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# Anger as ferry stoppage brings travel chaos

## Calls for a long term solution to be found

**REPORT**  
 by HUGH BOAG  
 editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Demands have been made for improvements after bad weather caused Christmas chaos on the ferries.

Major ferry disruptions over the festive holidays badly hit businesses on the island and left many people stranded on the mainland after every boat was cancelled on Christmas Eve.

The prolonged stormy weather has seriously disrupted services to the island, and there is a growing criticism that operator Caledonian MacBrayne appears to no longer use the alternative port of Gourock.

There are also fears that travel disruption could hit future business.

Now business leaders are expected to seek urgent talks with the ferry operator and the Scottish government in a bid to find a long term solution to the problem.

The Auchrannie Resort estimates losses of well in excess of £10,000 with around 100 party night guests unable to get to events before Christmas. They also had around a dozen rooms cancelled over the holidays.

The hotel contacted all

guests with Christmas bookings and offered them the chance to come a day earlier, which many did.

Business development manager Gordon Hay said: 'December is a very important month for us as it helps make up for some of the losses over the other winter months but this year has been the worst December we have experienced for many years.'

He said he did not know if the weather had been particularly bad or the ferries were being cancelled more often.

**Negative message**

'Ferry disruption sends out a very negative message and anyone who had to cancel this year is not going to book next year.'

'I don't know what the options are but a solution needs to be looked at in the long term.'

The MV Caledonian Isles has not sailed to Gourock for three years and the last sailing to another port was when the MV Isle of Arran went to Wemyss Bay in February 2012.

CalMac has also been criticised for issuing a 'don't travel' warning a week before Christmas.

Marketing manager at the Douglas Hotel in Brodick Elaine Campbell said the ho-



**Salvation Army hosts feast for festive diners**  
 The Salvation Army's Lexie Andrade, centre, was joined by volunteers, from left to right, Isabel Doig, Michael Fisher, Marie Sillars and Maureen Docherty as they prepared free meals in Lamlash on Christmas day. Read all about it on page 3. 20\_b01sa103

tel had 'quite a few cancellations'.

She said: 'The warning CalMac put out several days before Christmas telling people to make alternative arrangements didn't do anyone on the island any favours and led to quite a few cancellations.'

The Douglas also contacted everyone with a reservation and offered them the chance to come a day early at a reduced rate which many guests took up. Although many also left a day earlier.

'As a result we had a very positive Christmas and there was a real Dunkirk spirit among the guests. For them the ferry disruption just added to the quirky appeal of Arran and they were happy to battle on regardless, but for island businesses it is no joke,' she said.

At the Book and Card Centre owner Alan Johnston said the disruption had badly hit his newspaper deliveries. 'Some days I have had no papers at all,' he said.

What most concerns him and other businessmen he has spoken to informally is the lack of consistency to the cancellation of services.

'I think people are getting fed up with it. There seems to be no rhyme or reason if the boat sails or not. I don't even know who makes the decision.'

'I can't believe that they don't have any contingency plan if the boat can't sail to Ardrossan. What ever happened to the use of Gourock?'

A CalMac spokeswoman said: 'Gourock is used as an alternative when sailings can-

not safely berth in Ardrossan, however, we would only use this alternative if it is deemed safe to do so. The recent atrocious weather has impacted on many parts of the network which has seen some of our ports, including Gourock, badly affected and therefore unavailable.'

'We do not take decisions to cancel or suspend sailings lightly and we fully appreciate that disruptions can be inconvenient, but the safety of passengers, crew and ships is our number one priority.'

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# Bilslands is up for sale!

## Arran's largest independent retail store is put on the market

Arran's largest independent retail store has been put on the market by its owners as they prepare for retirement.

Bilslands, which is situated on the shorefront in the centre of Brodick, has been owned by Alastair and Alison Bilsland since 1970.

But Alastair told The Banner that after more than 40 years they both felt it was right to sell.

'It's time for us to retire and allow someone younger to take it on,' he said. 'We are extremely proud of all that we have achieved here and we are happy to be selling it now when the business is doing so well.'

The original gift shop was built in 1973 shortly after Alastair Bilsland had purchased the Mini Cafe which had been started with the mini golf park in 1960.

Along with his wife, Alastair created a much loved emporium and cafe on the site that became a firm favourite with visitors for many years.

In 2002 the old building was demolished to make way for the present gift shop and integral cafe that have continued to flourish under the Bilslands name.



Alastair and Alison Bilsland are pictured celebrating the opening of the new store in 2002 with family friend Shona Cormack, centre. b01b101

Back in 2002 Alastair told The Banner that the idea to rebuild the store had come to him five years before in 1998 when he met some foreigners who could not find anything open on a February Sunday

for a coffee or just somewhere to sit.

Indeed until Bilslands opened for business seven days a week in 2002 there were few places open all year round for tourists and locals.

The business is being marketed by Colliers International which describes Bilslands as 'prominent, arguably with the best town centre location' with 'high turnover and increasing profitability' as well as being

in 'walk-in condition'. The bungalow at the back of the shop which was previously occupied by the owners will also be offered for sale to the new owners of Bilslands before it goes on general sale.

## 'Mindless thugs' attack Brodick Christmas tree

Brodick Improvements Committee has promised to find the 'mindless thugs' responsible for wrecking one of its Christmas trees.

More than £600 of damage was caused to the festive tree at the slipway in the centre of Brodick in the early hours of Saturday morning.

Ian Small, who is responsible for putting the lights up each year, told The Banner that a witness had seen a car smashing into the tree at around 4.15am.

He said: 'The person who saw it said that a youth in a silver/grey Honda Civic type car repeatedly rammed the tree until the lights ended up caught in its wing mirrors.'

'Obviously this idiot has then tried to drive away and has pulled the lights off with him and the tree has been left in darkness ever since.'

'Thankfully the strong metal and concrete stand meant that the tree itself didn't move an inch.'

Ian said that police are on the case and tyre tracks have been photographed at the scene. He told The Banner that once the culprit was found he hoped that they would be made to pay for the damage.

For now, Ian has managed to patch up the lights and hopes to have them shining again for Hogmanay but they will need to be completely replaced for next year.

## Timber work to begin

Work to build a timber stacking area at North Sannox will begin on Monday 6 January and will continue until the end of the month.

The track to the Fallen Rocks will be closed on January 7 and 8.

Forestry Commission Scotland urges all walkers to follow all signs and use an alternative walking area if possible.

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# Outdoor centre should be better used by islanders

Better use of the Arran Outdoor Education Centre by people on the island is being considered by a major review into the running of the facility.

And talks are underway for more commercial use at the North Ayrshire Council run centre in Lamlash to generate more income.

It will cost £400,000 to run the centre this year which a consultant's report describes as a 'Rolls Royce' of a facility.

Glasgow-based firm Roseangle was appointed in May last year to undertake a review of the business plan and consider future opportunities for growth.

The council cabinet has now received its interim progress report.

In it the consultant says the centre 'is a Rolls Royce of centres in terms of both its physical facilities and the qualifications of people employed to provide rugged outdoor physical activity experiences'.

However the report recognises that the centre could be better used by the people of Arran, which has been a criticism in the past.

The report states: 'Arran Outdoor Education Centre as a public asset is not as engaged in the Arran commu-

nity as it might be. There is a view that more frequent/regular use of the assets might be made without adverse impact on the centre's operation or benefit to North Ayrshire pupils.

'Roseangle has consulted with businesses on Arran that are in the outdoor activity market. They see opportunities for collaboration and more intensive use of both the council's physical assets and people skills/time on a fee paying basis. Roseangle is continuing to work in this area.

### Encouraged

'Roseangle is also investigating potential business to business relationships with organisations, including accommodation providers, that might be encouraged to choose the centre for annual block bookings during the summer period. Research shows that such relationships exist at other centres and they are actively exploring the po-

tential for Arran.'

The centre is a well-established provider of outdoor education for young people and adults. It moved to a new, purpose-built facility in 2008 and includes a mountain forest retreat, Cloud Base, which provides an overnight experience for centre visitors. The centre caters mainly for primary school children, including children with a range of additional support needs, and also provides a venue for courses for secondary age young people.

The centre achieves an income each year based on a charging policy for school children and other groups which use the centre. There is also a mainland based service which provides outdoor learning opportunities for schools, which costs almost £60,000.

It was agreed that a further report should be brought to the cabinet in the spring with options for the future of the centre.



The report recognises that the Arran Outdoor Centre in Lamlash could be better used by the people of Arran.

01\_b01out01



Some of the ladies enjoying their Christmas lunch provided by The Salvation Army.

## Salvation Army serves up Christmas lunch

The Salvation Army opened a kitchen at the McKelvie Road sheltered housing in Lamlash on Christmas day to feed a large group of people from the island.

It was an opportunity for those living in the sheltered accommodation to enjoy a warm meal and it was open to anyone who wanted to pop in.

And so The Banner did just that and found a lively group of people enjoying their Christmas meal.

Organiser Lexie Andrade of The Salvation Army ex-

plained: 'We run a lunch club on a Wednesday throughout the year in conjunction with Isle of Arran Homes but at Christmas this is a special one organised and paid for by the Salvation Army.'

'It is free of charge and anyone who perhaps isn't able to prepare a Christmas meal for themselves or just wants a little bit of company on this special day can come along and enjoy a delicious meal.'

Volunteer chef Michael Fisher had been slaving away in the kitchen for much of Christmas morning with other helpers Marie Sillars, Maureen Docherty, Isabel Doig and Gordon and Evelyn Coles to ensure the meal was ready to be served at 1pm.

After the food the guests enjoyed a visit from Santa who handed out presents before they sang some festive carols.

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# Profits up as brewery looks to new challenges in the year ahead

## 'Shares are being offered at £80 each'

Trading has been challenging for the Arran Brewery in the last three months as management attention has been focused on its crowd funding share launch.

Despite that, the company has still managed a year on year growth of four per cent while profits were up eight per cent on the same period last year.

Meanwhile, the company is pressing ahead with its new hotel and brewery at Loch Earn in Perthshire, although progress with plans to re-

open the Rosebank Brewery in Falkirk have been delayed by a planning dispute.

On Arran the brewery continues to operate the Pierhead Tavern in Lamlash, which it is using as a testing ground for its planned chain of pubs.

Managing director Gerald Michaluk admitted: 'The share launch took up a lot of management time and resources and now that it is out there, we need to market the offer if we are to emulate the success of BrewDog.

'We will be further strengthening the team and have several new posts to fill not to mention the team to recruit for the new Loch Earn Brewery, hotel and visitor centre.'

The refurbishment of the company's 35-bedroom hotel on Loch Earn moves forward at a pace and is on track to open in April with the Loch Earn Brewery shortly afterwards.

However, progress at the Rosebank site in Falkirk is at a standstill as resources have been diverted elsewhere and

the planning risk is assessed against costs involved in moving the project forward.

A major stumbling block is that Falkirk Council insists on defining the site, which first opened in 1813, as 'abandoned' despite legal arguments from the Arran Brewery to the contrary.

The company stepped in last month to re-open the Pierhead Tavern, a Punch-owned pub forced to close.

Mr Michaluk said: 'It was not our intention to run a pub on the island but we did not want to see one close and the site be developed for other purposes so we reluctantly stepped in.

'We are using the site to develop and test our proposed pub chain management and administration systems and it has proved to be a great test bed, being quiet enough, at this time of year, to allow the training of staff, development and modifications of standards and procedures but with enough real customers to try ideas out on.'

The brewery's shares are being offered at £80 each and the company hopes to raise £4m through this crowd funding initiative.

Further information in the form of a share offer document can be found on their website [www.arranbrew.co.uk](http://www.arranbrew.co.uk)



Kenneth Gibson MSP is a strong supporter of the charity Dogs Trust. b01dog01

## MSP issues a reminder that a pet gift is for life

Arran's MSP has issued a plea to islanders to remember that a dog is for life, not just for Christmas.

In the weeks and months ahead many animals given as gifts are abandoned, once the novelty of a new pet wears off.

MSP Kenneth Gibson is a strong supporter of Dogs Trust, the UK's largest dog welfare charity, which cares for more than 16,000 abandoned and unwanted dogs a year through its network of 19 rehoming centres, including two in Scotland.

Last month the trust held an event at the Scottish parliament to raise awareness of its

annual Christmas campaign.

The event, sponsored by Mr Gibson, celebrated the 35th anniversary of the iconic Dogs Trust slogan: 'A Dog is for Life, Not Just for Christmas'.

The phrase was coined in 1978 in a bid to highlight the issue of dogs being given as Christmas gifts and later abandoned.

MSPs were given the opportunity to take a festive Dogs Trust sleigh ride and meet a large number of furry friends.

### Annual campaign

These pooches, however, were all stuffed toys – the only suitable kind of dog to give as a gift! Attendees also learned more about the charity's annual campaign to encourage people to pause and think carefully before taking on a dog, especially during the festive season.

Mr Gibson said: 'I am delighted to have sponsored this Dogs Trust event and help the charity mark the 35th anniversary of its famous slogan, which is as important now as it ever has been.

'A dog is a lifetime commitment and should never be bought on impulse. This message is particularly poignant during the festive season, and remember that a dog is for life, not just for Christmas.'

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# Festive swimmers brave wintry Boxing Day weather



Even Santa was spotted in the water. 20\_b01d0k07

Around 30 hardy swimmers splashed out in the annual Boxing Day Dook in Lamlash as many more thronged to the pier to watch in the rare winter sunshine.

This was the seventh dook organised to raise funds for the local lifeboat.

Just before 2pm, organiser Sally Hunter gave a safety briefing at the lifeboat station, insisting that swimmers walk down the slipway into the sea, rather than jump straight from the pier as the tide was sadly too low.

The hardy souls threw themselves off the slipway on one side and swam around the bottom of the pier to the slip on the other.

As usual a large crowd of spectators had gathered on the pier, well wrapped up against the weather, and filled the pier as the swimmers, many in fancy dress, walked or ran into the sea.

The whole event was over in about 10 minutes and the swimmers made their way back to the lifeboat station.

The local lifeboat crew also braved the cold water - in dry suits - to be on hand in case anyone got into difficulties.

Mulled wine and mince pies were enjoyed by everyone in the lifeboat station afterwards.

Thanks go to all who took part.



David Ingham, Sarah-Jane Young, Shiona Pringle and James Reid brave the icy waters. 20\_b01d0k06



The lifeboat crew were on hand in case anyone got into difficulties. 20\_b01d0k01



Around 30 hardy swimmers splashed out in the annual Boxing Day Dook. 20\_b01d0k03



As usual a large crowd of spectators had gathered on the pier to watch the swimmers. 20\_b01d0k04



Rory Hunter throws himself in the water. 20\_b01d0k02



James Reid of Clauchlands was dressed up for the occasion. 20\_b01d0k05

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# THE ARRAN BANNER

## Lifeline ferry is not serving Arran

It may be a new year but unfortunately an old topic is once again rearing its ugly head - the ferry!

With a new year invariably comes new challenges, and for 2014 CalMac's task is to tackle the ongoing disruptions caused by the inability of the MV Caledonian Isles to berth at Ardrossan.

The island has suffered in recent weeks from appallingly windy weather.

This has resulted in cancellations and major disruptions nearly every day for the past month.

Possibly the worst of these days was Christmas Eve when, despite many people being stranded on either side of the Clyde, the ferry didn't even attempt to sail.

Yes, the weather was awful and it may have been too dangerous to sail but for those left stranded without friends and family for Christmas it was a cruel blow.

In days gone by the ferry was rarely cancelled between Brodick and Ardrossan, at least once a day it would sail to Gourock before resuming the normal sailing when the weather improved.

Many who have lived here their entire lives say that the disruptions now caused by the weather were unheard of 40 years ago - even 10 years ago!

Looking back through the pages of The Arran Banner the ferry last sailed to Gourock around three years ago.

In February 2012 the MV Isle of Arran made a historic sailing from Brodick to Wemyss Bay but since then CalMac have failed to use either port of refuge.

The ferry operator told The Banner that this was because neither port was deemed safe in recent bad weather.

However it seems clear that it no longer even considers Gourock to be an option when the weather is bad.

The weather is outwith CalMac's control. It is an unruly beast that destroys the plans of those wishing to travel to and from the island.

And yes, this is an island, and there is only one way off it (unless you happen to own a helicopter).

As a new year begins it is time for CalMac to take a long look at both the vessel which serves Arran and the pier at Ardrossan.

The pier may be owned by Clydeport but surely the ferry operator can discuss options with them to make it a more accessible harbour.

This situation cannot continue.

Islanders are being left stranded not by poor weather but by a poor ferry service which although happy to call itself a 'lifeline' is doing absolutely nothing for the people of Arran.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.' (1 John 4:9-10)

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## Letters to the Editor



### CalMac praised

Sir  
I would just like to thank CalMac for the tremendous work it did during the recent horrendous weather.

It can't control the weather but it certainly did everything possible to work round it. The unscheduled sailings were a godsend. Unfortunately we did miss Christmas with our family but the 11.05am on Boxing Day meant that we were able to have a Christmas dinner and exchange of presents, albeit a day late. We extend our grateful thanks to all the crew and staff in particular those in the office at Brodick, who, despite having to answer so many enquiries, were unfailingly polite, patient and helpful.

I would particularly like to thank Moira and Matt who bent over backwards to help us. I hope everyone enjoyed a well earned festive break and go on to enjoy a happy, healthy 2014. With grateful thanks.

Yours,  
Jean Barclay  
Lamlash

### Ferry disappointing

Sir,  
While I am aware that the terrible weather conditions during the festive period are outwith the control of the island's ferry operator, I am very disappointed by how little effort was made by CalMac to sail on Christmas Eve.

My family and I - my husband and two young children - travelled from North London on Monday to catch the 9.45am sailing from Ardrossan to Brodick on December 24.

We were aware of the weather forecast but due to work commitments we were unable to leave until the afternoon of December 23.

After a rather awful car journey in gale force winds and torrential rain we arrived at our B&B in Ardrossan on Monday night, happy to be reaching the final hurdle - or so we thought.

All four of us were more than happy to sit and wait at Ardrossan on Christmas Eve

as we felt sure that at some point a ferry would sail - if not to Ardrossan then at least to Gourock where we have been forced to board the ferry on previous windy days.

CalMac kept reviewing the situation but at no point during the day did it suggest that the boat would not sail.

So imagine then our utter disbelief when at 4pm it was announced that there would be no sailings that day!

My husband's parents who have lived on Arran their entire lives were completely baffled by this decision as surely CalMac knew that there were many of us stuck on either side of the Clyde trying to get home for Christmas.

I would like to know why the ferry no longer sails to Gourock?

My husband was born and raised on the island and he said that he rarely remembers a day when a boat did not sail, at least to Gourock and back?

As a result of the cancellations we were forced to about-turn and return to London as the prospect of spending Christmas Day in a B&B was not a happy one.

Come on CalMac, surely you can do better than this?

Yours,

Name and address supplied

### Lacking festive spirit

Sir,

In a previous editorial your editor praised the efforts of the skipper of the MV Caledonian Isles for sailing in terrible weather conditions.

If only the skipper working on December 24 could have had some of the same festive spirit - more of us might have got home for Christmas.

Yours,

Bob MacShale  
Glasgow

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### Bring potatoes to life

Sir,

I have visited the Isle of Arran several times and it is a very beautiful wee haven. It seems that you have a fantastic history of Arran potato varieties thanks to Donald McKelvie yet I haven't seen them being promoted much?

There are many Arran potato varieties for eating right through the growing season and the winter.

I'd love to see a campaign to grow, cook and eat Arran varieties - people could be growing them in gardens, plots, small areas of garden and field.

Hotels and restaurants could be using and promoting them on their menus. Bring the Arran potato legacy to life.

Yours,

Liz Murray  
By e-mail



## The Arran Banner on holiday

'The Banner on Holiday' feature started five years ago, and we continue to be absolutely overwhelmed by the number of fantastic photographs of our readers that have come through the doors.

This week we have a great picture from David Pott who is currently in Haiti with the Lifeline Expedition.

David took a copy of the Banner with him and got a friend to take a photo of him showing The Banner to team members from Haiti, Cameroon, France, USA and England.

He said: 'We are a team of 20 people from eight nations bringing an apology for slavery and its legacy.'

### Pack your copy

Don't forget to pack your copy of The Banner if you are going on holiday.

It could be from Ullapool or Uruguay, it really doesn't matter; we would love to see your photographs.

Please send them to us either by email to editor@arranbanner.co.uk or to The Arran Banner, Douglas Centre, Brodick KA27 8AJ.

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# Review of the Year

## Part two - July to December



Stuart Reid of Clauchlands Farm was a happy man after taking the overhead championship with his 31-month-old Holstein cow at the Arran Farmers Show in August.

08\_b32show02

As 2013 draws to a close it is time once again to take our customary look at the news and views that have dominated the pages of The Arran Banner over the past year.

After the snowstorms in March, life on Arran quickly returned to normal and for the rest of 2013 the pages of The Banner were dominated with the usual good news stories documenting the successes and achievements of Arran's small population.

We've covered the successes of Arran's school pupils, the accomplishments of local actors and the often exceptionally brave actions of our local volunteer emergency services.

But most of all we have once again ensured that the readers of The Arran Banner did not miss an important event from all corners of the island as we continue to cover the daily comings and goings of life here.

As we've said before The Banner is your newspaper and we really couldn't produce it without each and every one of you - so thank you!



Rachel Phillips of Sannox had a day to remember when she travelled to Holyrood Palace in July to be made an MBE by Her Majesty the Queen.



Arran's military heroes were recognised when a sponsored 'yomp' took place across the hills of Arran to raise money for Help for Heroes.

20\_b26hfh01



Arran High School's class of 2013 and their teachers held a leavers' dinner at The Kinloch Hotel.

20\_b26dan07



Nine Arran High School pupils began their two-year-long fundraising for a trip of a lifetime that will take them to Malawi in 2015.

20\_b25mal01



Volunteer fire fighter Paul Jameson, right, was presented with a long service and good conduct medal at Lamlash Fire Station by area manager Jim Scott.

20\_b27med01

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Whiting Bay nursery leaders Joanna McCallum and Maggie Dawson had to say farewell to their young charges when it closed its doors in June. 20\_b26whi01



Sophie Corbett from Brodick was named Arran High School's Dux for 2013 in August. 20\_b35one01



Laura and Trevor Helliwell, daughter and son-in-law of Tommy and Barbara Gilmore, took over the day-to-day running of The Ormidale Hotel and gave the much-loved Brodick pub an extensive makeover in July. 20\_b28dale01



A new central appointment system for GPs on Arran was launched in the middle of the year. It is manned by Fiona Robson, Karen Curzons and Janette Head. 20\_b32surgery01

Elma Stevenson of Sannox was the big winner at the Isle of Arran Federation of SWRI annual handicraft show in August.

20\_b32rural02



Karen Renn was named as Brodick Castle's 'artist in residence' in October. She is working on a major piece which will be showcased at the property next summer.

20\_b45artist01



Hundreds of mourners packed a windswept Lamlash Cemetery for the funeral of policeman who was one of three crew members tragically killed when a police helicopter crashed into the sea.



Arran High School welcomed four new teachers after the summer holidays - Mara Gosman (geography), Matthew Reid (English), Derek Wilson (technical) and Lyndsey Campbell-Thomson (history). 20\_b36teach05



Youngsters from Lamlash Primary the new housing development in the village. 20\_b45time01



Arran farmers met with the government's rural affairs secretary Richard Lochhead and MSP Kenneth Gibson in September after months of waiting for payments to cover stock lost in the snow storms. 20\_b36farm01



The saga of Brodick Beach continued as contractors were forced to use rock foundations for two access ramps due to high tides in November. 20\_b48beach02



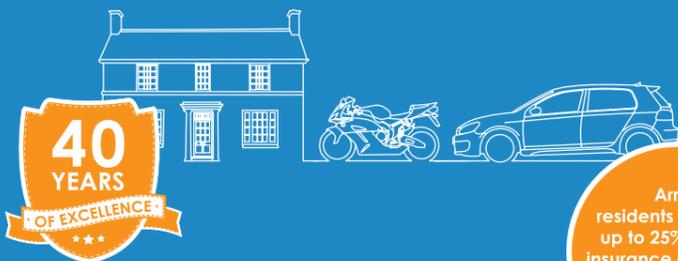
Following the retirement of Ken Thorburn, David Cameron, left, was appointed property manager at Brodick Castle. He will be working with project leader Jonathan Bryant on a £9million revamp of the castle. 20\_b42castle02



It was revealed in November that the extension to The Village Shop will be completed by Easter. 20\_b48shop01

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Tony Collins in December. Tony Clutha Vaults in Glasgow.



A new charity shop opened in Brodick just in time for Christmas. The Footprints Shop behind the Douglas Centre is being run by volunteers to raise money for the elderly. 20\_b50foot01

In December the Arran Community Land Initiative moved forward in its attempt to acquire 81 acres of abandoned farmland in Whiting Bay.



A brand new Argocat was bought for Arran Mountain Rescue Team thanks to funds raised by the Douglas Hotel Challenge in September.



Douglas Auld, the man who has been at the helm of Arran High School for 11 years, announced that he will retire early next year. 20\_b51auld01



Iona Flewitt, a former Arran High School pupil, was awarded the SQA Star Award for School Candidate of the Year after achieving five 'A' grade Highers.



Primary School buried a time capsule at the village at the end of October.



Two cancer charities shared a whopping £7,000 donation thanks to the Douglas family in Brodick. The family of Colin Douglas, who sadly died in January after a long battle with leukaemia, organised a sports auction in July to raise funds for The Friends of the Beatson and The Paul O'Gorman Leukaemia Research Units.



Bill Currie, Dr David Hogg and Fiona Laing, members of Arran Resilience, celebrate after they were named Britain's 'Resilience team of the year' at a national awards ceremony.



Designs for the new Brodick Pier were revealed at the end of November.



The annual Santa's Sparkle event lit up Lamlash at the end of November as the island prepared for the festive season. 20\_b49santa01



Work was done in November when checks to try and reinforce the fence after they were battered by high winds.



A team of archaeologists was on Arran in mid-December hunting for the lost moat at Brodick Castle. 20\_b50moat01



A new deli will be opening its doors. Manager Sheena McDonald said it will create three jobs. 20\_b45deli01



Brodick Golf Club once again held its sunflower competition in September. The winner of the best in show prize was Shona Hume.

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# Bird notes

by Jim Cassels

JANUARY

Some of you may have the experience to recognise the jizz and be able to identify the single Grey Plover from the crowds of Knot at high tide.

Jizz is a term used by birders to describe the overall impression or appearance of a bird.

It includes such features as shape, posture, flight, other movements, size and colouration combined with voice, habitat and location.

While it is thought by some to be a kind of birding alchemy, there may be some physical basis to the idea of jizz.

We have probably experienced being on a crowded street, looking for a friend

and just a glimpse of that person enables us to pick them out from all the other people around. How are we able to do that?

It may be that being familiar with our friend's characteristics including their shape and size, the colour of clothes and their movement, in other words their jizz, helps us pick them out.

Similarly, experienced birders can often make reliable identifications in the field at a glance by utilizing what they

refer to as the jizz of the bird.

Here is an attempt at an example, although it is difficult to capture jizz in a still photograph.

The illustration is of a crowd of shore birds at a roost at high tide.

There are hundreds of one type plus one of another type.

You can imagine them all moving about.

From what you can see you should be able to pick the odd one out.

Some of you may have the experience to recognise the jizz and be able to identify the single Grey Plover from the crowds of Knot.

The origin of the word jizz is a mystery. There is a theory that it comes from the World War II air force acronym GISS for 'General Impression of Size and Shape' of an aircraft, but the birding term

was first recorded earlier than that.

The Oxford English Dictionary Online indicates that the word jizz was being used in the 1920s as one, all-embracing term: the essence or character of the bird.

More likely, jizz is a corruption of gestalt, a German word that roughly means form or shape.

The English word gist has a similar derivation.

Enjoy your birding.

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at james.cassels@virgin.net

I look forward to hearing from you.

For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Report 2012 and visit this website www.arran-birding.co.uk

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## THE ARRAN

## BANNER

TWENTY  
YEARS AGO

Saturday 8 January, 1994



From left, Jim Rogerson, shepherd, with mule gimmer, Jenny Tod with Jim's dog Fleet, and Euan Rogerson with the surprise lamb born at Glenree three months early. b01twe01



Arran's shepherds watch carefully as others take part in the Lenahmor Nursery Sheepdog Trials. b01twe02

## Surprise, surprise!

Hill sheep farmer George Tod of Glenree had a wee surprise this New Year.

One of his Scotch mule gimmers had a lamb three months early, not prematurely, just by mistake.

'First lambs' have become an established feature in The Banner.

For many years these have been pure bred Suffolk with their distinctive creamy fleeces, black heads and lippy lugs and have come from a variety of farms mostly in the south-end or Shiskine area.

We had been hoping for a different lamb each year and Glenree provided an unexpected alternative.

## Lifeboat honour

The Lady Jean Fforde has this week been awarded the Gold Badge of the RNLI.

'It's the first thing I've ever won,' she said, sounding thrilled at the honour, a long service award. The Lady Jean has been chairman of Arran's RNLI branch since her mother died in 1957.

And what has this 36 years involved? 'Taking meetings, whist drives, we used to have dances, we've raised a lot of money thanks to the late Miss Black who was secretary.'

Lady Jean has also launched three lifeboats - the Dunbar when she was just 18, Port Askaig and also Portpatrick.

She will be presented with the Gold Badge at the Festival Hall in London later this year.

## Extreme weather

December has been another month of extremes - at times very wet and often very cold.

Around 380mm of rain fell, often as snow at higher levels, and the greatest amount occurred in eight hours when torrential rain amounted to 47.8mm.

There were just two days without rain.

## Shipping company ceases trading

The Glenlight Shipping Company announced this week that it will cease operations.

It has carried cargo to the Western Isles for 120 years and ran puffers which brought coal to Arran and indeed could be said to be the company of Para Handy.

In recent years Glenlight's timber barge has been used to take wood off the island about four times a year.

## Churches join

Kildonan Church has now joined with Whiting Bay and Pirnmill Church has had notification that it is to close.

Where the Pirnmill congregation will worship has not yet been decided as there are two options, Lochranza and Shiskine.

## Ferry ride

The London Boat Show, now on, is featuring a working model of the MV Loch Tarbert which sails around an Olympic-sized swimming pool and carries up to 30 people.

The aim of this section of the show, sponsored by Argyll and the Isles Enterprise, is to attract visitors to the area.

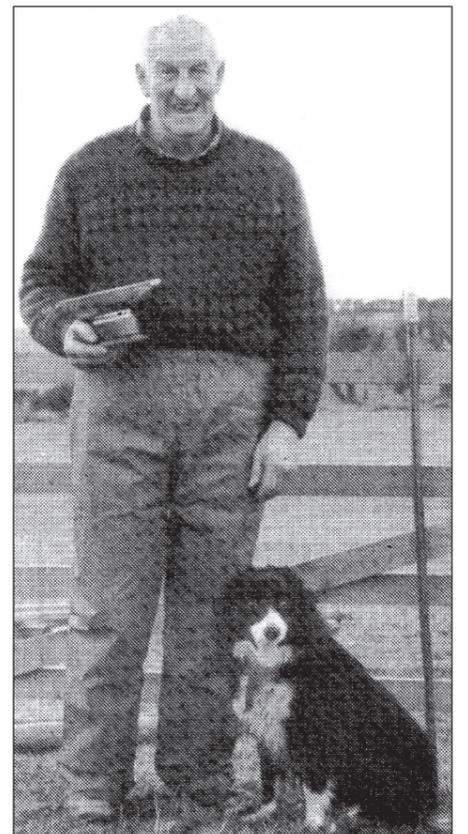
## Brodick WRI

The ladies of Brodick WRI would like to thank everyone who helped to make the children's Christmas party such a success and wish it to be known that, as organisers of the party, they were not in any way involved in the incident recently reported in The Banner.

## Look after yourself

That is the title of a course beginning in Brodick Hall this week which is designed to teach self-help in an easy way.

Being run by Alison Crockett under the auspices of both community education and the Health Board, it will be all about promoting good health and enjoying life.



At the Lenahmor Nursery Sheepdog Trials the run off for the summer league resulted in a win for Alec Miller and Ann with 87 points. b01twe03

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# What's on

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## Everyday

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 Arran Brewery Open Mon-Fri 12.30-5pm, Sat 10-5pm Closed Sunday  
 Arran Brewery tour 2pm

## Saturday 4th January

Army Cadets Auchrannie Road 11am - 1 pm.  
 Over 21s Disco Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
 Karate Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm  
 Family Games Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Arran Dancers (4yrs & up) Arran High School, 10am  
 Junior Football P4s and upwards, Arran High School, 11am-12.30pm

## Sunday 5th January

Family Games Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Fun in the pool Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm  
 Cocaine Anonymous (& all other drugs) Ormidale Sports Pavilion, 2pm - 3.30pm  
 AA Meeting Brodick Church Hall, 4pm - 6pm

## Monday 6th January

Quiz Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm  
 Over 50s Badminton Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm  
 Badminton Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm  
 Citizens Advice Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30-1.30pm  
 Senior Fitness Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 Table Tennis Corrie Hall, 6.30pm  
 Badminton Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm  
 Arran Junior Football Club Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm  
 Yoga Corrie Village Hall, 11am - 12noon  
 Lunch club Brodick Sheltered Housing, 12.30pm  
 Yoga - Arran Kinneil, Lamlash, 3-4.30pm  
 Shirley & Sarah fitness class Lamlash High School, 6.30-7.30pm  
 Scottish Country Dancing Beginners & Improvers Corrie Hall, 2-4pm  
 Bridge Club Lamlash Golf Clubhouse 7pm  
 Metafit Shiskine Hall, 5.15 - 5.45pm

## Tuesday 7th January

Pop Quiz Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Alcoholics Anonymous Brodick Church Hall, 2pm  
 Youth Club Kildonan Hall, 7pm  
 Rotary club Glendoy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm  
 Streetly Dance pre school Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.45-2.30pm  
 Streetly Dancing minis P1-3 Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4-4.45pm  
 Streetly Dancing Juniors P4-7 Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4.45-5.30pm  
 Streetly Dancing Seniors Auchrannie Gym Hall, 5.30-6.15pm  
 Weight Watchers St Molios Church Hall, 7pm  
 Junior Hockey Club Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6-7pm  
 Healthy Outdoors 10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre  
 Food and craft market Ormidale Pavilion, 11am - 4pm  
 Winter bowls Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm  
 SFA Early Touch Football P1-P4s, Arran High School, 6-7pm  
 Metafit Arran High School, 6pm - 6.30pm

## Wednesday 8th January

Coffee Morning Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am-12 noon  
 Hockey Auchrannie Games Hall, 6.30-7.30pm  
 Tae Kwondo Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm  
 Alcoholics Anonymous Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm  
 Arran Brass Rehearsal Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm  
 Yogalates Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am  
 Aquafizz Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am  
 Music Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am  
 Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service 10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30  
 RunArran mixed ability Auchrannie car park, 5.30pm  
 Yoga-Arran Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm  
 Sports Club P4-S2s, Arran High School, 6-7.30pm

## Thursday 9th January

Senior Fitness Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 General Knowledge Quiz Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Lochranza Craft Club Lochranza Hall, 2pm  
 Live music Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay 8.30-11.00pm  
 Weight Watchers Ormidale Pavilion, 5.30pm  
 Yoga Corrie Village Hall, 6pm - 7pm  
 Shirley & Sarah fitness class Lamlash High School, 6.30-7.30pm  
 Brodick Embroidery Group Brodick Library, 7.30pm  
 Winter bowls Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm  
 Metafit Auchrannie sports hall, 6pm - 6.30pm  
 Bridge Club Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7pm  
 Lunchbox Ormidale Sports Pavilion, 12.30-2.30pm

## Friday 10th January

Aqua Fizz Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am  
 Yogalates Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am  
 Arran Youth Foundations Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm  
 Lochranza Kids Badminton Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm  
 Lochranza Adults Badminton Lochranza Hall, 8pm  
 RunArran Coaching Ormidale Park 9.30am  
 Active Buggies Ormidale Park, 10am  
 Overeaters Anonymous Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick 11.30-1pm  
 Arran Ceilidh Dancers Corrie Hall, 8-10pm

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Applications in writing please to:

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## VACANCY

### LAMLASH GOLF CLUB

Applications are invited to tender for the franchise of the club Bar & Restaurant.

To Commence on the 1st April 2014.

All tenders to be submitted by the closing date of January 24th 2014. Enclosing CV, info of personal licence and referees.

Please submit in writing to the Secretary

J.Henderson,

Eilean Leodhais,

Lamlash, Isle of Arran KA27 8JU

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# Public Notice

## NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL: EDUCATION AND SKILLS CHILDREN ENTITLED TO START P1 – SESSION 2014/2015

Children who attain the age of 5 years between 1 March 2014 and 28 February 2015 should be registered for education during the week commencing Monday 13 January 2014.

As times vary from school to school, parents are asked to check registration arrangements with the appropriate catchment primary school for the area in which they live. The child's birth certificate should be produced at the time of registration.

Elderbank Primary School, Irvine will combine the current catchments of Broomlands, Fencedyke and Towerlands Primary Schools.

If your child is due to attend the new school in August 2014, you should contact Broomlands, Fencedyke or Towerlands Primary School to arrange a suitable date and time for registering your child.

Information on Registration can be found on the Council's web site: www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk (Education and Learning pages).

If you wish your child to attend a school outwith your catchment area then you must submit a placing request which you will be able to submit online by accessing www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk (Education and Learning pages).

Placing request assistance can also be obtained by telephoning 01294 310000. Registration at your catchment area school does not guarantee entry to that school.

Carol Kirk  
Corporate Director (Education and Skills)

## TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS)(SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined at Development Planning Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine, between 9am-4.45pm weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk \*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash  
Written representations may be made to the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 24.01.14. Any representations received will be open to public view.

## TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)

13/00710/PP; Site To The West Of The Glades, Whiting Bay, Brodick, Isle Of Arran; Erection of detached dwelling house.

## THE NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (A841 WITCHES BRIDGE, ISLE OF ARRAN) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2014

On the 3 January 2014 North Ayrshire Council made the above named Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit to be driven any motor vehicle (with the exception of vehicles engaged on essential carriageway works) on the A841 Witches Bridge, between Sannox and Lochranza, by reason of works proposed to be executed on or near that road. Order effective 9.30am-3.30pm 12/1/14.

Elma Murray  
Chief Executive  
Cunninghame House  
IRVINE KA12 8EE



# ARRAN MEDICAL GROUP

The island GP surgeries will be **Closed for emergency medical training from 12.30PM on Friday 10 January**

If you need to contact a doctor urgently when the surgeries are closed you will be able to do so by phoning  
**01770 600516**

**In an emergency please phone 999**

# SERVICE TO PROMOTE?

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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
(in full communion with the Church of England)  
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
**Sunday, 5th January**  
11.00 am, Holy Communion.  
Mr John Roberts.  
Coffee after service.  
ALL WELCOME

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
Parishes of North Arran Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine  
Independent but working together  
Minister:  
Rev Angus Adamson  
Parish assistant:  
Mrs Jean hunter  
Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.  
**Sunday 5th January**  
Brodick Church, 10.30am, Morning Worship.  
Corrie Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.  
A Service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm  
Lochranza and Pirmill Churches, 10.15am, Morning Worship at Lochranza.  
Shiskine Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
Kilmory linked with Lamlash  
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"  
**Sunday 5th January**  
Kilmory 10am  
Lamlash 11.30 am  
Both Churches:  
Mr Alan Sanderson  
All welcome, including families; children's area  
Scottish Charity SC015072

**WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
(Charity Number: SC014005)  
**Sunday 5th January**  
Worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am.  
Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service.  
All most welcome.  
There will be a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm to which all friends are welcome

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
Sunday morning masses 11am

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
**Sunday 5th January**  
Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)  
Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)  
Rev David Ford

**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Minister: Rev Vince Jennings  
**Sunday 5th January**  
11 a.m. Morning Worship in The Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick  
Tea & coffee after the service.  
Wednesday at 7.30 p.m.  
Home Fellowship Group for Bible Study and Prayer.  
Contact phone no. 600222.  
Everyone warmly invited.

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
(continuing)  
**Sunday 5th January**  
Morning Service 11am  
Trust Housing Lounge  
Glen Estate, Brodick  
Evening Service 6-30 pm  
5 Glen Road, Brodick  
**Wednesday 8th January**  
Prayer Meeting 7pm  
5 Glen Road, Brodick  
All welcome

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS**  
Quakers meet every Sunday at 11am. For meeting venue ring - 830622, 820223

**SALVATION ARMY**  
House Group/Bible Study  
Mondays 2.30pm.  
If you are interested in joining us please ring 810251 for more information.

**BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
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Provost Joan Sturgeon

# Provost's New Year message for Arran

Christmas is a time to look back on the last year and in anticipation of the new year. It is hard to put the past year into words. However, one of the most significant events proved that our communities find strength in adversity. Early in the year the people of Arran displayed their resilience when unprecedented winter storms brought the island to a standstill. Working side-by-side, the community, our own dedicated staff and the emergency services performed wonderfully in the face of a real crisis - later awarded a

UK-wide award ahead of two of the country's biggest organisations - the Metropolitan Police and London Fire Brigade. These efforts were mirrored just a few weeks ago when the tragic helicopter crash in Glasgow brought out the best in people as they sought to save those caught up in the tragedy. I know there are many people in Arran who lost a friend and I offer up my sympathies on behalf of everyone in North Ayrshire.

These events shine a light on the dedicated men and women who were not at home for Christmas - from the men and women serving in the armed forces abroad, all our NHS staff, police and fire brigade who keep us all safe right over the festive period. Over the course of the last 12 months I have also met many people and groups who are the beating hearts of their community. The dedication of those shortlisted for our Civic Pride Awards was once

again incredible and I look forward to hearing some inspirational stories in the run up to the 2014 Awards. So, as one year passes and a new year dawns, we have much to look forward to. From the celebrations around the Glasgow Commonwealth Games, Homecoming 2014 and the Ryder Cup to the poignant memory of all those who fought in the First World War - which began 100 years ago. I would like to wish you all a very peaceful New Year.

**WEDDING**

**MCCARTNEY - KELSO**



Married by the Rev. Angus Adamson at Brodick Castle on 30th November 2013, Kevin, son of Bruce and Lesley McCartney of Langholm and Gillian, younger daughter of Willie and Elizabeth Kelso of Shiskine.



**Whiting Bay Golf Club**  
Thursday 26 December.  
Eight played in excellent conditions for the Christmas Bottle, a non counting event

from the Yellow tees. Scoring was very good and more than half the field picked up Magic twos - George McKechnie, Nicol Auld, Gus MacLeod, Michel Augier and Jamie MacPherson. The winner was Nicol Auld with an excellent scratch score of 59, net 56, 2 was John Pennycott (12)58 and 3 Michel Augier (13)61. Fixtures: Sunday 5 January, 4th round of the Win-

ter Cup. Sunday 12 January AGA Winter League at Lamlash at 10am.

**Lamlash Golf Club**  
Thursday 26 December. Boxing Day Bottle [non-qualifying] CSS 63. 1 Todd Jameson [BIH] 35 pts, 2 Ian Bremner 35pts. Best Scratch Todd Jameson 30pts to Stableford. Magic twos Alan Winship @ 5th.

Sunday 29 December. Winter Stableford CSS 63 - 37pts to Stableford. 1 Graeme Andrew 35pts, 2 Alan Smith 34pts. Best Scratch Graeme Andrew 26pts to Stableford. Fixtures: Sunday 5 January - Glenburn Cup 09.30am and 12noon starts. Thursday 9 January Yellow Medal - 11am ballot.

We wish all our friends, on and off Arran, a Guid New Year and may 2014 be happy, peaceful and prosperous for us all.

**BIRTHDAY**



**HAPPY 21ST BIRTHDAY**  
**Robert and Patrick**

Love from all the family xx

# Sports Review of the Year

## July to December



Eleanor Bone of Glenkiln swept the boards at the riding club's annual Showing Show in July to be named overall champion. She is pictured, left, with reserve champion, Danielle Mutch. 01\_b28pon01



The winner of the Tom Dickie Trophy for the 880yds run at the Brodick Highland Games in August was Nicky Emsley, centre, of Whiting Bay. 20\_b33games 24



Arran RFC travelled to Lanarkshire in December for their first ever final but they returned empty handed after being beaten by Uddingston for the second time in a week. A crowd of nearly 300, including a bus load of supporters from Arran, still enjoyed the RBS West Regional Bowl final held at Bothwell Castle Policies. 20\_b45rug02



Andrew Earle of Kilmory throws the 56lb weight over the bar whilst taking part in the annual heavy events competition at Shiskine Sports in July. 20\_b28shi25



Southend finished the football season on a high in the middle of August when they defeated Brodick to take all three trophies for 2013. 20\_b34ba101



The committee of the Dougarie Dog Trials held a celebratory dinner at The Kinloch Hotel in June to mark the 125th year of the events - the second oldest in the country.



The Village People made an appearance at Sannox Cricket Club's annual sixes fun day in August. The competition was won by the Silverbank team. 20\_b32crick02



Trefor Goronwy, aged 13, was one of two Arran youngsters to earn their junior karate black belts in the summer after nine years of training. 20\_b35kar02



Whiting Bay's talented young golfers won the Arran Golfers Association Kelso Cup for the fourth year in a row back in June.



Archie McNicol of Brodick triumphed in the 100m sprint for men at the Brodick Highland games in August. He received the Lady Jean Cup from Highland Games chairman Donald McKelvie. 20\_b33games21



Arran RFC started another season in the RBS West Division 3 in September but it hasn't been an easy few months for the island team. They currently sit second from the bottom of the league table after seven losses. 20\_b42rugby06



Neil Young, Dougie Macfarlane, Dan Bremner and Todd Jameson of Lamlash Golf Club proudly display the Hope Cup which they won in June after defeating Brodick in the final.

### Wedding stationery

Invitations, order of service, menus, place cards, thank you cards

### Event stationery

Invitations, raffle tickets, thank you cards



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# Sport

Arran's Weekly Newspaper

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# Sports Review of the Year



Arran's very own police sergeant, Allen Dodds, completed an epic cycling challenge in June that took him from one end of Britain to the other. Sgt Dodds, left, and PC Stevie Young cycled from John O'Groats to Lands End.

## July to December



On a wet and windy Scottish Saturday in August six brave Arran youngsters joined 10,000 'Mudders' at Dalkeith Country Estate for the third UK Tough Mudder of 2013. All six completed the military style obstacle course in memory of their school friend Lucy Ford who tragically died of a brain haemorrhage 10 years ago.



The man described as the 'best golfer on the island' - Ewan McKinnon - won the Arran Golfers Association Champion of Champions competition for the sixth time in August. Ewan, second left, defeated Dougie Macfarlane, left, in the final. He is also pictured with referee Brian Sherwood, second right, and AGA chairman Donald Logan, right.



Some of the principal prize winners at Brodick Bowling Club's annual dinner in December - from left: Iain Hendry, Roger Peacock, John Lauder, Ann Whattam, Charles Hendry, Ann Hollingworth and John McConnachie.



Ann Whattam was named singles winner for 2013 at the annual prizegiving of Brodick Bowling Club in December.



Twelve junior golfers enjoyed a very successful golf camp in conjunction with ClubGolf and the Arran Driving Range during the summer holidays.



Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club's members gathered for an end of season dinner in December. The trophy winners for 2013 were: Marian Brambles, David Brambles, Gina Brooks, John Robinson, Lorna Halliburton and Vic Iutz.

### NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING



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The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.