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Mortality rates at Lamlash fish farm are revealed

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Figures highlighting the mortality rates of fish farms in Scotland show the Lamlash farm, owned by the Scottish Salmon Company, had nearly a 30 per cent death rate in 2019.

The statistical analysis of more than 100 farms, known as feedlots, over a three-year period is made up of publicly available statistics provided by the salmon farmers themselves and includes Scotland's largest fish farming companies including The Scottish Salmon Company, Marine Harvest, Scottish Sea Farms and Wester Ross Fisheries.

The data, compiled by Corin Smith, founder of Inside Scottish Salmon Feedlots (ISSF), is the first of its kind to be compiled to provide an overall picture of the mortality rates.

In 2019 The Lamlash farm, operated by The Scottish Salmon Company, had the 21st

worst stock mortality rate with 29.6 per cent. With a licence for a maximum of 1,154 tonnes in 2019, 341.5 tonnes of salmon needed to be disposed of.

In one set of data, based on a full cycle – from birth to harvest – in 2019, Wester Ross Fisheries at the Ardesie A site had a stock mortality rate

'I leave it to the public to decide whether the death rates on salmon farms in Scotland are acceptable.'

of 65.7 per cent, the highest in Scotland. In second worst place was The Scottish Salmon Company's site at Maaey (East of Loch Uiskevagh) in the Outer Hebrides, which had a mortality rate of 52.9 per cent.

In the same analysis, Loch Duart at their Outer Bay site recorded a mortality rate of just 0.1 per cent, while the second lowest, Cooke Aquaculture in

East Skelwick, had a mortality rate of 1.3 per cent.

Figures do vary according to the size of the operation and the different practices used, but they also illustrate that low mortality rates are being achieved by some operators.

Corin Smith, who is now the senior investigator for ISSF but was previously a data scientist for a number of FTSE and NASDAQ listed companies, explained the data in simple terms.

He said: 'Imagine a sheep farmer has 100 lambs and puts them in a field to fatten them up for market. This is what salmon farmers do when they stock young salmon into their feedlots at sea. The numbers shown in the tables represent the percentage of these salmon that die on the salmon feedlot before the survivors are big enough to be taken to market.'

'I leave it to the public to decide whether the death rates on salmon farms in Scotland are

Continued on page two.



Open water swimmer ready for the challenge

Open water swimmer Carole Laporte pictured prior to her round Arran swim which she completed after 13 consecutive days of swimming, covering 89.94km in 27 hours, 8 minutes and one second. Carole is based on the Isle of Man and praised Arran's clean beaches and the lack of floating marine litter. For the full story, turn to the back page.



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Multi-million pound property portfolio for sale

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Property professionals Savills is bringing to the open market a rarely seen Arran development portfolio that covers more than 30.27 acres with a capacity for more than 110 houses.

The properties, from an unnamed seller and at an unnamed price, spans 10 locations, with some of them already having planning permission and the others all offering 'excellent development potential'.

And while the selling agent would not be pressed to provide a rough estimate of the expected price of the portfolio, it is believed to be well in excess of a million pounds.

In a glossy 28-page brochure which divides the portfolio into the villages of Lamlash, Brodick, Blackwaterfoot and Kildonan, the individual sites are listed as: Margnaheglis, Whitehouse, Lookout, Brae Farm, Springbank, Knowe Road, Glencoy Road, Cairnhouse, Heathfield and Drimlabarra.

The brochure, which can be downloaded from the Savills' website, provides the following information: 'The land on offer varies from single plot sites to

larger development schemes with potential for 20-30 plots, all of which are situated in well-established and accessible locations and benefit from outstanding scenic views across Arran's renowned landscape. The majority of sites have current/historic planning consent or lie within the 'general urban area'. Arran is experiencing significant demand for residential properties and plots. Our clients' preference is to sell the portfolio as a whole, however, the sale of multiple lots may be considered.'

According to the Savills' development team, the residential property market on Arran is thriving, with average house prices reaching £282,620 as of July 2021, an increase of 9.30 per cent in the last 12 months.

The demand for housing on Arran far outstrips supply which allows for properties on the island to fetch prices reaching far above the national average of £161,401.

The portfolio brochure continues: 'There has been a surge in new enquiries for housing and land on the island during the global lockdown period as purchasers reassess their life priorities, seeking spacious homes in rural settings that enable them to enjoy an abundance of outdoor space in

scenic surroundings, allowing for a more relaxed pace of life.

'This has put further pressure on the supply of housing, particularly for local residents and workers. The provision of attainable housing and rental properties is therefore key to maintaining the working population of the island.

'This portfolio provides an excellent opportunity to meet the needs and demands of the residents of Arran and would assist in supporting the local economy through the provision of significant employment opportunities.'

Savills agent, Emma Biggin, one of the two agents dealing with the sale, said: 'Rural and coastal locations across the UK have experienced an exceptional surge in demand since the pandemic began: Arran is no exception and we are currently witnessing significant interest in the market for residential properties and plots.

'A closing date is likely to be set, so interested parties are advised to register their interest early.'

HAVE YOUR SAY
emaileditor@arranbanner.co.uk

Arran's 16 and 17-year-olds next in line for vaccination

The NHS vaccination campaign which has seen all of the age groups on Arran being offered the vaccine has been extended to include 16 and 17-year-olds who will be offered the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, writes Colin Smeeton.

The extension of the younger age bracket follows the latest advice from the Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation (JCVI) and includes children between 12 and 15 years old who are in key groups.

This includes 12 to 15-year-olds with severe neuro-disabilities, those with Down's Syndrome or underlying conditions resulting in immunosuppression, those with profound and multiple learning disabilities and those 16-year-olds who have any of these conditions or other underlying conditions that place them at higher risk of serious Covid.

Young people aged 12 years and above who live in the same household of people (adults or children) who are immunosuppressed will also be offered the vaccine.

And while NHS Ayrshire and Arran will not provide separate vaccination figures for Arran itself - Arran is included in figures for Ayrshire and Arran - Lynne McNiven, director of public health,



described the uptake on Arran as 'an incredible response to our local mass vaccination programme on the island'.

Those Ayrshire and Arran figures show that 93.1 per cent of 18+ year-olds have been given their first dose and 78.6 per cent have received their second dose. In the 40+ category, 97.5 per cent have received their first dose and 93.9 per cent have had their second.

Clinics offering the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine are planned for 16 to 17-year-olds attending Arran High School on Thursday August 19 and Friday August 20. These pupils will be contacted by the school with further information. School leavers aged between 16 and 17 years can attend on a drop-in basis on either day between 4pm and 5.30pm.

Lynne McNiven said: 'The Covid vaccine is our best way out of this pandemic and we ask 16 to 17-year-olds now eligible to please come forward. We aim to have first doses delivered to this age group by the end of September.'

Chief medical officer Dr Gregor Smith added: 'In line with the latest JCVI advice, we are now offering a first dose of the Covid vaccination to young people aged between 16 and 17.

'The programme has always carefully assessed all the benefits and potential risks and offered vaccine to groups where this benefit is clear. The research and evidence shows that is the case for this age group and they should now be called forward for an appointment for a Covid-19 vaccine.'

Covid helplines' hours reduced

The NHS 24 non-symptomatic Covid helpline and NHS inform's general health information line will be closing two hours earlier than

before owing to a reduction in demand.

NHS 24 non-symptomatic Covid special helpline (0800 028 2816) and NHS inform's general health information line (0800 22 44 88) will now operate from 8am to 8pm each day. The lines previously

closed at 10pm. This is in response to reduced calls from the public to these numbers after 8pm.

The latest Covid guidance is available online 24 hours a day at www.nhsinform.scot. There is no change to the 111 service.

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New Shiskine tearoom given green light

A proposal for a new tearoom to be built in Shiskine has been given the go-ahead by planners, writes Hugh Boag.

The proposal is to erect a simple traditional new building to house the tearoom comprising a seating area, toilets, a serving area and kitchen. Ancillary to this will be an outside seating area, children's play area and parking for cars, bicycles and horses.

The tearoom is being proposed by Ms Katie Webster, who has run the Machrie Bay Tea Room for four years, and will be built on a site to the north of the village, adjacent to the String Road, in the corner of what is presently a grazing field south east of Inglewood.

An online survey was undertaken in the village in May last year which welcomed the tearoom plan, with the majority of the comments stating there is presently nowhere in Shiskine to go to gather socially and therefore the proposal would be good for the community.

Many also commented that it would reduce the need to drive to meet up. There was also mention of increased employment opportunities and as a place for young people to meet socially and independently.

The application has been approved by North Ayrshire Council planning officials subject to a number of conditions being met.



Kildonan Hotel fined after breaking minimum wage law

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Harbour Havens Limited, trading as Kildonan Hotel, is among 191 companies named by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) for breaking national minimum wage laws.

The breaches all took place between 2011 and 2018 and while not all of them were intentional, it remains the responsibility of companies to ensure that they pay their employees according to the national minimum wage laws.

Kildonan Hotel was listed in the national minimum wage naming scheme bulletin for failing to pay a total of £2,478.12 to four workers

between June 2014 and August 2017.

The naming scheme exists to increase awareness of national minimum wage legislation and to act as a deterrent to the minority of employers who may be tempted to underpay their workers.

Following a 2018 review of the naming scheme to ascertain its effectiveness and to ensure that naming was used in the most efficient way, the scheme has been continued since 2011 and it regularly publishes the names of businesses that break national minimum wage laws.

Business minister Paul Scully said: 'Our minimum wage laws are there to ensure

a fair day's work gets a fair day's pay. It is unacceptable for any company to come up short.

'All employers, including those on this list, need to pay workers properly.

'This government will continue to protect workers' rights vigilantly and employers that short-change workers won't get off lightly.'

The latest bulletin – round 17 – calculates that the cumulative totals of all of the underpayments amounted to £2.1 million owed to 34,000 workers. Named employers have since been made to pay back what they owed and collectively were fined an additional £3.2 million.



The Kildonan Hotel on the south coast of Arran.

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THE ARRAN BANNER

All change for island restaurants

Caledonian Isles removed from service after positive Covid tests

MV Caledonian Isles, one of the two ferries serving Arran during the summer holidays, had to be removed from service and sailings cancelled over three days at the start of this week owing to staff testing positive for Covid.

On Sunday, two afternoon sailings were cancelled and a further sailing delayed after a positive case of Covid was confirmed onboard. This required a deep clean of the vessel and close contacts identified.

The following day, four sailings by the Caledonian Isles were cancelled due to 'operational reasons' owing to four members of staff testing positive for the virus and others having to self-isolate.

Throughout Tuesday all sailings on the affected vessel were cancelled and the

service resumed at 6pm that evening with a departure from Ardrossan.

On all three days, MV Isle of Arran continued to operate as normal and on Sunday CalMac provided additional sailings from Lochranza to assist with the demand. By Tuesday, MV Loch Linnhe was brought in to operate a shuttle service at Lochranza, alongside MV Catriona's published timetabled service, to assist passengers affected by the disruption.

The disruption comes at one of the busiest times of the year and just as the restrictions across Scotland started to ease on Monday when Scotland moved to beyond Level 0. The unfortunate circumstance also occurred the day before capacity restrictions on fer-

ries would have returned to normal.

CalMac's travel guidelines urge customers to voluntarily self-test for Covid three days before travelling to any Scottish island and to take another test on the day of travel. Passengers are also advised to not travel on the ferry and to stay at home if they feel unwell or, if anyone in their household is experiencing coronavirus symptoms. Face coverings are required by law to be worn on all public transport, including on the ferry, within indoor areas of the vessels and inside CalMac ports and offices, unless exempt.

MV Caledonian Isles has had to be deep cleaned after positive Covid results.



CalMac commit to publishing daily performance figures

Ferry operator CalMac has started to publish daily performance figures on their website so that passengers can see how the company is performing on each of its routes.

Users of the service can select a date and see how many sailings were timetabled for the day, how many were cancelled, how many additional sailings were put on and how the route performed against the timetabled sailings as a percentage.

The performance data browser can be found at www.calmac.co.uk/calmac-performance-data-browser, however, CalMac makes it clear that: 'These figures are for basic illustrative purposes only. They are not related to and cannot be compared to the contracted performance data we are required to provide to Transport Scotland in line



with the terms and conditions of our contract.'

The full audited performance figures provided to Transport Scotland can also be found on the CalMac website at www.calmac.co.uk/corporate/route-performance

The audited performance figures provide monthly totals of operated and cancelled sailings, rather than the daily figures of the performance data browser, which uses different parameters and criteria in its analysis.

Campervan ban for CalMac standby queue

Motorhomes, campervans and caravans will no longer be accepted in standby queues for CalMac sailings on the Ardrossan to Brodick route.

The decision comes after discussions with Transport Scotland and island stakeholder groups and it is intended to prioritise islanders and passengers who need accommodation and to ensure that capacity is used more efficiently.

Finlay MacRae, head of operations for CalMac, said: 'To prioritise customers without alternative accommodation and to optimise deck space at the

end of loading, motorhomes, campervans and vehicles towing caravans will no longer be given a standby or waitlist position on all bookable routes – either at the reservation stage or on the day of sailing.

'Restricting larger vehicles in standby lanes will allow us to make the best use of any remaining space for smaller vehicles, whose occupants may not have alternative options available for accommodation. It will also remove the issue of smaller vehicles having to be pulled out of car lanes if that is all that can be shipped

at the end of the loading process. This does not apply to motorhomes, campervans and vehicles towing caravans that belong to island residents who will continue to be able to use standby options. Island residency will be confirmed at point of booking or application to join the standby queue and can be evidenced with a proof of address from a utility bill or similar.'

The new restrictions are due to be implemented with immediate effect and do not apply to the Lochranza to Claonaig route which is unbookable.

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LETTERS

Write to us: editor@arranbanner.co.uk
or The Editor, Arran Banner, Brodick, Arran KA27 8AJ**Salmon farming's two sides**

Two stories in this week's edition of the Banner clearly highlight a juxtaposition – that of round-Arran swimmer Carole Laporte who noted the cleanliness of Arran's water and lack of marine litter, and the state of regulated fish farming across Scotland, including at Lamlash on Arran.

The contrast between the statistics from some quarters of the aquaculture industry and the quality of the sea around Arran perfectly illustrates the balancing act required to preserve our natural environment on Arran, while also trying to promote industry and employment opportunities.

Like it or not, the Scottish aquaculture industry is worth an estimated £885 million to the Scottish economy each year and anything that threatens that will be fiercely defended by many. Something that is a seldom mentioned is the fact that salmon farming can take place on land in a self-contained system where effluent and chemicals can be effectively managed. This option is more expensive, meaning less profit. And currently the law in Scotland does not make it a requirement, as it does in Denmark or Argentina.

To many it appears that big industry is allowed to pursue profits over environmental concerns and unless our government does something to remedy that, the current state of salmon farming in Scotland will continue.

Thought for the week

'Much is required from the person to whom much is given; much more is required from the person to whom much more is given.'

Luke 12:48

Nothing changes

Sir,
I've just been re-reading Robert McLellan's marvellous book *The Isle of Arran*. Here he is, in 1970, complaining about the ferries: '... wearisome delays are frequent at the end of June, July, August and September, trying the patience of crews and passengers and miserable for the children.'

Nothing, it seems, changes. And yet: 'There is perhaps no better indication of the great love many people have for the island than they are willing to return year after year under such trying conditions of travel...'

How true. Yet how tragic it is (as per your lead story last week) that for islanders themselves, things have become not just trying, but unbearable.

Yours,
Eamonn Butler,
Lamlash.

Arran's airports underutilised

Sir
On reading the Scottish Government document, *The National Islands Plan Survey – final report July 9, 2021*, on which the future of our island communities depends apparently, I found the following under the Main Finding section (use of Air Transport).

'Residents of Mainland Shetland and Mainland Orkney make most use of flights to and from the mainland, with 58 per cent doing so more than once a year. This is significantly greater than residents of Arran, Bute and the Cumbraes, who had the lowest levels of use.'

The more astute reader will have spotted, that while several islands do indeed have an airport or landing facilities, Arran, Bute and

the Cumbraes certainly do not. With this lack of knowledge or attention to detail in Holyrood what could possibly go wrong and is it any wonder that we are experiencing the current long running ferries fiasco? Do they even know where the islands are?

Yours
Neil HC Arthur
Kilpatrick.

Well-wishes

Sir,
I was very disappointed with my omission in the Banner last week regarding Hugh and Isobel Thompson.

I want to record very sincere thanks to Hugh and Isobel for their sterling work in the ArCaS shop over many years. Hugh and Isobel have given of their time and energy in support of ArCaS and our many patients.

It is with great sadness that we see Hugh and Isobel leaving the island. They will be much missed by their many friends and all at our charity.

I send on behalf of all my colleagues at ArCaS best wishes to Hugh for a speedy recovery and to Isobel every best wish for an easy transition to your new life on the mainland.

Yours,
Douglas Johnston
Arcas chairman

Triple the charity

Sir,
I'd like to make your readers aware of a unique opportunity to make a big difference to the lives of hungry children in the world's poorest countries this summer.

For anyone who becomes a monthly giver to global school feeding charity Mary's Meals

before the end of August, their first three donations will be tripled, meaning the impact of their regular gifts will go even further.

This is thanks to a group of generous supporters who are making funds available up to £100,000 for tripling donations from new regular givers for a limited period.

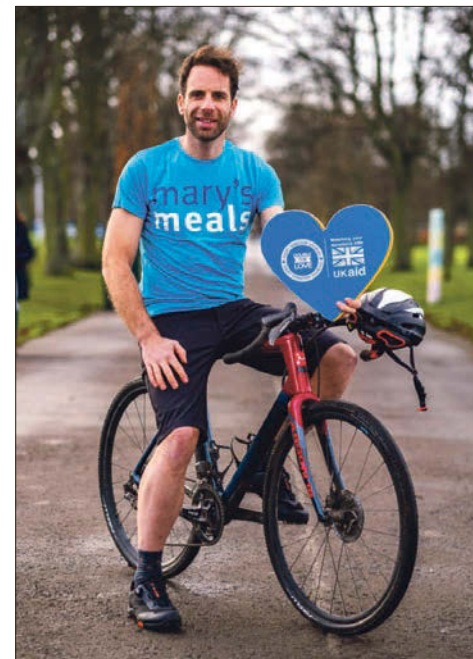
Your readers can help Mary's Meals to access all the available funds by setting up a monthly Direct Debit by August 31 here: marysmeals.org.uk/tripled.

Mary's Meals feeds more than 1.8 million hungry children in 19 countries every school day.

This funding boost will bring fresh hope to families struggling amidst the continuing challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, which has hit the world's poorest countries especially hard and will also help Mary's Meals in its goal to reach two million children with a nutritious meal every school day.

I am proud to support Mary's Meals and hope that this summer your readers can take advantage of this incredible opportunity to see their kindness go three times as far.

Yours,
Mark Beaumont,
Long-distance cyclist, broadcaster and author.



Mark Beaumont.

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Old Post Office competition winners have it in the bag

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The winners and runners-up in the Old Post Office's left luggage poster competition have been announced.

The competition, which coincided with the launch of a new left luggage service, was open to children aged 12 and under and was won by Iga Kasprzycka, aged nine. Iga wins not only bragging rights that her poster is the one that will be used to advertise the service, but also a £50 gift voucher.

Owing to the huge response to the competition, the Old Post Office increased the number of runners-up to four from the initial two, because they simply could not narrow it down any more. The runners-up are Andrew Waterlow, age six, Alistair Thomas, age eight, Louise Blue, age 11, and Darci Bunyan, age nine.

Karen Ferguson from the Old Post Office said: 'Thank you to everyone who took part in our art competition - all the pictures were brilliant and are on display in the Old Post Office. We are delighted



Far left, Iga Kasprzycka, 9, is the winner of the left luggage competition; centre, runner up Andrew Waterlow, 6, with his detailed entry; above, a neat, concise and tidy entry from runner-up Louise Blue, 11.

to announce the winner of our left luggage competition as Iga Kasprzycka. Well done Iga. Please drop into the Old Post Office to collect your prize.

'And congratulations to our four runners-up, because we just couldn't pick between them. Well done Andrew Waterlow, Alistair Thomas, Louise Blue and Darci Bunyan. We will get your vouchers to you as soon as possible. Well done and thank you for taking part.'




Far left, runner up Alistair Thomas, 8, with this cartoon-like picture; and left, attention to detail is what earned Darci Bunyan, 9, a runner-up place.



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DENTAL IMPLANT CENTRE

Council's solar farm plans gather momentum

North Ayrshire Council's plans for a solar farm at Nethermains on the outskirts of Kilwinning have taken a step closer with the publication of the tender specification for the design and installation of the facility.

The construction of a solar farm in North Ayrshire could have positive consequences for the entire council area as, once completed, the farm could potentially generate around 34 per cent of the council's energy needs and provide a financial surplus of around £13million that can be reinvested in North Ayrshire.

The plans are moving at pace and once the bid evaluation process and the outcome is finalised later this summer, construction could get under way within the year.

Yvonne Baulk, head of service (physical environment), said: 'We are very excited by the plans to transform what is currently a vacant, former landfill site into a state-of-the-art facility providing clean energy and reducing our carbon



emissions. In the last few years, we have taken great strides as a council to lead by example in efforts to curb climate change and have reduced our own carbon emissions by more than 28 per cent through a wide range of carbon reduction projects.

'We have set our own ambitious target of having net-zero carbon emissions by 2030 – we all have a part to play, and we absolutely intend to fulfil ours.'

As well as the Nethermains solar farm, North Ayrshire Council is also considering the viability of developing a second facility at Shewalton, near Irvine, and are working with colleagues at Strathclyde University to develop the plans.

Incentive for families wanting to live on Arran

Young people and families wanting to move to, or stay on, Arran could receive up to £50,000 in a bid to curb depopulation if a Scottish Government proposal known as the Islands Bond gets the go ahead, writes Colin Smeeton.

While still in the very early consultation stage, the government is seeking to formulate the policy which will align with its commitment to offer 100 bonds of up to £50,000 to young people and families to stay in or to move to islands currently threatened by depopulation.

The Islands Bond is expected to deliver incentives and objectives detailed in the Scotland's National Islands Plan which lists depopulation as a top priority issue for island communities.

In the documentation providing background



details on the Islands Bond – which can be found at www.gov.scot/publications/islands-bond-consultation – the proposed aims are described as: 'to address the issue of depopulation through delivering a direct intervention responding to some of the key financial barriers to remaining in, or moving to, the islands. This intervention will involve providing up to £50,000 for up to 100 house-

holds across the lifetime of the parliament. The bond will be an agreement to provide financial assistance based on set criteria to support island residents to remain in their community, or to encourage households outwith the islands to move there.

'Recognising the potential tensions arising from those outwith the islands moving into island communities, we will also look to develop, in

parallel to the bond mechanism, options for a relocation support or advisory service. This could help to provide a 'soft landing' for those looking to move to island communities.

'In particular, the bond could be expected to create sustainable and inclusive growth in the island communities recipients of the bond move to or remain in, and, through careful development of its criteria, would also reduce inequalities and give equal importance to economic, environmental and social progress.'

Members of the public are invited to have their say and can respond to the consultation by October 25, 2021.

All responses will then be analysed and considered as part of the decision making process when shaping the Islands Bond policy.

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Travelling abroad has changed

The pandemic has changed the way we travel abroad. The Government has put in place a traffic light system – green, amber, red – designed to tell you the actions that need to be taken on return from overseas travel. Other changes have been made because the UK has left the EU. Here we answer your most frequently asked questions.

What do I need to do if I want to travel abroad?

- Check the rules and advice for the country you're going to. Some countries require proof of a negative COVID-19 test result or a vaccination certificate. Before you return, take a COVID-19 PCR test. To board your transport to the UK you need proof of a negative result from a test taken in the three days before the service departs.
- You will also need to complete a passenger locator form and book any COVID-19 tests or quarantine hotel packages needed ahead of your return to the UK.
- The rules for testing and quarantine when you arrive back in the UK depend on which countries you've been in or

travelled through in the 10 days before you arrive.

Are there additional requirements when travelling to and from Europe?

- Check your passport is valid using [gov.uk/check-passport](https://www.gov.uk/check-passport)
- Allow plenty of time if you need to renew your passport. Check your travel insurance covers all your needs including healthcare and you have a valid Global Health Insurance Card or in-date European Health Insurance Card.
- Check you have the correct driving documentation for your destination at [gov.uk/guidance/driving-in-the-eu](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/driving-in-the-eu)
- Make sure you have the right documentation if you are travelling with your dog or cat.

What happens if I catch COVID while I am abroad?

- Coming down with COVID on holiday can be a big and costly problem, so it's best to make sure you know what you must do if the worst happens - and if you can afford it. Some countries insist you enter a quarantine hotel - and you may have to pay for it.
- Make sure you have the money needed or adequate insurance before you go.
- If you do need medical treatment in a country covered by the EHC/GHIC scheme the UK Government will fund this treatment as usual.
- Always check FCDO Travel Advice for the latest entry requirements and local COVID-19 rules for your destination country and when preparing for your return to the UK.

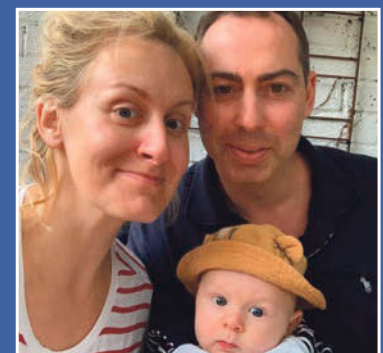
Before you book don't forget...

Due to the nature of the pandemic, advice on travel is constantly changing. Before you book a holiday or business trip, it is wise to check the traffic-light status of your planned destination and what rules are in place for leaving and re-entering the UK. To do this visit [gov.uk/travel-abroad](https://www.gov.uk/travel-abroad)

'Finding out what we had to do wasn't so bad'

Matthew Milner and his Polish-born wife Maria travelled to Torun in her homeland this month to see his wife's parents. The 38-year-old, his wife and their five-month-old son Anthony took the trip to the city which features a historic Unesco heritage site. Matthew, who explained that the London couple have both been double vaccinated, said: "My wife's parents wanted to see their grandson. And the fact we were both double vaccinated was reassuring. "We knew the guidance had changed so to find out what we needed to do, we did a mixture of Googling and

checking the official Government website. "I was intending to return to work in the office on our return and we saw that being double vaccinated meant we didn't have to isolate for 10 days after our Day 2 test. We also found out we would only have to do the 'Day 2' test when we got back home and that made life quite easy for me to get back to work. "Finding out what we had to do and what had changed wasn't too bad." Mr Milner said that during the flight booking process passengers are also given instructions and links for what travellers have to do.



TORUN TRIP: Matthew and Maria Milner with son Anthony visited Poland.

Travelling abroad has changed

For more information please visit [gov.uk/travel-abroad](https://www.gov.uk/travel-abroad)

All together >

Outdoor adventures earn primary pupils top marks



A pupil enjoys the sunshine while painting a nature scene.



Students make shale pendants with a bow drill.



A sensory experience as children play blindfold partners.

Whiting Bay school celebrates John Muir Trust recognition

Whiting Bay Primary School is top of the class again in the John Muir Awards.

Primary six and seven pupils have been participating in the scheme since 2010 and this year, despite pandemic restrictions, they once again fulfilled all the criteria and secured Discovery Level recognition.

Scottish-born naturalist John Muir founded the National Parks movement. The award scheme named after him encourages awareness and responsibility for the natural environment whilst providing fun and enjoyment of nature and fostering a spirit of adventure.

To achieve the award, pupils have to complete at least four days out learning in the natural environment and fulfil the four challenges: discovery; explore; conserve and share.

This year, the pupils' focus

was moors and mountains. They visited Machrie Moor and the standing stones on the west coast of Arran where they explored the setting and became more aware of their surroundings by doing activities that used the senses: blind-fold partners; sound pictures; sketching and photography.

Pupils also explored Glen Rosa with the help of the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) ranger service which helped them identify wildlife and habitats. Pupils were fortunate to see adders, eagles, sphagnum moss, butterwort and milkwort. Again, they used their senses to become more aware of their surroundings with a variety of games and activities.

On a visit to Brodick Castle Country Park, the youngsters learned how to build a shelter using resources found in the environment. They also learned how to purify water and made a fire to heat it. They visited the recreated round-house, finding out about life long ago on Arran, and made shale pendants with a bow drill.

In class, they researched moor and mountain wildlife and wrote poems and imaginative stories.

At the Roots of Arran Hazel Glade, the students made a sound map, designed mini-shelters for imaginary creatures, created woodland perfumes, whittled hazel kazoo's, completed a mindfulness exercise and created water-colour paintings and a nature collage. They also cleaned up litter.

A favourite location for the pupils was the Iron Age Fort at Glenashdale and the Giants' Graves where pupils learned about how their ancestors lived on the land.

The conservation part of the challenge involved planting 45 trees in Glen Rosa, including an Arran



Part of the John Muir Award involves learning about the legacy and life of John Muir himself.

Whitebeam, along with a visit to the Arran Community Land Initiative where the children planted trees and irises. They also stomped on bracken and learned how to protect saplings.

Principal teacher at Whiting Bay Primary School Raye Beggans said: 'Well done to all the pupils who received their awards and appreciated all the outdoor days.'

'Our thanks go to Darren

at Arran Community Land Initiative, NTS rangers Kate, Corinna and Jake and Arran Outdoor Education Centre staff Martin, Tom and Alex.'

Pupils normally share their award-winning experiences at an assembly attended by parents and members of the community and other classes in the school. But, unfortunately, Covid-19 safety restrictions prevented this from happening this year.



P6/7 pupils receive their awards at a group presentation at Whiting Bay Primary.



Pupils visit the recreated roundhouse at Brodick Castle.



Above: Arran ranger Corinna Goeckeritz teaches the children about sphagnum moss.



Pupils enjoy their lunch break in an idyllic setting.



An exploration of Glen Rosa was included in the itinerary of outdoor excursions.



Pupils learn about how their ancestors lived in the recreated roundhouse at Brodick Castle.



The Machrie Moor standing stones were a favourite with the children.

Coastal rowers pipped to the post at Greenock midpoint regatta



Left: Arran go head to head with Royal West as they head for the finish line.

With two regattas behind them, Arran Coastal Rowing Club reached the midpoint of this much-reduced rowing season, taking the trip to the

Greenock-based club Royal West.

Again, it was a six club event but this time joining Royal West, Troon, Arran and

Prestwick were two new Clyde clubs, Royal Northern and Royal Gourrock, both ably assisted by Cumbrae and Carrick clubs.

It was a baptism of fire for the new clubs as Arran, Troon and Royal West dominated the rowing. Sea conditions were changeable throughout the day, going from calm to choppy seemingly between races. Rowers also faced the random swell from marine traffic further out in the Clyde.

As usual with these clubs, racing was very close, forcing Arran to display some of their best technical rowing this season.

For their efforts they were rewarded with three firsts, one second, one third and a sixth place.

The sixth place was for the novice category – for which Arran didn't have any eligible rowers – so to try and get a few



Arran Coastal Rowing Club.

extra points Arran enlisted help from one of the new clubs and put four of their novices in the Arran skiff.

Despite the excellent results, Arran finished second overall to the on-form Troon. Arran will compete at Troon's regatta

tomorrow, Saturday August 14.

If you would like to have a go at rowing or would like to try coastal rowing, contact Arran Coastal Rowing Club via its website or Facebook page.

Report and photographs:
Dave Ingham.



A delighted Arran crew having won the last race of the day.

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Hole in ones galore as golfers return to the greens

A father and son celebrated a rare feat after they both hit a hole in one on the 17th hole at Whiting Bay Golf Club just five days apart.

The Buchanan family have been coming to Arran for the past 80 years, with father Tam Buchanan visiting with his parents since he was a baby. Tam and his wife Irene have since continued the tradition with their own three sons, regularly visiting Arran and enjoying its golf courses.

Tam, aged 83, aced the 17th on Thursday July 22 and his son Craig, aged 49, followed in his father's footsteps five days later on Tuesday July 27.

The family celebrated the achievement after playing in the recent Whiting Bay Open.

And at Corrie, another island visitor, 15-year-old Amy Sillars, also celebrated a hole in one, this time at the second hole at Corrie Golf Club.

For golf results and fixtures, turn to page 19.



Tam and Craig Buchanan at the 17th hole at Whiting Bay Golf Club where they both scored a hole in one five days apart.



Left: Amy Sillars celebrated a hole in one at the second at Corrie Golf Club.

GET INVOLVED
emaileditor@arranbanner.co.uk

Youth hub on wheels visits Arran

A recently revamped mobile youth centre arrived on Arran this week.

The North Ayrshire Council youth hub on wheels is offering a host of activities for young people aged 12 to 25 years without them having to travel far from home as part of this year's free summer youth festival.

Backing for the upgrade of the van came from a youth work education recovery fund.

Set-up by the council's community learning and development team, the mobile centre is now in its 13th year. It was established to provide youngsters with a friendly and familiar space for community collaboration and inspiration.

Visiting six locations, including the Arran Youth Foundations cabin in Lamlash on Monday, the 7.5 tonne truck was custom built to deliver a host of summer activities including arts and crafts, a mobile climbing wall, dance sessions, games days, employability support, mental health and wellbeing, gaming and a food hub.

Donna Anderson, youth



The mobile youth centre which visited Arran this week.



The hub's comfortable seating area.

participation and democracy officer for North Ayrshire Council, said: 'With most of us staying home this summer, our youth and community workers have been busy planning sessions for young people to beat the boredom of the holidays.'

'Having the mobile youth hub back on the road is perfect timing as it will be making an appearance at each of our Connected Communities

Youth Festival events this summer, in partnership with Active Schools and KA Leisure.

'We have lots of activities on offer and anyone who wants to find out more about the festival and enjoy a busy summer should sign up online via the @nayouthservices Facebook page.'

The hub also provides volunteering opportunities and

a safe space for socialising, learning and accessing key services.

Rhona Arthur, head of connected communities, said: 'The launch of the mobile youth centre is another step forward to ensure young people in North Ayrshire remain connected during these challenging times.'

'Building on the recently launched Young People's

Participation and Citizenship Strategy, it is a brilliant way of going to where young people are to hear their views and experiences as we enjoy activities together.'

'Giving us the unique ability to reach wider audiences, the state-of-the-art youth hub on wheels helps our youth workers deliver meaningful activities and provide young people with a sense of escapism after

a year when so many young people missed out. Our dedicated connected communities team members are set to hit the ground running with this fantastic community space, which will ensure our young people are kept motivated and supported as lockdown continues to ease and we hope they will enjoy getting involved in our exciting activities, without having to travel too far.'



Newly-elected office bearers of AACI, left to right, Wallace Currie, vice chairman, Jan Ireland, treasurer, Christine Cuthbertson, chairwoman, and Elaine Bryson, secretary.

Classroom trailer ready to return

Royal Highland Education Trust's (RHET) Ayrshire and Arran Countryside Initiative (AACI) is making moves to get back to face-to-face activities as pandemic restrictions begin to ease.

During lockdown, the charity delivered a variety of digital and hands-on resources.

RHET has 12 countryside initiatives across Scotland, each run by a committee of volunteers with activities organised by an area project co-ordinator. Across Arran, AACI will help arrange farm visits, classroom speakers, resources, projects and events.

The charity has already allowed Arran school children to visit farms to see up close where their food comes from and to meet the farmers who grow and produce it.

Volunteers have also delivered classroom talks on rural subjects and have just recently received funding for a countryside classroom on wheels

trailer to take small animals and demonstrations to schools.

Recently elected chairwoman of the charity Christine Cuthbertson said: 'We are so excited about getting back out on farms. We have a great team of volunteer farm hosts who are passionate about what they do and are keen to help children learn about their food and how it is produced and how farmers work with and look after the countryside. The pandemic has caused children to miss out on so much and put a spotlight on local food production and nutrition, along with a growing appetite for outdoor and hands on learning and we are geared up to deliver. The look on youngster's faces when they see a calf or big tractor for the first time is magical.'

Schools and farms can get involved by emailing project co-ordinator Wendy Lawrie at ayrshire@rhet.org.uk or by visiting the RHET website at www.rhet.org.uk

Old Byre Visitor Centre, Machrie Tel: 01770 840227 www.oldbyre.co.uk

The Shoe Bothy

The Shoe Bothy at the Old Byre Visitor Centre, Machrie offering a local "back to school" foot measuring and shoe fitting service for Start-Rite shoes.



Also stocking an extensive range of shoes, sandals, trainers, walking boots, wellies and slippers suitable for all the family from pre-walkers to post walkers! We offer brands such as Dubarry, Birkenstock, Aigle, Hunter and have other brands not seen in the UK.



Open every day 10am-5pm.

Other retail therapy in the Old Byre Showroom, dining at Cafe Thyme and child's play area on site.



www.oldbyre.co.uk

Life on the edge – seashore and coastal habitats

The Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) is running a year-long media campaign to raise awareness of the many exciting habitats and species to be found in Arran's seas, many protected by the South Arran Marine Protected Area. Each month, they will focus on a particular habitat or collective group of inter-linked species. Their August article features seashore and coastal habitats. There is more information on COAST's social media or visit www.arrancoast.com.

The hot sunny weather over recent weeks means many of us have been spending time on the beach and enjoying a cooling dip in the sea.

While relaxing and enjoying time there, it may not be immediately obvious that the coastal fringe is one of the more extreme environments for Arran's marine life to live in.

The seashore is a particularly challenging habitat for animals and plants to live in as they have to survive being repeatedly submerged and exposed to the air as the tide ebbs and flows. During the summer, this can mean extreme changes in temperature and other conditions. In winter, the forces involved as waves crash onto the shore during storms requires other adaptations.

Opportunities

The tidally swept seashore is often referred to as the 'intertidal' – the area between high and low tides – and it presents unique opportunities

to explore the local marine life without having to go underwater. The creatures and plants that can be seen at low tide are fascinating and there is also the possibility when looking seaward of seeing larger marine animals such as those described in last month's Banner article.

Marine species vary from the high to the low water mark, reflecting the tolerance of different animals and plants to the varying conditions. This creates a pattern of biological zones across the shore and is most obvious on rocky shores where bands of different seaweed species and barnacles can be visible. Whilst it is less obvious on sandy shores, as the marine life is buried in the sand, similar zones exist.

Species best adapted to survive long periods exposed to the air or, conversely, terrestrial species that can survive the influence of salt water for short periods, are found at the top of the shore.

Most obvious are lichens, with patches of green, grey and yellow lichens able to occupy the most landward areas of rocky shore where other species can't survive.

There are some particularly spectacular upper shore lichens along parts of Arran's west coast. Below the lichen zone is a brown seaweed called channelled wrack which, as its name suggests, has a channel along the length of the fronds. This species spends up to 90 per cent of its life out of seawater and has adapted to its place on the shore to such an extent that it dies if kept permanently submerged.

Zones

Moving seaward from the channelled wrack, the subsequent zones are identified primarily by the presence of other brown seaweeds in turn: spiral wrack, bladder wrack, egg wrack, serrated wrack and finally kelp which, while not really a seashore species, can be seen emerging from the water on very low tides.

The collapsed clumps of seaweed that are seen when the tide goes out help to retain moisture within the plants, meaning that species including flat top shells and even some small fish, such as shannies and butterfish, can survive

under the damp seaweed until the tide comes back in. The seaweed species present on our shores and their growth say a lot about the nature of a shore. In more exposed locations, some of the large brown seaweeds modify their shape – bladder wrack, for example, loses its characteristic gas bladders, so there is less drag on the plants in rough seas. In more sheltered conditions, egg wrack is likely to be more abundant. In very sheltered situations, such as those found in the inner parts of Lochranza, there is a specialised free-living form of egg wrack, crofter's wig, which is able to survive even though is not attached to anything.

As with seaweeds, seashore zones favour different animal species which have adapted to live in this turbulent environment. Molluscs such as winkles and dog whelks – sea snails – have a hard 'plate' which they close and use to seal their shell to prevent them from dehydrating. The beadlet anemone protects itself when the tide is out by pulling in its tentacles and forming a rounded, jelly-like red or green blob on the rock.

The topography of the shore is also important. Overhangs and crevices provide cool, damp shelter for species such as dog whelks, anemones and sponges when the tide is out and spaces under boulders provide hiding places for starfish, crabs and fish. Rockpools often provide a foothold for animals and plants that would otherwise not survive on the shore. They can be particularly rich in marine life and provide a glimpse into the submerged world beyond the low water mark.

On Arran, the Lamlash Bay No Take Zone and South Arran Marine Protected Area are helping protect parts of our seashore habitats. Given the natural stresses that it has to endure, we might think of seashore marine life as being fairly robust, but it can be as easily affected by human activities as those underwater. Extreme weather and warming



Common starfish. Photograph: COAST.



Snorkelling off Arran. Photograph: Howard Wood.



Barnacles and limpets. Photograph: Bryce Stewart.



Rockpools on Arran. Photograph: COAST.

seas pose serious challenges for species exposed to both water and air. As sea levels rise, where man-made and natural obstructions such as roads, buildings and cliffs prevent seashore habitats extending landwards, we are likely to lose substantial areas of intertidal habitat. Pollution from land and sea and dumping of waste can also be a problem, as can activities such as extraction of beach sand and gravel from the shore.

While we generally explore the seashore when the tide is out, exploring it by snorkelling when the tide comes in provides a completely different perspective. Flattened clumps of seaweeds are transformed into magical floating meadows

and small fish, crabs, starfish and other marine life busily go about their business in the window of opportunity provided by the rising tide. Even barnacles come alive when submerged, their feather-like feeding legs combing the water for microscopic organisms.

There are plenty opportunities to enjoy the marine life on Arran's shores but take care not to handle or disturb the species. Some animals like limpets and shannies have 'homes' to which they return to as the tide goes out.

Join COAST on one of our shore scrambles to learn from a marine biologist or take a dip in the sea on Arran's self-led Snorkel Trail to see the magical shore life beneath the waves.





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Café Thyme

Café Thyme is part of the family business comprising the Old Byre Visitor Centre in Machrie. It is run by a Scottish Turkish couple Lorna and Hamza and this mix is reflected within the menu. Offering good coffee, home baking, 30 loose leaf teas and delicious lunches which are a little bit different. There is a large wood burning oven and the speciality flatbreads and pides, a Turkish style pizza/calzone are baked in this. Made from scratch you can choose 12 different fillings which are cleverly created by Hamza using as much local produce as possible. There are meat options, vegetarian and vegan and they cater for any food intolerances as necessary. Also on the menu are homemade soups, sandwiches, haddock, burgers and a range of salads and handcut chips. The salads couldn't be fresher as the homegrown leaves and herbs are grown on site and picked each morning.

The views are spectacular, Café Thyme looks out onto Kintyre beyond the fields, Druid standing stone and sea. If you're lucky the highland cows will have wandered over to be in your photos too. There is a large well equipped children's play area opposite the café so your children can play safely to their hearts desire for only £2.50 to cover the maintenance.



Also at the Visitor Centre is the Old Byre Showroom shop offering knitwear, sustainable clothing, wool throws and accessories. There is also a new shop "The Shoe Bothy", Arran's new exclusive shoe shop where there are shoes for children, ladies and gents from pre-walkers, school shoes, trainers, boots, walking shoes, sheepskin slippers and more. Be sure to have a browse while you're there.

The Old Byre Visitor Centre is well worth a visit, open 7 days a week 10am-5pm with lunches served 12-3.30pm. There's no need to book, just turn up and if the café is full you'll get given a pager for inside tables, you can browse the shops until a table becomes available.





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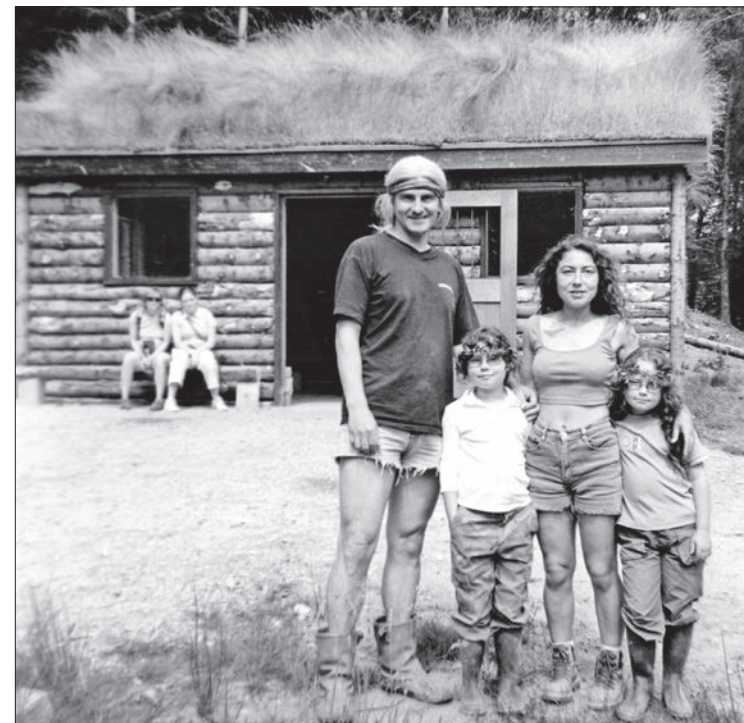
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THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday August 4, 2001



Children enjoyed a trip to the Enchanted Wood at Brodick Library recently. A nod to Enid Blyton's book by the same name, the children took part in fun activities including searching for clues, making recipes and solving puzzles. 01_B32tweYA02



Southend environmentalists Albert and Paris, with children Jenna and Jess, show off their log cabin in Eas Mor forest which leads up to Arran's largest single waterfall high above Kildonan. It is now an environmental resource centre but they hope in the future it can be a library in the forest. 01_B32tweYA01



Right: Whiting Bay Golf Club Open winner Helen Kelso with captain Alison Dick and the category winners at last week's competition. 01_B32tweYA04



Above: Pipes and bodhrans on stage at Lamlash at the closing of Fèis Arainn, a concert at which parents and friends were able to see and hear what the young people had been learning over the previous week. 01_B32tweYA03

Left: Shiskine Golf and Tennis Club hosted a day-long tournament to mark the opening of their newly refurbished tennis courts. The event was organised and run by tennis coach Campbell Seaton who is pictured with some of the trophy winners. 01_B32tweYA05



Ann Collins and Teresa Deighton give an almighty heave in the tug-o-war during the Whiting Bay Fun Day. 01_B32tweYA06

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.co.uk

TOURS AND TASTINGS BY APPOINTMENT



Every Day

Arran Heritage Museum Rosaburn, Brodick,
Open daily, 10.30am – 4.30pm

Arran Brewery, Shop Open – Monday to Saturday 10am – 4.30pm,
Sunday, 12noon - 4pm

Brodick Castle & Gardens Brodick,
Open daily, 10am – 5pm (last entry 4.30pm)

Brodick Mini Golf, Open seven days, 10am - 5pm-ish, ALL weather
COAST Discovery Centre, Lamlash, Open 7 days a week, 10am – 4pm

Lamlash Putting Green, Open daily, 10am -4pm

Lamlash Tennis Courts, Open All hours

Trout Fly Fishing, Loch Garbad, bank fishing

Whiting Bay Bowling Club, Open to book call 01770 700636

Saturday 14th August

Arran Open Studios, various locations, mostly 10am – 5pm

Rob Stevens Ceramic Artist Exhibition, Lagg Distillery, 10am – 5.30pm

Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm

RNLI Shop Open, Lamlash, 2pm - 4pm

Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm

Rink Games, Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm

Sunday 15th August

Arran Open Studios, various locations, mostly 10am – 5pm

RNLI Shop, Open, Lamlash, 2pm – 4pm

Glencloy Forest Race, Brodick, start - 2.30pm

What's Happening On Arran, <http://www.arranmedia.co.uk>, 4pm

Monday 16th August

Arran Open Studios, various locations, mostly 10am – 5pm

Brodick Castle, Brodick, 11am - 4pm

Lamlash Bowling Club, Lamlash, 2pm

Shiskine Tennis Club, Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 4pm

JogScotlandArran@gmail.com, Whiting Bay, Venue varies, 5.30pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm - 10pm

Brodick Bowling Club, Brodick, 7pm

Tuesday 17th August

Rob Stevens Ceramic Artist Exhibition, Lagg Distillery, 10am – 5.30pm

Healthy Outdoor Team, Brodick Castle, 10am – 1pm

“Stroll with it Arran”, meet COAST Discovery Centre, 11am

Arran Chess Club – new members welcome, Crofters', Brodick, 10.30am

Rink Games (Social distancing observed),
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm

Shiskine Tennis Club, Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 11am

Junior Hockey, P1 - S3 (age 5 to 14 yrs),
Ormidale Pavillion, Brodick, 6pm – 7pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Whiting Bay Club presents “A Night of Nonsense”, Whiting Bay Hall,
Doors open - 7pm

Pop Music Quiz, suits all ages, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Wednesday 18th August

Rob Stevens Ceramic Artist Exhibition, Lagg Distillery, 10am – 5.30pm

Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 1.30pm

Arran Well-Being Cafe, Shiskine Village Hall, Shiskine, 2pm- 4pm

Kildonan Seals & Shore, Arran Rangers Service,(please book),
Kildonan, 2pm

Arran Skinnymalinks Walk & Weigh-in, COAST, Lamlash, Walk, 4pm,
Weigh-in, 4.30pm

Arran Pace Makers please check Facebook @arranpacemakers,
Venue varies, 5.30pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm - 10pm

Brodick Bowling Club, Brodick, 7pm

Lamlash Bowling Club, Lamlash, 7pm

Rock and Pop Bingo, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Thursday 19th August

Rob Stevens Ceramic Artist Exhibition, Lagg Distillery, 10am – 5.30pm

Arran Chess Club – new members welcome, Crofters', Brodick, 10.30am

Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm

Spinning and Weaving demonstrations, Arran Heritage Museum,
11am -3pm

Shiskine Tennis Club, Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 11am

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm - 10pm

Senior Hockey (12+), Ormidale Astro Pitch, 7pm – 8.30pm

Quiz – General Knowledge, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Friday 20th August

Rob Stevens Ceramic Artist Exhibition, Lagg Distillery, 10am – 5.30pm

Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm

Shiskine Tennis Club, Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 4pm

Fish Frydays, Lochranza Centre CIC, order before 5pm for collection
6pm – 7.30pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting. Whiting Bay Hall, Whiting Bay, 7.30pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm - 10pm

Saturday 21st August

Rob Stevens Ceramic Artist Exhibition, Lagg Distillery, 10am – 5.30pm

Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm

RNLI Shop Open, Lamlash, 2pm - 4pm

Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm

Rink Games, Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm

Brewery Dug

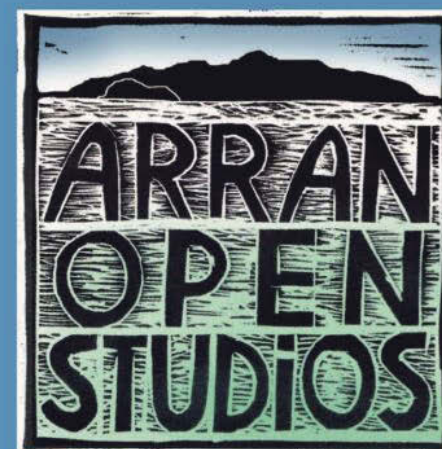
The Isle of Arran Brewery's Brewery Dug is the brewery's American Style IPA, with the label featuring Helga, the friendly boxer owned by 2 of the brewery staff.

A dry hopped beer with strong citrus flavours, a great beer for sipping in the garden on a warm day.

The beer is available throughout the island in bottles, including at the brewery shop at Cladach, Brodick.



Arran Artists invite you to their annual Open Studios Weekend



13th to 16th August
2021

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in contemporary art
and craft
on the Isle of Arran



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beautifultickets.com/events/scottish-field-whisky-awards-21st-anniversary

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

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined online at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk
Comments should be made online at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk. Written representations may also be made to the Head Of Service (Economic Development & Regeneration) at the above address by 03.09.21. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT
MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE)
(SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)

21/00755/PP; Coast, Whiting Bay, Brodick, Ayrshire; Demolition of existing cafe building and erection of new single dwelling house.

Craig Hatton
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Air a Tuath

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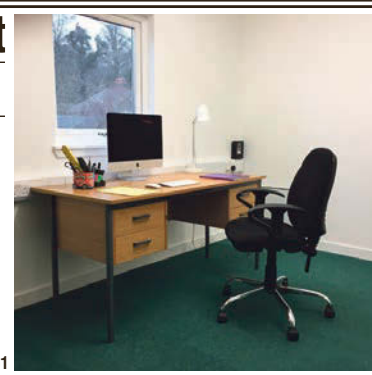
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CHURCH NOTICES

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 15th August
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 15th August
Worship will be conducted
at 10.30am

We are now able to socially
distance at one metre.
Booking not required still
need contact details.
All welcome.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND Kilmory linked with Lamlash

*"A faith to proclaim ~
a fellowship to share"*
Scottish Charity SC015072

Sunday 15th August
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash Church 11.30am
To comply with 'Trace and
Protect' regulations, name and
contact details will be asked
for, on entering.

All welcome
We will be observing all
socially distancing procedures

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide
Anglican Church)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 15th August
Eleventh Sunday after Trinity
Holy Communion at 11 am.
Revd Adrian Fallows
ALL WELCOME
Coffee after service
We follow strict SEC
guidelines

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH Minister - Rev. Vince Jennings Tel: 01770 600222

www.arranbaptistchurch.org.uk
Sunday 15th August
Services will be held in the
Ormidale Sports Pavilion,
Brodick at 11 am.

*All welcome but current Covid
restrictions are in place.*
Sermons will be on our
webpage following the Sunday.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass: Saturday Vigil at 5pm
Sunday Morning at 11am
Booking for mass is essential.

Please email
peterdwilko@gmail.com
or telephone 600595
to check availability and
confirm your place.

*Please be aware we are still
maintaining social distancing
and capacity remains restricted.*
In accordance with Scottish
Government requirements
face coverings must be worn
in church and NHS test and
protect details will be kept.

*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

ROBERTSON - Lois McGill.
Peacefully at Crosshouse
Hospital on Monday, 2nd
August 2021 after a long illness
bravely borne. Lois, aged 48
years, beloved wife of Peter,
much loved mum to Keir and
Malley. Daughter of Rosemary
and the late Howard Walker,
daughter-in-law of Wilma and
the late John Robertson, sister
of Nigel, Nikki and Wendy,
sister-in-law of the late
Gavin. Lois was laid to rest at
Clachan cemetery, Shiskine
on Thursday, 12th August.

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Arran make an entrance at season opener

Irvine Sports Bar 1
Isle of Arran 8
Ayrshire Sunday League

Arran AFC have made their ambitions clear with a decisive win at the Ayrshire Sunday Amateur Football Association's league season opener against Irvine Sports Bar.

The match, sponsored by Whiting Bay Golf Club, saw the Arran team scoring an impressive eight goals against the Irvine side who countered with one goal at the Kilwinning Sports



Man of the match Donald Park scores another goal to help secure victory for the Arran side. Photographs: Tam Borland

Club pitch last Sunday. Top goalscorers in the match were Donald Park who scored

four goals, along with two from Kieran Rae and a goal each from Grant Adamson

and Archie McNicol. A spokesperson from Arran AFC said: 'Man of the match for his four goals goes to Donald Park for a solid performance. We would like to thank all of our sponsors, Whiting Bay Golf Club, Machale Engineering, Greg Cameron, and the Douglas Hotel for their support and we wish Irvine Sports Bar well for the season ahead.'

The next fixture for Arran AFC will be a home game against Girdle Toll at the Ormidale pavillion on Sunday August 15, with a kick off time of 1pm.

ARRAN BANNER GOLF

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday August 4, The McNicol Cup. Dating from 2013, the McNicol is another of our oldest trophies popular with local golfers and holiday-makers alike.

A total of 35 played in the 2021 competition and found the course at its firmest following the long summer dry spell with unpredictable bounces providing a counterpoint to the long running tee shots. Perhaps unsurprisingly scoring was not quite as spectacular as it has been recently.

Markus Kroner returned the best gross score of the day to win with a net 62 beating John Rankin by one shot. 1 Markus Kroner 5, 62 and lowest gross, 2 John Rankin 7, 63, 3 Gavin Mains 7, 64 acb, 4 Jamie Macpherson 4, 64. Magic twos, Sandy Kelso @1st, Finlay Aherne @3rd, Jamie Macpherson and Peter Towndrow@4th and Crawford Paterson@17th.

Sunday August 8, The Lifeboat. Despite a torrential morning downpour 20 brave souls endured the elements to play in The Lifeboat, our final open Stableford of the summer. Scoring was remarkably good considering the conditions, with 14 cards returned on 30 points or more. Cameron Bruce topped the lot with 43 points to ease home four points ahead of his nearest challenger. 1 Cameron Bruce 31, 43pts, 2 Douglas Graham 15, 39 acb, 3 Fraser McKenzie 15, 39, 4 Ronnie Mann 14, 36.

Magic twos, Douglas Graham and Jamie Macpherson @4th, John Rankin @7th. Fixtures: Sunday August 15, McKelvie Cup round one.

Monday August 16, AGA Champion of Champions.

Wednesday August 18, Summer Trophy, Championship Qualifier. Until further notice there will be no draws for partners and players should arrange their own groupings.

Lamlash Golf Club

Monday July 26, Island Mixed Fours. A healthy field of 21 couples took part The overall winners were Gay McKay and Derek Harrison with a nett 581/2. The scratch prize was won by Alastair and Valerie Crawford with Gross 77.

Thursday August 5, Fleet 5. 1 Kate McAdam 78-15=63, 2 Sheena Murchie 84-13=71. Scratch, Kate McAdam 78.

Friday August 6, Lamlash Open practise and Lifeboat day. Despite a very poor forecast the day remained dry and warm with the course still affected by the long period of drought. Almost 30 players participated. The leading score was a remarkable 43 points. Ian Bremner scored 40 points, was the fifth best scratch score and won nothing on the day. Apart from beating his age again.

The Lifeboat appeal day for the Dan Crawford salver was sponsored by Alistair and raised almost £400. 1 Andy Smith 43pts, 2 Adam Carnegie 42pts, 3 Calum Rae 41pts. Scratch, Paul Cowan with 36 stableford points on the BIH over Jamie Murchie.

Fixtures: Sunday August 15, Jamieson Cup final round, draw at noon. Thursday August 19, Summer Cup, make up own groups and see starter for times. Saturday August 21, EI Cannon Charity Day. Sunday August 22, Medal Shield, noon draw.

Shiskine Golf Club

Wednesday August 4, Gents 18 Hole Medal. 1 Jack McNally 72-6=66, 2 and scratch, Gary Campbell 67-0=67, 3 Alistair

Miller 75-7=68. Magic twos, A Miller x2.

Thursday August 5, Ladies, Captain's Prize and Veterans Trophy and Scratch Barometer. Silver: 1 and winner of Captains Prize, Alice Anderson 58-13=46. Bronze: 1 and winner of Scratch Barometer and Veterans Trophy. 1 Fiona Henderson 52-13=39, 2 Elizabeth Kelso nett 48. With Fiona being the Club Captain, she can't win her own prize!

Saturday August 7, Gents Captains Prize and Veterans Trophy. 1st class: 1 winner of Veterans Trophy, Andy Gray 48-9=39, 2 Allan Currie 54-7=42, 3 and scratch, Brian Kerr 44-1=43. 2nd class: 1 and winner of Captain's Prize, Brian Sherwood 51-10=41, 2 Colin Dair 50-8=42 BIH, 3 Wm McNally 52-10=42. Magic twos, C Dair, C Aitken, D Moore, A Miller. With Andy being captain since Friday, he also cannot win!

Monday August 9, Allan Maxwell Golf Day. Unfortunately due to the heavy rain on Sunday and the course being closed, the Allan Maxwell Golf Competition was cancelled. Clare has had a Just Giving Page. Anyone still wishing to donate to Marie Curie, can do so, just type in Allan Maxwell Golf Day. Many thanks for your continued support.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday August 4, 18 Hole Medal. 1 R McLean 76-15-61, 2 R I McMillan 84-21-63, 3 R Logan 72-7-65 scratch. Saturday August 7, 18 Hole Medal. 1 D Condie 83-25-58, 2 D Logan 70-11-59 scratch. Fixtures: Saturday August 14, 18-hole medal. Wednesday August 18, 18-hole medal.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday August 4, Summer

Cup, 40 played. Fred Galbraith 70-13=57, Ali Hume 72-12=60, Jimmy Armit 77-15=62. Scratch, Ewan McKinnon 64. Sunday August 8, Centenary Quaich, Stableford, 19 played. Donald McKinnie 14, 40pts, Iain MacDonald 10, 39pts, John May 23, 38pts acb. Fixture: Sunday August 15, Royal Bank Shield.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday August 3, Peter Sutton. 1 Alex Morrison-Cowan 62, 2 Brian Sherwood 66, 3 John Milesi 70. Magic twos, Campbell Laing. Fixtures: Tuesday August 17, Peter Sutton / Lady Mary final, tee-off 12.30pm.

Arran Golfing Association

Monday August 9, AGA Champion of Champions first round, played at Shiskine. Many thanks to Shiskine for hosting. Course is in wonderful condition and thanks also to the four referees. First game out was Robert Logan (Corrie) v Jamie Macpherson (Whiting Bay), Jamie won 5 and 4. Second game out was Ross Traill (Lochranza Castle) v Jack McNally (Shiskine), Jack won 1up. Third game played was Bruce Jenkins (Brodick) v Ewan McKinnon (Champion), Ewan won 3 and 2. Fourth and last game out was Phil Betley (Machrie Bay) v Todd Jameson (Lamlash), Todd won 5 and 3. Fixtures: Friday August 13, AGA Champion of Champions semi-finals at 5.30pm at Shiskine, Jamie v Jack and Ewan v Todd. Monday August 16, AGA Champion of Champions finals at 5.30pm at Shiskine.

For photographs, visit www.arranbanner.co.uk



Epic round Arran swim completed in 13 days

Clockwise from top left: Carole finds the going tough in choppy waters. Carole and Steve complete the latest leg at Lochranza. Carole celebrates completing her epic swim which took 13 consecutive days to complete. Carole successfully ploughs through the water at the south end of the island.

An open water swimmer has completed a swim round Arran in just 13 days for no other reason than to finish the epic challenge.

And Isle of Man-based Carole Laporte praised the quality of waters around the island during her swim.

She told the Banner: 'You should all be very proud of your extremely clean beaches and lack of floating litter which plagues the Irish Sea at the moment.'

She was supported by Steve Watt and his wife Julie.

Steve was providing support from his kayak and was also impressed by the lack of litter.

'We love the wildlife on Arran, including long swims with seals and swans. Steve saw some otters and perhaps a porpoise,' she added.

Carole continued: 'I have always been keen on open water swimming and started competing when I moved from Brittany to Dublin in 2000. The craic after swims in Ireland was always great and it was something I wanted to keep going when I moved to teach in the Isle of Man in 2004. There are now hundreds of regular dippers and swimmers over there.'

'The tides around the Isle of Man can be vicious, so we needed kayaks to

support us and that is how I met Steve Watt and his wife Julie, through Manx Paddlesports Canoe Club.

'Last year, during the first lockdown, I couldn't visit my relatives in France and came up with the idea of swimming around my new island home. I completed it with 19 swims spread throughout August.

'Wow, did we have rough seas and Steve insisted on timings that used the fastest tidal flows to help me beat the existing record set by Anna-Carin Nordin the previous year.

'Another year and another lockdown and I headed to Arran, inspired by

Georgina McLean's map on the Arran Open Water Swimmers Facebook group. We kept it very quiet at first because we weren't sure if we'd make much progress without the help of fast tidal flows. We did great though and the weather was fantastic. Good progress was made up to the Lochranza campsite for a few swims around the north of the island and down the west coast.'

Carole completed her island circumnavigation on Monday after 13 consecutive days of swimming, covering 89.94km in 27 hours, 8 minutes and one second.

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