



Food & Drink

NEWSLETTER



**NEWMILNS
FOOD FESTIVAL**

Thousands of people flocked to [Newmilns Food Festival 2018](#). Run by [Newmilns Regeneration Association](#) with funding help from East Ayrshire Council, the event was the Association's most successful food and drink event yet.

Masterchef winner [Gary McLean](#) starred in a double act with East Ayrshire Council's Head of Catering, Mark Hunter. Well known local restaurateur [Alisdair Hood](#) of [Cottage Catering](#) and the [Coffee Press](#) also took a turn on the podium, while Jean Miller of [Miller's Larder](#) showed how to produce a delicious Lemon, Mango and Passion Fruit Curd. For lovers of Scottish fruit based wine, [Cairn O'Mhor](#) had a selection of wines and ciders for sampling.

Schools, charities and community groups were also supported at the event, which was run by a small army of dedicated volunteers. Activities on offer included outdoor fun and games for kids, giving adults time to browse the huge range of fantastic local foods in the massive, airy marquee. Keen foodies could choose from artisan bakers, chocolatiers, butchers, desserts, cakes, pies, desserts, confectionery, farm fresh produce, vegetables, sauces, jams/chutneys and preserves, coffee roasters, gin, hampers, cheese and ales.

Provost Jim Todd said: "It was great to see such a huge turnout for this year's Food Festival. With 18 Ayrshire producers out of over 40 stands there was a nice mix of Ayrshire/non-Ayrshire foods, demonstrating that Newmilns has a drawing power for businesses reaching well beyond the local area. The Marquee itself was bright and airy and gave the event a nice feel. We were delighted to see that although the [Stranraer Oyster Festival](#) was also on, many of the producers had chosen to have stands at both events.

"It's a great testimony to the energy and enthusiasm of the Newmilns Regeneration Association, our Food and Drink Adviser, the producers and public who attended, and the way that communities are pulling together to achieve ambitious events and projects – it's amazing what good community spirit can do with the right help and Newmilns has that in spades."

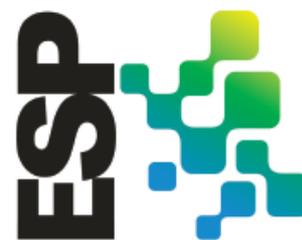
Taste of Ayrshire' Business Improvement Techniques

Networking Dinner – Thursday 25th October

As a local business, ESP would like to invite you to a **business improvement techniques** networking dinner themed around a "Taste of Ayrshire" held at Ayrshire College training restaurant, Ayr Campus on Thursday 25th October.

The evening will start at 6pm with a drinks reception and a chance to network with colleagues from industry and education, followed by a dinner showcasing local products and also feature guest speaker, Alastair Dobson from 'Taste of Arran.' This event has been funded by SDS as part of a food & drink business improvement techniques project.

Please confirm that you are able to attend by emailing rachel.tulloch@esp-scotland.ac.uk by Monday 15th October indicating any special dietary requirements.



<http://www.esp-scotland.ac.uk/>



Business Gateway - October to December Events Programme

Business Gateway in Ayrshire has released a programme of events for October to December which has a fantastic selection to suit the needs of many businesses. These events are free to attend and booked online via - <https://www.bgateway.com/local-offices/ayrshire/events>



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>

Supplier Development Opportunity – SALSA Certification



Scotland Food & Drink have selected ACOURA a leading specialist company to support Scottish businesses to achieve SALSA Certification. The SALSA scheme is an affordable food safety assurance certification scheme designed for small and micro businesses and is frequently required by buyers in most business sectors.

The programme will offer practical one to one on-site and remote technical support, working directly with your business to ensure that you will make a successful application for SALSA Certification. For more information - <http://www.foodanddrink.scot/access-to-markets/supplier-development-opportunity-salsa-certification.aspx>

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

October

Event

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 4 th -6 th | Real Ale Festival – Troon Town Hall |
| 5 th | Girvan Community Market |
| 6 th | Ayrshire Farmers Market – Ayr Town Centre |
| 8-12 th | Ayrshire Business Week (Various Events – Check Ayrshire Chamber Website) |
| 12 th | Girvan Community Market |
| 13 th | Alloway Guid Fayre Market – Robert Burns Birthplace Museum. |
| 13 th | Ayrshire Farmers Market – Paisley Town Centre |
| 19 th | Girvan Community Market |
| 20 th | Ayrshire Farmers Market – Kilmarnock Town Centre |
| 21 st | Dumfries House Food Market |
| 26 th | Girvan Community Market |
| 27 th | Ayrshire Farmers Market – Paisley Town Centre |



East Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir an Ear

south
AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL



North Ayrshire Council
Comhairle Siorrachd Àir a Tuath

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SCOTLAND
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