



# Food & Drink

## NEWSLETTER

### Apprentice Butcher Wins 'Scotlands Best Speciality Sausage' Award



A young trainee butcher, Liam Neill, working in David Fauld & Sons on John Finnie Street, Kilmarnock has picked up a 'Diamond' accolade for his sweet maple pork links at the Craft Butcher Awards. The 19 year old works with a fantastic Kilmarnock butcher that is known for its innovative meat products which includes Irn Bru lorne sausage and a range of gluten free products. Liam picked up the award after his boss Ian Faulds submitted the sausage for experts to judge at an event planned by Scottish Craft Butchers.

Liam told the Kilmarnock Standard in a recent interview

that "the job started with making sliced sausage, burgers and links but it is really interesting in this shop learning all the craft skills" and "Winning the top award is fantastic". Many congratulations to Liam and all the staff involved at David Fauld & Sons in Kilmarnock.

### Ballantrae Festival of Food and Drink Wins Ayrshire Food & Drink Award

The Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry business awards took place on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October at Seamill Hydro in West Kilbride. Among the winners was Ballantrae Festival who picked up the Ayrshire Food & Drink award which was sponsored by East Ayrshire Council. The award was collected by outgoing chairperson of Ballantrae Festival, Susan Crosthwaite. Susan is the owner of 5-star Bed & Breakfast Cosses Country House in Ballantrae. This is a fantastic achievement for all involved and a very nice accolade for Susan to collect as she prepares to step aside from being chair of the festival in 2017. The interim chairperson will be Siobhan Liddington of Glenapp Castle, Ballantrae. Glenapp celebrated their own success at the awards dinner as they picked up the award for 'Excellence in Customer Service' which rounded off a fantastic evening for Ballantrae as a whole. Many Congratulations to everyone involved.

We are delighted to confirm that Ayrshire will host three food festivals again in 2017. The first will be Largs on 27-28<sup>th</sup> May followed by the award winning Ballantrae Festival on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June and Newmilns Food Festival on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September.



27-28<sup>th</sup> May 2017



11<sup>th</sup> June 2017



**NEWMILNS**  
FOOD FESTIVAL

9<sup>th</sup> September 2017



Whether you're a gin connoisseur or you simply don't know what all the fuss is about, **Geraldo's Gin Fest** is for you. Spend the afternoon in Largs with 15+ artisan gin producers and learn more about where they come from, how they are made and meet the people behind the distillery. On arrival, you will receive a complimentary gin cocktail then it's left to you to select a teacup and sample Mother's Ruin at your leisure. There will be live music throughout the day and chocolate tasting too, with some gin masterclasses for the professionals among you. All gins will be available to purchase on the day and there will be a prize draw to win some fantastic goodies too.

**Geraldo's Gin Fest** is not only a celebration of gin, but also a brand launch event. This event is being organised by retailer Sugar & Spice of Largs and tickets are priced at £20 per person plus booking fee. Owner Toni Dawson has been making her own brand of Geraldo's Luxury Ice Cream since 2000 and Geraldo's is now her shop name too! Toni's passion and products remain the same. She will continue to develop wonderful flavours of artisan ice cream and be a brand ambassador for luxury handmade chocolates, exquisite gift confectionery and premium spirits (with over 30 artisan gins to choose from in her shop).

*So what better way to celebrate the launch of 'Geraldo's' than to celebrate with gin.*

Date: **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> November 12-6pm**. Venue: **Brisbane Hotel, Largs**. Tickets: £20 Per Person

Book Via: [www.geraldosginfest.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.geraldosginfest.eventbrite.co.uk)

### Upcoming Events List

[www.ayrshirefoodanddrink.co.uk](http://www.ayrshirefoodanddrink.co.uk)

#### November

Sunday 6	Culzean Country Market
Wednesday 16	AgriScot 2016
Friday 18	REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene
Saturday 19	Geraldo's Gin Fest / Brand Launch Event – Brisbane Hotel, Largs
Sunday 20	Dumfries House Food Market
Sunday 20	Ayr Central – Farmers Market
Sunday 27	Fencebay Farmers' Market

#### December

Sunday 4	Culzean Country Market
Wednesday 7	Demo & Dine at Costley's Patisserie & Chocolatier (Prestwick)
Thursday 8	Demo & Dine at Costley's Patisserie & Chocolatier (Prestwick)
Sunday 11	Culzean Country Market – Christmas Market
Sunday 11	Ayrshire Food Network – Farmers' Market – Robert Burns Birthplace Museum
Saturday 17	Dumfries House Christmas Market
Sunday 18	Ayr Central – Farmers Market

