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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 15 JANUARY, 2011

No 1788 55p



Harry Davidson and Brian Boal of Brodick Improvements Committee are pictured with a large pile of used Christmas trees. It was Brian's idea to use the trees to help stabilise the erosion on Brodick Beach. 01\_b02tre01

## Christmas trees for Brodick dunes

If you were one of the many people who recycled your old Christmas tree this year, you may have helped protect the sand dunes in Brodick from further coastal erosion.

The trees are used to bind dunes together and stop the erosion of sand from the wind.

Cameron Sharp, country park manager for NAC, said that using recycled trees or hedge clipping is a great way of stabilising eroding sand dunes.

'There are lots of different ways the trees can be used,' he said. 'Our job is to look at the area in question and work out how best to

use these trees.' The idea for using the trees came from Brian Boal of Brodick who saw the technique demonstrated on a television show early last year.

Cameron told The Banner that the technique consists of building a wooden, fenced enclosure and filling it with clean donated Christmas trees, which are then tied down with rope.

He added: 'The public outreach aspect makes this a little bit different than any of the other projects we have. This program spurs a lot of interest in coastal restoration. It makes people want to know more about what we do.'

# Visitors from Scotland still flock to Arran

– but overseas travellers stay away

Arran is continuing to see a large number of Scottish travellers holidaying on the island, according to a report by VisitArran.

The largest of the Clyde islands welcomed more than 500,000 visitors in the first 11 months of 2010.

This represented a six per cent increase on the number of people who visited the island over the same period the previous year.

The annual update from the island's tourism organisation has found that while the island has suffered a loss in visitors from England, Wales and overseas, there has been a steady rise in tourism from Scotland.

### Pleased

Tom Tracey, VisitArran's finance director said the organization was pleased with the figures for 2009/10 that show continued growth in Arran tourism.

'We continue to outperform our immediate neighbours and Scotland in general,' he told The Banner.

'The surveys suggest that the reason for continued growth lies in Arran's diversity

**REPORT**  
by **JENNIFER LYON**  
[editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)

and appeal to a wide range of visitors.

'This is supported by local business, attraction and events, continuing to improve what they offer our visitors.'

He added that VisitArran will continue to promote 'Arran: The Island' and that the steady increase in visitors from the UK is expected to continue to grow in the coming year.

Tourist revenue contributes £23.9million each year to the local economy and has become the island's most important business.

Arran visitors continue to be made up predominantly of professionals from Scotland and the north of England

who stay for long weekends in hotels or for a week in self-catering properties. Self-catering accommodation is now the most favoured form of lodgings with fewer people staying in bed and breakfasts or hotels.

The average stay tends to be around four days with visitors spending around £152 each on accommodation.

There are also now a higher proportion of families visiting the island compared to couples and older groups.

Surprisingly, the report found that day visitors were spending only around £28 each while on the island.

The main attraction visited was Arran Aromatics with Brodick Castle and Lochranza Castle in second and third place.

**'We continue to outperform  
our immediate  
neighbours  
and Scotland in general.'**  
– Tom Tracey.



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# Former Tory candidate plans to sue party

Arran's former Conservative party candidate is planning to sue the Scottish Conservatives after they dismissed him for refusing to back gay lessons in schools.

Primary teacher Philip Lardner was suspended from his job on his 43rd birthday last April amid the furore, but reinstated following a written warning two months later.

He sparked the row by saying

parents and teachers should be able to refuse to have 'their children taught that homosexuality is 'normal' behaviour or an equal lifestyle choice to traditional marriage'.

Mr Lardner was dumped as the Tory General Election candidate for the seat of North Ayrshire and Arran with party chiefs branding his comments 'deeply offensive'.

Now he has told a magazine the action was 'very selfish'.

He added: 'David Cameron's people looked at the Labour majority and thought, 'He's got no chance. Let's ditch this guy; it will help us get the pink vote'.'

He added: 'I'm hoping to sue the Conservative Party for defamation and breach of contract.'

A Scottish Conservative spokesman said: 'His position as a candidate and any subsequent action by the party was all done in accordance with the rules and procedures of the party.'



Philip Lardner. 01\_b29con01



Hanna and Paul Wood finally made it to Arran on Boxing Day after flight delays meant they missed the only ferry.

## Geronimo's Boxing Day mercy mission

A stranded young couple were able to celebrate Christmas with their family – albeit a day late – after an exciting trip to Arran on Boxing Day.

Paul and Hanna Wood had hoped to be on Arran by December 24.

But flight delays meant they found themselves stranded in Ardrossan two days later after the only ferry of the

day had sailed. Thanks to Ardrossan based company Geronimo Sailing Hanna and Paul eventually made it to the island later on Boxing Day to celebrate with their family.

### Disaster

Paul said: 'Given the short amount of time we had to spend on Arran missing the ferry was a disaster.'

'Thankfully Geronimo

Sailing stepped up to the challenge and helped us have our Christmas together, with a crossing to remember!'

Flying in to Scotland for Christmas they were met with the inevitable flight delays, which meant they missed the only ferry running on Boxing Day.

### Called

Hanna's brother David, who was on Arran, called Geronimo that day to see if it was possible to get Hanna and Paul to Arran.

Craig Perkins of Geronimo Sailing said: 'There was no question that we would do our best to help them out.'

'The weather was poor so we brought in one of our most experienced skippers for the run and an hour later they were with their family, albeit a little wet.'

## Police files Supplying alcohol

A 22-year-old Whiting Bay man was caught supplying alcohol to underage girls in the village on Monday 3 January.

He was charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Sergeant Bob MacKay said: 'We are going to be robustly policing this area and any person found supplying alcohol to youngsters will be facing the full rigours of the law.'

## Vandalism

A 45-year-old Brodick woman was charged with vandalising a car in the Glen Place area of Brodick on Thursday 6 January.

## Shop-watch

After a recent spate of thefts from stores in Brodick, police are stepping up their patrols of local shops.

The police 'Shop Watch' scheme has been in place for a number of years but Sergeant Bob MacKay said that extra patrols will be on the look out for shoplifters.

Graham Chappell of Arran Graphics in Brodick said that the problem of shoplifting has been getting steadily worse on the island.

'At first we thought it was visitors but since it has continued steadily throughout the winter we can only assume that it is local people who are stealing from the businesses in Brodick,' said Graham.

## Money raised by mad Boxing Day Dook

Some 23 plucky individuals, including Santa Claus and a black and white Friesian cow, braved the icy waters of Lamlash Bay on Boxing Day in aid of local charities.

One of them, Yvonne Bailey, said: 'I would like to thank all who generously donated money towards my mad Boxing Day Dook in Lamlash.'

'The total I raised for the Red Cross was £180.50. Someone asked if I would be doing it again next year. Well we'll just have to wait and see!'

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## Arran Life competition winners

A bumper bag of 107 entries was received in the Banner office for the competitions in our Arran Life Winter magazine.

Three winners for the three questions were randomly selected from the coupons.

We asked what year Margie Currie was elected as Arran councillor and the answer was 2003.

Mini Golf was the kind of golf you can play at Bilslands, and the address of Angus Lambie Motor Engineers Ltd is Unit 11, Market Road, Brodick.

The lucky winner of a hamper from Arran Aromatics is Laura Murchie of Bailemargaidh, Blackwaterfoot. Yvonne Randell of Shiskine wins a pair of stylish boys or girls wellies from the new Joules autumn range at Bilslands.

The third winner is Isobel Elliot of Linlithgow who will receive a pair of Arran T-shirts from Arran Graphics.

## Hospice Fund meeting

A special public meeting of the Arran Hospice Fund will be held in the Conservatory at Auchrannie Country House Hotel at 5.30pm on Monday January 24. Audited accounts will be presented at this meeting.

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# Bernie's lights benefit young gardeners



Leader Maggie Dawson with the cheque from young Rhys Jackson and the other nursery group children; Eden Robertson, Kade McPhee, Catie MacArthur, Ben Worthington, Annie West, Skye McPhee and Andrew Rojan. 02\_b02whb01

The twinkling Christmas lights at number 16, Montrose Terrace will help Whiting Bay children to grow their own vegetables next year.

The colourful illuminations have given a lot of pleasure to Arran children over the festive period.

And they have helped to raise useful funds for the youngsters of Whiting Bay Nursery group. For 17 years Bernie Jackson has been adorning the front of his house and garden with an amazing array of Christmas

illuminations. Each year he places a collection box at the gate and raises money for a local charity. This year grateful parents have contributed £70 for the pleasure of taking their children to see Bernie's display, and on Friday the money was handed over to nursery group leader Maggie Dawson by his grandson Rhys Jackson.

The group meets in Whiting Bay Church Hall and Maggie said: 'The money will be very useful for our garden project.

Rev Elizabeth Watson has kindly agreed to let the children use part of her garden next door.

'We'll be making raised beds and the children will grow their own flowers and vegetables such as potatoes, onions and carrots. The donations from Bernie's lights will go towards seeds and gardening tools for children.

'It will be a great hands-on education for them to see where food and flowers come from.'

## Exciting year lies ahead for Arran Youth Foundations

The Arran Youth Foundations centre in Brodick is opening its doors again to the island's young people with exciting new activities in place for 2011.

With the return of their successful Friday night drop-in, the charity will also host after-school activities on Thursdays between 4.30pm and 6.30pm.

Youth worker Graeme Johnston said: 'We've been open on a Friday between 7pm and 9pm at night for a few months now and it's been great fun, so we'll continue to do it.

'Attendance has been really good and the young folk have asked for us to do more for them, so we hope the Thursday afternoons will prove just as popular.

'Anyone of secondary school age is welcome to come along and hopefully there is something for everyone - whether it's playing as a band on Guitar Hero, FIFA tournaments on the Xbox, arts and crafts, movie nights, games, music.'

Graeme added that they are also hoping that more adults will volunteer their time to help.

### Help

'We have a great group of volunteer staff who support AYF and obviously with doing an extra day each week, we will need all the help we can get,' he said.

'Anyone who would like to volunteer or is interested to know more, please drop me a line at [graeme@arranyouthfoundations.org](mailto:graeme@arranyouthfoundations.org) - thank you!'

## Coast road wiped off map

Willie McNish of Kildonan has brought to our attention the alarming loss of an entire stretch of 30 miles of Arran's coast road.

He has sent us a copy of a free map enclosed with this week's Scotland on Sunday and said: 'This is the map that I received in the Scotland on Sunday.

'If you take a look at Arran, you will see that the road on

the west side from Lochranza to Whiting Bay has vanished.

'Not a bad move for North Ayrshire Council as there will not now be any more complaints regarding potholes because we don't have a road.

'The potholes are all gone!' This section of road was actually downgraded from A class to C class by NAC two years ago.

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## Local MP backs COAST stance on scallop dredging

North Ayrshire and Arran MP Katy Clark has tabled an Early Day Motion calling for the Government and devolved administrations to take action to regulate scallop dredging and protect the United Kingdom's coastline.

COAST (the Community Of Arran Seabed Trust) has for sometime raised concerns regarding the damaging impact which scallop dredging has on the marine

environment. Speaking on the subject Ms Clark said: 'There is an urgent need for action to be taken to protect the United Kingdom's marine environment.'

### Decline

For too long the number of marine species found off the coast of the UK has been in decline and scallop dredging is currently contributing a significant amount to this worrying trend.

'For too long scallop dredg-

ers have been able to operate unregulated wherever they please and this state of affairs cannot be allowed to continue.

'The current Westminster Government and Scottish Government must build on the Marine legislation passed at Westminster in 2009 and by the Scottish Parliament this year, and scallop dredging is one area where it is imperative that action is taken as swiftly as possible.'



## Kitten returns home in time for New Year

Brothers Alfie and Bailey Robinson from Lamalsh are celebrating the return of their lost kitten this week.

Three-month-old Jess went missing before Christmas and the distraught youngsters feared that with the severe cold weather the kitten could not have survived.

But last week some tourists spotted the cat on Lamlash Hill and were able to return the cat to its grateful owners just in time for New Year's Eve.

## Local group to define the future health needs on Arran

Following a public meeting in Brodick Hall a local group has been formed to co-ordinate ideas for the future of a health delivery model for Arran.

This was the first of three public meetings to be held to ensure everyone on Arran has the opportunity to make their views known as to what health provision there should be. Some of the issues that emerged at the meeting included hospital admissions, tele-care, appointment times, and the meals-on-wheels service.

In this context, health includes both NHS Ayrshire and Arran services and related North Ayrshire Council services such as Social Services; Care at Home.

Whilst everyone is welcome to attend the meetings, it was agreed that a small local reference group be established to engage further with the community, and to collect individual and/or group collective contributions.

This reference group, under the Chairmanship of Dr David

Price, Non-Executive Director of NHS Ayrshire and Arran, comprises: Fiona Brown, Arran Elderly Forum; Janet Lacey, Public Partnership Forum; Jim Nichols, Arran Council for Voluntary Service; Brenda Stewart, Arran Community Council; Tony Wall, Arran Health Consultative Group.

The remit of the group is to engage further with the Arran community, co-ordinate any contributions received and forward them to NHS Ayrshire and Arran for consideration by their (and NAC) professional teams. The intention is, through the above, to give as broad a publicity as possible.

Should you wish to make your thoughts and ideas known, please write to: Health Reference Group c/o Arran CVS, Park Terrace, Lamlash, KA27 8NB or e-mail; consultation@arrancvs.org.uk

The next public meeting is expected to be held late January, and will be publicised after a date and venue are known.

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Douglas Meldrum, Ted Godfrey and Tony Wall with Barbara Bingham and the certificate awarded to her and David.

## Legion tribute to David Bingham

David Bingham passed away last Thursday January 6 in Arran War Memorial Hospital.

David and his wife Barbara have both been stalwarts of the Arran Branch of the Royal British Legion.

On Sunday January 2 several committee members of the Arran Branch attended the hospital in Lamash to present David and Barbara with a certificate as 'a mark of appreciation of work as chairman and secretary of the Isle of Arran Branch from January 2009 to date'.

Legion public relations officer Alan Milligan said: 'During much of that time David was seriously ill, but he never failed to perform any of his duties with bravery and cheerfulness, his final duty being on Remembrance Day at the wreath-laying in the War Memorial Hospital



David Bingham.

b11leg01

on November 14.

'Unfortunately, David was too ill to receive the certificate and he passed away peacefully last Thursday in the War Memorial Hospital.'

Alan has supplied a photograph taken on January 2 showing committee members presenting Barbara Bingham with the certificate.

# Plans to close coastguard station 'reckless' claims local MSP

Local MSP Kenneth Gibson has labeled as 'reckless' the plans to close Greenock Coastguard station.

The Department of Transport has announced a consultation to reduce the number of Coastguard stations, including Greenock's, proposing instead the establishment of just one Maritime Operations Centre, located at Aberdeen, with a sub-centre based in either Stornoway or Shetland, or Belfast or Liverpool operating only during daylight hours.

Mr Gibson said: 'The closure of Greenock can only impact adversely on Arran.'

### Cope

'It is a false economy and bordering on the reckless to have a situation where a single coastguard station (in Aberdeen) with dramatically reduced local knowledge of Scotland's enormous coastline tries to cope with incidents

## 'Closure of Greenock can only impact adversely on Arran'

around the country and far out into the North Atlantic.'

Greenock has previously covered the waters from the Mull of Galloway in the south to Ardnamurchan Point in the north, including the Clyde estuary and Arran.

Inverclyde MP David Cairns said: 'I am concerned about safety implications and that the Clyde will be looked after by Belfast, Stornoway or Liverpool.'

Kenneth Gibson added: 'The announcement will result in the closure of Clyde Coastguard Station in Greenock with the loss of 35 jobs. This looks

the Government has chosen to close the Clyde base without consultation shows how little regard they have for this part of Scotland. The Clyde base looks after an exceptionally busy shipping lane.'

### National

The proposal is for two national centres in Aberdeen and the Portsmouth and Southampton area. The six sub-centres would be Dover, Humber, Swansea and Falmouth and either Belfast or Liverpool and Stornoway or Shetland.

Mike Penning, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Transport, said: 'This is a real opportunity to modernize the service that was last reviewed in the mid-70s.'

Readers can comment on the Coastguard consultation document with a closure date of March 24 at [www.mcga.gov.uk](http://www.mcga.gov.uk).



Arran coastguards Anthony I'Anson, Gary Wilson and Fiona Laing in a real-time exercise at Lochranza.

### Isle of Arran Elderly Forum meeting

The next meeting of the Isle of Arran Elderly Forum will be in the Ormidale Pavilion next Wednesday from 11am to 1pm.

Among the matters to be discussed will be the closure of the Citizens Advice Bureau, the future of Brodick Hall, finding a cheaper meeting venue and a report from the Arran Health Consultative Group. All welcome.

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# THE ARRAN BANNER

## What future for the small shop?

For centuries village shops have been the backbone of rural life, and never more so than on Arran.

In years gone by every village had a local shop if not two, and maybe a butcher or greengrocer or hardware store and post office. Not only did they supply food, drink and household goods, but they were a meeting place for residents young and old and a place to catch up on local gossip.

These places are rapidly becoming a thing of the past. In recent years we have seen shop or post office closures in Kilmory, Corrie, Lochranza, Kildonan and Lamlash. Provision of purvey has become centralised; here on Arran to the larger villages, and on the mainland to the new out-of-town retail parks.

The word 'park' used to refer to an open recreation area for stimulating exercise, but now it seems to mean a concentrated commercial centre designed to part you and your money in double quick time and with the minimum of exercise.

And we are all guilty of helping these retail giants in their remorseless march across the land. The choice is greater and the prices are supposed to be cheaper. The service in these stores is usually efficient, but impersonal, and the other shoppers don't know you from Adam.

Tesco has just opened a new store in Thurso and plans to open another 292 this year taking its UK total to 3,022. Sainsbury's opened a new shop in Saltcoats recently and have another 130 on the drawing board for this year. Waitrose will open another 39 stores and even our own Co-op with three outlets on Arran opened a new supermarket in East Craigs, Edinburgh to add to the other three they opened in Scotland last month.

But we must hope that the village store will still have its place in society, both here on Arran and in the wider countryside.

The UK Government has just announced that pubs and bars will be able to remain open until 1am without permission from the licensing authorities for two days on Friday and Saturday 29 and 30 April. This unprecedented move is intended to be in recognition of the wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton.

Is there really justification for drinking until 1am to celebrate a Royal wedding in Westminster Abbey some 12 hours earlier? The day has already been declared a public holiday throughout the land and one would expect that Royal revelers would have had their fill by normal closing time. But the poor publican will be expected to stay open for another two hours and serve the stragglers.

We wish Wills and Kate well in their future life together but don't expect that they will be propping up the bar at one in the morning.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Those who live on the level of the Spirit have the spiritual outlook, and that is life and peace.' (Romans 8:6)

## press policy

WE AT *The Arran Banner* do our utmost to make sure that all our reports are fair, accurate and balanced, but we accept that, on occasion, mistakes can occur in the hectic process of producing a local newspaper.

It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print. If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to The Editor, *The Arran Banner*, Brodick, Arran giving your day-time telephone number where possible.

This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

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## your letters

**THE EDITOR** welcomes letters of approximately 200 words in length for publication on this page. The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including on e-mails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters Page, The Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran. E-mail editor@arranbanner.co.uk

# Letters to the Editor

## Will volunteers be responsible?

Sir,  
So the Arran Citizens Advice Bureau will now be run by volunteers on just two days per week.

I wonder who will train the volunteers and be responsible for their further development, something that Sheridan Walden proved to be particularly good at.

I wonder who will be responsible for recruiting volunteers in the future.

I wonder who will supervise the volunteers.

Most importantly I wonder who will be responsible for the quality of the advice given by non-professional volunteers.

I wonder who dreamed up this daft reorganisation.

Yours,  
**Albert Edward**  
A regular visitor from Gloucester

## Service not deteriorating

Sir,  
Regarding your article in last week's Banner headed 'Advice centre's former manager expresses concerns'; I would like to take issue with a couple of points made.

Firstly, the North Ayrshire Citizens Advice Service (NACAS) manager responsible for Arran has already made it clear that regular help will be physically available from Saltcoats and with three (and a half) qualified advisers, who have between them many more hours experience of Citizen's Advice work than Miss Walden has, along with three trainees there should be no need at all for only one person to be in the office at any one time.

Secondly, considering the commitment and experience of the remaining regular volunteers it is extremely insulting of Dave Patterson to state that the service they will provide will be of 'deteriorating quality'.

In addition to death and taxes there is a third certain fact in life and that is that nobody is indispensable.

Yours,  
**Alan McBain**  
CAB trainee

## Good health for the New Year

Sir,  
I note the New Year message in last week's Banner by Mrs M Currie.

I would like to add the serious matter of health, because without good health, we cannot live.

On the 19<sup>th</sup> of this month Ted and Margaret Godfrey will be retiring as transport organisers for ArCaS (Arran Cancer Support group), a duty they have done for many years. I have been in touch with Ted on many occasions (too many) in the last few years to ask for transport, so I would wish them both a healthy retirement after such a busy time.

Cancer patients are also grateful to the five drivers from the Dundonald/Troon area; Andy, Duncan, Jim, Charlie and David who are very pleasant and helpful in their care of us.

To all mentioned, I wish a good New Year, with good health to match.

Yours,  
**Sandy Mutch**  
Burnside Road  
Brodick

## Actions louder than words

Sir,  
Everywhere, in the news and all around us, we seem to be bombarded with 'bad things' - people doing horrific acts of violence and causing pain to their fellow creatures - humans and animals.

Obviously, people are busy all over the world doing good things as well, and I would like to tell you about one such person living in our midst on Arran. Recently I visited Woodside Farm, or Clan Horse, by which it is also known.

What an uplifting experience.

There, Karen Augier has created a haven for all sorts of animals, most of them rescued - and many rescued from horrendous circumstances, rendering them physically and psychologically damaged.

Karen painstakingly and carefully assesses their needs and slowly nurses them

back to health, gaining their trust, and restoring their confidence in the process. The atmosphere is one of peace and tranquillity.

As far as the physical conditions are concerned, the fields are spacious, in good order and well fenced.

Shelter is available and appropriate for the various animals.

They are fed, groomed, wormed, etc; their feet are attended to regularly; those who need rugged are rugged; they are seen and treated by the vet as appropriate. So I could see the animals were physically well cared for, but it is the ambience of the environment that strikes you as you wander through the place.

The animals are contented, happy and friendly, despite some of them having been so abused.

The horses that can be trained and schooled are sent to appropriate homes, where they can be involved in riding or carriage driving.

Karen herself does a lot of groundwork, and the initial 'starting' of her youngsters. She has put all her own money into the venture and in spite of it not having charitable status I feel it deserves not only the admiration but also the financial support of the community of animal lovers at large.

She and her brother have gradually fenced, built shelters and improved the facilities over time.

However there is still a lot to be done, for example they still have to carry water to the paddocks and hope to have a piped supply in due course.

Karen is not asking for financial support but having seen for myself the work she and

her family are doing, I would recommend that anyone who felt moved to do so should phone her up and arrange to go and have a look.

It costs a huge amount to provide for animals. Mostly, we provide for our own pets, but she is giving endlessly and tirelessly of her own resources to care for not only animals whose owners cannot look after them for whatever reason (often through no fault of their own) but also those who have been cast off, abandoned and damaged by Society. I cannot praise her enough.

Well done Karen.

Yours,  
**Barbara Tinto**

**Heather and Jackie Donaldson** would like to thank the Coop staff for care when Jackie took unwell in the shop. Also Dr Hamill, First Responder ambulance crew, doctors and nurses at the hospital, Angus Adamson and Kate and Jimmy Nichols

## Happy 21st Jessica



love from Mum & Pete.



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# Natural scent of success in 2011 for Arran Aromatics

Brodick company Arran Aromatics has just received approval for £42,500 assistance from Highlands and Islands Enterprise. The funding is towards a total project cost of £85,000.

Andrew Russell, sales director of Arran Aromatics explained: 'The £42,500 grant assistance is for the research and development of Natural Perfumery, and can be claimed back as 50percent spend towards time and materials, with Arran Aromatics matching the spend in advance.'

### Supporting

'HIE is supporting Arran Aromatics in its Research and Development of Natural Perfumery.'

'Perfume today contains some natural oils, but there is an increasing amount of synthetic ingredients because

some organic animal derivatives are deemed not appropriate to today's markets.

'Many famous fragrances have either been reformulated or have simply ceased to exist as they could not be replicated.'

'The challenge to the perfumer is to create a completely Natural Fragrance, that has both a level of complexity and sophistication to give today's consumer a first time 'green' choice.'

For the last year Arran Aromatics has been working with Barry Gibson to build the Perfumery on Arran and develop the project from within Arran Aromatics. Barry is considered to be an expert in both Perfumery and product formulation having been part of the team who worked on Giorgio Beverly Hills (the

most successful fragrance launch of all time) and in developing the 'Simple' range of skincare products.

### Anticipated

Andrew continued: 'Extensive research is already underway, but with support of HIE and our relationship manager David Smart, it is anticipated that six Natural Perfumes will be created with a view to commercial manufacture by late 2011.'

'Early interest has already been expressed by two major retailers, but if successful the residents of Arran could be the first to sample these new scents in the Summer of 2011, handmade in our perfumery at the Home Farm, Brodick.'

'If all goes to plan then we will see the launch of 'Island Perfumery' by Arran Aromatics in late 2011.'



Banner reporter Jennifer Lyon and project manager Ian McDougall look round one of the bedrooms in the Doctor's House. 02\_b02dou01

## Mature trees herald Douglas Hotel nearing completion

Rebuilding work on the Douglas Hotel is nearing completion and fully-grown trees have suddenly sprouted in the grounds.

The 15-month major project is coming towards the end of the construction work and islanders will have noticed a recent proliferation of trees and shrubs on site. Several mature trees, brought all the way from Holland, have been planted in the grounds and hundreds of plants and shrubs will soon be in place.

Most of the trees are silver birches and Japanese maples, and an olive tree will have centre stage in the hotel's entrance atrium.

Contractors Thomas Johnstone of Inchinnan are landscaping the garden and Project Manager Ian McDougall wants to assure residents that the large mound of topsoil in front of the hotel will eventually be removed, leaving a three-tier terrace running from the two

patio areas and down towards the road.

It had been planned to sow grass seed, but now they will be turfing the whole front area. A Calor Gas tanker arrived last week to fill the 8,000 litre gas tanks below ground. Thomas Johnstone expect to have completed the major construction work by the end of January, leaving interior fixtures and fittings and carpets to be finished off. Five of the 21 bedrooms are in the old Doctor's House which has been painstakingly restored and clad in copper.

The bedrooms to the front and side all have magnificent views, many with windows right down to the floor. Ian said: 'There won't be any curtains or blinds, even in the bathrooms; all the windows have specially made old-fashioned shutters.'

The rundown hotel was bought by Sean Henry in December 2006 and he commissioned ambitious plans to restore it to its former glory. Sean's sister and business partner Elaine Campbell told the Banner: 'We should be open in time for Easter.'



The view of Arran from the former residents' lounge of the Douglas, now a luxury bedroom suite. 02\_b02dou02



Arran Aromatics factory at Home Farm. 02\_b02arr01

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In truth, being an Arran Board representative does not demand too much of your time as the committee only meets once every other month on Arran. What we do ask of you is to be committed and share our energy and passion. In return you will be involved in the planning, governance, control and monitoring of the delivery of services to our tenants and service users and thus will contribute to our continuing success.

We are seeking applicants from a diverse range of backgrounds with the necessary skills, experience, enthusiasm and commitment to make a real contribution to our future. If you live on Arran then you qualify to apply. Above all we are looking for fair and open minded individuals who want to help others and value voluntarism over reward.

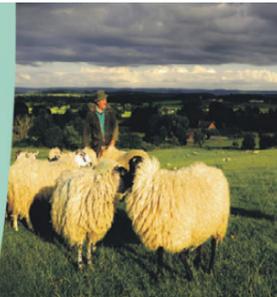
These positions are non-remunerated but out of pocket expenses are paid. For more details about this opportunity please contact Mary Pritchard, Manager, Isle of Arran Homes on 303700, by email [mpritchard@trusha.org.uk](mailto:mpritchard@trusha.org.uk) or write to Isle of Arran Homes, Springbank, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8BE. Charity No SC009086.

Closing date for applications is 31 January 2011.

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# Success for Diane and Meg at first sheepdog trial

Diane Lewis of Kirkend Nursery in Whiting Bay ran her first ever sheepdog trial with her dog Arran Meg last Saturday. And not only did she and two-year-old Meg manage to finish the course, they also completed a successful shed

and pen to take second place and bring warm applause from the small crowd.

Diane said afterwards: 'I got Meg as a pup from Wullie Stevenson at the Arran Sheepdog Centre. We only have three pet lambs at home, but Meg soon got the notion of rounding up the ducks at night to bring them in.'

'I felt that she had the aptitude and wanted to give trialing a try. I really enjoyed that.'

Wullie added: 'Arran Meg is one of my home-bred dogs and I've been training her and Diane over the winter.'

'They have both done very well. It was great to see them complete the course and pen their sheep.'

The first and second Arran nursery trials were held at Blackwaterfoot last Saturday, courtesy of Jack Murchie of Bailemargaidh.

Both trials were run on the

same day after the first one, due to be held at Birchburn, was cancelled before Christmas because of heavy snow.

On a bright, cold, sunny day, Jack's mule hogs proved a challenge for the dogs and their handlers.

### Triumph

Wullie Stevenson and his own dog Dusk had a double triumph, winning both trials, with Diane and Meg taking second places.

Judge for the day was Alex Miller and clerk was Margie Currie. The next trial will be in Shiskine on Saturday January 22.

Results: First trial, 1 W Stevenson and Dusk 74 points, 2 D Lewis and Arran Meg 46 points. Second trial, 1 W Stevenson and Dusk 89 points, 2 D Lewis and Arran Meg 73 points. Sweep for older dogs: 1 W Stevenson and Dusk 89, 2 George Tod and Spice 83, 3 John Murchie and Bob 80.



Diane Lewis and Meg complete a successful pen in their first-ever sheepdog trial. 02\_b02dog01



George Tod and Wullie Stevenson round up some of the runaway sheep. 02\_b02dog05



Geoff Brookes and Shona found the mule hogs a handful. 02\_b02dog02



ARRAN LEARNING CENTRE

**Beginners' Computing** Thursday 20th January  
7.00pm – 9.00pm (tutor: Sharon Wedge)

**Computing Beyond Basics** Tuesday 18th January  
7.00pm – 9.00pm (tutor: Craig McCartney)

**Digital Photography** Thursday 20th January  
7.00pm – 9.00pm (tutor: David Wedge)

**Art and Design 2** Tuesday 18th January  
7.00pm – 9.00pm (tutor: Yvonne Bailey)

**Rag Rugging** Tuesday 18th January  
7.00pm – 9.00pm (tutor: Sharon Wedge)

All courses will be run subject to minimum numbers. Individual Learning Accounts (ILAs) may be available.

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# A grand Nicht Wi' Burns in Shiskine

Shiskine Village Hall committee hosted their biennial Burns Supper in the hall last Saturday night.

Committee members were kitted out in green polo shirts with their traditional Shiskine Valley duck logo as the guests gathered.

When everyone was seated, chairman Gordon Kinniburgh welcomed the company and Jock Kelso delivered The Selkirk Grace. After the volunteers served up a hearty bowl of Cock-a-leekie soup, the haggis was ceremonially piped in by Iain Clarke and carried with dignity by junior chef Cailean Robertson.

### 'Freshly caught'

According to the programme, the haggis had been freshly caught at Balgowan Hill on the opposite side of the valley.

Finlay Murchie addressed the beastie with gusto and he, Iain and Cailean toasted it with a glass of Irn Bru.

The feast of haggis served wi' bashed neeps an' champit tatties was followed by Island cheese and Arran oatcakes.

A toast to the lasses was given by Willie Robertson with a reply by Deborah Robertson. Young Struan Robertson read Holy Willie's Prayer and Neil Arthur gave the Immortal Memory of Robert Burns.

### Sequence

The epic tale of Tam O'Shanter was related by several members of the company who jumped from their seats in sequence to give half a dozen lines each.

Charles Currie gave the toast to the hall, with a reply by wife Irene.

After musical entertainment by Nikki and Andy Surrudge, Sheila Gilmore rounded off proceedings with a vote of thanks. And it was all over for another two years.



The group of hall committee members who toiled to bring the feast to the company.

02\_b02bur01



The haggis, carried by Cailean Robertson and piped in by Iain Clarke.

02\_b02bur02



Above: The ongauns were chaired in style by Gordon Kinniburgh.

Left: Finlay Murchie addressed the haggis with gusto.

## AUCTION

Kilmory Hall

SC028200

Saturday 22nd January  
2pm - doors open at 1pm  
for viewing

Items can be left at the  
hall on Friday 21st  
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or Jean at the Hall  
- 870345

## THE USUAL SUSPECTS

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Saturday 22nd January  
8pm

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SC024915

## Lamlash Burns Club ANNUAL SUPPER

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Charles Currie 860358  
Stewart Lambie 302304



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# Bird Notes – Arran Bird Report

By Jim Cassels

In 1968 Kenneth Richmond wrote a book called 'A Regional Guide to the Birds of Scotland' published by Constable.

While our neighbouring island of Bute was harshly dismissed: 'This island is of no great interest to bird-watchers...' Richmond wrote more fully of Arran.

He wrote: 'This island is a miniature Scotland in itself, containing a wide range of habitats which are not likely to be exhausted, say, during a fortnight's holiday.'

'Many typically Highland species - golden eagle, red-throated diver and hen harrier occur, especially in the northern half of the island which is almost solidly mountainous.'

'Short-eared owls, black grouse etc., frequent the moorlands of the southern half and there are numerous sea-bird colonies. Greenland white fronted and grey-lag geese are common winter visitors.'

While historical records are interesting, Arran bird records are sparse until the Arran Natural History Society published its first annual Bird Report in 1978.

The 2009 report had 500 copies, but because of increasing demand a larger number is be-

ing considered for the 2010 report. In 2006, the responsibility for writing the report fell to me. I have been encouraged that already I have had over 4,000 sightings from over 200 contributors.

All contributions are welcome. I am not just interested in rare or unusual birds, but common birds: where there are significant numbers of common birds, which birds come to the garden at different times of the year, where breeding birds have been seen, when our summer or winter visitors have arrived or departed, and what sightings have given individuals particular pleasure.

I know that a number of people keep all sorts of bird notes for their own interest, and I would encourage them to share this information with me, so that our annual Arran Bird Report can be as comprehensive as possible.

Best wishes for 2011. Enjoy your birding.

Please send all sightings for 2010, giving 'what, when, where', to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at james.cassels@virgin.net. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Report 2009 and visit this website [www.arranbirding.co.uk](http://www.arranbirding.co.uk).



Jon Hollingworth, bass player with The Usual Suspects.

## Supergroup Usual Suspects set for gig in Whiting Bay

### Arran rock legends to expand repertoire on fund raising night

The Usual Suspects, a supergroup made up of the cream of Arran's rock legends, are dusting off their zimmer frames and coming out of hibernation.

Their last two special gigs, in Brodick Hall on Hallowe'en and Whiting Bay Hall on Hogmanay, were knockouts with an enthusiastic audience.

Now they are gearing up for a spectacular gig in Whiting Bay Hall on Saturday January 22. The band, made up of Jon Hollingworth, Robin Fisher, Andy Surridge and Andy McCallum, have been expanding their repertoire for this fund raising night.

They can now proudly boast that their set list spans five decades, providing music to suit all ages.

Jon Hollingworth said: 'In fact the older and more hard of hearing you are, the better the band will sound!'

The Usual Suspects do a lot of work for charity, and the proceeds of the evening will be split between the Village Hall and the Improvements Association.

Whether your tastes are for Deep Purple, Santana, Thin Lizzy, Dire Straits or Bryan Adams, Whiting Bay Hall is the place to be next Saturday.

## Arran bridge results

**Brodick Bridge Club**  
The results from Thursday 6 January were as follows:

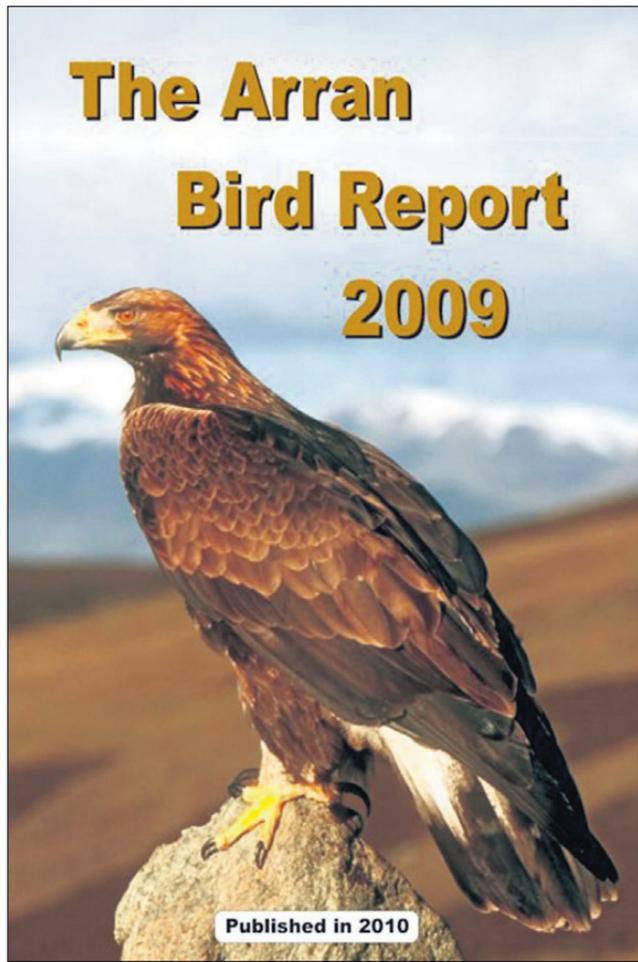
N/S 1 Jan and John Beattie +2750, 2 Trish Martin and Douglas Hamilton +2290, 3 Morag Gardner and Jean Barclay +1270.

E/W 1 Janie Maclure and Anne McKelvie +1290, 2 Jennifer McArthur and Maureen Cumming +500, 3 David Scobie and Douglas Bruce -130.

**Lamlash Bridge Club**  
The results from Monday 10 January were:

N/S 1 P Adamson and E McConnell +2310, 2 J McBride and E Sillars +2020, 3 J McArthur and L Paul +1780.

E/W 1 M and E Jones -60, 2 J McLure and A McKelvie -410, 3 T Martin and A Bilsland -520. The Peggy Cup will be played on Monday 17 January at the earlier time of 7pm.



The Arran Bird Report 2009.

## Open Darts Championship

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# Where's Archie?

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Last week Archie was sitting at the entrance to Lenamhor just east of the village of Kilmory. This week he is looking a little forlorn in a snowy landscape but where is that road?

02\_b02arc01

# From Bangkok to Lochranza - leaving the arts behind?

## They are both keen supporters of the opera

Richard and Meilan Henderson are coming to live in Lochranza at the end of this month.

They bought *The Anchorage* in the village in 1988 and have stayed there many times on holiday. Now they are coming back to the UK after a career in the Far East and are giving the Banner an account of the experiences involved in moving lock, stock and barrel to Lochranza. They are both keen supporters of the opera and Richard ponders on how they will follow the arts when living on Arran.



Richard Henderson as a Maya/Aztec seer, performing in Bizet's *Carmen* at the Thailand Cultural Centre in Bangkok last week.

Opera has always been my favourite art-form, and from that point of view I'm not sure what to think about the move from Bangkok to Lochranza.

The Edinburgh Festival will be within reach of course, which is excellent news. So will Scottish Opera if it can keep its head above water (and news of its troubles has even reached here). On the other hand, I have to assume that my own operatic career will end when I sing here in the chorus of Puccini's *Tosca* in late January.

Opera is the Queen of the Arts. A bold state-

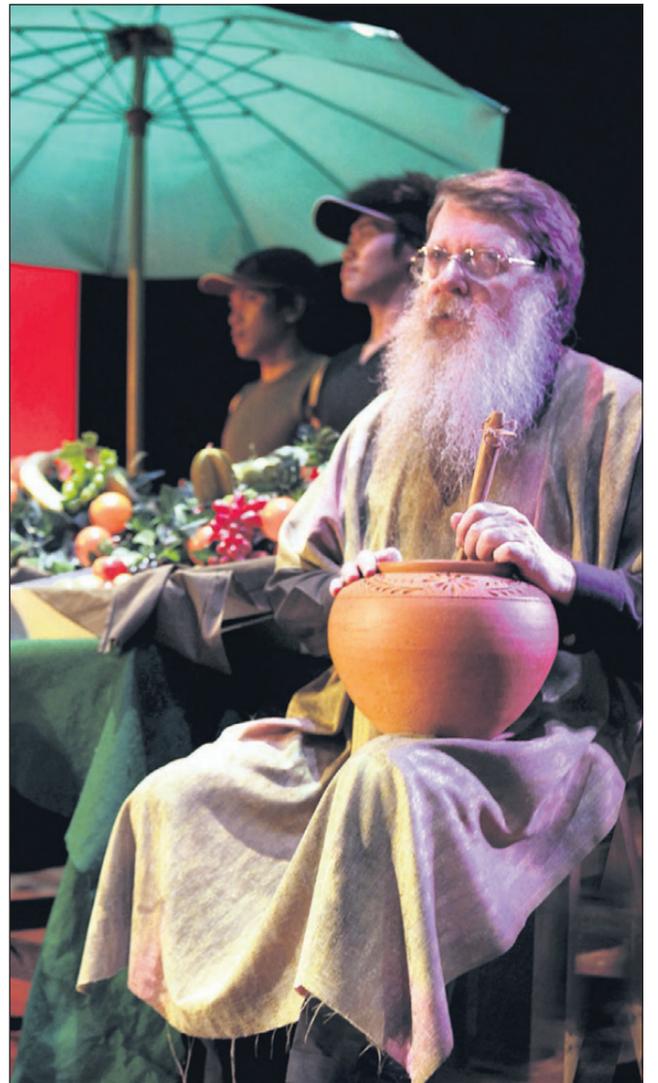
ment, but easily backed up. Think what it involves. In terms of music alone, there are the orchestral and choral varieties, as well as the solo voice, accompanied and otherwise. There is far more, though. There is literature (the text, the libretto). As with other literature, some is complete tripe, of course, but some libretti (Purcell's *Dido*, say) are very clever and well-written.

Then there are ballet (in very many operas) and acting (in all, although there have been opera singers who didn't quite get the news). The plastic and decorative arts get

their say in the production of the scenery.

Altogether I have sung in about 20 Bangkok Opera productions (ranging from the 18th to 21st centuries), almost all purely in the chorus, although with one or two small solo roles thrown in over almost 10 years.

That has been huge fun (once the initial shock had worn off, of finding out how hard it is to sing and act at the same time if you aren't used to it), but not all the fun by any means. Meilan and I have also greatly enjoyed sitting around deep into the night talking opera with the international stars who come here from around the world to sing the principal roles, taking them to tailors/dress-makers, or just generally trying to help them be where they want to be when they are needed. For sure we will miss all that - unless, of course, some singer friends come to the Edinburgh Festival, too.



Richard thinly disguised as a fruit, vegetable and guacamole seller.

# Ferry fares of yesteryear

Ferry operator Caledonian MacBrayne made a generous gesture on three weekends before Christmas by offering a return ticket between Ardrossan and Brodick for a car and four passengers for £25, compared to the standard price of £81.20.

**Reported**  
Regional manager Robbie Brown reported that the of-

fer was well-subscribed with many more passengers and cars going in either direction at what is otherwise a quiet time of year.

**Prompted**  
This special offer prompted one reader to bring an old 1973 poster into the Banner office advertising ferry crossings from Lochranza to Claonaig. It shows just how

much fares have risen in 37 years. The prices quoted on this poster are 40p single for passengers and £2.50 return

for cars. This compares with the current fares of £4.35 single for passengers and £37.50 return for cars.

**PASSENGER & CAR FERRY SERVICES**  
between  
CLAONAIG (Kintyre) and LOCHRANZA (Arran)  
By M.V. 'Kilbrannan'

**DAILY INCLUDING SUNDAYS**  
18 April until 30 September 1973  
(Time on passage 30 minutes)

**Leave Claonaig**  
0930NSu, 1050, 1210, 1410, 1530, 1650, 1810, 2020†

**Leave Lochranza**  
0950NSu, 1010, 1130, 1330, 1450, 1610, 1730, 1945†  
NSu - Not Sunday  
† Commences 25 May but not on Sundays after 26 August

**FARES**  
Cars £2.00 single Drivers or passengers each 40p single  
(Day return for Motor Cars £2.50 - issued Sundays to Fridays except Friday, 29 June, 13 and 27 July, 10 August, 21 September and Monday, 24 September, valid on date of issue only. Driver and passenger fare additional).  
Motor/Trailer Caravans carried by prior arrangement - rates available on request

No advance booking for private cars  
Motorists may make THROUGH journeys from Kintyre to the Ayrshire Coast by utilising the Claonaig-Lochranza and the Brodick-Ardrossan Car Ferry services. Through SINGLE JOURNEY tickets for Motor Cars are issued on the 0930, 1050, 1210 and 1410 sailings from CLAONAIG, also on the 0700, 0945 and 1230 sailings from ARDROSSAN at the following rates:-  
Overall length not exceeding 11 feet—£4.40, 13 feet—£4.95,  
14 feet 6 inches—£6.20;  
and exceeding 14 feet 6 inches—£7.35  
Driver and Passenger fares additional  
**NOTE**—Through Motor Car tickets between CLAONAIG and ARDROSSAN HARBOUR are valid only on DAY OF ISSUE

**Caledonian MacBrayne**

The 1973 Caledonian MacBrayne ferry poster.

# Musical treat for digital radio listeners

Digital radio listeners on Arran, particularly on the east side of the island will for the first time have an opportunity to listen to live performances and broadcasts from the world famous Celtic Connections music festival in Glasgow which started yesterday (Thursday).

DAB digital radio listeners on Arran should select 'Pop Up' from the selection of radio stations on their DAB digital radio display and they will hear Celtic Music Radio from The Glasgow Royal Concert Hall and other venues every day featuring live performances, interviews, guests, reviews and competitions.

Through this partnership with Now Digital, Celtic Music Radio will expand its 24-hour a day service to the Glasgow area on 1530AM/MW to many large and populated areas of England and Wales plus locally in the Ayrshire and Isle of Arran area.

Spokesman Bob McWilliam said: 'This is great opportunity for digital radio users on Arran to get a taste of Celtic Connections and local programmes.

'All they have to do is select Pop Up on their digital radio display and they will get Celtic Music Radio from Glasgow.'

Celtic Music Radio is a community of interest radio station broadcasting on 1530AM and online at [www.celticmusicradio.net](http://www.celticmusicradio.net) and celebrates its third year on-air full time this January.

**WHEREVER YOU ARE...**  
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# The Arran Banner 20 years ago

## Saturday, January 12, 1991

### After the storm

Freak high tides and strong winds on Saturday afternoon left many of Arran's villages submerged under water.

By 2.30pm, with still an hour to go until high tide, crowds gathered to watch as the sea continued to rise around in Brodick, Lamalsh and Whiting Bay.

Roads engineer Geoff Norris estimates that the damage will cost the island around £300,000.



Jan Schofield and Christine Bailey, the two staff that have manned the Arran Information and Advice Service since 1988. It may be forced to close its doors if they fail to secure further funding.

b02twe01

### Road destroyed

The road past Blackwaterfoot Harbour took the brunt of Saturday's storms and has been completely destroyed.

Jim and Helen Allison live in the house opposite where the road is breached and they had been ready to evacuate the building had the tide crept any higher.

'We watched the sea wall vanish, then the fence on the opposite side disappeared,' said Jim.

'The tarmac on the road began to crumble and a great hole appeared. We honestly thought the house was next.'

### Sorry state in Whiting Bay

Almost the entire length of the road in Whiting Bay has been damaged by the high tides on Saturday.

Gabian walls around the boat slip have been pulled away, pipe work exposed and the putting green became a pile of rubble.

In the village centre, Bay News was flooded with the loss of some stock.

### Corrie gets off lightly

'Not as bad as other places,' was Jim Lees verdict.

Half the road was washed away at the entrance to the village and there was extensive flooding around Sannox car park in which 80-year-old Peggy Bulley had to abandon her car.

### New Year baby

The first baby born on Arran in the new decade is Calum Iain Johnston, son to Sheila and Allan Johnston, at Lamalsh Hospital at 2.25pm on Sunday morning.

Calum weighed in at 8lbs 1oz and is a little brother for Claire who will be two next Wednesday.

Mother and baby are both doing well and went home to Shiskine in fine fettle on Tuesday.

### Kilmory Whist Drive

Inclement weather and illness resulted in less than usual people attending the annual Whist Drive.

Winners were: Ladies: 1 Mrs Morrison, 2 Mrs Driver Snr, consolation Jennifer Tod. Gents: 1 Edward Picken, 2 Stewart Gough, consolation Mr Muir.

Beetle Drive winners: Graham Tod, Eilidh Rhead, Shonana Mulholland and Murray Picken.



Curries of Brodick narrowly missed being flooded out. b02twe04



Mr Jim Allison looks at the pile of rubble that helped save his house from disappearing into the sea. b02twe02

Right: The floods and storms were followed by snow. b02twe03



Left: Donald Johnston in Lamalsh was faced with a massive clear up after the storms. b02twe05



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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Tuesday - Pop Music Quiz - 9pm  
Thursday - General Knowledge Quiz - 9pm  
Saturday - Over 21s Disco 10pm

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# Whats On

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 Trout Fly Fishing Loch Garbad, Bank  
 Hawk Walks Lamlash  
 Brodick Castle, Gardens open daily 9am - dusk

**SATURDAY 15th JANUARY**

Karate Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm  
 Friends of Brodick Castle 'Sea Lights' (Lighthouses) The Castle, 2.30pm  
 Brodick Castle, Shop and Tearoom 11am - 4pm  
 Family Games 3pm to 4pm Auchrannie Games Hall  
 Fun In The Pool 4pm to 5pm Auchrannie Spa Pool  
 Over 21's Disco The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
 Arran Dancers (4 years and up) Arran High School, 10am  
 Junior Badminton (5 - 11yrs) High School Games Hall, 1pm - 2.30pm  
 Music and Social Evening Pirmill Village Hall, 8.30pm  
 Lunchtime Concert - Idomeneo String Quartet Brodick Hall, 1pm

**SUNDAY 16th JANUARY**

Alcoholics Anonymous Church Hall, Brodick, 4.30pm  
 Brodick Castle, Shop and Tearoom 11am - 4pm  
 Arran Fiddle Club- Childrens Classes Library Annexe, 1.45pm  
 Family Games 3pm to 4pm Auchrannie Games Hall  
 Fun In The Pool 4pm to 5pm Auchrannie Spa Pool  
 Quiz PHT, Lamlash, 9pm

**MONDAY 17th JANUARY**

Over 50's Badminton Lochranza Village Hall 2pm - 4pm  
 Badminton Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm  
 Weight Wise Hospital Bungalow, 5pm - 5.30pm  
 Ladies Netball High School Sports Hall - Seniors 7.30pm - 9pm  
 Arran Junior Football Club Coaching & Games Ormidale Park, 6pm  
 Citizens Advice Open 10am - 2pm  
 Junior Basketball (P1 - P7) Games Hall, High School 6pm - 7.30pm  
 Senior Fitness 9.30am to 10.30am Auchrannie Gym  
 BreathWalk Class Kinneil, Lamlash 5.15pm  
 Quiz Bar Eden, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm  
 Lamlash Bridge Club Lamlash Golf Club, 7.15pm  
 Circuit Training Auchrannie Gym, 6pm - 7pm  
 Table Tennis Corrie Hall, 6.30pm  
 Badminton Auchrannie Gym, 7pm - 9pm  
 Scottish Country Dancing (Beginners & Improvers) Corrie Hall, 2pm - 4pm  
 Mums and Tots Swimming Lessons Auchrannie Spa Pool, 11am

**TUESDAY 18th JANUARY**

Lochranza Swimming Club Kinloch 11am - 12pm  
 Army Cadets Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
 Pop Quiz Ormidale Hotel, 9pm

**Alcoholics Anonymous**

- 2pm  
 Citizens Advice  
 Youth Club  
 Rotary Club  
 Junior Hockey Club  
 Motocross Practice (Weather Permitting)  
 Melody Movement. Ballet Class - 2½ yrs up  
 Dudes & Divas Funky Dance Class - 2½ yrs up  
 Scottish Country Dancing  
 Indoor Bowls  
 Youth Club  
 Cricket  
 Arran Sports Association AGM

**Brodick Church Hall**

Open 10am - 2pm  
 Kildonan Hall - 6.30pm  
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm  
 Ormidale Pavillion, 6-7pm  
 Southbank Farm Track, 6pm  
 Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.30pm  
 Auchrannie Dance Studio, 2pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm  
 Corrie Hall, 2pm - 4pm  
 Brodick Hall, 6.30pm - 8pm  
 Arran High School, 7pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30pm

**WEDNESDAY 19th JANUARY**

Hockey Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm Games Hall  
 Tae Kwon-do KA Leisure, Kids 6.30 - 7.30pm. Adults 7.30 - 8.30pm  
 Alcoholics Anonymous Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm- 9pm  
 Arran Brass Rehearsal Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm  
 Selt Making Class Shipfield, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm  
 Musical Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am  
 Yoga for Every Body 10am - 11.30am  
 Senior Badminton High School Games Hall, 8pm - 9pm  
 Museum, Archives & Geneology Service 10.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 3.30pm  
 Aquafizz 9.45am to 10.30am Auchrannie Hotel Pool  
 Yogalates 9.30am to 10.30am Auchrannie Studio  
 Circuit Training Auchrannie Games Hall, 6pm - 7pm  
 Elderly Forum Ormidale Pavilion, 11am

**THURSDAY 20th JANUARY**

General Knowledge Quiz Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Arran Music & Drama 'Sweeny Todd' Rehearsals Brodick Hall, 7.30pm  
 Lochranza Craft Club Hall, 2pm  
 Coffee Morning St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm  
 Table Tennis Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm  
 Youth Club Youth Cabin, Lamlash 7-9pm  
 Brodick Bridge Club Golf Clubhouse  
 Athletics High School Games Hall, 4.45pm - 6pm  
 Senior Fitness 9.30am to 11.30am Auchrannie Spa Gym  
 Ladies Night Bar Eden, Whiting Bay  
 Pilates 6pm to 7pm Auchrannie Studio  
 Pub Quiz Kinloch Hotel, 9pm  
 Ladies Night Bar Eden, Whiting Bay  
 Brodick Embroidery Group Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm  
 Corrie & Sannox SWRI 'Crafty Blethers' Corrie Hall, 2pm  
 Arran Youth Foundations Behind Library, 4.30pm - 6.30pm  
 The Wee Blether - soup & sandwiches Whiting Bay Hall, 11am - 1.30pm

**FRIDAY 21st JANUARY**

Arran Pipe Band Practice Brodick Hall, 7.30pm  
 Brodick Castle, Shop and Tearoom 11am - 4pm  
 Quiz Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm  
 Aquafizz 9.45am to 10.30am Auchrannie Hotel Pool  
 Yogalates 10am to 11am Auchrannie Studio  
 DJ Bar Eden, Whiting Bay, 9pm - 1am  
 Seniors Badminton (Over 50) Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm  
 Ladies Indoor Bowls Brodick Church Hall, 2pm  
 Mens Indoor Bowls Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm  
 Over 21's Disco The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
 Arran Ceilidh Dance Group Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm - 10pm  
 Arran Youth Foundations Behind Library, 7pm - 9pm

**SATURDAY 22nd JANUARY**

Live Music - 'The Usual Suspects' Whiting Bay Hall, 8pm  
 Lamlash Burns Club, Burns Supper Golf Club Lamlash, 7pm  
 Auction Kilmory Hall, 2pm  
 Conservative & Unionist Arran Party AGM Brodick Library, 2pm

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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
**Sunday 16 January**  
 Shiskine, 11am  
 Sunday School in the Church Hall  
 (Church is between Machrie & Blackwaterfoot)  
 Brodick, 7pm (Church is behind Post Office)  
 Mr David Gregg  
 All welcome

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
 (in full communion with the Church of England)  
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
**Sunday 16 January**  
 Holy Communion 11am.  
 Mr John Roberts  
 Coffee after service  
**Wednesday 19 January**  
 Holy Communion 12.15pm.  
 ALL WELCOME

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
 (SCO15072)  
 Kilmory linked with Lamlash  
 "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"  
**Sunday 16 January**  
 Rev Gillean Maclean  
 Kilmory 10am  
 Lamlash 11.30pm  
 In both churches:  
 All welcome, including families; children's area  
 All welcome

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)**  
**Sunday 16 January**  
 Morning Service 11am  
 Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick  
 Evening Service 7pm  
 13 Glen Avenue, Brodick  
 Rev J Miller  
 All welcome

**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH.**  
 Ormidale Pavilion  
 Brodick.  
**Sunday 16 January**  
 10.45am Communion  
 Tea and Coffee from 11.10am  
 11.30am - For all the family  
 Speaker: Rev Willie Wright  
 Everyone very welcome  
 Friendship Hour  
 20th January, 2.30 - 3.30pm

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
 North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine.  
*Independent but working together.*  
**Minister**  
 Rev Angus Adamson.  
**Parish Asst**  
 Mrs Jean Hunter.  
 Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times. to which all are invited - Families, young people and children welcome  
**Sunday 16 January**  
 Brodick Church 10.30am

Corrie Church 12pm  
 Lochranza/Pirmill  
 10.15am at Lochranza  
 Shiskine 12pm  
 A service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm

**WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
 (SC014005)  
**Sunday 16 January**  
 Worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am and after the service, there will be the sale of Traidcraft goods. Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service. All most welcome.  
 At 7pm in the Church, there will be an informal evening service of praise and discussion. All welcome.

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
 Sunday Morning Mass  
 11am

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)**  
 Sunday 16 January  
 Meeting for worship and discussion, 11am  
 11 Glen Estate Brodick.  
 Enquiries to Jeny 302779.  
 All very welcome.

**ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER**  
 Celebration of Christian Unity  
 Sunday 23 January  
 Lamlash Church, 12pm  
 Arran Brass.  
 Preacher Commissioner Keith Banks, Salvation Army.  
 Offering to Children First.  
 Everybody most welcome.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

**COOK - ANGUS**  
 Stewart and Anne would like to thank all relatives and colleagues for letters, cards and phone calls after their recent bereavement. We would also like to thank Elizabeth Watson for the service and the tribute to Angus and also Ruth Thompson for playing the organ. Thanks to David and Clair Hendry for funeral arrangements and to the Bar Eden for excellent food service.  
 We were quite overwhelmed by the number of people who attended the church, so thank you to all who came from far and near as it said a lot about the life of Angus.

**HEYDON - DICK**  
 The family of Dick Heydon would like express their thanks for the many kind expressions of support and sympathy received. They are particularly grateful to the staff of the social and health services, medical centre, and hospital who looked after him so professionally and also to church members who assisted so will-

ingly with aspects of his funeral. David, Paul and Jill.

**DEATHS**

**LAMONT** - Suddenly in Westonsuper-Mare on Wednesday 5th January, Agnes Janet, aged 72, retired teacher and widow of John (lighthouse keeper at Pladda from 1980-1985 who was born on Arran). Beloved mum to Alison and much loved granny to Jack. Sadly missed by all. She loved Arran  
**MACNEE - CATHERINE**  
 Peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital on Thursday, January 6, 2011, Catherine (Cathy) nee McAulay of Lamlash, beloved wife of Iain, much loved mum of Ewan and Fiona, dear mother in law of Nicola and Davy and proud

grandmother of Ruaridh. Funeral service to be held in Lamlash Parish Church, Isle of Arran on Friday, January 14 at 1pm, thereafter to Lamlash New Cemetery to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please. There will be a retiring collection for The Arran Hospice Fund at the church if you wish to contribute.

**BIRTHS**

**DRIVER.**  
 Howard and Helen are delighted to announce the safe arrival of grandson, Charlie, on Monday 10 January in Lancaster. A son for Stewart and Mary.



**Whiting Bay Golf Club**

Results: Sunday 9 January. Whiting Bay recorded their second victory in the AGA Winter League at Machrie Bay, beating Shiskine by 3 games to 1. Well done to all who took part. This result leaves Whiting Bay in a very healthy position at the top with matches at Brodick and Whiting Bay still to come.  
 Fixtures: Sunday 16 January, Winter Cup Round 4.

**Brodick Golf Club**

The AGA winter league at Machrie resulted in the absence of many of the elite golfers. Overnight frost resulted in the course being closed in the morning and further depleted the field. Seven golfers finally teed off in the afternoon and enjoyed the sunshine. Sweep results, 1 T Raeside 33 pts, 2 I Macmillan 32 pts, 3 L Keir 31 pts. Lindsay could have had a couple more points, had he not been distracted by a young lady and taken four to get down from the edge of the 18th green. There was only one two, Terry Raeside being the lucky one.  
 Fixtures: Sunday 16 January, Clochendichter. Sunday 23 January, Brandon and Winter Cup. Sunday 30 January, Clochendichter.

**Corrie Golf Club**

Monday 10 January, Monday Cup, 9 played. 1 D Price 71-10=61, 2 D Crawford 75-13=62. Best scratch J McGovern 67. There were magic twos from A McDonald, J McGovern and A Smith.  
 Fixtures: Saturday 15 January, Winter Cup at 8.30am and 12pm. Monday 17 January, Monday Cup at 12pm.

**Arran Golfers Association**

Sunday 9 January, Winter League, Duncan Trophy, third round at Machrie Bay Golf Club. The third round games took place on an amazingly

dry day without interruption for a change, lets hope for more of the same for February and March. Thanks to Machrie for the condition of the course which was great considering the extreme weather its had thrown at it recently, and also for the welcome soup and sandwiches.

Results: The first match saw host club Machrie narrowly defeat a strong Brodick team by two and a half matches to one and a half. Next match was Shiskine v Whiting Bay, although Sandy Kerr and Jimmy Morrison won their game convincingly the rest of the Shiskine boys didn't match their form and Whiting Bay took the other three ties to win by three games to one. Final game was Corrie v Lamlash, even though the games were won convincingly the overall match score was much closer and the game ended two games each for the draw.  
 Fixtures: The fourth round takes place on Sunday 6 February at Brodick Golf Club.  
 The draw is as follows: Brodick v Shiskine 10am, Whiting Bay v Lamlash 10.50am and Corrie v Machrie at 11.40am.

**Machrie**  
 Saturday 8 January, Lochranza Hotel Cup and Freebie Final. 1 John McGovern 38pts, 2 Mary Wilkinson 34pts, 3 Elizabeth Ross 33pts. Best Scratch John McGovern 71. Winner of Freebie Final Mary Wilkinson. Fixtures: Saturday 18 January, Lochranza Hotel Cup, tee-off at 12pm.

**Lamlash Golf Club**  
 Thursday 6 January, 15 Hole Medal. 1 Peter Smith 72-17=55, 2 Jim Young 67-10=57.  
 Twos sweep Mark Wren at the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Sunday 7 January, No game due to weather conditions. Result of Winter League at Machrie: Lamlash 2 Corrie 2.  
 Fixtures: Sunday 16 January, Glenburn Cup, 9.30am and 11am starts. Thursday 20 January, 15 Hole Medal, make up own groups. Sunday 23 January, rearranged game with Whiting Bay at Whiting Bay at 10.30am for 11am start.

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## Islanders lose Lone Star Bowl in Texas

'We played under a cloudless sky in a balmy 12 degrees centigrade'

The Islander Lone Star Bowl will be staying in America for another year after the Dallas golf team beat the Arran side in the 2011 match at the beginning of January. The competition was first played at Brodick Golf Club in

May 2008 when a victory for the 'Islanders' was recorded in The Banner.

However, last Saturday the Texans gained revenge and the bowl will be staying in Dallas till the next challenge.

Competing for Arran were John Hartley of Lochranza and his brother-in-law Charlie Newton who now lives in Dallas.

Charlie said: 'After a delay of two years, we finally managed to play the second Islander Lone Star Bowl over the Frisco Lakes Golf Club on January 8.

**Balmy**

'We played under a cloudless sky in a balmy 12 degrees Centigrade on a course which offers almost as many shots over water as Brodick.'

Three players from the 2008 event reported for action, with Phil Caldwell from Texas replacing Angus Macleod of Lewis.

This meant that Charlie Newton was able to turn out for the Islanders instead of his adopted Texas.

The invitation to Phil, Charlie's stepson, proved to be decisive for Texas.

His scratch 79 over the 6,500 yard course proved too much for the Islanders.

The Texans ran out easy 5 and 3 winners.

John and Charlie have vowed to adjust the handicaps when the bowl is next played in Brodick.



From left to right: Charlie Newton (Kate's brother), Phil Caldwell, Tom Murphy and John Hartley with the Islander Lonestar Bowl.

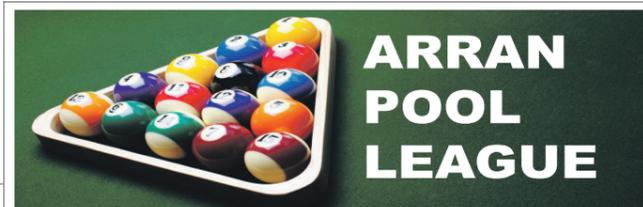


## New Year day victories for Carole and Jimmy

Carole Stewart and Jimmy Morrison were celebrating success in the recent festive competitions at Shiskine Golf Course.

Jimmy won the Colditz Quaich on New Year's Day after he defeated Sandy Kerr on the better inward half with a 41.

On the same day the Alan Smith Plate was won by Carole after she defeated Jenni Turnbull and Elizabeth Kelso with a 45



Kildonan have failed to qualify for the Pool Knockout Shield after a defeat against Catacol last Thursday saw them remain at the bottom of the league.

At the beginning of the season the Arran Pool League committee agreed that the top eight teams in the league would qualify for the cup.

The team at the bottom of the table would not take part. At the top of the league table it is still very close as Bar Eden have just a one point lead on nearest rivals Catacol.

The results from Thursday 6 January were as follows: Bar Eden (G) 7 PT1934 3, Catacol (G) 8 Kildonan 2, teamGoil (G) 7 Mac's Bar 3, PHT (G) 3 Bar Eden B 7.

The draw for the first round of the Knockout Shield has been completed.

It will be played on Thursday 20 January and will be the best of nine games. There will be no team game.

Mac's Bar v teamGoil, Catacol v PHT, Drift Inn v PT1934 and Bar Eden v Bar Eden B.

## Kinloch prepares for darts competition



The Shiskine Open Darts Championship is being held at the Kinloch Hotel in Blackwaterfoot at the end of the month.

The two qualifying nights will be Friday 28 January and Friday 4 February before the finals night on Friday 11 February.

There are some great prizes up for grabs for the winners including £100 and a new LCD television.

To take part please contact the Kinloch on 860444 for an entrance form.

The forms must be returned by Friday 21 January and an entrance fee of £5 will be paid on the evening.

	P	W	L	D	Pts
Bar Eden	8	5	1	2	17
Catacol	8	5	2	1	16
Eden B	8	5	3	0	15
PT1934	8	4	2	2	14
PHT	8	3	3	2	11
Drift	8	2	3	3	9
TeamGoil	8	2	3	3	9
Mac's	8	2	6	0	6
Kildonan	8	1	6	1	4

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