

# Food & Drink

## NEWSLETTER

### The Coo Shed wins Ayrshire Food & Drink Award.



The Coo Shed picked up the Ayrshire Food & Drink award at this year's Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce Business Awards Dinner in October. Many congratulations to Alison Kerr and her team for their hard work and excellent customer service which has been recognised in the achievement of this award. We also extend our congratulations to Home Cook School and Bhaile Craft Bakery who were also finalists for the award in a category which saw excellent applicants and showcases the excellent range of producers and destinations we have here in Ayrshire.

### Barweys Dairy to Close Spring 2019

In 2009 owner Tricia Bey set up Barweys dairy in Maybole, developing the fantastic Barweys cheese recipe from the sweet, creamy milk that the Ayrshire cows are famous for. Barweys cheeses are always very well received, winning six gold medals in six successive years at the Royal Highland Show - including Best Scottish Cheese and Best Scottish Cheddar in various years - and a gold at the Great Yorkshire Show this year. However as Tricia intimated in her recent message to customers and fans, "the world of micro-artisan food businesses is a tough one and I realise we are simply too small to resist the increasing pressures that our industry is facing".

Tricia goes on to intimate that the regulator, Food Standards Scotland, has been a major factor in her decision as the Barweys products use raw, unpasteurised milk and this has been more heavily scrutinised by the regulator in recent times. Barweys production has already stopped however there is still an opportunity to buy the products throughout the Christmas period and into early 2019.

Whilst we are hugely disappointed to see Barweys close, we wish Tricia and all the staff the very best for the future and thank you for excellent cheese you have produced over the past 10 years. Good luck!



### Mossgiel Success At Helping It Happen Awards

Bryce Cunningham of Mossgiel Organic Dairy Farm in Mauchline recently won the **Innovation in Farming Award** at the Helping it Happen Awards which was hosted by Scottish Land & Estates at the Balmoral Hotel in Edinburgh. Bryce is on a mission to ditch single use plastics across his entire business and has even invested in reusable glass bottles and a milk vending machine to allow consumers to buy his product in a sustainable way and at a time which is convenient to them. Many congratulations to Bryce and his team at Mossgiel for their hard work and continued success.



### Ballantrae Festival 2019 – Dates Confirmed

After successfully attracting initial grant funding, Ballantrae Food & Drink Festival 2019 has been confirmed for Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> June which ties in with World Gin Day on the 8<sup>th</sup> June. Preparations are now underway and invitations for producers to attend will begin in due course. To stay up to date with information follow the Festival Facebook page using the link below:

<https://www.facebook.com/ballantraefoodfest/>



### Industry Dinner Focuses on Business Improvement

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> October, ESP Scotland hosted a Food & Drink Industry dinner at Ayrshire College's Inver restaurant in Ayr. The event which had representatives from across Ayrshire was well received and attendees enjoyed a fantastic dinner which was prepared and served by college students.



Each course was followed by an engaging speaker on the evening's theme of business improvement with attendees being invited to sign up for a pilot project to take place in Ayrshire over the next couple of months. For more information on this business improvement course please contact [stuart.millar@ayrshire.ac.uk](mailto:stuart.millar@ayrshire.ac.uk) or [neil.mcaleese@east-ayrshire.gov.uk](mailto:neil.mcaleese@east-ayrshire.gov.uk)

### Salt & Barrel – Christmas Bookings

Christmas lunches and dinners are now available for booking at the Salt & Barrel at Ayrshire College, Kilmarnock campus. Bookings available from Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December to Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> December for lunches and evening service will be available on Tuesday evenings during this period. To reserve your table contact – 01563 548010 or email [saltandbarrel@ayrshire.ac.uk](mailto:saltandbarrel@ayrshire.ac.uk)



Scotland Food & Drink have published a Brexit newsletter which is available to read online via the web link:

<https://scotlandfooddrink.createsend1.com/t/ViewEmail/d/DCFFADA45B558D4F2540EF23F30FEDED>

**Got an event coming up?** Why not share your event for publishing on the Ayrshire Food & Drink calendar where businesses and consumers can get up to date event information. This is a free resource available to all Ayrshire food and drink businesses.

[Submit Your Event Here](#)

### Upcoming Events List

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

<u>November</u>	<u>Event</u>
5 <sup>th</sup>	BRC Issue 8 Conversion Course
7 <sup>th</sup>	Dairy Leader Forum
8 <sup>th</sup>	The Brewers Association of Scotland – Board & Members Meeting
8 <sup>th</sup>	Dairy Leader Forum
10 <sup>th</sup>	Alloway Guid Fayre Market
12 <sup>th</sup>	BRC Issue 8 Conversion Course
14 <sup>th</sup>	Funding Growth and Ambition in Scotland's Food & Drink Industry
18 <sup>th</sup>	Dumfries House Food Market
21 <sup>st</sup>	AgriScot
25 <sup>th</sup>	Kilmarnock Christmas Lights Switch On ( <i>Market Stalls</i> )
27 <sup>th</sup>	Dairy Leader Development Programme

