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# Arran residents to be given 'almost all' the new homes

by Hugh Boag  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Nearly all of the new council houses being built in Brodick will be allocated to existing Arran residents, the Banner can confirm.

Already the first release of the Brathwic Terrace houses have been offered to tenants and they are set to move in within weeks. The houses will then be released in two further batches that will see all new residents due to occupy their new homes by the end of October.

The allocation news is a welcome boost as affordable housing is at crisis level on the island. However, there had been fears that due to the North Ayrshire housing list being authority-wide, that some houses might go to families on the mainland.

However, it has been confirmed that less than a handful will fall under this category and it may be because a few of the houses have additional access or have been adapted for special needs support.



The new council houses nearing completion in Brodick.

The allocation for Arran residents has been boosted after it was agreed that people living and working on the island should be given priority.

A new local letting initiative, agreed by North Ayrshire Council in April, meant that housing register applicants, who met the criteria for residing on Arran, were awarded 100 points for their application. However, many felt this was not generous enough.

Additional priority was also

given to essential workers, as it was recognised that it can be difficult to hire and retain key staff in important jobs on the island, such as health and social care and education.

The Brathwic Terrace development will provide 34 new, high-quality, affordable homes and are the first council houses on the island since the stock transfer to Isle of Arran Homes, now Trust Housing, in 2001.

The completion of the works  
**Continued on page 2.**



## Now that's a big flag!

A giant saltire called the Caley visited Arran last week and was seen around the island as YesScotland supporters resumed their campaign. For full story, turn to page 3.

Aerial photograph by Positive Pictures

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## Police appeal after teenager sex attack

Police are appealing for information after receiving a report of a serious sexual assault in Brodick.

It was reported that a 19-year-old woman was seriously sexually assaulted around 3am on Sunday September 5, while walking on the Fisherman's Walk between Cladach Beach and the wee Co-op.

The woman was wearing dark clothing and became separated from a group of friends. Detectives are appealing for any witnesses who might have seen her or any suspicious behaviour around 3am in that area to contact them.

Detective Inspector Stephen McCulloch, based in Saltcoats, said: 'I would ask anyone who saw a 19-year-old woman in the Fisherman's Walk area, possibly walking with another person, to contact us.'

'We're trying to establish the full circumstances so any information related to this might prove to be crucial.'

Anyone with any information should contact Police Scotland on 101 quoting incident number 1713 of September 5.

# Government ministers visit to discuss Arran's needs

Transport minister Graeme Dey MSP and, below, MSP Mairi Gougeon will be visiting the island to discuss public service inequalities, and also issues around sustaining an island community.



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Arran is to get a visit from not one but two high-ranking Scottish government ministers next week.

First up is cabinet secretary for rural affairs and the islands Mairi Gougeon, who will meet the Arran Recovery Group (ARG) members along with councillors and officials of North Ayrshire Council on Thursday September 16.

The recovery group objective for the meeting was to ask for more focus on the issues in the Clyde islands in general and Arran in particular.

The urgent need for affordable housing, in addition to the new council housing – see page one – will also be high on the agenda.

The following day (Friday) transport minister Graeme Dey will be on Arran to look at the issues around sustaining an island community which has several specific public service inequalities e.g. transport,



housing and health.

It is understood the minister is travelling over to Arran to meet everyone and is spending time seeing the ports to get a greater understanding of the challenges.

A meeting to discuss the issues surrounding ferry services on Arran is to be held in Brodick, involving all the

relevant parties: the Arran Ferry Committee members, ARG, the chair of the community council, representatives of North Ayrshire Council, Transport Scotland and Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson.

It will be Ms Gougeon and Mr Dey's first visit to the island since being appointed following the Scottish parliament election in May.

In the third high profile visit of the week CalMac managing director Robbie Drummond is expected at the ferry committee on Monday night where he could face some tough questions on the lack of reliability of the Arran service and the subsequent cost to the economy.

**YOURSTORY**

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## Almost all new homes to go to Arran residents

**Continued from page 1.** will also bring a sigh of relief to residents of Springbank who have had to endure many months of construction traffic going to and from the site which only has one access and exit route.

There remains concern at the number of extra cars the new homes will put on to the traffic using Brathwic

Place and Brathwic Terrace. A North Ayrshire Council spokesman said: 'We are currently in the process of making offers to prospective tenants of our 34 new homes at Brathwic Terrace in Brodick.'

'Through our local letting initiative, which gave Arran residents greater priority, we expect the overwhelming

number of homes to be allocated to people currently living on the island.

'We expect the first of our tenants to move into their new homes soon and, once we have heard back from prospective tenants and finalised the outstanding offers, we expect all the new homes to be let by the end of autumn.'



# Giant saltire flag visits Arran during nationwide tour

by Colin Smeeton  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



A giant 62-by- 23-foot saltire flag has visited Arran and has been pictured at a number of iconic locations as part of a nationwide tour in support of Scottish independence.

Hosted by Yes Arran, the flag was taken to a number of locations over the weekend, including Ormidale Park and Brodick beach, North Sannox, Lochranza Castle, Blackwaterfoot beach, Machrie Moor and Lamlash.

The massive flag, known as the Caley, is one of four oversized saltire flags owned by Outer Hebrides for Independence which tour the country to raise awareness of its campaign for Scottish independence.

The Caley was made on Lewis and is named after a



Independence campaigners with the giant saltire flag at the Ormidale Park in Brodick. 01\_B37Caley01; and right, The Caley on Blackwaterfoot beach with Drumadoon in the background.



Stornoway hotel. It took 40 hours to make on a domestic Toyota sewing machine over three months last year and it weighs 22 kilograms. It was first unveiled at Lews Castle in Stornoway during May this year.

Malcolm Kerr of Yes Arran said: 'Emerging from the

pandemic, the big problems for Scotland and the world are still there: separation from Europe, climate change, nuclear weapons proliferation, environmental degradation, challenges to democracy, economic and health disparities.

'In these times, for many people in Scotland, the St

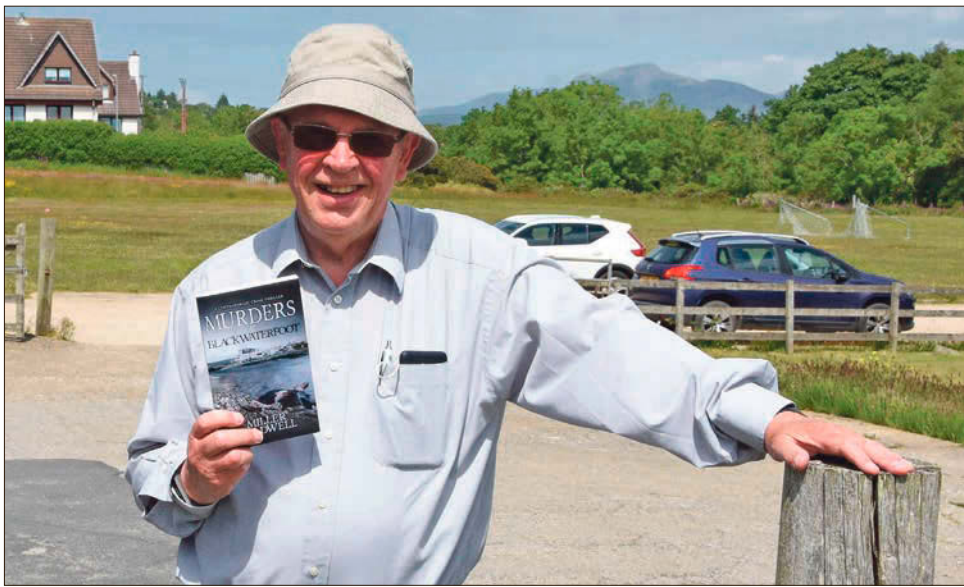
Andrew's Flag has come to represent inspiration, hope and solidarity for people weighed down by political stagnation.

'The Caley Saltire's Arran visit has been sponsored by Yes Arran. Arran voted Yes for Independence in 2014 by a margin sufficient to tip the

Ardrossan and Arran council ward into being the only yes-voting locality in North Ayrshire. This project has got people talking, and has brought activists and enthusiasts together in anticipation of an Independence Referendum in 2023.'

The Caley's visit to Brodick

was accompanied by a tea, coffee and cake event where Yes Arran campaigners had their first chance to meet since the pandemic began. Those in support of Scottish independence can find out more information about the group on Facebook by searching for Yes Scotland Arran.



Author Miller Caldwell is visiting Arran next week for a book signing.

## Author returns to island for launch of latest Arran crime novels

Author Miller Caldwell has published the two books which complete his trilogy of Arran crime books after Murders at Blackwaterfoot was published at the start of the summer, writes Hugh Boag.

His new books Dementia Adventure and Seaweed in My Hair have been published as one volume and the Dumfries author will be back on Arran next week for a book signing. He will be at the Harbour

Shop in Blackwaterfoot from 2-5pm on Monday September 13, where all three books will be on sale.

Dementia Adventure tells the story of retired postman Ronnie Jackson who has dementia. Reviewer Cyril Barnett said: 'What I liked about Dementia Adventure is that it educates about dementia and how sufferers live with confused minds. It is also an exciting and adventurous

ramble around the island of Arran.'

Seaweed in My Hair is described as 'a heart-warming story based on lovely Arran'.

Miller, who has published a number of books, is now working on his fourth Arran-based novel entitled Ruffled Feathers at Blackwaterfoot.

The books are published by Beul Aithris Publishing and are available on Miller's website www.millercaldwell.com

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# Arran Alpachas play part in first national open day

Words and photos by Colin Smeeton  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Owner Tom Jessop with some of the male alpacas.

01\_B37Open04



Arran Alpacas at Balmichael joined venues across the country in celebrating the first ever national alpaca farm open day, co-ordinated by the British Alpaca Society.

The charitable event, held on the same day as the Arran farmers' market, helped to raise £837.37 for The Arran Trust, ArCaS Cancer Support and Shiskine Primary School and nursery.

The family-friendly event attracted a large number of visitors throughout the day, with children's excited cries being heard right across the farm. Along with meeting and feeding the alpacas, children also made good use of the playpark and extensive grounds which are ideal for children of all ages.

On offer for adults was a chance to have a look at the Balmichael glamping pods and some time to enjoy coffee, cakes and refreshments, while the children were kept occupied.

In addition to the ArCaS lucky duck games, children were also treated to stories

Visitors had the opportunity to have a look at the Balmichael glamping pods.

01\_B37Open03



Page whose Corrie's Capers series of books are well-known and loved on Arran. Arran Alpacas offer trekking experiences and

the opportunity for children to learn all about the South American mammals. Operating from a huge farm at Balmichael, the owners Tom and Emma Jessop, also offer glamping pods for rustic and sustainable camping.



Clockwise from above: A children's paradise, youngsters make good use of the facilities on offer. 01\_B37Open06; Arran author Alison Page reads her latest book to young children who listen intently. 01\_B37Open02; Blackface sheep greet the visitors at Arran Alpacas. 01\_B37Open08; Children thoroughly enjoy feeding the alpacas. 01\_B37Open05; The welcoming faces of adults and children operating the Shiskine Primary tuck shop. 01\_B37Open01; Young footballers pose for the camera. 01\_B37Open07

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# Construction of new Arran ferry is progressing well, says shipyard boss

Construction of the new Arran ferry and her sister vessel, known as Hull 802, is progressing well and the company has gained momentum following the Covid disruption, the turnaround director at Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow), Tim Hair, has said.

Reporting 'visible progress in recent months on both vessels', he also said that the company had developed increased capability over the past 18 months and was committed to completing the vessels and building a future for the shipyard.

The comments came after the firm installed the bulbous bow on Hull 802 and confirmed that the structural work on MV Glen Sannox was completed earlier this year following the installation of a reworked funnel and newly constructed mast, as well as completion of the structure around the stern and inside the hull.

Work on both ferries is years behind schedule following a well-documented fiasco, with costs soaring as a result, but Mr Hair is confident all that is behind the now-nationalised shipyard. He said: 'This is an-



The bulbous bow is attached to Hull 802 at the nationalised Ferguson Marine shipyard at Port Glasgow.

other significant step forward in the recovery of the shipyard, with visible progress in recent months on both vessels. The past year has been extremely challenging, working under the restrictions of the Covid

pandemic. But we have gained momentum following the disruption and we are reaching important milestones.

'A lot of work is taking place at the shipyard and our teams have been working

extremely hard. Significantly more work is being done on Hull 802 while it remains on the slipway, compared to MV Glen Sannox. This means that when it launches, it will weigh 1,300 tonnes more than

MV Glen Sannox did at the point of launch, providing an indication of the volume of additional work onboard the second vessel.

'There remains a lot of work to do on both vessels, but

construction is progressing well, and we are optimistic as we forge ahead. We have developed increased capability over the past 18 months with a highly experienced leadership team and a skilled and talented workforce, who are committed to completing the vessels and building a future for the shipyard.

'We continue to do everything possible to deliver the dual-fuel ferry programme, improve productivity, secure new contracts for vessels, and protect local jobs.'

The long-delayed MV Glen Sannox, which is being constructed to serve on the Ardrossan to Brodick route, is scheduled to be delivered between July 2022 and September 2022 and Hull 802 is scheduled to be delivered between April 2023 and July 2023.

## Jazz band to play in Whiting Bay

As we tiptoe towards some form of socialising again, Whiting Bay hall will host a concert with the award-winning jazz band Rose Room on Friday September 17.

Rose Room – who beautifully recreate the Hot Club Jazz and Gypsy Swing of Thirties Paris – are no strangers to Arran; their bass player Jimmy Moon

is an Arran resident once again and it was he who suggested they perform here to help raise some badly-needed funds for the hall, which has sadly been mothballed during this Covid pandemic.

Jimmy was a stalwart organiser/promoter of gigs on Arran in decades past and was, in fact, responsible for the leg-

endary mirror ball in Whiting Bay hall.

This really will be a wonderful evening's entertainment, especially as the band are being joined by the amazing saxophonist Konrad Wiszniewski.

Due to continuing Covid-restrictions, organisers will be asking patrons to comply

with mask-wearing from door to seat and when moving around/exiting the venue.

Tickets are available to book online to allow organisers to plan seating accordingly. The show starts at 7pm and limited tickets will, of course, be available on the door and card payments will also be accepted in the venue.

## Last chance to contribute to islands survey

Arran residents have less than five days to contribute to a North Ayrshire Council survey that seeks to collate opinion from communities on Arran and Cumbrae and their priorities post-Covid, writes Hugh Boag.

Referred to as sense checking, the survey is designed to check that the issues and actions identified through earlier island community engagement and planning are still relevant

as the islands enter a Covid recovery period, and to update and amend them as necessary.

Islands cabinet portfolio lead Councillor Alex Gallagher said: 'We are determined on this occasion to canvass the real depth and width of opinion on the islands and will cast our net as wide as possible to get a full spectrum of ideas and opinions.'

'We know how challenging these recent times have been

for island communities and that's why it's important that we need to build on the consultations previously carried out on Arran and Cumbrae.

'Listening to the voices from our island communities is central to ensuring the 10-year island plans reflect the priorities identified and actions needed to tackle the complex nature of island challenges.'

'We are working closely with the island communities to

support their recovery and renewal, and identify targeted support measures and find a new, long-term sustainable way forward, realising the potential of North Ayrshire's unique islands.'

The survey can be found at [survey.alchemer.com/s3/6500145/Arran-Cumbrae-Islands-Engagement-2021](https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6500145/Arran-Cumbrae-Islands-Engagement-2021) and residents have until Wednesday September 15 to contribute.

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## LETTERS

Write to us: [editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)  
or The Editor, Arran Banner, Brodick, Arran KA27 8AJ

## Ministers must listen

We are pleased to see that, at last, after many requests from island groups that two government ministers are heading to Arran next week.

For both the cabinet secretary for the islands, Mairi Gougeon, and transport minister, Graeme Dey, it will be their first visit to Arran since taking up their posts in May. So it is important that the issues facing the island are presented to them in no uncertain terms and that they can see at first hand the daily problems the islanders face on the issues of transport, housing, health and the economy.

The critical situation with transport, including, of course, the ferries, must be presented to Mr Dey so he is left in no doubt that only direct government action will go any way to addressing the current crisis - which shows no sign of abating any time soon. We know those he is meeting on the island will be forceful in their argument for the need for improvement. We only hope Mr Dey is ready to listen - and act.

Ms Gougeon for her part has to look at the bigger picture and the issues around sustaining an island community at the time of island depopulation and the aging of those who remain. Affordable housing also must be high on the agenda as well much needed improvement in health care on the island.

We hope when the ministers leave they have some solutions to solve the problems.

## Thought for the week

'Whoever does not bear his own cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.'  
Luke 14: 27

## Mask misery

Sir,  
I see CalMac and now your paper are still muddying the water over facemask wearing on the ferries. CalMac say you must wear masks on ferries and at ports. However when you are on the ship the announcement says you must wear masks inside the ship!

Your report says 50 per cent of people are not wearing masks on board. Is that the 50 per cent of people on deck who legitimately don't need to anyway? It hasn't been proven either that the passengers are giving the virus to the crew. Passengers want to sit on deck and enjoy the view and fresh air...minus a mask!

Yours,  
Jim McIntosh,  
Ayr.

## Hypo awareness

Sir,  
For many people living with diabetes, hypos are a part of life. But they can be scary and dangerous, and can lead to blurred vision, confusion, seizures and, in severe cases, unconsciousness and coma.

So, to mark Hypo Awareness Week (September 13 to 19), Diabetes Scotland wants to shine a spotlight on what hypos are and how to treat them.

Hypos (short for hypoglycaemia) can affect people with type 1 diabetes, as well as many with type 2 diabetes who use insulin or certain other diabetes medications.

A hypo is when the blood sugars drop too low, below 4mmol/l. It can be dangerous if not treated immediately, as it means the brain does not have enough energy to work properly. It can happen for various reasons, including taking too much insulin, missing a meal or miscalculating carbs.

## PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WEEK



This week's photograph of the week is from Banner reader Ron Woods.

The photograph was taken on Kilmory beach on a beautiful summer's day.

It features Ron's granddaughter Alice, and her friend Jasmin, and what looks like an erupting volcano in the background.

Of course, the volcano is in fact Ailsa Craig and the 'eruption' is a cloud formation caused by warm moist air that rises from the island which then condenses into a cloud.

If you have a photograph you would like to see in the Banner send it to [editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)

Hypos must be treated quickly with fast-acting sugar, so that blood sugar levels rise again. Good hypo treatments include sugary drinks (not diet versions), fruit juice, glucose tablets or gel or sweets like jelly babies. If someone tells you

they have diabetes and are having a hypo, you can help them to find or get a sugary drink or some sweets, but if they become unconscious call an ambulance. If you have diabetes and you are experiencing frequent hypos, speak to your healthcare team who can support you to make changes to your medication or insulin doses.

Everyone has different hypo symptoms, but the most common are feeling shaky; feeling disorientated; sweating; being anxious or irritable; going pale; palpitations and a fast pulse; lips feeling tingly; blurred vision; feeling hungry; feeling tearful; tiredness; having a headache; or lack of concentration. For more information, go to <https://www.diabetes.org.uk/guide-to-diabetes/complications/hypos>.

Yours,  
Angela Mitchell,  
Diabetes Scotland.

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

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

Please write to: Letters, The Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ. Fax: (01770) 302021. Email [editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)  
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## Changes at dental surgery approved

Councillors have backed a move which will allow Brodick to retain a dental surgery.

Members of North Ayrshire Council's planning committee endorsed a bid which will allow retiring Bruce Jenkins to sell his surgery on.

It comes after the Brodick-based dental surgeon lodged an application for the removal of a condition which meant only he could operate the practice.

Permission was granted in 2004 to allow the subdivision of the Manse Road property and authorised part change of use, to allow the surgery to operate from the premises.

But conditions attached restricted the use to the applicant only and no other person.

However, councillors heard last week that the dentist had asked to remove the condition.

Chief planning officer James Miller told councillors: 'The application is to allow the continued use of a dentist's surgery sitting as part of the house.'

'It was a personal consent granted by the planning committee and therefore has to come back to the planning committee because that condition is being removed.'

'It's been in use for a goodly number of years, the existing dentist is retiring and wants, obviously, the practice to continue.'

He added that there had been no objections to the application and continued: 'Use as a dental surgery is an appropriate use within a residential area, there is no record of planning breach or any complaint regarding this operation; it's become well-established and there's no reason to suspect that the operation would change if it was operated by a different dentist.'

A second planning condition which restricts the surgery's opening hours to 8am until 6pm, Mondays to Fridays, will remain in place.

Androssan and Arran councillor, Timothy Billings proposed a motion to grant the application, which was backed by the committee.

# Covid cases rise as NHS warns public to play their part

An increase of positive cases of coronavirus on Arran, which is being seen across the country, has prompted NHS Ayrshire and Arran to remind members of the public to play their part in keeping everyone safe, and to make safer choices.

The plea comes after it was revealed that not a single area in Ayrshire is managing to suppress the virus and that 2,604 new cases were reported in the region in the last seven days, for the week ending Sunday September 5.

On Arran, Public Health Scotland lists Arran as having 10 new cases in a population of 4,537.

The island was previously listed as having the virus suppressed. NHS Ayrshire and Arran will not provide Arran-only figures.

Lynne McNiven, director of public health, said: 'We knew that as restrictions were lifted and children returned to school, cases were likely to rise. However, the scale of the rise across Scotland is a concern.'

'So, we are reminding the public that, if we are to avoid the possibility of restrictions being imposed again, we must all play our part to slow down transmission.'

'The vaccine is the best tool to do this. So, make sure you get both doses of the vaccine when it is offered.'



A young person receives the Covid jab.

If anyone does test positive for coronavirus, NHS Ayrshire and Arran is encouraging people to use the secure online contact tracing form to list details of their close contacts when asked by Test and Protect.

Lynne McNiven added: 'If you have tested positive, completing this form and providing details of your close contacts as quickly as possible, means that our contact tracing teams can work quickly to offer advice to those most at risk.'

'As cases rise across the country, it is vital that we try to stop that transmission. We need to ensure that those who need to isolate do so quickly, and that those who don't need to isolate know how they can keep themselves and others safe.'

you can do – for example, wear a face covering in public places; meet outside when you can; wash your hands regularly; take regular tests even if you don't have symptoms; and if you do have symptoms, self-isolate and take a PCR test.

'Nobody wants to have any restrictions reimposed. But we know that if the cases continue to rise, this will put even more pressure on our healthcare system, with more people becoming seriously ill.'

'And so it is important that we all do our part and make safer choices.'

**'If we are to avoid the possibility of restrictions being imposed again, we must all play our part to slow down transmission'**

'Everyone over the age of 16 can get the vaccine. Pop along to one of our drop-in clinics if you've missed your appointment.'

'But there are other things

**HAVE YOUR SAY**  
email us at [editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)

You're all invited to a celebration event at the Big Co Brodick where the **British Empire Medal** will be presented to Liz Mclean by the Lord-Lieutenant!

Live music!

Raffle!

Pipe band from 3pm!

Fun!

Come and join the festivities on Saturday the 18<sup>th</sup> of September from 11am to 4pm

at the Big Co Brodick!





# Glamping site plan for Shannochie

A planning application for a new camping site at Shannochie has been submitted to planners.

It would see the formation of new camping/glamping site, including four glamping pods, an area for tents and a shower and toilet block at Auchareoch, Shannochie.

The proposed site lies just three miles from the southern coast of Arran and the nearest village is Kilmory.

The site is approached using the C841 turning inland at the top of Butter Hill which is just a mile east of the village.

The small farm, where it would be sited, is permanent grazing which has supported livestock rearing over the last 20 years or so.

This activity has struggled to produce a profit and the plan is now to utilise part of the land as a campsite with glamping pods which will have a twofold benefit.

It will generate a new income stream and will provide additional accommodation for visitors to the island, who are essential to the local

**'The applicants have approached all their neighbours who have stated no objections, and indeed have been very encouraging'**

economy. In a supporting statement submitted to the North Ayrshire Council planning department states: 'The applicants have approached all their neighbours who have stated no objections, and indeed have been very encouraging.

'It is their intention to offer a simple site with a small shower/toilet block and washing up facility, and they would expect a maximum of 20 camping places.

'They would hope to build up a handful of glamping pods, starting with four and growing to maybe six over a period of three or four years.

'The only permanent building on the proposed

site would be a shower/toilet block which would have water from the existing plentiful supply.

'The hot water would be produced using solar panels and propane gas as necessary, and lighting would be a combination of solar and a back-up whisper quiet diesel generator.

'They are a little over two miles from the C841 and along the forest track there are more than 20 passing places.

'In some parts of the track is wide enough for two cars to pass.

'The local head forester is enthusiastic regarding the plans and expects Forest and Land Scotland, to be supportive of the venture.'

Meanwhile, planning permission has been granted for Mount Pleasant Farm in Lamash which will see the redevelopment of a farm-steading to provide three detached houses and garage including demolition of existing attached houses and agricultural buildings.



The Rev Barry Roberts.

## New pastor for Arran

The Rev Barry Roberts has been officially licensed by the Bishop as a part-time visiting pastor for St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church in Whiting Bay.

Fr Barry lives in Cheshire, but has been a long-term friend of Arran.

He will be around and

about on the island once again this month and during October.

Perhaps after months of Covid, time for conversation, company and friendship seems even more precious than ever.

That is what he is here to offer and he would be

delighted to hear from you.

Fr Barry stays near Shiskine whilst on Arran, and is available to anyone at all who would like to speak to him.

His telephone number is 07949 427791, or he can be contacted through Richard Trewby on 01770 600236.

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# Arran knitters back bonnets for babies

## Nimble-fingered knitters wanted

Knitters from across Arran have united to support Queen Elizabeth University Hospital's maternity unit which issued a plea for knitted hats for newborn babies.

Taking the lead, Bay Wool and Crafts in Whiting Bay sourced wool at a reduced price and distributed this to a number of outlets on Arran, including both Brodick and Lamash Co-ops, where free patterns and reduced price or free wool for the little hats can be obtained.

The maternity unit has called for hats of all colours to fit babies between eight to ten pounds.

Nurses have said that they should not have a tight brim or ties and they should be in a close knit pattern in double knit wool.

It is likely that the initiative will be well supported on Arran, particularly as many members of the SWI on Arran already support bonnets for babies initiatives.

Each year at their annual SWI show, members amass hundreds of knitted items for babies and premature babies which are then donated to the Ayrshire maternity unit.

Nimble fingered knitters who wish to help the initiative can visit Bay Wool and Crafts or either of the Co-ops to collect the pattern and wool.

Some variants of wool will be supplied free of charge while others can be purchased at a reduced price.

Knitted hats can also be dropped off at these locations once they have been completed.

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# Project aims to get island children involved in COP26

by Hugh Boag  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



In November Scotland is hosting COP26 in Glasgow, providing an exciting opportunity to get involved in global climate change discussions and policymaking.

Launching this week is Climate Change Message in a Bottle, a project aimed at bringing island schoolchildren closer to the conference by engaging them in climate science, clean energy and COP26.

Working alongside Taigh Chearsabhagh Museum and Arts Centre in North Uist, Island Innovation, and Glasgow Science Centre, Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance is using this unique and historic opportunity to get young islanders

## CLIMATE CHANGE MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE

IN ASSOCIATION WITH STRATHCLYDE CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LAW AND GOVERNANCE  
BRINGING THE VOICES OF ISLAND YOUTH TO COP26!



involved in global discussions on climate change, and to re-centre islands in environmental decision making.

With rising sea levels, increased storm surges, and coastal erosion, islands are at the forefront of the climate crisis. However, they are often also pioneering centres

of innovation, grassroots campaigning, and renewable energy solutions.

Climate Change Message in a Bottle will get young islanders thinking creatively about how climate change is unfolding on their island, and how they can put pressure on delegates and policymak-

ers at COP26 to re-centre often-marginalised island worldviews in global climate change discussions.

The Strathclyde University project is being managed by Arran's own Bethany Walsh and both Whiting Bay and Lamlash primary schools are taking part. Bethany is

a former Whiting Bay pupil and hopes to the return to the school later this month to teach present pupils about climate change at COP26.

Following educational workshops, kindly contributed to by Glasgow Science Centre, schoolchildren will salvage a plastic bottle from their local beach and with it they will formulate a message to send to COP26.

Children will be filmed reading their messages and telling people about their islands, and this content will be made into a short documentary by UistFilm, to be showcased at COP26 events, by Glasgow Science Centre, and by Taigh Chearsabhagh Museum and Arts Centre.

Taigh Chearsabhagh will also be producing a sculpture from the plastic bottles found. This will be displayed at

COP26 events – so keep an eye out for that.

Island Innovation, a social enterprise which aims to promote and facilitate sustainability projects on islands, is creating an online interactive map of the messages sent by schools to COP26.

So far, there are 22 island schools participating, and several other schools across the world will also be contributing to the project.

Follow Strathclyde Centre for Environmental Law and Governance on Twitter, and @COP26messagebottle on Instagram for regular updates on the project.

**GET INVOLVED**  
emaileditor@arranbanner.co.uk

## Rugby club takes on Arran for Aaron charity challenge

A group of players, coaches and staff from Hamilton Rugby Club will undergo a gruelling charity challenge in memory of a friend who died of cancer last year.

Arran for Aaron is in tribute to Aaron Beale, who passed away aged 27, just six weeks after being diagnosed with neuroendocrine cancer.

The event is being held on the island on Saturday September 18 and involves a 43-mile cycle and half-marathon, a total of 57 miles, to be held on the island on Saturday, September 18, factoring in a 2,730ft elevation.

In all 15 club members will be completing eh challenge and, as a group, they have individually chosen to either;

Cycle 3/4 of Arran (43 miles), followed by a half marathon (13 miles from Lochranza to Brodick);

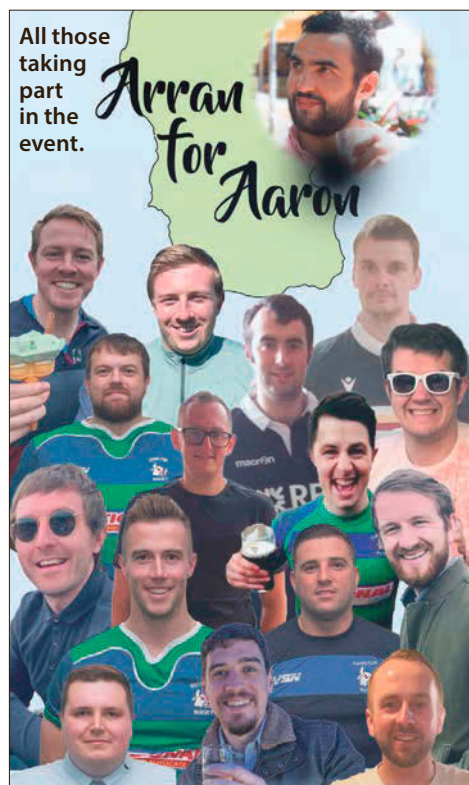
Run a half marathon (13 miles from Lochranza to Brodick);

Run a marathon (26 miles, finished in Brodick.

And the challenge has really taken off. A JustGiving page raised £9,136 – 913 per cent more than the original £1,000 target, with proceeds going to Neuroendocrine Cancer UK.

Hamilton assistant manager Tony Malley said: 'We're overwhelmed with the amount of support we've had so far. Aaron was a very popular guy, well known within the rugby club, but it's a close friendship group as well. There are 15 of us, and he was the 16th. It's a huge loss, we all miss him greatly.

'We're raising money for Neuroendocrine Cancer UK; that was the cancer he was diagnosed with, and six weeks after he was diagnosed, he was gone.



'It has motivated us to get on with this and get there. It makes us all determined to do it, but I think we're all looking forward to that first beer when we cross the finishing line – I know I am.'

Anyone wishing to donate can do so at: [just-giving.com/fundraising/arranforaaron](https://www.giving.com/fundraising/arranforaaron)



# Families flock to inaugu



Words and photos  
by Colin Smeeton  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The Arran Farmers' Market held at Bellevue Farm last Sunday was a knockout success and exceeded all expectations with hundreds of visitors flocking to the event. The indoor market proved so popular that many stallholders eventually sold out of produce owing to the overwhelming demand. The inaugural market was a joint initiative between a number of food, drink and farm organisations, including the Blackwaterfoot farm hosts, Arran's Food Journey, Arran Eco Savvy and Scottish Food and Drink.

Visitors were treated to a full farm experience from farm tours and meeting the various animals to having a look at the tractors on display and sampling the products from various island producers and farmers. In a large shed, where long queues formed throughout the day, visitors were able to meet more than 20 Arran producers and purchase their products. These included a number of large well-known organisations as well as some smaller lesser-known names that offered specialty products. After browsing the stalls visitors could purchase food from the French Fox van which was incredibly popular with families who enjoyed their food outside on benches

and grassy patches. On offer too was an opportunity to visit the Kilpatrick Community Garden which is part of the Arran Pioneer project which turns unused land into productive gardens where volunteers grow fruit and vegetables. The land was made available by Donald and Ailsa Currie of Bellevue Farm and despite only starting earlier this year, it is already producing a harvest for volunteers and those wanting farm-fresh fruit and vegetables. Visitors who went to have a look at the community garden were able to dig up their own potatoes and to take home some free vegetables, fruit and berries from that garden, as well as from the various other



Calum Chaplin and Alison McKie of the Arran Cheese Shop.  
01\_B37Farm04



Andy and Leslie Walker of Arran Bee Products.  
01\_B37Farm05



Michelle Te Ohaere, Hannah Dobson and Kirsty McQueen of Arran Milk/Ice Cream. 01\_B37Farm10



Steven and Katharine Sparshott of Seagate Brewery.  
01\_B37Farm06



Above: Attracting a huge amount of interest was Lynn's Art on Arran which uses natural wool from Arran's farms. 01\_B37Farm09



Right: Ealána Boyle and Kitty Poynter-Dalton from Crofters Larder. 01\_B37Farm08



# al Arran farmers' market

community farms around Arran.

Ailsa Currie of Bellevue Farm said: 'What an amazing day we had at the Farmers Market.'

'A massive thank you to everyone who helped organise the event, all the volunteers who helped on the day, the wonderful stall holders and to everyone who came along and made the day such a success.'

'We can't wait till the next one!'

## GETINTOUCH

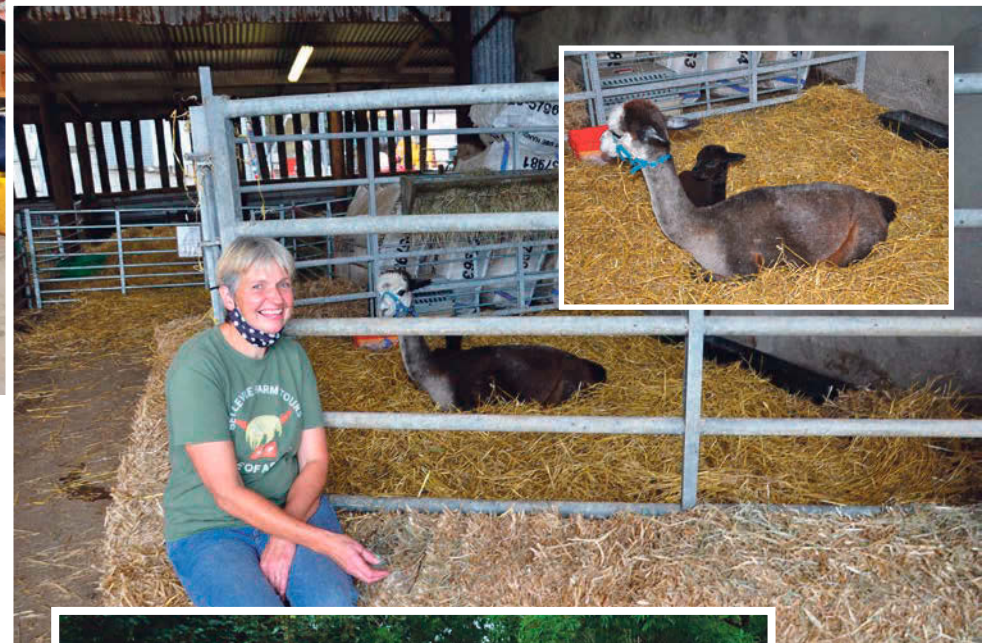
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Cameron Bruce of Arran's Food Journey helped to organise the event and secured funding from Scottish Food and Drink.

01\_B37Farm11

## Knockout success!



Above: Hard at work directing traffic, and assisting wherever they could, was Donald and Donald Currie Jnr of Bellevue Farm. 01\_B37Farm15

Left: Veronica Michaluk and Chris Bowen from the Arran Brewery. 01\_B37Farm03



Above: Ailsa Currie of Bellevue Farm with the baby alpaca and its mother Granada.

01\_B37Farm14 and 01\_B37Farm13 (inset)

Left: Simon Ross Gill and Pauline and Bill Robinson took visitors on a tour of the Kilpatrick Community Garden. 01\_B37Farm02



Sofia Pantazidou and Alix Hitching from the Arran Coffee Company. 01\_B37Farm07

Left: Amy Tattersfield of mange du gateau sold a number of sweet treats and tempting cakes. 01\_B37Farm12



Long queues of people wait their turn to visit the farmers' market. 01\_B37Farm01



# Call for the community to support Shiskine village hall

The village hall has played a key role in the life of the Shiskine Valley since its move across to Torbeg in 1958.

This followed the former Shiskine Church of Scotland congregation granting the existing building in a Deed of Trust to become the new Shiskine Village Hall.

As was usual at the time, the initial trustees were the local doctor, school mistress, Church of Scotland minister and the bank manager from the Bank of Scotland in Blackwaterfoot.

Groups represented on the first committee included the Shiskine Women's Rural Institute, Shiskine Youth Club, Shiskine Bridge Club and the Arran Junior Agricultural Club.

The hall thrived and over the years was the venue for many groups including Guides, Scouts, Cubs, badminton and, of course, the famous Shiski Diski.

However, by the mid 1980s the hall was in need of major refurbishment and by 1991 the committee took the difficult decision to close, pending funding applications to renovate the building entirely.

This massive leap of faith paid off.

The committee successfully gained more than £38,000 in grants as well as raising loans to cover the total sum.

Steering this work, with



Retiring Sheila Gilmore and Irene Currie outside Shiskine hall, which they have given so much to over the years.

full committee support, were two formidable ladies; Sheila Gilmore, who was 23 years old when she joined the committee in 1986 and Irene Currie joined in 1971 when still in her teens!

Over 1993-4 the hall underwent a major refurbishment expertly undertaken by John Robertson and Sons.

Sheila advises when the hall was reopened, by former hall keeper Mrs Betty Campbell, the loans were all repaid

**'The hall is at the heart of the community and generations of children and adults alike have fond memories of their time there.'**

within a year, such was the use of the building and successful fundraising.

The hall BBQ and duck derby at Shiskine Valley Sports Day and regular quiz and games nights were all part of a Shiskine summer.

Further fundraising resulted in the installation of a shower room and new kitchen.

In 2018 another milestone was reached when the hall gained charitable status, becoming a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO).

As with all the village halls, the pandemic meant the hall has been out of use for much of the last 18 months but it is now looking forward to activities resuming including keep fit groups, Rainbow and Brownies, Women's Institute, the Well-Being café, junior Taekwondo and yoga.

It's also the venue for the children's Hallowe'en and Christmas parties, Burns

Suppers, Hogmanay Hooley as well as being available for hire for community and private functions.

Over the years many members of the community have played their part on the committee with ongoing maintenance and improvements being key.

Most recently energy efficient heating has been installed which should ensure the hall is warm and welcoming year round.

**'The hall is for the whole community and this is an opportunity to help shape the way forward.'**

The hall committee was very moved recently to receive a legacy of £5,000 from Joyce Scott, the much-respected and affectionately-remembered former headteacher of Shiskine Primary School.

The next AGM on Wednesday September 22 will be seeing some significant changes.

After first joining the committee over 50 years ago, with a period of living away, Irene has decided it is time for her to stand down and for some new faces to join the committee.

When asked to reflect on her long involvement, Irene said: 'The hall is at the heart of the community and generations of children and adults alike have fond memories of their time there.'

'I just loved doing my bit to help as my children benefitted too.'

Sheila's imminent move back to Brodick, after 35 years on the committee, prompts her standing down.

Sheila is also passionate about the importance of community involvement and need for some new members.

'It's been a real honour and a privilege to be part of Shiskine hall committee over the years.'

'Joining when I was 23, I was involved before, during and after I had my children!'

'It was a great way to get involved in the local community both practically and socially.'

'It would be great to see some younger committee members too.'

'The hall is for the whole community and this is an opportunity to help shape the way forward.'

Hall secretary Diana Turbett says Sheila and Irene's departure is a huge loss and wishes to express heartfelt thanks for their incredible contribution over many years.

Echoing both Sheila and Irene's sentiments, Diana says involvement with the hall is a great way to play a part in the community and very rewarding.

The committee is, therefore, hoping to welcome new faces to the AGM to ensure that Shiskine Hall will continue to be at the heart of the community for many years to come.



The always popular Shiskine hall auction from a few years ago.

## Shiskine Hall

Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation  
(SCIO) SC048565

## Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 22nd  
September 2021  
7.30pm at the Hall

WE ARE KEEN TO RECRUIT MORE  
MEMBERS SO PLEASE COME ALONG  
AND SUPPORT THE HALL.  
COVID MEASURES WILL BE IN PLACE



# Crofters fine dining puts Arran's larder on a plate

Eating out review  
by Hugh Boag  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



When you live on Arran it is easy to take for granted the marvellous food and produce created here on the island.

So what a great idea by Crofters Arran to come up with a night simply showcasing what a wonderful local larder is available on our doorstep.

It was a small intimate gathering for the Brodick restaurant's first foray into fine dining evenings and following the reception of their first night guests you can be sure it will not be their last.

Crofters has just reopened after a major refurbishment and it welcomed customers back with an evening of the best produce Ayrshire and Arran have to offer, with tutored wine pairings.

The tables may be slightly farther apart than before Covid but the atmosphere in the cosy restaurant, as the food and wine flowed, was convivial with a nice mix of both locals and visitors who chatted easily as the friendly staff led by Ealana, with Prentice and Cadely, went about their duties.

In charge of the wine chat was the vibrant and knowledgeable Lesley Inglis from Beith-based Alliance Wines, who took the diners on a tour of the vineyards of the world with a few choice stops along the way. Her comments were sharp and punchy, unlike some wine experts, and we even discovered Salvador Dali's favourite wine.

The night began in style with a foraged Manhattan aperitif with 10-year-old Arran malt whisky and American rye. The foraging was the accompanying brambles, which had been picked that very morning in Brodick and would become a theme for the evening.

The food began with, for starters, goat's cheese mousse on a Wooleys Oatie with bramble and pickled shallot, a home-smoked trout rillette on sourdough croute, crispy pig cheek and apple gel which were delightful little morsels. And accompanied by not too



Clockwise from top left: Head chef Ross Butler and sous chef Jamie Mnew were roundly applauded at the end of service.

01\_B37food08

Prentice serves the rose cava to one of the dining couples.

01\_B37food01

The peach dessert.

01\_B37food09

Lesley raises a glass to the fine wines on offer.

01\_B37food04

Guests are served their turbot and beef cheek.

01\_B37food06

Ealana Boyle with the starter.

01\_B37food02

The hand-dived Kintyre scallops.

01\_B37food05

sweet Stars 'Touch of Rose' Cava from Spain.

Hand-dived Kintyre scallops from Tim James were then served with celeriac and apple, a pork reduction paired with a Calvese Falanghina, from a small Italian collective – which was my favourite white wine of the night.

More foraging in the foraged hazelnut crusted turbot with Arran potato fondant, glazed

Ayrshire beef cheek, foraged chanterelles, which came next, paired with an excellent Argentinian Charonnay from the famous Mendoza region.

And this was followed by the main event – loin of venison, parsnip puree, rowan berry, back pudding crumb and game jus. Served with the first red of the night a Bourgogne Pinot Noir from France.

A light dessert was all that

was required after that feast and it came as a delightful compressed peach, hogweed seed creme fraiche and foraged sorbet – I am not sure how you forage sorbet but I was too busy licking my plate to ask.

It was served with a splendid Coteaux du Layon from Loire in France.

The meal was rounded off by what was described as

petit-fours, but was more a light mousse with homemade shortbread served with a smooth digestif. Coffee and a bold Bulgarian full-bodied 14.5 per cent red rounded the meal off in style.

There was the option to have Arran cheese and biscuits but even the deliciously sounding Crofters Larder gooseberry and apple chutney was not enough to tempt me to try and

eat another thing.

So wine and dined the customers drifted off happy and content into the night. We are sure Ealana and the team were pleased to have pulled off their first fine dining evening in style. We know they have more planned in the coming months and if last Thursday is anything to go by we are certain they will be a surefire success.

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**As we move towards the winter months, keeping warm in your home becomes more of an issue as the dark, cold nights set in. However, heating your home doesn't have to cost you an arm and a leg, and with these top tips, you can keep cosy without breaking the bank**

Check all your insulation, from windows to walls, ceiling to under floors. It is one of the most cost effective ways to stop the cold creeping through the house. Make sure your pipes and boilers are properly lagged too. Something as simple as pipe foam wraps can be picked up for just a few pounds – but always put them on when the pipes are cool to make sure you don't burn yourself.

Maintenance of heating equipment is important, so make sure all water-fed radiators are bled and working correctly. A working radiator should be warm evenly across the panel; if it isn't, there could be air trapped inside.

Once these are all done, you can look at your home's overall heating requirements:

- Is your boiler fired the most efficient way possible?
- Can you turn the thermostat down a degree or two?
- Are you buying your electricity, oil or bottled gas from the cheapest source?

These things are relatively simple to check online with tools to help you estimate your costs and potential savings with alternative heating sources. The right heating source can vary depending on how you use your home. If you spend all day in the house, consider the cheapest for prolonged use – other systems that provide instant heat may be more suitable to those out working all day.

Think too about future cost – wood-fuelled heating systems burn wood, pellets, chips or logs and can also power central heating and hot water. Heat pumps and solar panels can not only save you cash, but government funded feeding tariffs can make some options earn money for you. Alternatively, speak to your energy suppliers and make sure you are on the best rate or tariff. If not, find out what is the cheaper option or consider switching supplier. These few simple steps will ensure you have a cosy and comfortable house to see out the winter months.



# MAKE YOUR WINTER FEEL LIKE SUMMER

Home Energy Scotland is the Scottish Government's free energy advice service. We can help you find out if you're eligible for the Warmer Homes Scotland programme. It's designed to help people make their homes warmer and more comfortable by installing a range of energy saving improvements, like heating and insulation. Eligible households could get around £5,000 of support and on average reduce their heating bill by £300 per year.

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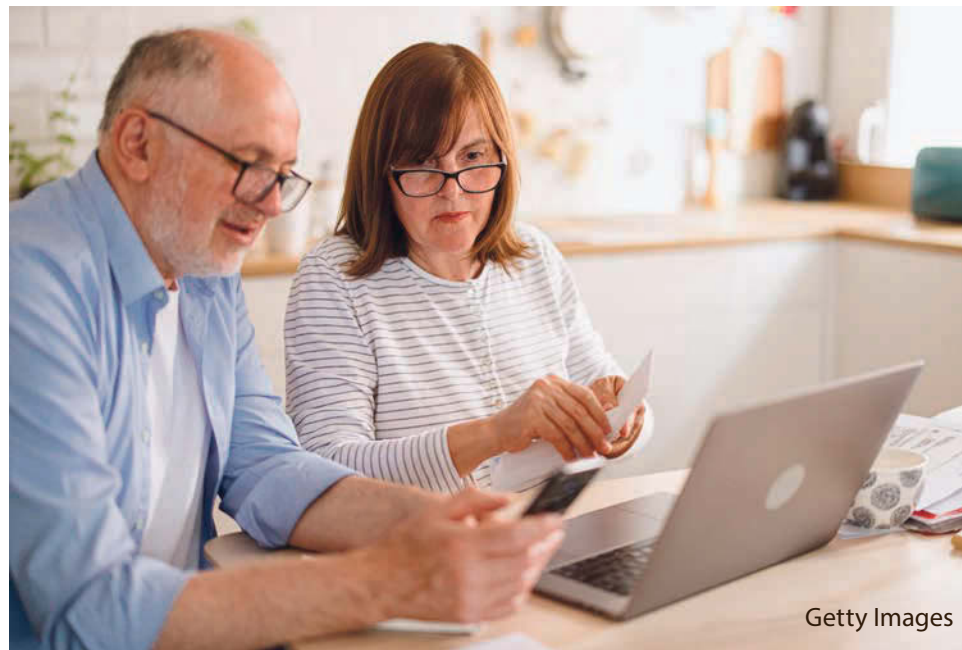
2006 as Arran Electrical & Refrigeration Ltd. They are members of two electrical trade organisations, SELECT and the NICEIC and have a vast experience on all types of heating systems.

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## Home Energy Scotland

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\*Home Energy Scotland, funded by the Scottish Government, helps people in Scotland create warmer homes, reduce their energy bills, and lower their carbon footprint.

## Barr Renewables Limited

Barr Renewables is a family run business set up in 2011, although based in the Scottish Borders they are regularly over on the island. Owner and Managing Director Alistair Barr personally oversees each and every enquiry, believing that all customers deserve tailor-made individual consultations to ensure their expectations are understood and delivered.

With ever rising energy costs almost a fact of life these days, why not think about future-proofing your energy supply and reducing your bills permanently, all in a sustainable and environmentally friendly way. They supply and service Airsource Heat Pumps, Solar PV panels and Wood stoves

Contact Alistair on 07554 377491  
or email: [info@barr-renewables.co.uk](mailto:info@barr-renewables.co.uk)

## T K Murray Electrical Ltd

At T K Murray they believe choosing a new heating system is one of the most important decisions you will make. You will be living with it long after the job has been completed.

For Norman the first visit to your home is simply a fact finding exercise. There will be lots of measuring and photographing. And you will probably have a lot of questions he can answer. Be wary of anyone who can price up a new central heating job during a visit. It takes a good number of hours back at the office to do this accurately. On average they see clients four times from the start to the end of the project. This gives you one point of main contact throughout the process.

If you are unhappy with your present heating system and T K Murray can be of any help they will be happy to drop in for a chat. Norman is on Arran usually twice a week, well ferry permitting.

Give Norman a call on 07912 346360  
or email: [info@tkmurray.co.uk](mailto:info@tkmurray.co.uk)



# SCOTTISH FIELD October



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## GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCE MARCH 2022 CLOSING DATE FOR AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP INCENTIVE

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

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

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

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

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

## T K Murray Electrical Ltd



Contact Norman Paterson on:  
**07912 346360**

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








**VISIT KILMORY CAFÉ & THE SHIELING BISTRO AT LAGG DISTILLERY**

We have made a commitment to quality and value and all dishes in both restaurants are under £10. Enjoy family friendly Kilmory Cafe and the relaxed atmosphere upstairs in The Shieling Bistro and Whisky Bar.

**Open Tues – Sat**  
Serving coffee & cake 10am – 12pm  
Lunch menu from 12pm – 5pm (last orders for hot food 4.30pm)  
Booking is required.  
01770 870 565  
bookings@laggwhisky.com




**Café Thyme**  
at the Old Byre Visitor Centre, Machrie.  
**Open every day 10am-5pm, Lunches 12-3pm, Wood burning oven No booking necessary Clothing and shoe shops on site too!**  
[www.oldbyre.co.uk](http://www.oldbyre.co.uk)



**THE DRIFT INN**



**Eat Local. Eat Fresh. Eat Responsible.**  
Fully open and serving food 5 days, 12noon until 10pm, closed Tuesday & Wednesday

Local restrictions apply Booking advised T: 01770 600 608 

Visit us at **CASKS Cafe** in Lochranza Distillery

**CASKS Café, Open Wed – Sun 10am – 4pm**

Serving a delicious selection of home baking, hot & cold beverages, whisky tasting flights, and light lunches (lunch served 12noon-3pm).

Featuring the best of local produce and often an Arran Malt twist on some classics.

Booking is required  
01770 830264  
bookings@arranwhisky.com





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

*Warm welcome and relaxing atmosphere.  
Family and dog friendly.  
Perfectly situated at the foot of Goatfell.*

**Open from 11am everyday for delicious home baking and lunches or just a drink in the sun in our large beer garden or cosy bar!**

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*October*

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**Duncan's**  
of the Burlington

**Open Monday – Saturday 5pm to 8.30pm (last sitting)**      **bookings essential call 01770 700 255**

**Burlington Guest House Shore Road, Whiting Bay KA27 8PZ**

**Duncan's at the Burlington**

Duncan's at the Burlington is a small restaurant located in Whiting Bay. Situated in the Burlington Guest House on Shore Road, our restaurant boasts stunning sea views – the perfect backdrop to your meal – with the beach just a stone's throw away. We offer a relaxed dining experience, and our aim is for you to enjoy yourselves, your meal, and your evening.



Here at Duncan's, we are all about fresh, good quality ingredients. Our menu comprises of a multitude of options, classic dishes with a twist, seafood, pizzas, burgers, and good old home comforts. Some of our most popular dishes include our smoked haddock and king prawn pasta bake and our mushroom and thyme crumbed chicken. We are also well known for our fish & daily cooked hand-cut chips – available battered or breaded on request.

We also run daily specials using the freshest and local ingredients where possible. We cater to a wide range of dietary requirements and offer vegan, gluten, and dairy free options.

Our summer opening hours are 6 nights a week, Monday to Saturday, from 5.00pm to 8.30pm last sitting. Due to the size of the

restaurant, bookings for tables are essential. We also provide a takeaway service where we can so that people do not miss out as we want everyone to be able to experience our food – pre-orders for takeaway meals are required.

We are a licensed restaurant and have a few tables outside for you to enjoy your meal on a nice evening or pop in for a drink or two and watch the world (and sometimes dolphins!) go by. What better way to spend a hot summer's evening, than with a chilled Burlington Brew - a blonde ale, bottled and brewed exclusively for us, by our friends down at the Seagate Brewery in Lamlash.

For reservations, please call 01770 700 255, we are also on Facebook @ TheBurlingtonTakeawayArran

**The restaurant will be closing weekend 29th/30th Oct for the winter.**



# THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday September 8 2001



Tourism Arran style. Brothers Barney and Joe Morris are holidaying this week 'carting' round the island with their horse Charlie. Barney has been a familiar figure in Brodick this summer taking children, and those accompanying them, for cart rides along the promenade.

01\_B37years01



Arran born MSP, and current education minister, Jack McConnell unveils a plaque at the opening of the new home for the Arran coastguard rescue team in Lamlash. 01\_B37years02



Weel kent southend faces Alex Miller of Margenaish Farm and Robin Cook, who now lives in Fife, at the opening of the new coastguard station. They have well over 60 years service as coastguard volunteers between them. 01\_B37years03



Paul Brighton of Border Biofuels fields questions about the proposed woodburning plant at Hawthorn quarry in Dyemill forest from concerned residents. 01\_B37years04



The old Lochranza hall will soon be no more as demolishers have been taking it to bits before bulldozing the walls. 01\_B37years05



Eleanor Milesi, right, has joined the learning support teaching staff at Arran High School and is seen here with Joni Keen and Nicky Surridge. 01\_B37years06



# What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

[www.arranbrewery.co.uk](http://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 &amp; 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 11th September

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

Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm

Rink Games, Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm

## Sunday 12th September

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

## Monday 13th September

Brodick Castle, Brodick, 11am – 4pm

Lamlash Bowling Club, Lamlash, 2pm

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

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

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

Rink Games, Brodick Bowling Club, Brodick, 6.30pm

## Tuesday 14th September

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

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

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

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

Arran Fiddle Club, High School Classes

Junior Hockey, P1 - S3 (age 5 to14 yrs), Ormidale Pavillion, Brodick, 6pm – 7pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Bible Meetings, Shiskine Village Hall, 7.30pm

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

## Wednesday 15th September

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

Arran Well-Being Cafe, Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 2pm- 4pm

Bible Meetings, Kilmory Bunkhouse (rural room), 3pm.

Arran Skinnymalinks Walk &amp; 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

Rink Games, Brodick Bowling Club, Brodick, 6.30pm

Lamlash Bowling Club, Lamlash, 7pm

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

## Thursday 16th September

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

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

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

Waverley Excursions, Cruise south to Pladda &amp; round Holy Isle, 3pm – 4.50pm

K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm

Arran Skinnymalinks Weigh-in, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 6pm

Lamlash SWI, Lamlash Church Hall, 7pm

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

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

## Friday 17th September

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

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

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

Rose Room in Concert, Whiting Bay Hall, Whiting Bay, Doors open 7pm

Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting.

Whiting Bay Hall, Whiting Bay, 7.30pm

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

## Saturday 18th September

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

British Empire Medal Award to Liz McLean,

Big Co, Brodick, 11am - 4pm

Rink Games, Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm

## PUBLIC NOTICES

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997  
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS)(SCOTLAND)  
ACT 1997Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined online at [www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk). Comments should be made online at [www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk](http://www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk) 01.10.21. Any representations received will be open to public view.TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)  
21/00836/PP; Site To South East Of Margenaish Farm, Kildonan, Ayrshire; Erection of holiday lodge.

21/00837/PP; Site To North East Of Creag-Raineach, Whiting Bay, Brodick, Ayrshire; Erection of detached dwelling house.

Craig Hutton  
Chief Executive  
Cunninghame House  
IRVINE KA12 8EENorth Ayrshire Council  
Comhairle Siarachd Air a Tuath

## 2021 AGM Brodick Hall

**Wednesday 22nd September at 4pm**Due to current COVID restrictions, we are limited to an attendance of 50 so please confirm your intention to attend in advance by emailing David Penn on [arcassecretary@gmail.com](mailto:arcassecretary@gmail.com).

## PERSONAL NOTICES

*Thank you!***Ronald Mosselman and Thea McGhie** were married at Brodick Parish Church on Saturday 4th September, and celebrated with a relaxed gathering of friends, old and new, at the Ormidale Hotel.

The happy couple moved to Arran at the start of this year and are thoroughly enjoying life on the island!

# Arran Blonde

The Isle of Arran Brewery's Blonde Premium Ale is the brewery's flagship ale, and is the island's most awarded beer, from its first award in the year of the brewery's founding, 2000, as Ayrshire &amp; Galloway CAMRA's Beer of the Festival to winning Gold in the World's Best Pale Golden Ale category at the World Beer Awards in 2020.

You can find a full list of awards at [www.arranbrewery.co.uk](http://www.arranbrewery.co.uk) Blonde is a light, refreshing beer with a delicate, floral hop aroma, with a well balanced finish and good character.

The beer is available at a few select pubs on draft and throughout the island in bottles, including at the brewery shop at Cladach, Brodick





## PROPERTY



**OFFERS OVER  
£350,000**

**Development Land, The Douglas Hotel, Brodick**

**KW CALEDONIA**  
KELLERWILLIAMS

**FANTASTIC DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY**

A PARCEL OF LAND EXTENDING TO (APPROX.) 0.8 ACRES IN PRIME BRODICK LOCATION

For more information contact Darren Lee on: 07974 932675 or email: darren.lee@kwuk.com | www.alistairanddarrenlee.co.uk

## TRADE CLASSIFIEDS

### TAXI SERVICES

#### 8-SEATER TAXIS AVAILABLE



#### ARDROSSAN HARBOUR TO:

Glasgow Airport FROM £42.00

Prestwick Airport FROM £30.00

enquiries@directtaxi.net - Return bookings and other prices on request.

### INSURANCE SERVICES

Sponsored by NFU Mutual  
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### FUNERAL SERVICES



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**BANNER BANNER**  
CLASSIFIEDS CLASSIFIEDS

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Independent business located in prime location in Brodick available for lease. Licensed, turnkey business that's relatively easy to operate.

This respected restaurant/ice cream parlour was transformed into what you see today back in November 2018.

Since then, the building has been refurbished, redecorated and there has been investment in new equipment along with fixtures and fittings which are all included within the lease.

The business has a strong reputation within the local community and beyond and enjoys a high level of regular and repeat trade along with many new customers.

This is a superb opportunity to purchase a business where all the start-up work has been done and is a great base to build upon.

The business has a fantastic reputation within the area for serving Arran Ice Cream, hand rolled pizza, coffee, cake etc.

Please contact  
**Alastair Dobson on 07801767478**  
for more details.

## 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](mailto:info@cottagesonarran.co.uk)  
Web: [www.cottagesonarran.co.uk](http://www.cottagesonarran.co.uk)

## PRIVATE SALES

### WANTED

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

### UNDER £50

WALKING BOOTS - One pair of brown leather walking boots. U.K. size 10.5. As new, only worn once. £20.00. One pair of brown leather CAT walking boots in good condition. U.K. size 5 EUR 38. Wide width. £15.00. Phone or text. 07985046846.

## RECRUITMENT



**auchrannie**  
resort



Auchrannie Resort is proud to be a Real Living Wage employer and Scotland's first Employee Owned Resort. In 2020 we were voted in the Times Best Companies Top 50 places to work in Scotland and we truly believe that our People are the key to our success.

**We are currently recruiting for an experienced Maintenance Technician to join our Awesome Auchrannie team.**

Reporting to the Estate Manager & Maintenance Team Leader, our Maintenance team are responsible for ensuring that all areas of Auchrannie Estate are maintained to an excellent standard and that any work is completed with minimal disruption to the business.

Applicants should have experience working in a similar role and trade qualifications would be preferred. The ideal candidate should have good all round maintenance skills and willingness to learn new skills on the job.

You would be working to a rolling rota including weekends and on call support.

We offer a competitive salary package, and many additional benefits.

To apply or for more information please email:  
[HR@auchrannie.co.uk](mailto:HR@auchrannie.co.uk)

The healthiest life possible for the people of Ayrshire & Arran



### Clerical Officer

Salary: Band 2  
Hours: 20 per week including weekends and public holidays.

Reference: 067357

In support of our core purpose of working together to achieve the healthiest life possible for everyone in Ayrshire and Arran, we are committed to a culture that is Caring, Safe and Respectful. You will be required to work collaboratively in a safe, caring and respectful way.

You will provide a pro-active and flexible clerical and reception service, supporting the provision of patient and service user care for hospital, community services and the wider health and social care team across Arran.

Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, are essential, as is the ability to work as part of a team and on your own initiative within a busy multi-disciplinary environment with competing demands.

You will have a sound working knowledge of current Microsoft packages, excellent keyboard skills and be able to demonstrate attention to detail. A certificate in administration or equivalent experience in health and social care is desirable.

For informal inquiries please contact Craig McCartney, Operations Manager, 01770 601032.

Applications are welcome from UK, EEA and non-EEA candidates.

EU Settlement Scheme – EU, EEA or Swiss nationals are strongly encouraged to join the EU Settlement Scheme. As part of the recruitment process, you will be required to produce proof of your EU Settlement status from 1 July 2021 to demonstrate your Right to Work in the United Kingdom. Further information: [www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families](http://www.gov.uk/settled-status-eu-citizens-families). Existing employees may be asked to provide evidence of their EU Settlement Status from 1 July 2021.

To apply, please visit [www.apply.jobs.scot.nhs.uk/vacancies](http://www.apply.jobs.scot.nhs.uk/vacancies) searching the reference number 067357.

Closing date: Friday 24 September 2021.

To find out more about NHS Ayrshire & Arran and services visit [www.nhsaaa.net](http://www.nhsaaa.net)



like us on  
**facebook**  
[www.facebook.com/arranbanner](http://www.facebook.com/arranbanner)



## CHURCH NOTICES

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND  
Parishes of North Arran,  
Broddick, Corrie, Lochranza,  
Pirnmill and Shiskine**

*Independent but working together*  
There is a booking system  
at Shiskine church -  
John Kerr 860 498

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

**Sunday 12th September**  
Lochranza & Pirnmill Churches  
Service at Lochranza Church  
10:15am Morning worship.  
Shiskine Church 12noon.

Morning worship.  
Broddick Church 10.30am  
Morning worship.  
Corrie Church at 12noon.  
Morning worship.

The Food Bank continues from  
Broddick Church

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND  
Whiting Bay and Kildonan  
Church of Scotland**

Charity Number: SC014005  
**Sunday 12th September**  
Worship will be conducted  
at 10.30am

As we are now able to socially  
distance at one metre, booking is  
not required. Contact details will,  
however, be requested.  
*All welcome.*

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND  
Kilmory linked with Lamlash**

*"A faith to proclaim ~  
a fellowship to share"*  
Scottish Charity SC015072  
**Sunday 12th September**

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 12th September**  
**15th Sunday after Trinity**  
Sung Eucharist at 11 am.  
Revd Canon Simon Mackenzie  
*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 12th September**  
Services will be held in the  
Ormidale Sports Pavilion,  
Broddick 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*

**BIBLE MEETINGS**  
**Tuesday 14th September**  
Shiskine Village Hall at 7.30pm  
**Wednesday 15th September**  
Kilmory Bunkhouse  
(rural room) at 3pm.  
Conducted by  
W Craigs and R Hughes  
Contact 07756836670.  
*All are welcome to attend.*

## DEATHS

**MACLENNAN** - Marian,  
(Broddick, formerly Ayr)  
Peacefully at Montrose House  
on Saturday 4th September  
2021. Loving, adored mother  
to John, Patricia and Caroline  
(Logan) and treasured  
grandmother to Louise, Ian,  
Alexander and Ishbel. The  
family would very much like to  
thank the Medics, Paramedics  
and Carers involved in our  
mothers care over the years.  
Will be missed by all. Private  
funeral. Family flowers only,  
donations in lieu of flowers are  
welcome and should be sent  
to Arran Hospital Supporters  
League, c/o Jim Arnold,  
Auchencrannog, Whiting Bay,  
KA27 8FF.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

**MCKENNA** - Maureen.  
Maureen passed away peacefully  
in Montrose House on 12th  
August. Mum spent the last few  
years of her life in Montrose  
House and words are simply  
not enough to express the  
gratitude I feel to everyone  
involved in her care, Morven  
and her team, one and all, went  
all out to make that her home  
and the care she received there  
was exemplary throughout - Arran  
is so fortunate to have this  
facility. Thanks to the social  
work team, the doctors and  
district nurses who attended  
daily to ensure Mum was kept  
comfortable to the end. Thanks  
also to David and Clair Hendry,  
to Co-operative Funeralcare in  
Irvine and to Joanne Adrain,  
celebrant who all contributed  
to the private family cremation  
at Holmsford Bridge.

## CELEBRATION OF LIFE

**PETERS** - Anne, nee  
Bannatyne. Sadly we lost Anne  
to cancer in January this year.  
Due to Covid restrictions very  
few could attend her funeral.  
Therefore a celebration of  
Anne's life will be held in her  
childhood garden at Holmlea,  
Blackwaterfoot, Isle of Arran  
on the 18th September 2021 at  
11.30pm. All welcome. Funeral  
attire not required, in fact the  
brighter the better.

## ARRAN BANNER GOLF



## Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday September 2, Ladies  
12-hole medal. Silver: 1 and  
scratch and medal winner  
Liz Kerr 50-11=39, 2 Jenni  
Turnbull 52-12=40. Bronze:  
1 Carole Stewart 54-17=37, 2  
Yvonne Brothers 54-15=39.  
Despite Carole's fabulous  
score, she wasn't a last year's  
medal winner, so Liz wins that.  
Magic twos, Fiona Henderson,  
Pat Adamson.

Saturday September 4,  
Connor Smith Trophy. A total  
of 19 Juniors from Shiskine,  
Broddick, Lamlash and Whiting  
Bay took part. They played  
six holes off the junior tees  
and were awarded points for  
nearest the pin and for the first  
to sink their putt. Everyone  
enjoyed themselves and after  
having burger, chips and juice  
in the clubhouse there was a  
prizegiving.

The scores were very close,  
but Ewen Southwick (Shiskine)  
won with 25 points and  
received a gold medal from  
captain Fiona Henderson.  
Kirsty Hume (Broddick) and  
Finlay Jessop (Shiskine) came  
second with 24 points and  
received a silver medal. All  
the other juniors were given  
bronze medals.

Many thanks to the Smith  
family for donating sweets  
and medals. Thanks to all the  
helpers and to Alan and his  
team for the food and drink.  
Special thanks again to Clare  
Buchanan, junior convenor,



**A total of 19  
participants  
took part in the  
Connor Smith  
Trophy, held  
in Shiskine,  
above; and  
left, the  
medal winners  
with Fiona  
Henderson,  
club captain.**

for coordinating and organis-  
ing this event.

## Broddick Golf Club

Wednesday September 1,  
Summer Cup, 41 played. 1  
Iain MacDonald 67-8=59 acb,  
2 Gordon Hendry 66-7=59,  
3 Angus Raeburn 73-13=60.  
Scratch Gordon Hendry 66.

Fixtures: Saturday September  
11, AGA Senior Handicap  
at Broddick at 1pm. Sunday  
September 12, Brandon quali-  
fier. Wednesday September 15,  
Flag Competition and annual  
prize-giving.

Whiting Bay Golf  
Club

Wednesday September 1,  
Summer Trophy, 22 played.  
1 Jamie Macpherson 5,  
60 acb and lowest gross, 2  
Peter Towndrow 14, 60, 3  
Sandy Pringle 13, 63, 4 John  
Pennycott 12, 64. Magic twos,  
Duncan Heenan @3, Nicol  
Auld and Jamie Macpherson

@16, John Pennycott and Peter  
Towndrow @17.

Fixtures: Sunday September  
12, The Aitken Rosebowl.  
Wednesday September 15,  
Summer Trophy final round.

## Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday September 1,  
medal. 1 R McLean 72-15=57  
scratch, 2 J McGovern 78-  
13=65, A Smith 80-15=65,  
R Logan 73-8=65. Fixtures:  
Saturday September 11, 18-  
hole medal.

## Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday September 2,  
Commando Cup and Summer  
Cup. 1 Jack McNally 68-7=61,  
winner of Commando Cup,  
2 Neil Young 68-5=63, 3  
Billy O'Connor 98-31=67, 4  
Billy Skinner 88-20=68 BIH.  
Best scratch, Jack McNally  
68, BIH over Neil Young.  
Magic twos, Jack McNally  
@16th. Hole 16 drawn, Jack  
McNally wins again. Fixtures:  
Saturday September 11, AGA

Seniors Handicap at Broddick.  
Sunday September 12, Medal  
Shield final round, noon  
draw. Thursday September 16,  
Summer Cup and Captain's  
Prize Day. Ladies' section:  
Wednesday September 1, Fleet  
6. 1 June Richardson 86-23=63,  
2 Jenny Pattenden 99-35=64.  
Scratch, Susan Butchard 83.

Machrie Bay Golf  
Club

Tuesday September 7, medal.  
1 Reuben Betley 62, 2 John  
Milesi 63, 3 Brian Sherwood  
71.

Fixtures: Tuesday September  
14, sweep, tee-off 12.30pm.  
Tuesday September 21,  
Captain's Day, tee-off noon, to  
be played over nine holes, with  
tea and cakes afterwards.

Arran Golfers  
Association

Corrie Golf Club hosted the  
Arran Golfers Association's  
autumn meeting on Sunday  
September 5 where a large  
entry list enjoyed beautiful  
midge free weather and a  
course presented in great  
condition.

Results: Drumadon Cup  
winners Q Oliver net 55. 1st  
Class: 1 I McLaren 58 net, 2 G  
Hendry 61 net, 3 J Pennycott  
62 net. 2nd Class: 1 Q Oliver  
55 net, 2 L Dutton 58 net, 3 S  
Kerr 62 net. Scratch I McLaren  
65. Magic twos winner R  
Crawford.

## Arran defeated in Sunday Trophy campaign

Wishaw United	6
Arran AFC	1

OSS Trophy - 1st Round

Arran AFC suffered a 6-1 defeat  
against Wishaw United in the first  
round of The Only Sport Sunday  
Trophy, played at King George Park,

Wishaw, on Sunday. Archie McNicol  
managed to score against the  
on-form Wishaw United but by the  
final whistle it was the only goal that  
Arran could muster.

Wishaw United, who play in the  
Airdrie and Coatbridge league,  
posted after the game: 'We were class  
today, we played some unreal footy

and deserved the win. We wish the  
best of luck to Isle of Arran and thanks  
for the game.'

The next match for Arran AFC will  
be a return to regular league games  
on Sunday when the team face Troon  
Town at the Ardeer Juniors Stadium in  
Stevenston.

Kick-off is at 1pm.



# Arran runners compete in Saltcoats in NAAC Festival

Arran runners were in Saltcoats last weekend for the return of the North Ayrshire Athletics Club Festival of Running events.

The seven runners took part in the NAAC 10k which saw a reduced field of just over 200 runners take to the streets of the Three Towns, with the start and finish at St Matthews Academy. A 2k children's race was also held on the day.

The race is one of the few that Arran runners can do in the same day and those who attended, some for the first time, put in some pretty decent times despite the warm conditions.

Two running groups

regularly meet on Arran. The jogscotlandarran group meet in Whiting Bay on a Monday and the Arran Pace Makers on a Wednesday both at 5.30pm. See What's On for contact details.

The Arran runners who took part in the NAAC 10k last weekend.



# Future now looks rosy with Nicola back in the saddle

by Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk



Things are really looking up for Arran professional jockey Nicola Currie who has bounced back to form after a difficult two years.

Last weekend the 28-year-old equalled her 2020 tally of 23 winners when she rode the 5-1 shot Top Secret home in a live ITV race at Ascot, where she can now regularly be seen taking part in the major meetings, as well as the smaller events around the country.

Her turnaround in form was helped last month, when, as a late call up to the Shergar Cup at Ascot, she seized the opportunity, winning the Silver Saddle for leading individual rider with 47 points to lead the Ladies' team to glory – thanks to two wins, on Just Hubert and State of Bliss, a second on HMS President and a third on Royal Scimitar.

After her win she said: 'It's well-needed and it's more relief than enjoyment at this stage because I want to keep improving my career. I don't just want to make a living, I want to make something of it and follow in the footsteps of Hayley [Turner] and Hollie [Doyle]. It's going the right way, so long may it continue.'

It was a welcome afternoon in the spotlight and the knock-on effects have been tangible. In a recent interview with the Racing Post Nicola told inter-



viewer Peter Thomas: 'I really needed the Shergar Cup and thankfully I have been busier since, picking up some extra rides, keeping the momentum up. I think a day like that really helps a jockey, but how long it lasts is a different question.

Hopefully, before it dies down you can get some new contacts and keep them happy as long as possible and maybe it'll build up into something else.

'I've found myself riding for people I wouldn't normally ride for and I've been lucky to

have a few more rides for Mark Johnston since. So yes, it was a huge boost, but it was only last year I was thinking I should be looking to do something else.'

Nicola has also been riding for the up-and-coming trainer George Boughey and

Arran jockey Nicola Currie has bounced back to form.

the William Muir and Chris Grassick team, who train at Lambourn, where she is based.

In 2018 Nicola rode 81 winners but admitted: 'I had a very quiet two years; I had an injury and it caught up with me and I couldn't get the ball rolling again, but hopefully this year is different and the Shergar Cup will help with that.'

When she is low Nicola likes nothing better than to head back to her family on Arran.

She told the Racing Post: 'There are no roundabouts, no traffic lights, no motorways, no train station, no airport, which is great, apart from having to rely on the boat that doesn't always sail.'

'There's just a local pub where you don't have to talk about racing so it's nice and quiet and I love going back to see my family. But there is also no cinema, no Costa drive-thru and I know I'd be bored inside two days if I had to live there now.'

Nicola is now a freelance rider having left Jamie Osbourne's yard after his daughter Saffie came of riding age. And she admitted: 'It was quite tough for a few months not having a base anymore, so I got up and rode for different people every day, got the ball rolling and got on a few winners, but I wasn't

flying until the Shergar Cup.

'The worst thing is a lot of the time it is out of your hands. People tell you you're riding well at the moment, but you've not changed the way you're riding, you're just riding better horses with better chances

'Yes, you may have more confidence, and that goes a long way, but realistically nothing has changed.'

So the life of a freelance rider may be uncertain and gruelling but when it is going well it is great, and Nicola is going well.

Nicola's win on Saturday came on the same day the globetrotting Prince of Arran was retired after a poor outing at Kempton. While he has no connection to the island, the Charlie Fellowes-trained horse has been followed in recent years by some local horseracing enthusiasts. It had been hoped he could have one last attempt at the Melbourne Cup in Australia where he was runner-up in 2019 and finished third twice but that has been ruled out by his retirement.

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Gege Kroner addresses the crowd before the prize-giving, auction and lottery.



Whiting Bay Golf Club captain Stan Rainey valiantly tries to sell the last item in the auction.



The crowd gathering at the home green before the auction, prize-giving and raffle.

# Big turnout takes part in Wolfi's special open event

Perfect golfing weather and a huge turnout of golfers, from all parts of the island and beyond, many overcoming ferry-induced travel difficulties, combined to help Whiting Bay Golf Club members commemorate their much-missed friend and past captain Wolfi Kroner, who died in March.

Saturday September 4 saw the staging of Wolfi's Open Stableford and what a day it was.

Gege, Markus and the rest of Wolfi's family went to great lengths to provide a generous array of prizes for the golfers and for the well-subscribed auction and raffle that took place afterwards. Many local individuals and businesses, far too many to name here, also



Prize winners Ben Kroner, Gay Mackay and Jamie Stewart with Gege and Whiting Bay Golf Club captain, Stan Rainey.

contributed generously and the warmth of feelings freely expressed must have been a source of great comfort to all who miss Wolfi so much.

On a day such as this, the golf is perhaps not as important as we sometimes think it is, but Wolfi loved his golf and he would have been delighted to know that 76 played in this event, a Stableford from the yellow tees just as he liked.

The full result can be found on the club's website but for the purpose of this intimation it is perhaps enough to know that Gay Mackay from Lamlash returned the top score – and, of course, the top score from a lady golfer – with a most impressive 44 points. Their own champion Jamie Stewart took the award for the best men's score on 41 points and fittingly, young Ben Kroner came in as top junior.



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