainee positions covering various roles within the Practice including Reception, Administration, IT and Dispensary.

You will be working in sites across the Island so a driving licence is desirable.

For recruitment pack and more information call Fiona Horbury on 01770 600516

Closing date for formal applications is 5pm on Friday 4th June 2021



**John Thomson Construction
VACANCIES**

HGV DRIVER – CLASS 1 OR 2

EXPERIENCED PLANT OPERATOR

Immediate start - Full time permanent positions.

CVs to mail@thomsonconstruction.co.uk
Tel: 01770 600 242

PROPERTY

Arran's own "Cottage Guide"

For owners who want to manage their own bookings and those who don't.

- Own bookings or online bookings
- Own calendar & prices chart
- Established social media presence
- Competitive fees - No VAT
- Personal Service

#WeAreArran

#Arran Welcome



Want to find out more?
Email: info@cottagesonarran.co.uk
Web: www.cottagesonarran.co.uk

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited.

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

- 1 Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.
- 2 The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
- 3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
- 4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
- 5 Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.
- 6 The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.
- 7 The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.
- 8 Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.
- 9 The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.
- 10 Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
- 11 Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
- 12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

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SLABLAYING**

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**FULTON
decorators**

LAMLASH

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- Floor sanding & sealing
- Phone Gavin Fulton for a free estimate

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insurance needs**



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Agent of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited.

PERSONAL NOTICES

LATE SEPTEMBER 2021

LONG-TERM LET REQUIRED

RETURNING GP LOOKING FOR LONG-TERM LET.
IDEALLY SITUATED IN LAMLASH
(CLAUCHLANDS) FOR PROXIMITY TO HOSPITAL,
BUT ANYWHERE FROM BRODICK THROUGH TO
WHITING BAY CONSIDERED. 2+ BEDROOMS
AND ONE FLOOR LIVING REQUIRED.

PLEASE REPLY TO ARRANGP2021@GMAIL.COM

THANK YOU
for continuing to support
your local newspaper

Arran Banner

Research shows that for every £1 spent with a local, independent business, between 50p-70p circulates back into that local economy

So every time you pick up a copy of The Arran Banner you are not just helping one local business but a whole range of local businesses



we local



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

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*

There is a booking system at Brodick & Shiskine churches as the numbers are still limited. Liz Lawrie 302782 & John Kerr 860 498
There will be a streamed service fortnightly, this can be found on the three Church websites.

Sunday 23rd May 2021
Lochranza & Pirnmill Churches-

Service at Lochranza Church 10:15am Morning worship. Shiskine Church 12noon. Morning worship. Brodick Church 10.30am Morning worship. Corrie Church at 12noon. Morning worship. The Food Bank continues from Brodick Church

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Whiting Bay and Kildonan
Church of Scotland**
Charity Number: SC014005
Sunday 23rd May
Worship will be conducted at 10.30am

As our capacity is greatly reduced due to the two metre social distancing, we have a booking system.
You are asked, please, to phone Mrs Janet Redfearn on 700244 by the Friday lunch-time if you wish to attend Sunday worship.

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Kilmory linked with Lamlash**
*"A faith to proclaim ~ a
fellowship to share"*
Scottish Charity SC015072
Sunday 23rd May
Kilmory 10 am
Lamlash Church Hall
11.30 am

Due to our reduced capacity, if you wish to attend Sunday Worship in Lamlash, please phone Margaret McArthur at 600363 by midday on Friday.
All welcome

We will be observing all socially distancing procedures

**BANNER
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**
(Part of the Worldwide
Anglican Church)
**St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 23rd May**

Pentecost
Holy Communion at 11 am.
Rev Barry Roberts
EVERYONE IS WELCOME
Please join us for coffee after the service.
We follow strict SEC guidelines
Rev Barry Roberts will be on Arran during May as assistant priest. He can be contacted on 07949-427791.

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Minister Rev Vince Jennings
contact telephone number 600222
Still unable to meet together but would welcome you to our online mini service available from our new website:
www.arranbaptistchurch.org.uk

**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 22nd May
Vigil Mass at 5pm
Sunday 23rd May
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**

DEATH

DEVLIN - Ruth. We announce with great sadness that after a short illness, Ruth Devlin passed away in Newcastle on 26th April. She was a much loved mother, grandmother, sister and friend.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday May 13, Summer Cup: 1 Willie Currie 75-10=65; 2 Scott Campbell 81-16=65; 3 Paul Jameson 77-10=67. Best scratch, Stuart Campbell 73. Magic twos, Alan Smith at 13th, Neil Young at 14th. Hole four drawn - rollover.

Sunday May 16, Jamieson Cup: 1 Ian Bremner 71-8=63; 2 Stuart McLaren 74-11=63; 3 William Skinner 82-19=63. Best scratch, Paul Cowan 70, BIH over Neil Young and Stuart Campbell. Magic twos, Ian Bremner at 17th, Paul Cowan and Alan Smith at 16th, Alan Campbell at 13th, Stuart Campbell at 5th. Hole five drawn. Winner, Stuart Campbell.

Fixtures: Sunday May 23, Scratch Cup and Handicap Sweep, noon draw. Thursday May 27, Summer Stableford. Make up own groups and see starter for times.

Brodick Golf Club

Sunday April 18, British Legion 36 holes, 18 played. Bob McCrae 59+64=123; Matt Dobson 61+66=127; Jim Reid 64+68=132, ACB. Wednesday May 12, Summer Cup, 38 played. Alastair Dobson 69-8=61, ACB; Neil Duncan 89-28=61; George Hamilton 78-16=62. Scratch, Greg McCrae 68. Thursday May 13, McCarfrae Trophy, CCQ round 2, 22 played. Matt Keir 69; Greg McCrae 71; Gordon Hendry 71. Sweep, Tam McNab 74-14=60; Finlay Sillars 75-13=62; Matt Keir 69-6=63. Sunday May 16, McCarfrae Trophy, CCQ round 3. Ewan McKinnon 66; Greg McCrae 69; Matt Dobson 70; Matt Keir 70. Sweep, Graham Dobson 82-19=63; Finlay Sillars 77-13=64, ACB. Monday May 17, Club Championship round: 1 Ewan McKinnon beat Ian Shand, Alastair Dobson beat Frazer Barr, Gordon Hendry beat Tam McNab, Matt Dobson beat Alistair Hume, Greg McCrae beat Jimmy Armit, Bruce Jenkins beat Iain MacDonald, Fred Galbraith beat Matt Keir and Bob McCrae beat Finlay Sillars. Fixtures: Saturday May 22, Club Championship Finals, Ladies 2pm, Gents 3pm. Sunday May 23, Sweep.



Brian Sherwood sinks one for Machrie on the ninth green during the AGA Seniors Crystal Bowl. Photograph: David Brookens.

ARRAN BANNER GOLF



Winners of the 2021 AGA Seniors Crystal Bowl: Machrie Bay Golf Club, left to right, Alex Morrison-Cowan, John Milesi, Campbell Laing and Brian Sherwood. Photograph: David Brookens.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday May 16, Gents' Medal. A total of 18 played and scoring was reasonably good with 10 cards returned in the net 60s. Surprisingly though there were no magic twos recorded. 1 Stuart McGregor 14, 61; 2 David Brookens 12, 63, ACB; 3 Stan Rainey 11, 63, 4 Gus Macleod 12, 64. Gavin Mainds (7) returned the best scratch score of 71.

Fixtures: Wednesday May 19, Summer Trophy. Sunday May 23, Sweep. Until further notice there will be no draws for partners and players should arrange their own groupings.

Arran Golfers Association

Friday May 14, AGA Seniors Crystal Bowl final. On a glorious evening for golf, Whiting Bay again came up short in the final of the 'Crystal', this time losing on their home patch to Machrie Bay.

The match was a close one though with never more than a two-hole margin in each game. In the opening game, Whiting Bay pair Gus MacLeod and Ronnie Mann lost by two holes on the final green to Machrie's Campbell Laing and Alex Morrison-Cowan, while

in the game behind, John Pennycott and Dougie Auld found themselves one down to Machrie pair Brian Sherwood and John Milesi on leaving the 17th green.

Needless to say the match was played in the best of spirits, just as one would expect when so many island pals come together to enjoy their golf.

It is the second runners-up spot in a row for Whiting Bay, but many congratulations to the Machrie team on a fine performance. Many thanks to everyone involved at Whiting Bay Golf Club for hosting.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday May 11. Peter Sutton: 1 Alex Morrison-Cowan 56; 2 Willie McNally 63; 3 Brian Sherwood 71. Magic twos, Alex Morrison-Cowan. Congratulations to Machrie Bay, Senior Bowl winners over Whiting Bay.

The Machrie team was Campbell Laing, Alex Morrison-Cowan, John Milesi and Brian Sherwood.

Fixtures: Tuesday May 25, Gents Club Championship, first round, and Lady Mary, tee off 12.30pm/5.30pm. Please let Brian know by Monday if you are planning to play in the evening.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday May 12, Wednesday Medal: 1 A Smith 75-15=60; 2 R Logan 69-7=72, scratch; 3 G Andrew 72-9=63. Saturday May 1, Saturday Medal. 1 Q Oliver 86-27=59, BIH; 2 A Smith 75-16=59; 3 A McDonald 75-14=62. Scratch, A Napier 71. Highlight of the Saturday Medal was Alan Smith holing out in one at the eighth. He also had a two but still couldn't overtake Quintin Oliver.

Fixtures: Saturdays May 22 and 29, Championship



Alan Smith of Corrie celebrates a hole in one at the Corrie Saturday Medal.



June Richardson, winner of the Josie Sanderson Trophy at Lamlash.

Qualifying. Wednesday May 26, Wednesday Medal. Arrange your own matches and adhere to current Covid regulations.

Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday May 13, Ladies' CCQ2. Silver: 1 Alice Anderson 85-19=66, BIH; 2 Fiona Henderson 88-20=68; 3 Shona Weir 79-11=68. Bronze: 1 and medal winner, Carole Stewart 90-25=65; 2 Elizabeth Kelso 88-22=66; 3 Clare Buchanan 101-30=71. Magic twos, Shona Weir, Liz Kerr.

Sunday May 16, Gents CCQ1. first class: 1 S Black 72-10=62; 2 J Faulkner 74-9=65; 3 C Watson 73-7=66, BIH. Scratch, G Campbell 68. Second class: 1 and medal winner, B Sherwood 78-17=61; 2 A Kerr 75-13=62, BIH; 3 A Bannatyne 84-22=62, BIH. Magic twos, G Stewart, S Crawford.

Lamlash Golf Club

Ladies' Section: Monday May 10, Josie Sanderson Trophy. Winner, June Richardson 37pts, runner up, Isobel Macdonald 36pts. Wednesday May 12, Ann Cook Tray (Medal 2). 1 Kate McAdam 76-17=59; 2 Sheena Murchie 76-15=61. Scratch, Kate and Sheena 76.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Fixture: Tuesday May 25, Gents club championship first round qualifier.

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Blackwaterfoot bowlers relish getting back out on the green

Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club has re-opened after almost a year of closure and has issued an open invitation for any players, young or old, experienced or beginner, to join them this season.

Play resumed at the club last Saturday with eight bowlers taking to the green for the first rink game of the season in sunny and dry conditions which were ideal for the first match in more than a year due to Covid-19 restrictions.

There was much talk of rustiness and being out of practise but two enjoyable matches went ahead with two new members, a new set of bowls being broken in and a close result in both matches.

Players agreed it was good

The village club welcomes new members of any age

to be getting back to some kind of normality and relished being back on the green.

Rink games at Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club will again take place on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons at 2pm.

Club Secretary Ellen McMaster said: 'Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club is re-opening to visitors with some Covid-19 precautions in place.

'Numbers are limited to four players per rink and we ask that social distancing is observed and that players sign and record their visit with a

contact number, date and time. 'Non-members can play for £3 per session; please place fee in the honesty box.

To encourage new members and restart the club, we have decided the membership fee for this year only will be £10.

Sessions

'The club is keen for new members to join and beginner sessions can be arranged. Please contact me on 860423 for details.'

Blackwaterfoot Bowls Club has been in existence since 1980 and is the only carpeted rink on Arran. Coaching, games and the loan of equipment can also be arranged by contacting the club.



Blackwaterfoot bowlers make a welcome return to matches after an extended break.

As reported in last week's Banner, Brodick Bowling Club has also resumed games and will be open each Monday and Wednesday at 7pm with rink

games taking place at 2pm on Saturday. Lamash Bowling Club has resumed play and will be open each Monday at 2pm and Wednesday at 7pm.



While there was some concern about a lack of practise, players returned to the game last weekend.



Sunny weather was ideal for the first two matches of the season.



Despite an extended break, the matches still produced competitive play as the scoring shows.

The Arran Banner: 85p

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