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Hallowe'en happenings around Arran

Time running out to resolve derelict McLaren Hotel saga

by Hugh Boag
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The derelict McLaren Hotel site this week. 01_B45mclaren01

Hope was fading this week that any end was in sight to the McLaren Hotel saga.

Planning permission to demolish the derelict hotel and build a new one expires in less than a month and questions have emerged over the viability of the company behind the proposed redevelopment.

The three-year planning permission for the Brodick shorefront site was granted on December 5 2018 after wide-spread opposition.

The Norfolk-based abode-Group was given permission to replace the rundown building with a new £9 million, 88 room mid-market aparthotel.

But since then nothing has happened, with the eyesore continuing to rapidly deteriorate with, more recently, the building daubed with graffiti.

The hotel grounds are completely overgrown and the security fences broken down. Windows remain open in the

hotel and inside has been ransacked with repeated claims of squatters using the building.

There is further concern over the company behind the project. The abodeGroup is based in Kings Lynn, Norfolk, and a company with a similar name – Abode Assets Ltd, based at the same address and with one of the same directors, has in the last few days applied to be struck off and dissolved, according to documents at

Companies House seen by the Banner.

But in a glimmer of hope, it is understood the applicants have until recently still been in touch with the planning department and it is known that a planning application is granted for a site and can be transferred to another party, subject to conditions.

However, one Brodick busi-

Continued on page two.



Spooky sights in Shiskine

Despite things not quite being back to normal this year, there was still lots of spooky fun across the island over the Hallowe'en weekend.

Pictured above are youngsters dressed up for the Shiskine Hall party last Saturday.

We're sure you will agree, there are plenty of fantastic costumes on show.

Turn to pages 8 to 11 to see lots more Hallowe'en photographs on our four-page colour special.

01_Bhallofront01

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Some of the graffiti which has recently been daubed on the derelict building. 01_B45mclaren02

Time running out for McLaren Hotel site

Continued from page 1.

-nessman has written to the company demanding answers.

He wrote: 'The owners should be aware that the state of the plot has deteriorated again and the safety barriers erected at the entrance have collapsed again, making the plot easily accessible to children.'

'Health and safety on the site is virtually non-existent and an accident waiting to happen. There are rumours that squat-

ters have been living in some of the old hotel rooms.

'We would, of course, be pleased if some signs of progress were seen in redeveloping the site as, in its current state, it is an eyesore and reflects poorly on the village and island.'

Repeated calls and emails by the Banner to the abode-Group in Norfolk received no response before we went to press.

New NHS chief officer appointed for Arran

by Hugh Boag

editor@arranbanner.co.uk



NHS Ayrshire & Arran has appointed Claire Burden as chief executive of the organisation.

Claire is currently deputy chief executive officer at Whipps Cross Hospital London and will join NHS Ayrshire & Arran, taking over from Professor Hazel Borland, interim chief executive, in January next year.

Claire has more than 17 years' management experience in NHS England, as well as a commitment to influence and lead the reform of health and social care provision for the benefit of the population.

Lesley Bowie, chairperson of Ayrshire & Arran NHS Board, said: 'I am delighted Claire has been successful in securing this post.'

'Claire brings a wealth of skills and quality improve-



Claire Burden is the new chief executive.

ment experience, as well as a focus on transformation, which will drive NHS Ayrshire & Arran's strategic ambition to reform health and care, ensuring we improve health outcomes and achieve the healthiest life possible for our citizens.'

Claire joined NHS London in 2015 and has worked across London hospitals as hospital director at the Royal London Hospital delivering performance and governance outcomes, as well as leading a multi-agency programme aimed at supporting care

delivered at home or close to home. More recently, Claire was director for Emergency Care Improvement at Barts NHS Trust, where she led a quality improvement programme to achieve emergency department, referral to treatment and cancer targets, improving access and trust performance.

In Claire's current role, she is the executive lead for emergency planning, site operations and operational governance within Whipps Cross in north west London.

Ms Bowie added: 'Our board look forward to welcoming Claire to Ayrshire and in taking forward our vision for caring for Ayrshire.'

'I would like to give my sincere thanks to Professor Hazel Borland for leading NHS Ayrshire & Arran, following the departure of our former chief executive John Burns in June 2021.'

Claire said: 'I feel privileged to have been given the opportunity to join NHS Ayrshire & Arran as chief executive. I will join the organisation in January 2022, which will come all too swiftly when I reflect that at some stage in

these next 10 weeks I will have relocated from London to Ayrshire. I can assure you that while I am working hard to prepare everything for a hand-over to my successor here in London, I will be committed to engaging with the board and our strategic partners on the current challenges and opportunities, as we respond to Covid and winter pressures across our integrated health and care system.

'While I will be new to NHS Scotland, I will learn quickly and will deliver on my ambition and commitment to be an asset to NHS Ayrshire & Arran and I thank you for the opportunity to be the new chief executive.'

Health secretary Humza Yousaf added: 'I am pleased to welcome Claire Burden as the new chief executive of Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board and I am confident she will bring a wealth of experience to this important role.'

'With considerable expertise working in the reform of health and social care provision in NHS England for 17 years I know Claire will be well placed to lead the board as they move forward.'

Arran COP26 rally

Campaigners calling for climate justice will be able to make their feelings known tomorrow (Saturday) at a rally taking place on Arran as part of a global day of action to

coincide with the COP26 conference in Glasgow. Scheduled for Saturday, between 12.45pm and 1.30pm, the event will take place on the seafront opposite the Douglas Hotel, as reported in last week's Banner.

Organisers have invited

everyone - regardless of any affiliation, political or religious - to attend the Arran gathering in a show of solidarity with marchers across the world who have designated Saturday October 6 as a global day of action.

Chairman Bill re-elected by Arran Community Council

Bill Calderwood, pictured, has been re-elected as chairman of Arran Community Council unopposed.

His re-election came at the conclusion of the election process at a meeting in Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, on Tuesday after the new council was formally sworn in.

A potential election in Whiting Bay was not required when one of the candidates withdrew.

With four villages without their full representation, three

new members were co-opted on to the council for the next four years.

They were: Penny Albrich for Lamplash, Peter McKinnon for Corrie and Sannox and Kirsten Weir for Pirnmill.

That leaves only one vacancy for a representative for Shiskine Valley, including Blackwaterfoot.

After Mr Calderwood was re-elected, the post of vice chairman attracted two candidates - former vice president Richard McMaster and new Whiting Bay member

Tom Young, but Mr Young stood aside before a vote was required.

The only challenge of the night came over the representative of the community council on the Arran Ferry Committee which saw two nominations - sitting representative Bill Calderwood and Whiting Bay member Bob Haddow. After a lengthy discussion, the nomination went to a vote which Mr Calderwood won by nine votes to two.

The community council also has a new secretary, Penny Albrich, and Julie Graham, from Lochranza and Catacol, continues as treasurer.

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Hundreds get booster jabs as Covid cases hit double figures

Arran Medical Group held the first of two Covid booster vaccination sessions for people in the 50-years-and-over category last Sunday, writes Hugh Boag.

Hundreds of island residents attended the first session, which took place at Arran High School, with a second to be held on Sunday November 14. Those who attended were also offered a seasonal flu vaccine.

Those in the previous age group, over-70s, who were unable to attend the previous sessions are invited to book for the next session.

Unpaid carers and people aged between 18 and 49 years, who are classed as 'at risk' or 'clinically vulnerable' are also eligible to attend the next session.

If you are in any of these categories, and it has been at least 24 weeks since your second vaccination, you can make an appointment by calling the surgery on 01770 600516 after 2pm on weekdays.



Arran High School sports hall was used for the booster jabs at the weekend.

has also made it clear ministers 'will not hesitate' to reimpose restrictions if more cases threaten to overwhelm Scotland's NHS which is already under immense strain.

The ministers' unambiguous words leave little doubt that Scotland could easily face a fresh wave of pandemic curbs and a potential lockdown if coronavirus cases escalate out of control this winter.

According to Public Health Scotland, as of November 1, 708,000 people in Scotland have received their booster jab, whereas across the UK more than eight million people have had theirs.

Since immunity wanes every month, having a booster jab will help protect you and your loved ones this winter and reduce the spread of the virus.

In a worrying development, Public Health Scotland's latest available infection rates for Arran, which have consistently remained in single digits, reached double digits as October drew to an end.

However, they remain relatively low in comparison to other areas in North Ayrshire.

Health bosses are urging everyone who is invited to receive a booster

jab to have it done amid fears that health facilities will be overwhelmed if there is a spike in infection rates during winter.

NHS Ayrshire & Arran have already reported that the health service is under 'extreme pressures' and that delays for urgent and unscheduled care services may be experienced.

Health minister Humza Yousaf

Spring flower show returns

Green-fingered enthusiasts on Arran have something to look forward to with the announcement the Spring Flower Show, hosted by Arran Horticultural Society, will go ahead next March after a break of two years, writes Colin Smeeton.

The news has been welcomed by regular attendees of the society's summer and spring shows, which had to be hosted online after live gatherings were restricted as a result of the Covid pandemic.

Now organisers have confirmed the Spring Show will return on Saturday March 26.

The event will be open to the public between 2pm and 4pm, with teas, coffees, homebaking and a raffle adding to the usual attractions.

A prize-giving will be held at Brodick hall at 3.30pm, with trophies awarded for some of the 30 categories of the show.

The children's section, comprising six varied categories, is expected to be well contested again this year, as in previous years, with children being awarded nominal cash prizes for first, second, and third places.

Later in the year, the summer show has been scheduled for Wednesday August 10 at Arran High School in Lamlash.

A schedule of the various categories can be found on Facebook by searching for @ArranHorticulturalSociety

Revised NHS recovery plan urgently needed for island

West Scotland MSP Katy Clark has expressed her dismay at news the public has been told to avoid NHS Ayrshire & Arran's accident and emergency (A&E) departments unless it's urgent, writes Hugh Boag.

Last week NHS Ayrshire & Arran chiefs advised that emergency departments were under 'extreme pressure' and members of the public should 'stop and consider if their condition could be managed through other pathways of care'.

The advice came after the latest waiting time statistics showed just 74.4 per cent of people at A&E in the NHS Ayrshire & Arran area were seen within four hours in the week ending October 17.

This means the region has not reached the legally binding target of 95 per cent since July 2020.

Ms Clark commented: 'It is shocking that we have reached the point where the people of Ayrshire and Arran are being placed in danger because the NHS is so overwhelmed.'

'None of this is the fault of workers, who do all they can to provide a public service.'

'The pandemic has caused



West Scotland MSP Katy Clark has called for a revised NHS recovery plan and workforce management plan as we enter the busy winter period.

huge strain, but the Scottish Government has been urged for months now to come forward with a strategy that will support A&E services.

'We urgently need a revised NHS recovery plan and workforce management plan as we enter the busy winter period.'

Professor Hazel Borland, interim chief executive at NHS Ayrshire & Arran, said in a statement: 'While most patients coming through our Emergency Departments (EDs) are ill and need to be there, we know some people who attend our EDs would receive more appropriate and

quicker treatment elsewhere. So, we are urging members of the public to stop, think and ask 'Is it an emergency?' If it is an emergency, come straight to the ED.

'That way we can ensure that our EDs are there for those who need it most - those with life-threatening emergencies and injuries.'

Meanwhile, cancer detection figures released last week show a 20 per cent drop in patients diagnosed at an early stage of cancer in 2019 and 2020 combined, compared with numbers from 2010 and 2011, by NHS Ayrshire & Arran.

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Are catamarans the answer to CalMac's ferry woes?

John Lamont of Dippen firmly believes that CalMac, CMAL and Transport Scotland should consider using catamarans (multi-hulled vessels) instead of monohulled vessels, such as the two currently being constructed by Ferguson Marine at Port Glasgow.

In a submitted article to the Banner, John makes the case as to why he believes that catamarans will be more reliable, financially viable and ecologically beneficial.

Prior to submission, and to ensure accuracy, he also sent the details to Alf Baird who was the professor of maritime business and director of the Maritime Research group at Edinburgh Napier University.

As winter approaches weather disruptions will, undoubtedly, have an adverse impact on the Brodick to Ardsrossan ferry service.

Between February 10 and 22, 2020, the Orkney severe gale wind speeds were recorded at 40 knots, gusting to 60 knots.

The Hammavoe, a conventional monohull 600-passenger, 100-car vessel which is part of the Serco group operating on the Aberdeen/Orkney/Shetland route, cancelled services on five days.



Catamaran supporter John Lamont.

The subsidy between 2012/19 to Serco from Scottish Government coffers was £285 million.

By comparison, the Alfred, Pentland Ferries unsubsidised catamaran (85 metres, 430 passenger capacity and 100 cars), sailed every day to Orkney during the same storms – around three return trips daily.

The steel-hull catamaran vessel, built at a cost of £14.5



Catamaran MV Pentalina passes MV Caledonian Isles in Brodick Bay during trials earlier this year in anticipation of a leasing deal. A deal with owners Pentland Ferries was not reached.

01_B44catamaran01

million between 2017/19, on completion sailed 9,000 miles from Vietnam to Orkney and has appropriate UK MCA certification.

Pentland Ferries have provided a reliable, unsubsidised, 'weather immune' service since introducing catamarans in 2009.

Pentland Ferries had previously used ex-CalMac monohulls, Iona and Claymore, and

these boats were replaced by larger capacity catamarans to provide an improved service.

CMAL deem catamarans unfit for use in the 'treacherous waters' of the West Coast, without any concrete evidence being offered.

The proposed new Islay monohull ferry will require 300 tons of seawater ballast to counter the vessel height – an extra 15, 20-ton lorries per

trip – a wasteful exercise in direct contrast to any 'green' commitments.

The catamarans are so stable on two hulls that they don't need any ballast tanks for added stability.

Additionally, as COP26 is held, Pentland Ferries latest catamaran, MV Alfred, has been awarded a VIBES Scottish Environment Business award for the cleanest, greenest

ferry in Scotland with a fuel and emissions footprint 50 per cent less than a similar capacity CalMac monohull, and requiring a crew of just 14 as opposed to around 30 on CalMac boats.

A new catamaran is available in January 2022 – 65 metres long and able to load 80 cars – and at a price of just £12 million, 25 per cent of the cost of a large CalMac monohull, if it is delivered on time and budget.

The operating subsidy for CalMac between 2012/19 was £750 million, excluding capital costs of ships and ports.

Is it time for an extended trial of an alternative, proven ferry type rather than an oft-repeated unsubstantiated mantra of 'not fit for purpose' from our 'always knows best' Edinburgh-based marine experts Transport Scotland?

Is the reality that the RMT determine the safety and suitability of vessels and insist on no change, regardless of the urgent need for improvements to the service?

Arran's broadband provider secures major funding investment to grow

Since launching its first commercial broadband service on Arran in 2016, Broadway Partners has expanded on a national level.

The firm has secured a multi-million-pound boost that will see the company becoming a major player in the broadband provision market.

Thanks to a £145 million investment from Downing LLP the company aims to connect 250,000 homes and businesses by 2025 and to become the natural alternative provider of digital infrastructure in Scotland and Wales.

Having started on Arran by providing TV WhiteSpace technol-

ogy, Broadway Partners has since developed network coverage across large swathes of Monmouthshire and Pembrokeshire in Wales, and in Ayrshire, Perth and Kinross, Inverness-shire and Stirlingshire in Scotland.

Broadway Partners utilised TV

WhiteSpace technology as a start-up and then moved to include fixed wireless technology as an established company.

Now, as a potential major player in the industry, it has added full fibre broadband to its choice of provision options.

Michael Armitage, CEO of Broadway Partners, said: 'The investment from Downing LLP will enable Broadway Partners to accelerate its rural broadband programme, offering vital connectivity to businesses and households in parts of the country that other providers can't reach.'

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Can you be an island volunteer befriender?

This week is national Befriending Week and Arran CVS is seeking new volunteers.

Many people living on Arran don't get the opportunity to socialise as often as they would like. Considering the challenges individuals experiencing loneliness have faced the past year, it is even more important that Befriending Week is a time to raise awareness.

What makes a good volunteer befriender?

■ Someone who is interested in other people

■ Someone who is a good listener

■ Someone one who is reliable

■ Someone who could commit to volunteering two-three hours each week

If this sounds like you, there's a few things to consider: it's more about who you are than your previous experience.

Bear in mind, however, that because befriending involves supporting someone who is isolated, The ACVS assess volunteers carefully and will take time to review your application/offer of volunteering.

One befriender on the island said: 'It seemed the ideal opportunity to give something back to a community that had been so welcoming to me.'

For further information, contact Arran Community and Voluntary Service, tel: 01770 600611, email: info@arrancvs.org.uk or go to Facebook: Arran Befriending Network.

Extra screening

The Screen Machine has added another screening of the new James Bond film in Brodick this weekend.

All four screenings of the film No Time to Die sold out in days online. Now there will

be an additional screening on Sunday November 7 at 1pm at the Screen Machine which has a new location at Ormidale Park in Brodick.

There will be eight tickets available on the door 30 mins before their scheduled start times. First come, first served.

Challenging conditions as lifeboat rescues yacht

by Colin Smeeton
editor@arranbanner.co.uk



A stricken yacht had to be towed to safety by the Arran RNLI last weekend after the vessel was seen to be drifting in severe weather near Lochranza.

Shortly after 1.30pm on Saturday the lifeboat team were tasked to the broken-down yacht in the Kilbrannan Sound, roughly halfway between Lochranza and Claonaig.

The volunteer crew assembled and in challenging conditions they made their way to the casualty vessel.

Trainee lifeboat crew member Richard Godfrey said: 'On route to the casualty vessel, and away from the shelter of the Arran coast, the wind had picked up to a moderate gale which made securing the



The RNLI delivers the stricken yacht to a mooring where repairs can be carried out.

casualty vessel with real style despite the conditions.'

On return to the station at 4.20pm, the shore crew recovered the lifeboat and made her ready for service again whilst the crew dried out and warmed up after a busy afternoon.

In a strange but useful coincidence Amanda Pirie, Arran RNLI press officer, was on hand to photograph the event.

Amanda said: 'It just so happened that I was walking my dog down in Lochranza when the pager sounded, and I could see the casualty vessel out in the bay and it appeared to be drifting. Sure enough, the coastguard arrived and before long, an orange boat appeared around the headland.'

If you ever see someone in trouble on or around the coast, call 999 and ask for the Coastguard.

casualty vessel a challenge for us all. However, great teamwork and leadership from our helms meant we quickly got one of our team on board and we took the casualty vessel under tow into the shelter of Lochranza.

'With the conditions the way they were, it was far from a

pleasant journey, but the two yachtsmen and their boat were returned to safety from where they could make repairs before resuming their voyage.

'As conditions worsened we made our way back to Lamlash and reflected upon the acrobatic skills of our helm who had boarded the

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& Sunday 7th November 12.30pm - 5pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick

LETTERS

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or The Editor, Arran Banner, Brodick, Arran KA27 8AJ

Time running out

The news that planning permission for the redevelopment of the McLaren Hotel site in Brodick runs out in weeks is worrying.

For seven years, Brodick residents and businesses trying to attract tourists have had to put up with this ugly eyesore in one of the most prominent positions on the shorefront.

When plans were finally lodged in May 2018, there was much opposition to the size and scale of the proposed £9 million aparthotel to replace it.

However, others thought at last the site would be cleared and no matter how long it took for the hotel to be built progress would be made.

Wind forward to November 2021 and nothing has changed, except the site has got worse.

But with just weeks of the planning permission to go before it runs out and questions over the company behind the redevelopment, there seems little chance of an early resolution to the problem.

Arran has so much tourist potential and Brodick is best sited to take advantage of that given it is the first port of call for most visitors arriving, so it is criminal there are so many buildings that are empty, derelict or both - with the McLaren Hotel the worst offender.

Let's hope for progress as we really can't have another tourist season with the site in such a mess as it is now.

Thought for the week

'Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.' Luke 20: 25

Dissenting views

Sir,
In all the words printed and spoken in the next fortnight at the COP26 conference there is one which will never be mentioned - and that is water vapour. Yet water vapour is the main greenhouse gas.

Confirmation of this can be found deep in the full text of the 2007 IPCC report. Because there is so much more of it in the atmosphere, it has about 15 times more effect than that of CO2. It is strange it is seldom mentioned, perhaps because there is no way it could be taxed as is done with CO2.

Science attributes all the warming seen in the world these last 200 years to carbon dioxide and a few other minor gases - this is incorrect. Carbon dioxide and the other minor gases are responsible for no more than one third of the warming; the rest is due to water vapour. Water vapour is invisible but eventually forms clouds.

President Obama's chief scientific officer John Holdren stated in 2016 that 'a one per cent change in the amount of cloud cover was enough to change the temperature by 0.8 degrees centigrade', or about 75 per cent of the warming seen.

It works both ways, more cloud the temperature goes up, less cloud it goes down. Cloud cover is estimated to average about 67 per cent. One per cent would never be noticed.

The world's climate has always changed over many years and will continue to do so with or without humans on it. Climate science is now a closed shop where dissenting scientists, and there are plenty, are never heard. Group thinking has taken over where no-one is allowed to challenge ideas.

It's all CO2 and zero carbon; more like a case of CO2 on the brain.

Yours,
Jim Climie,
Whiting Bay.

Climate solidarity

Sir,
On Saturday November 6, in all corners of the world, people will join marches, rallies, vigils and demonstrations to demand our political leaders take real action to avert the climate crisis and recognise the need for climate justice.

On Arran, we too will have a demonstration between 12.45pm and 1.30pm opposite The Douglas Hotel. Please join us to show solidarity.

But it is not just politicians, as we all know we as individuals will need to change our lifestyles, our consumer habits, our sense of entitlement to have what we want when we want it, to dramatically reduce our own carbon footprint.

After all, each of us contributes in some way or another to the energy demand which today is driving the heating effect in our climate.

A very positive future lies ahead for all of us if we are willing to change.

See you there? Come and talk about it.
Yours,
Sally Campbell,
Lamlash.

A poem for COP26

Wee Greta's here in Glesca
Tae tell us what to do
Baggiped right off the train here
Nae BSc - not a bloody clue.

Our universal leaders,
The world's great and good
They see her - a Messiah
How much they've misunderstood!

There's to be no more flood'n
And the rains are to have bans
Because Wee Greta's said so
And so, then say her all her fans.

So, when will they see through her,
And the price to them she'll cost
As they pay for air heat source pumps
And their new lives in the frost.

Happy to block the Glesca streets
But not at Volvo's gate
No protests then in Stockholm -
Just in the Gallowgate.

Wee Greta's here in Glesca
Tae meet Lorna and wee Pat
Lorna's Covid tested
So that's the end of that!

For those who're old enough and mind
Hans Christian Anderson's Song
The 'Kings New Clothes' and what it meant
What could possibly go wrong?

Yours,
Neil Arthur,
Kilpatrick.

Empty housing a valuable resource

Sir,
I write in connection with your recent article on the housing crisis on Arran and the lack of affordable housing to rent or buy on the island.

A few hundred yards from my home, there is a derelict house on a large plot of land which is suitable for re-development, but which the owner has chosen - for reasons unknown - not to develop or sell for development.

This is a disgraceful situation on an island where housing is at a premium.

Such a blight appears to have gone unnoticed by North Ayrshire Council, as the local planning and housing authority.

I wonder whether this situation is replicated elsewhere on Arran, where owners have allowed their property to become derelict and unused - and the local authority has taken no action to remedy the problem?

Perhaps it would be useful for the Arran Banner newspaper to consider carrying out an investigation on the number of empty houses on the island?

Your investigation could examine the reasons why the owners are unable or unwilling to release such a valuable resource to the community?

Yours,
Graham Hill,
Whiting Bay.

CONTACTUS

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PRESSPOLICY

At The Arran Banner, we endeavour to ensure all our reports are fair and accurate and comply with the Editors' Code of Practice set by the Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO).

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; 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.

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. Emailed letters can only be considered if they have a name, full address and phone number.



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hold it until all your goods have arrived and deliver it all together to your home. If you're needing special arrangements for your delivery we can help. Just let us know your requirements when you book in. Forklift on site for pallets and as well as our speedy parcel services, we offer a 2 man and tailift service throughout the Island.

Hospital Supporters' League says thanks

Arran War Memorial Hospital Supporters' League has thanked the Arran community and beyond for its continued support and generous donations during the pandemic.

The registered charity raises funds and provides comfort and assistance for patients and staff at Arran War Memorial Hospital, Lamlash, which has 17 beds, an accident and emergency unit, a maternity service and a range of outpatient services.

Accepting the most recent donation from Lamlash Golf Club, which held a charity day, the Eddie Cannon Memorial competition, supporters' league secretary Jim Arnold thanked the golf club for its £332 donation.

Jim said: 'Our most recent spending at the hospital has been just over £600 on personal items including tooth-brushes, razors, soap and emergency clothing. Some emergency patients arrive without any of these. Furthermore, some patients, such as visiting cyclists with broken limbs, need to have their clothing cut away from injured arms or legs. We try to keep a small stock of these items at the hospital and this had run down.

'We have also spent more than £1,000 replacing all the TVs in the building.

'These are quite up-to-date and allow patients the same media as they may be used to at home.

'Thanks to Lamlash Golf Club, people on this island and their relations and friends on other bigger islands across the water we have continued to receive support during Covid and for this we are extremely grateful.'

Arran estate agents gain top industry qualifications

Estate agents Elaine Wood and Kirsty Evans, of Arran Estate Agents, have achieved the highest Scottish qualification offered by the National Association of Estate Agents (NAEA), writes Colin Smeeton.

Reaching level six of the Propertymark qualification, the nationally recognised award requires more than 120 hours of study, four exams and covers all the skills and knowledge required in the industry.

This includes security and general law, law relating to residential property sales, practice relating to residential property sales, property appraisal and basic building construction and defects.

Surprisingly, estate agents do not require any qualifications to sell houses, however, moves are afoot within the industry and in governmental talks to make training mandatory to raise standards within the industry.



Property specialists Elaine Wood and Kirsty Evans of Arran Estate Agents. 01_B45award02

Elaine Wood has been working as an estate agent at Arran Estate Agents for two and half years, whilst Kirsty Evans has been there for almost eight years. Elaine replaced Ann Rhead as the office manager last September.

Elaine said: 'It was important for us to secure this recognised qualification as an estate agent.

'It is not only a personal achievement but also a mark of profes-

sionalism and trust. It provides reassurance to our clients that Arran Estate Agents adheres to the highest professional standards and that our team are qualified and knowledgeable - as well as friendly and accessible.'

Arran Estate Agents is the longest established estate agent on Arran and has been owned and run by Bob Brass since 1990.

The company deals with proper-

ty sales, purchases, properties to let, home reports and valuations - for both residential and commercial property - along with all allied services.

Tim Green, chairman of the NAEA, said: 'The Propertymark Qualifications Level 6 Award is a regulated qualification ideal for candidates wanting to improve existing knowledge in the key areas related to residential property sales.

'Propertymark Qualifications is committed to raising standards within the residential property sales sector through the provision of accredited, nationally recognised qualifications, such as the award which Ms Wood and Ms Evans have achieved.'

Over 50?
You're now eligible for the flu vaccine.

Flu is serious. In Scotland, thousands of people are hospitalised with flu. This winter our immunity may be lower than usual. So it's more important than ever to get the flu vaccine.

For more information on the flu vaccine go to nhsinform.scot/flu or call 0800 030 8013.

NHS SCOTLAND Public Health Scotland Healthier Scotland
SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT

Hauntingly good Hallowe'en



Girls enjoy the Hallowe'en games at Shiskine.

01_B45Halloween02



Dressed as Mr Blippi, a young boy poses for the camera.

01_B45Halloween06

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

While there may not have been as many Hallowe'en parties and events as in previous years, irrepressible young monsters, princesses, ghosts and ghouls still managed to celebrate Hallowe'en in spooktacular style with a number of events taking place round Arran over the weekend.

Lamlash Primary School started the celebrations early when, on Friday, teachers joined the pupils to host a number of Hallowe'en events and fun activities for the children.

Of course, children were able to dress up as their favourite characters while enjoying a number of fun Hallowe'en-themed games which included dancing, dodge ball, bingo, and bobbing for apples among many more.

Throughout the afternoon, groups of pupils also explored a section of a well-decorated Whitehouse Woods, where a number of clues lay hidden in the forest for children who combined all of the clues to solve a riddle.

A pumpkin carving competition, and games and activities ensured that children were kept active and entertained, and meant they enjoyed a very memorable Hallowe'en party.

Continued on page 10



Left: Wednesday Addams and a plague doctor at the Shiskine party.

01_B45Halloween05



Left: A ghoulish gathering of girls enjoy a dancing statues game at Shiskine.

01_B45Halloween03



Below: Barbie and Ken collect a prize at Shiskine.

01_B45Halloween07



New Active Schools Co-coordinator Martyn Rae joins Lamlash pupils at the Hallowe'en costume parade.

01_B45Halloween04



A small portion of the carved pumpkins at Shiskine, including a carved turnip or two.

01_B45Halloween08

happenings around Arran



Left: Lamlash Primary pupils excitedly dodge the pumpkin ball. 01_B45Halloween10



Left: Two little girls tell Barbara Crawford who they are dressed up as.

01_B45Halloween11



Right: Double trouble, two wee witches at Shiskine's party. 01_B45Halloween12



Above: Shiskine children impress the judges during the Hallowe'en parade.

01_B45Halloween13



Left: A young girl dressed as a pumpkin takes to the dance floor at Shiskine.

01_B45Halloween09



Whiting Bay children pose for a group photograph at their Hallowe'en party. 01_B45Halloween18



Left: Headteacher Susan Foster and new deputy Siobhan Wilks judge the pumpkin carving competition at Lamlash Primary. 01_B45Halloween01



Above: Lamlash Primary teachers join pupils in a number of action dances. 01_B45Halloween16

Hauntingly good Hallowe'en

Continued from page eight.

The day's events culminated in a parade in the playground which elicited many smiles and much laughter from pupils and staff.

On Saturday, in the village halls at Whiting Bay and Shiskine, children also enjoyed all of the fun and games

associated with Hallowe'en. Organisers at both events ensured that music, fun, games, laughter and a generous helping of sweet prizes, liberally awarded, all added to the fevered excitement of the Hallowe'en celebrations.

Naturally, there were other smaller Hallowe'en events held over the weekend, as

many schools and groups held their own parties, but owing to the pandemic and restrictions, these were kept private.

The Arran Banner visited some of the events, where permissible, and the photos over these pages will provide readers' with a flavour of the celebrations.



A little witch and pumpkin make their way around Shiskine Hall. 01_B45Halloween14



An assortment of scary characters and smiling faces during the Whiting Bay Hallowe'en parade. 01_B45Halloween19



Young girls enjoy the games at Whiting Bay. 01_B45Halloween21



Above and left: After a day packed full of fun activities Lamlash Primary pupils enjoy a Hallowe'en parade accompanied by lively music.

01_B45Halloween29 and 01_B45Halloween30

Below: Explaining the rules, a group of young girls learn how to play Hallowe'en bingo.

01_B45Halloween26



Right: Lamlash principal teacher Lucy Marriott leads the Hallowe'en parade.

01_B45Halloween24



Lamlash Primary pupils pose for a group photograph at their Hallowe'en party. 01_B45Halloween27



happenings around Arran



Above: Costume winners receive their prizes at Lamlash Primary. 01_B45Halloween31



A group of friends at Whiting Bay pose for a group photograph.

01_B45Halloween22



Brodick Early Years pupils enjoyed a dressing up day for Hallowe'en. No_B45Halloween32

Left: An assortment of characters prepare to scare at The Old Post Office Hallowe'en event.

01_B45Halloween23



Popular games and gaming characters featured prominently among the children's preferred outfits.

01_B45Halloween20



Right: Winners of the Lamlash Primary pumpkin carving competition pose with their pumpkins.

01_B45Halloween28



THE ARRAN BANNER 20 YEARS AGO

Saturday November 3, 2001

Hallowe'en special

Clockwise from right: Thomas Drummond, Scott Campbell, Dougie and Mandie Murray and Ruaridh Robertson in Lamlash. 01_B45ABTYA02;
An assortment of characters at the Kildonan Hallowe'en party. 01_B45ABTYA04;
Iona Kerr, Lauren Boal, Glenda Ashley, Lauren Ramsay, Kirsty Clark, Nicole Bunyan, Holly Weir and Lauren Bell in Brodick. 01_B45ABTYA05;
Hosting the Brodick Guides for apple dooking was Claire at the Hydro Board. 01_B45ABTYA06;
Brodick Playgroup eat their apples at Hallowe'en. 01_B45ABTYA03;
Dressed for the occasion at the Kildonan Hallowe'en party are Catrina Bonner as a red devil, Jessie Norman as a witch, Linzi Nicol as a good fairy and Katrina McKinnon as a princess. 01_B45ABTYA01



What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.co.uk

TOURS AND TASTINGS BY APPOINTMENT



Every Day

Arran Brewery, Shop Open – Monday to Saturday 10am – 4.30pm, Sunday, 12noon - 4pm
Brodick Castle & Gardens Brodick, Open daily, 10am – 5pm (last entry 4.30pm)
Brodick Mini Golf, Open seven days, 10am - 5pm-ish, ALL weather
COAST Discovery Centre, Lamlash, Open Monday - Saturday, 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 6th November

Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm
Arran Cop26 Rally, outside Douglas Hotel, 12.45pm – 1.30pm
Eco Toy Sale, Brodick Early Years Brodick Hall, 1pm - 3pm
RNLI Shop – Open, Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 1.30pm
Screen Machine, Ormidale Park, Brodick from 2pm
Open Session, Crofters' Bar and Bistro, 3pm – 5pm
The Northend Festival of Fire, Castle and Village Green, Lochranza, from 6.30pm
Northend Festival of Fire Family Dance, Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall, Lochranza, 8.30pm -10pm
Live Music, Crofters' Bar and Bistro, from 9pm

Sunday 7th November

RNLI Shop – Open, Lamlash Pier, 2pm – 4pm
Screen Machine, Ormidale Park, Brodick from 2pm
What's Happening On Arran, <http://www.arranmedia.co.uk>, 4pm
Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, Brodick Church Hall, 5pm – 6.30pm

Monday 8th November

Arran Chess Club – new members welcome, Crofters', Brodick, 10.30am
Screen Machine, Ormidale Park, Brodick from 2pm
Shiskine Tennis Club, Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 4pm
JogScotlandArran@gmail.com, Whiting Bay, Venue varies, 5.30pm
K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm - 10pm
Arran Rugby Training, Juniors and Seniors, Ormidale Park, 7pm - 8pm

Tuesday 9th November

Healthy Outdoor Team, Brodick Castle, 10am – 1pm
Stroll with it Arran! Health Walks, COAST Discovery Centre, Lamlash, 11am
Shiskine Tennis Club, Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 11am
Alcoholics Anonymous Meeting, Brodick Church Hall, 2pm

Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 1.30pm
Junior Hockey, P1 - S3 (age 5 to 14 yrs), Ormidale Pavillion, Brodick, 6pm – 7pm
Bible Meetings, Shiskine Village Hall, Shiskine, 7.30pm - 8.30pm
K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm
Pop Music Quiz, suits all ages, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Wednesday 10th November

Gaelic Landscape Walk, Glen Catacol, with Arran Geopark, 10am - 1pm
Hydrofit, Auchrannie Resort, 10.30am – 11.15am
Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 1.30pm
Archives and Genealogy services, Arran Heritage Museum, 10.30am -12.30pm & 1.30pm to 3.30pm.
Arran Well-Being Cafe, Ormidale Pavillion, Brodick, 2pm - 4pm
Arran Pace Makers please check Facebook @arranpacemakers, Venue varies, 5.30pm
K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm
Rock and Pop Bingo, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Thursday 11th November

Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm
Shiskine Tennis Club, Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 11am
Arran Cancer Support Group, Banner Lodge (left of Heather Lodge), Brodick, 2pm
K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm
Senior Hockey (12+), Ormidale Astro Pitch, 7pm – 8.30pm
Quiz – General Knowledge, Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 9pm

Friday 12th November

Arran Chess Club – new members welcome, Crofters', Brodick, 10.30am
Winter Show, Saltwater Gallery, Cladach 12noon - 7pm
Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm
Shiskine Tennis Club, Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, Blackwaterfoot, 4pm
K.A. Leisure, Lamlash, 6pm – 10pm
Isle of Arran Pipe Band AGM, Brodick Hall, Brodick, 7.30pm
Live Music Crofters' Bar and Bistro, from 9pm

Saturday 13th November

Winter Show, Saltwater Gallery, Cladach 10am - 5pm
Eco Savvy Community Shop, Whiting Bay, 10.30am – 4.30pm
RNLI Shop – Open, Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Rink Games, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Screen Machine, Ormidale Park, Brodick from 2pm
Open Session, Crofters' Bar and Bistro, 3pm – 5pm
Live Music, Crofters' Bar and Bistro, from 9pm

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offering brokerage and free valuations. Contact Jamie on 07983624634 or 01770600969

Arran Dark

The Isle of Arran Brewery's Dark Premium Beer is the brewery's second most awarded beer.

A malty brown beer in the style of a 'Scottish Heavy' with ripe fruit flavours and a deep finish.

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



RECRUITMENT



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.

Auchrannie Resort is recruiting an exciting, new, senior role as our Head of Recreations.

We are looking for strong leadership skills and someone who can create a positive, fun workplace culture and deliver service excellence to our guests and members. You will demonstrate the ability to manage the overall operation of a complex area of our business which includes our swimming pools, gym, games hall, Arran Adventure and Playbarn. You will have responsibility to ensure all the safety and compliance measures are in place across our leisure facilities and that all team members are trained to the required standard. A strong understanding of the leisure and hospitality industry would be an advantage for this role.

For the right candidate we are offering a highly competitive salary and excellent benefits package. For more information please contact 01770303329 or email kaitken@auchrannie.co.uk.



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We are currently looking for a full time Recreations Assistant to join our team.


As a Recreations Assistant you will help create Awesome experiences for guests and members in our leisure facilities. We are looking for someone with a great personality and an interest in keeping healthy and active. No previous experience necessary as full training will be provided but you should be comfortable in the water.

We also have a number part time opportunities to join our teams in Recreations, Food and Beverage and Housekeeping. All part-time opportunities offer flexible hours to work round your family commitments and studies.

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For more information about any of our current opportunities get in touch by calling 01770303329 or email HR@auchrannie.co.uk



NORTH AYRSHIRE Health and Social Care Partnership

Have you considered a career in social care?

Are you a caring and compassionate person who would love to make a difference to local communities on Arran?

North Ayrshire Health and Social Care Partnership's Care at Home service provides a lifeline allowing residents to remain independently in their own homes for longer.

There's more to a care than you might think. From administering medication to using specialist equipment, our highly trained staff deliver a vital service that greatly enhances the quality of life of those they care for.

Carers come from a wide variety of backgrounds, with the role offering a rewarding career within a great team and excellent opportunities for promotion. Full training will be provided.

There are currently a number of permanent 20 and 30-hour a week positions available on Arran, offering a competitive salary, pension scheme, discounted KA Leisure membership, generous annual leave and public holidays, as well as access to North Ayrshire Council's employee perks hub, which provides national and local offers and discounts.

If you'd like to know more about the work of the Care at Home service, visit nahscp.org/support-in-the-community-adults/care-home-service.

Or if you'd like to apply, or need further information, please contact Team Manager Julie Thomson on 01294 310222 or Ruth Betley 01770 600777.

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THE ARRAN BANNER



PUBLIC NOTICES

Isle of Arran Pipe Band AGM

Friday 12th November 2021
Brodick Hall at 7.30pm
All Welcome

PUBLIC MEETING SATURDAY 20th NOVEMBER 11 AM LOCHRANZA VILLAGE HALL

The Lochranza and Catacol Community Association needs your support to consider means to try to secure the future well being and prosperity of our community.

This appears increasingly under threat with an ageing population and loss of local amenities. We would ask you to come along to this meeting, and give us your views on issues such as new housing, and the proposal to consider a community buyout of our local hotel.

Without the support of all sections of our community we cannot start to address the future, so please join us on the day, and give us your views and ideas.

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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 7th November
Lochranza & Pirnmill
Churches-

Morning worship service at
Lochranza Church 10.15am
Morning worship at Shiskine
Church 12noon.

Communion Service at
Broddick Church 10.30am
Communion Service at Corrie
Church at 12noon.
The Food Bank continues
from Broddick Church

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Whiting Bay and Kildonan
Church of Scotland

Charity Number: SC014005

Sunday 7th November

The Sacrament of Communion
will be celebrated at 10.30am.
Track and Trace still required
All Welcome.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash

*"A faith to proclaim ~ a
fellowship to share"*

Scottish Charity SC015072

Sunday 7th November

Kilmory at 10 am
Lamlash Church at 11.30 am
To comply with 'Trace and
Protect' regulations, name
and contact details will be
asked for, on entering. We
will be observing all socially
distancing procedures.

All welcome

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL
CHURCH**

(Part of the Worldwide
Anglican Church)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday 7th November

3rd Sunday before Advent
Holy Communion at 11 am.

Richard Trewby
ALL WELCOME

Please join us for coffee after
the service

We follow strict SEC
guidelines

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister - Rev. Vince Jennings
Tel: 01770 600222

www.arranbaptistchurch.org.uk

Sunday 7th November

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.

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF
SCOTLAND (CONTINUING)**

Sunday 7th November

Morning Service at 11am
Free Church Building, Alma
Road, Broddick
All welcome

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC
CHURCH**

Mass: Saturday 6th November

Vigil at 5pm

Sunday 7th November

- 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 9th November

Shiskine Village Hall, Shiskine
at 7.30pm - 8.30pm

Conducted by W Craigs
and R Hughes

Contact 07756836670.

All are welcome to attend.

DEATH NOTICES

DICKSON - Grace Cook (nee
McGregor). Peacefully on 25th
October 2021 at Viewlands
Care Home, Perth. Grace, formerly
at Keppoch, Springbank,
Broddick. Beloved wife of the late
Dr James Dickson. Wonderful
Mother to Gaye, Colin, Iain
and Margaret. Mother-in-law
to Bill, Lorna, Hamish and
Lee. Much loved Granny and
Great-Granny. Funeral service
will take place at St Bride's
Church, Broddick, Isle of Arran
at 11:30am on 10th November
2021. Thereafter Broddick New
Cemetery. Family flowers only.
Donations can be made to a
charity that Grace was close to
Sightsavers.

HENDERSON - Robert (Rab)
Ferrier. Formerly of Clydebank
and Isle Of Arran died on 18
October, aged 86. Husband of
Meg, Father of Euan, Lisa and
the late Debbie, Father-in-Law
of Suzanne, Grampa of Sophie
and Max. On Rab's instructions
a private cremation has
already taken place. The family
request no cards, letters, emails
or phone calls please.

HUNTER - Alan. Of McKelvie
Road Lamlash, sadly passed
away on Friday 15th of October
after a long illness. Much
loved father, grandfather,
and great grandfather. With
special thanks to the doctors
and nurses of Arran War
Memorial Hospital. Cremation
to be held at 1:30pm Tuesday
9th November at Holmsford
Crematorium, Dreghorn, then



Above, tournament players
pose for a photograph.



Left, children enjoy a
light-hearted warm up
using pumpkins.



Right, the final match
was between Arran and
Ardrossan U12.

afterwards at the Waterside
Hotel. All welcome. There will
be a minibus meeting the ferry
and return available for those
that need transport.

MEEHAN - Brenda Jean.
Passed away peacefully on
30th October. Beloved wife of
Jim. Loving mother of Susan,
Adam and Harvey, and Martin.
Proud grandmother to Sam,
Clare, Sophie, Rosie, Daniel
and Tom. Great grandmother
to Piper, Lexie and Cassie.
Service at Whiting Bay Church
Monday 15th November at
11.30am. Family flowers only.

ROBERTS - Alexander.
Peacefully at 'Woodburn'
24th October 2021 aged 91.
Beloved husband of the late
Sheila Roberts, Dad to Shona
and Sandie, Father in law to
Alistair and Donald, Grandpa
to Niall, Amie, Kirsty and
Robert. Committal at Lamlash
cemetery 12.15 Monday 8th
November, all welcome.

ARRAN BANNER GOLF

Corrie Golf Club

Monday November 1,
Monday Cup: 1 R Burke 79-
15-64, 2 R McLean 78-13-65.
Scratch A Smith 77. Magic
twos R McLean @9th.

Saturday October 30,
medal: 1 J Quigley 72-13-59,
2 D Logan 72-12-60, 3 A
McDonald 76-15-61. Scratch
D Logan and J Quigley. Magic
twos pot won by J Quigley.

Monday October 25,
Monday Cup: 1 R I McMillan
78-20-58, 2 J McGovern 73-
12-61. Scratch M Wallbank
71. Magic twos M Wallbank
@14th.

Fixtures: Saturday
November 6, 18-hole
medal. Monday November 8,
Monday Cup, ballot at noon.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday October 28, back
nine medal: 1 John O'Sullivan
43-14 1/2=28 1/2, 2 Alan
Smith 38-9=29, 3 Martin
Wallbank 36-6 1/2= 29 1/2.
Best scratch Paul Cowan 31.
Magic twos, Paul Cowan
@17th. Overall winner, Paul
Cowan total 60, runner-up
Alan Smith total 61.

Fixtures: Sunday November
7, AGA Winter League.
Lamlash v Machrie at
Machrie. Thursday November
11, yellow medal, 11am draw.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday November 2, Winter
Cup: 1 Willie Kelso 65, 2 John
Pennycott 68, 3 Jim Brown 70.

Fixtures: Tuesday November
9, Winter Cup, tee-off noon.
Saturday November 13,
Lochranza Hotel Cup, tee-off
noon. AGA Winter Cup

is to be played at Machrie.
First game Machrie Bay vs
Lamlash tee off at 8.30am,
Whiting Bay vs Broddick
tee-off at 9.20am, Shiskine vs
Corrie tee-off at 11.50am.

Broddick Golf Club

Saturday October 30,
Saturday Cup Stableford, 17
played: 1 Ian Shand (19)44pts,
2 Brian Allison (24)38pts, 3
Jimmy Armit (15)37pts acb.

Fixtures: Sunday November
7, AGA Duncan Trophy at
Machrie Bay GC, plus sweep
at Broddick.

Shiskine Golf Club

Sunday October 28, ladies 18
hole medal. 1 Alice Anderson
85-17=68, 2 Elizabeth Kelso
95-22=73, 3 Fiona Henderson
90-16=74. Scratch Alice
Anderson 85.

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Arran Lions roar at first junior hockey tournament

by Colin Smeeton
 editor@arranbanner.co.uk

A small group of Arran Junior Hockey Club (AJHC) players, called the Arran Lions, were the overall winners of the first junior event at St Mathew's Academy in Saltcoats.

The event, taking place on Hallowe'en, saw three Arran teams consisting of 14 children and two Ardrossan teams with 11 children, competing for the ceremonial Pumpkin Trophy.

The tournament was a scaled down version of what was originally planned for the day and it took place at a different venue than planned owing to a last minute change.

Originally scheduled to take place between Arran, Ardrossan and Ayr hockey clubs with around 70 under-10 and under-12 children attending, the event took a turn when high winds, floods and cancellations nearly saw the whole thing being called off.

On the day of the match high winds put the ferry on amber alert and while en route to the venue, a greatly reduced AJHC were informed that the Ardrossan pitch had flooded and that Ayr had to withdraw at the last minute.

Thankfully the hosts, Ardrossan Academy Former Pupils Hockey Club (AAFPHC) secured a new venue at St Mathews Academy in Saltcoats and the event was still able to go ahead.

AAFPHC arranged a



Above, Arran Junior Hockey Club players return home with the Pumpkin Trophy; top right, AJHC coaches Lorraine Hewie, Marie Louise Craig and Lee Reid; and middle right, Eva McCrae, Harris McCormick, Rosie Ferguson and Isaac Hunter of the AJHC.



selection of warm up races and games, a round robin of matches, Hallowe'en treat bags, musical statues and a semi-final and final match for the overall winner of the tournament.

After a troublesome morning things started to look up for the young players when by the afternoon the rain stopped, the pitch was cleared

of water, and the semi-final and final matches could be played outdoors.

At a final presentation the Arran Lions were announced as the overall winners and were presented with the Pumpkin Trophy.

An AJHC spokeswoman said: 'It was a wonderful day enjoyed by all, with superb organisation from

our Ardrossan hosts. Massive thanks to the coaches and parents who attended and a huge well done to our young hockey players who played their socks off and showed great play and sportsmanship throughout.'

The next junior event is scheduled to take place around March next year when Arran will play host to Ardrossan and Ayr hockey clubs.



Left, Kayla Hewie with the winning Pumpkin Trophy presented by a representative of AAFPHC.



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