

THE ARRAN BANNER

ARRAN ESTATE AGENTS s1homes.com
Property Live.co.uk

Residential & Commercial Property Sales
Free pre-sale valuation
01770 302310
enquiries@arranestateagents.co.uk
www.arranestateagents.co.uk

Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 14 JANUARY, 2012

No 1841 57p

Gourock passengers' anger as Arran ferry is given priority

Ardrossan 'not fit for purpose'

REPORT

by JENNIFER LYON
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Gourock ferry passengers have slammed Argyll's ferry service as 'beyond a joke' after their sailings were cancelled last Wednesday - not due to adverse weather - but to provide shelter for the Arran ferry *MV Caledonian Isles*.

The 10.20am and 10.50am sailings from Gourock and Dunoon respectively were cancelled on Wednesday 4 January 'due to the arrival of the *Caledonian Isles* at Gourock', according to Argyll Ferries' website. The *Caledonian Isles* was unable to berth at Ardrossan after the linkspan was damaged during the severe gales last Monday and Tuesday. An Argyll Ferries spokesman told *The Banner*: 'There is a longstanding agreement that Gourock is the 'port of refuge' for services from Bute and Arran which are unable to berth at their respective mainland ports due to severe weather problems.'

'The most recent diversions have been due to storm damage to the linkspan at Ardrossan, and Arran would effectively be cut off were we not able to use Gourock in this way.'

'While every effort is made

to avoid a clash with Dunoon-Gourock services, unfortunately some disruption is possible and we regret any temporary inconvenience caused to customers.'

'However we hope that Dunoon customers will appreciate that Arran is suffering particularly badly at present and it is not unreasonable to expect us to do what we can to help.' He advised that the *Caledonian Isles* was expected to return to Gourock last Wednesday afternoon when the Dunoon-Gourock service would lose one further return sailing.

Emergency Sailings

'We expect to move over 800 passengers and 200 cars through the two emergency sailings made on Wednesday to enable people to leave Arran,' he continued.

'Readers may also be aware that we are working with partners to have dedicated passenger facilities provided at Gourock which would remove the need to share the linkspan, and avoid service disruptions of this kind in the future.'

Isle of Arran Ferry Committee chairman Ken Thorburn told *The Banner*: 'The recent disruptions due to the bad weather were an absolute nightmare.'

'We need to have a service that sails at least once a day. This is not fit for purpose.'



Michael Lee and Neil Tait busy working on a 150-year-old beech tree fallen at the front of the Castle. 02_b02tree01

Castle trees felled by New Year storms

The storms and high winds over New Year brought down trees at many locations around the island last week.

Brodick Castle and Country Park suffered particularly badly.

Property manager Ken Thorburn said: 'A huge Beech tree

came down just at the front of the castle in the early hours of 3 January. I almost jumped out of bed!'

'There are a lot of trees blown over in Merkland Wood. Gareth McNicol and his team are working alongside our Rangers to clear up the debris, but it will take some time.'

LAMLASH GARAGE

MOT DISCOUNT! Car MOT Fee - £40.00 (Normal price £54.85)

4 WHEEL LASER ALIGNMENT NOW AVAILABLE

- ✓ MOT's, repairs, servicing
- ✓ Full body repair service available
- ✓ Panel beating, spray painting

All your vehicle requirements under one roof
Contact Willie Campbell on 01770 600328

John Thomson Construction Ltd

Building & Civil Engineering Contractors, Joiners & Glaziers

Visit our new website for full details of all our products and housing developments
www.thomsonconstruction.co.uk

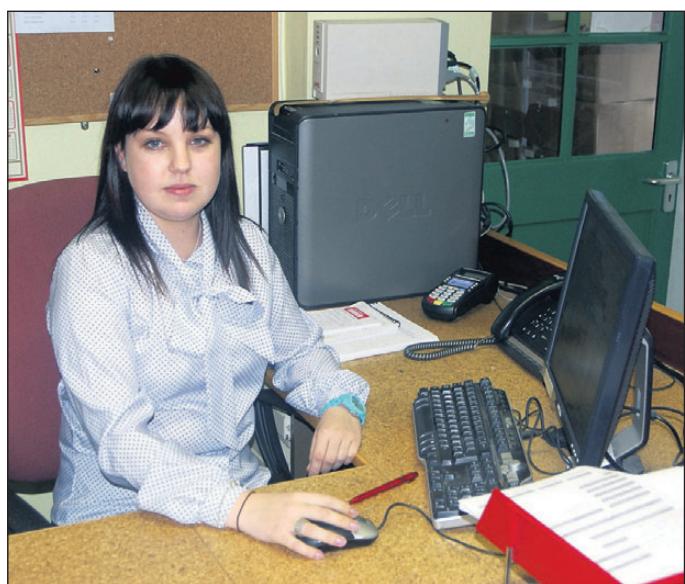


Lamlash, Isle of Arran
www.thomsonconstruction.co.uk

Telephone: 01770 600242
Fax: 01770 600714

Full Design Service • Extensions Alterations • Repairs
• Joinery Glazing • Plastering & Roughcasting Roofing
Replacement • Double Glazing • Kitchens • Roads
& Bridges Construction • Tarmacadam & Concrete
Surfacing • Excavation & Drainage

Any Job Large or Small • Estimates Free



Laura Hemming. 01_b02ban1

New member of staff for The Banner

The Arran Banner has welcomed a new member of staff to the Brodick office this week!

Laura Hemming who is aged 28 is our new sales executive and is looking forward to working with local residents and businesses from all across Arran.

Laura moved to Arran when she was four years old and has worked for the past 11 years with the Royal Bank of Scotland in Edinburgh and Brodick.

Pop into the office any time and have a chat with her about advertising or call her on 302142. 01_b02ban01

Diseased areas to be planted in Country Park

Parts of Brodick Castle Country Park are due to be replanted following a two-year battle against the plant disease Phytophthora Kernoviae.

The disease, which has decimated many of the rhododendrons, is now being tackled by a special three-person estate team who have burned and cleared any affected plants.

Now an area along the roadside at Cladach has been cleared and will soon be planted with 1,500 trees of 20 different species, all resistant to the disease.

Installed

An electric fence has been installed to protect the new young trees from being eaten by deer.

ARRAN HAULAGE SERVICES LTD

Home Farm, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8DD
Tel: 01770 302777 Fax: 01770 302500
Email: info@arranhaulage.co.uk



Daily mainland collections and deliveries



PARCELS



ANIMAL FEED



GAS DEALER FOR THE ISLAND
Propane : Barbecues
Butane : Cookers



GLASGOW DEPOT



Temperature Controlled



Competitive rates for all building materials -



Coal merchant

Hunterston - refuge for Arran ferry

Following recent serious disruptions to Arran's ferry service, Monday night's Ferry Committee meeting discussed the serious possibility of using the old ore terminal at Hunterston as 'a port of refuge'.

Committee chairman Ken Thorburn told The Banner: 'The recent disruptions due to the bad weather were an absolute nightmare.'

'We need to have a service that sails at least once a day. This is not fit for purpose.'

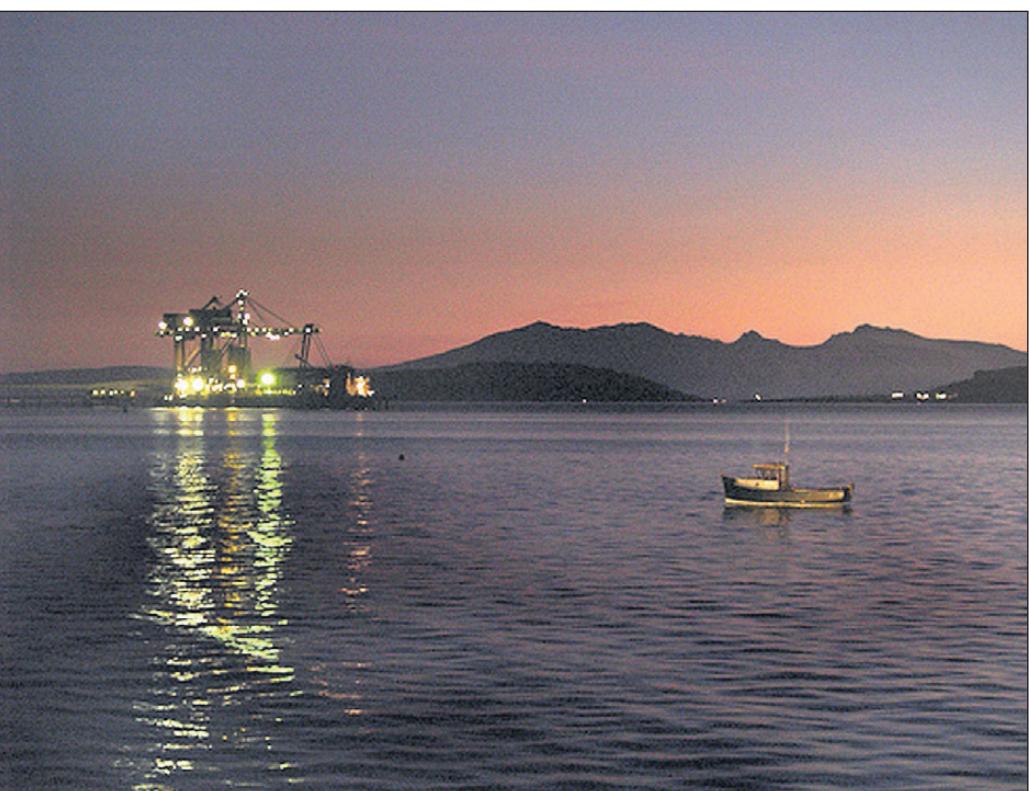
Accessibility

CalMac interim managing director Garry Robertson was at the meeting and the issue of accessibility at Ardrossan harbour was on the agenda.

Ken added: 'The full committee of 14 turned out. We were very impressed with Mr Robertson – he didn't discount any possibility.'

'The recent disruptions caused real hardship for older folk and young families being stranded.'

'Something has to happen.'



Hunterston ore terminal with Arran in the background.

He added that Transport Minister Keith Brown would be attending the April or May meeting to discuss the Scot-

tish Government ferries review.

Observant Banner readers will notice that the issue of

the ferry possibly going to Hunterston features in the '20 years ago' on page 11 this week!

Police Files:

Police called to a number of assaults Police were called to a number of incidents last weekend that involved assaults in various parts of the island.

A 29-year-old man from Kildonan was charged with assault after an incident in the village last Friday night.

He appeared at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court on Monday.

On Saturday 7 January three men were arrested after an incident on Shore Road in Lamlash.

The 50-year-old, 21-year-old and 27-year-old men, all from Lamlash, were charged with alleged assault.

Angry passengers

Police were called to attend at Brodick Pier on Friday after unhappy ferry passengers found themselves stranded on Arran.

Sergeant Bob MacKay said that unfortunately a number of people were struggling to accept that the weather conditions meant the ferry was unable to sail.

He said: 'Whilst we were sympathetic to the plight of the travellers there is very little that police could do in a situation like that.'

'We understand their frustrations but all we can do is keep people calm and orderly.'

- Do you have a story for **THE ARRAN BANNER?**

Call our reporters on 01770 302142

FULTON
decorators

LAMLASH

TEL/FAX 01770 600705

Est. 1985

SCOTTISH DECORATORS
FEDERATION MEMBER
DECOR

- All paintwork undertaken
- Any job, large or small
- Paper hanging
- Floor sanding & sealing
- Phone Gavin Fulton for a free estimate

BGG
isle of arran

BROOMBRAE GROUNDS & GARDENS LTD isle of arran.

FOR LANDSCAPING & GROUND WORKS

See: www.broombrae.co.uk & the Arran Index

Phone: 01770 860435 Mob: 07522 860435

FAX: 01770 860434

E mail:ogg@broombrae.co.uk

BGG Ltd, Kilpatrick, Isle of Arran KA27 8EY

Neil Young

Joinery & Building Contractor



- Specialist in :-
New Housing
- Extensions
- Timber framed kits
- Conservatories
- Garages
- Renovations
- Kitchens
- Glazing
- Replacement Windows & Doors
- All Roofing Repairs/ Problems

Tel: 01770 600 500 Mob: 07855 758 978

24-hour Service. Free Quotations. Friendly Reliable Service

Email:- yneilly@aol.com - Lamlash, Isle of Arran



Sue Davidson, in the driving seat, is hoping the new mini bus will transform the lives of some young people in Albania. Also in the picture, from left to right, are charity trustees David Christison, Julian Davidson and Aileen Brookens. 01_b02bus01

Bus boost for Valdete Trust

'This means that we are now in a great position to get things up and running in Albania' – Sue Davidson

An Arran charity, which is aiming to make the lives of disabled people in Albania more bearable, has received a late Christmas present, which will put it in the driving seat to meet the demand for its services.

The Valdete Trust, which is based in Whiting Bay, has been able to buy a new fully adapted minibus after a sizeable donation from a local donor.

The vehicle will be used to transport physiotherapy equipment to Albania where charity founders Sue and Julian Davidson plan to open a day care centre for disabled youngsters.

Once there the bus will also be used to transport people

from their doors to the centre.

Sue Davidson told The Banner that the new van is a real boost to the charity.

'This means that we are now in a great position to get things up and running in Albania,' said Sue.

Disabilities

'We can now pick up people from their doors and take them to the day centre which will be fantastic as many young people with disabilities never leave the house over there.'

The Valdete Trust takes its name from a young Alba-

nian woman, Valdete Gjonpal whose plight and courage inspired the people of Arran to raise the money necessary to bring her to Britain for medical treatment.

But Valdete is the exception.

In Albania, hundreds if not thousands of young people with degenerative diseases remain trapped in their homes, or in institutions, without adequate medical or social support.

It is the hope of Sue and Julian that they can help to turn around the lives of some of these young people.

The Coffee Pot
Golf Course Rd, Whiting Bay
Tel: 700393

Paintings & Prints by Shiela Findlay on display
Delicious Snacks & Light Meals. Homebaking always available

Opening hours 10am – 5pm. Last food orders 4pm
Closed Sunday and Monday

HENDRY'S FUNERAL SERVICES LTD

15 Glen Avenue, Brodick
Your Local Independent Funeral Director
S A I F Member

All funeral arrangements
Agents for Golden Charter Funeral Plans and Robertson Memorials

Tel Clair on 01770 302233

Petrol station application lodged by ASDA

A planning application for a petrol filling station in Harbour Road, Ardrossan has been lodged with North Ayrshire Council by ASDA Supermarkets on 19 December.

As reported in the Banner two months ago, the planned development will be for six fully automated, self-service fuel pumps in the car park of the supermarket.

The pumps will be operated by means of customer credit card authorisation only; there will be no cash sales and no sales kiosk on site.

With projected pump prices considerably lower than here on Arran, this may be a boon for island motorists on their way back to the ferry terminal, but a blow for local garages.

It is also planned to have two jet wash stations in the car park.

The application is pending consideration by NAC planning department.

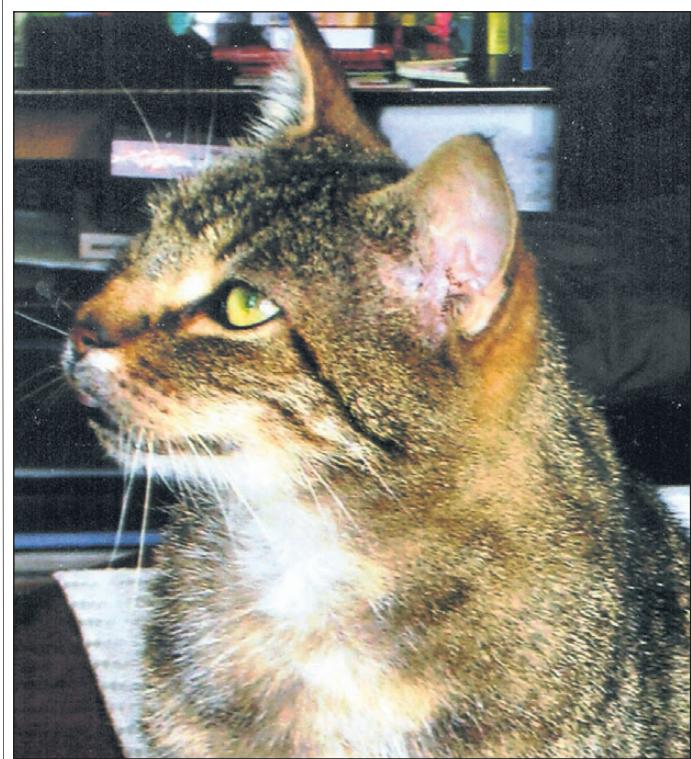
Calvin the cat comes home

Calvin, the missing cat featured on page three of last week's Banner, is back home.

Owner Graeme Lindsay said: 'A lady had seen him hanging about outside the Co-op looking forlorn and took him home to Corrie.

'He is back in Springbank now, but he's a wanderer so we are keeping him under close scrutiny.'

Stop press: Staff at the Douglas Hotel report that Calvin is on the prowl again. He has apparently been spotted in grounds behind the hotel, so keep your eyes peeled!



Calvin the cat, on the prowl again b01cat01

The Douglas Hotel

Try our delicious
Daytime Cafe Menu
with DAILY SPECIALS

The perfect place to meet'

- Lunches
- Quick Bites
- Coffee, Tea & Cakes
- Cocktails
- Wine & Nibbles

COMING SOON...

The January Weekender

A Weekend of Live Music

27th January
Friday Night Live Music in the Bar with Robyn & Amie

28th January
Enjoy a delightful 3 course evening meal in the Bistro with live musical accompaniment £22.50

29th January
Sunday Jazz Brunch in the Bistro with the Jazz Cafe Band.
A delicious and leisurely carvery lunch £17.50

Call today
to book your table
01770 302 968



Stay with us on Friday & Saturday evening, enjoying all of the musical entertainment & breakfast on both days for only £99 per person
BASED ON 2 PEOPLE SHARING, SINGLE SUPP. MAY APPLY

Owners claim Craigielea closure could have been stopped

REPORT

by JENNIFER LYON
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The closure of a Whiting Bay care home at the end of November has sparked furious criticism of the council who allegedly did nothing to stop the business shutting down.

The owners of Craigielea Care Home, Eddie and Judy Waterland, told The Banner that North Ayrshire Council offered them no support during the long drawn out closure process.

In fact, the couple believe it was a case of constructive closure to get the council more funding for the new Montrose House in Brodick.

Judy Waterland said: 'They

constantly pulled us down; always moving the goal posts to make sure we never reached the targets they'd set for us.'

'We were on the up – our investigation report shows that – but still we were forced to close.'

Judy pointed out to The Banner that the last two inspections in May and August of this year both show a marked improvement in levels of care.

'If I'd been able to take in just one or two more residents then we could have stayed open,' said Judy. 'But the council wouldn't allow that and it just wasn't viable to remain open.'

A spokesman for North Ayr-

shire Council said: 'There is absolutely no connection between the closure of Craigielea Care Home – a decision made by the owners - and funding for Montrose House.'

Craigielea Care Home was assessed by the Care Inspectorate - a regulatory body entirely independent of North Ayrshire Council – and found to have failed to provide consistently adequate standards of care.

Standards

'It is a clear condition of the National Care Home Contract agreed by CoSLA that new residents should not be admitted to homes which fail to meet these standards.'

Jackson Carlaw, Conservative MSP for the West of Scotland told The Banner that he had visited the residential home himself during the summer and saw for

himself the changes that had taken place.

He said: 'I...was a witness to the considerable programme of improvements and investments in the home to meet an ever changing series of demands and variable standards imposed by NAC which appeared to have pursued a prejudicial agenda throughout.'

Gill Gregory's mother was a resident in the care home and said it was the family feel that first attracted her to Craigielea.

'It's like one big family,' she said. 'You feel as though you are part of something much bigger than just your own family.'

'We have never had any concerns about the level of care and feel that if there had been a problem our mother would have been in a far worse state.'



Fly-away bus shelter roped down

One of the casualties of last week's high winds was this bus shelter at Brodick pier.

Being of lightweight construction it threatened to disappear into the sky like Dorothy's house in The Wizard of Oz.

But a cautionary rope has secured it to the railings at the bus stance. 02_b02bus01

Gillian playing at 2012 Celtic Connections

Arran girl Gillian Frame will be performing at this year's Celtic Connections festival.

She will be performing Eilean Mo Ghaoil (The Music of Arran), a selection of Arran's best music from the album of the same name released last year.

Gillian, on fiddle, viola and vocals herself, will be ac-

companied by Angus Lyon on accordion and piano, Ali Hutton on pipes, whistle and guitar, Innes Watson on guitar

and fiddle, Deidre Graham with Gaelic song and Ross Kennedy on vocals.

All the music is arranged

by Gillian who was a student at Arran High School and in 2001 was the inaugural winner of the BBC Young Scottish Traditional Musician Award.

The event is at 8pm in the Glasgow Art Club, 185 Bath Street on Tuesday 31 January. She is also giving a workshop – A Really Big Sing – in Glasgow Royal Concert Hall at 1.30pm on Saturday 4 February. Other concerts in Celtic Connections from Thursday 19 January to Sunday 5 February will be in Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, the Mitchell Theatre, and St Mary's Cathedral.

Gillian is best known as fiddler and singer with award winning Scottish band Back of the Moon and is currently touring with Findlay Napier and the Bar Room Mountainers.



Gillian Frame

ARRAN REARED BEEF & LAMB

from Braehead Farm, Sliddery

Delivered frozen to your door, at a time convenient to you.
No order too small.

For orders or Pricelist contact Braehead Beef & Lamb
Tel 870348

DIRECT TAXIS
01294 60-2005
8-seater taxis available
Ardrossan Harbour to:
Glasgow Airport £30.00
Prestwick Airport £25.00
Return bookings and other prices on request.

ARDROSSAN HARBOUR TO YOUR DESTINATION

Mainland Taxi's
07921 998457
01294 463556

Glasgow Airport	£30
Prestwick Airport	£23
Irvine Central Hospital	£14
Crosshouse Hospital	£20
Ayr Hospital	£30
Troon Harbour	£21
Seamill Hydro	£12
Kilmarnock	£22
Ayr	£27

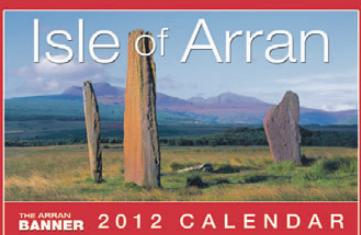
For other quotes just ask!
Friendly Reliable Service
www.mainland-taxis.co.uk

7 SEATER WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE VEHICLE AVAILABLE

ISO 9001
CERTIFIED COMPANY

600053 FREEPHONE 0800 2981295

The ideal gift



THE ARRAN BANNER Isle of Arran 2012 calendar

Order online at: www.scottishcalendars.co.uk or call us on 01631 568000

Auchrannie continues to invest for the future

Auchrannie Holdings, the family-owned company who have developed the hotel and leisure complex in Brodick, is staying in the black and continuing to invest for the future.

The firm's accounts, which have just become available from Companies House, show it achieved a rise in turnover from £4.47 million to £4.84m in the year to March 31 2011.

Pre-tax profits dipped from £464,111 to £232,788, as its rates bill jumped by £37,000 following a revaluation of rateable value based on turnover, and as wages and heat, light, and power costs rose.

Ronnie Mann, finance and development director, estimated turnover would fall in the current financial year to March 2012 by about eight per cent but said the business would remain in profit.

He said he was 'relieved' about the performance of Auchrannie, which remains under the ownership of the Johnston family, which has built up the resort.

Mr Mann said: 'Speaking to our contemporaries in the Highlands and Islands, we seem to be faring better than most. We are relieved.'

Asked if he anticipated Auchrannie remaining in profit in the year to March 2012, Mr Mann replied: 'It will certainly be a lot tighter, with a reduction of that level in turnover ... If you lose eight per cent of your turnover, you can imagine profit is getting tough. We have managed to hold our costs and the bottom line will not be drastic. It will still be profit, put it that way.'

He highlighted the benefits of a £380,000 investment in a children's 'playbarn', which opened last summer.

'That has given us a bigger share of the family market,' said Mr Mann, although noting the current financial year had been a 'struggle' in light of the economic backdrop.

Auchrannie has grown from a 16-bedroom guest house in 1988 to a resort comprising two four-star hotels with 64 rooms, 30 five-star self-catering lodges, three restaurants, a shop, two leisure clubs with swimming pools and the playbarn.

Mr Mann highlighted Auchrannie's focus on investment.

He noted a recent £1.4m investment in seven luxury lodges, which took the number to 30.

Get help with your home heating bills

Cunninghame North MSP Kenneth Gibson is encouraging constituents to get help with their home heating bills.

Residents can contact the Home Heat helpline as new figures from the New Policy Institute reveal that 8,800 households in North Ayrshire including approximately 350 homes on Arran, are entitled to some form of assistance with their fuel bills.

That help is worth an average of £250 per household, a free helpline is available to

find out more.

Mr Gibson said: 'In recent weeks the weather has been awful, with high winds and driving rain battering North Ayrshire. Anyone concerned about staying warm should call the Home Heat Helpline and seek assistance from this free service. It provides independent advice to people on low incomes on how to get help with their gas and electricity bills as well as other help such as grants for insulation or a new boiler.'

'The Home Heat Helpline (0800 33 66 99) is a not-for-profit phone line managed by the Energy Retail Association and paid for by contributions from Britain's major energy suppliers.'

'The service is backed by a range of organisations including Age UK; Citizens Advice; National Energy Action and the Energy Saving Trust. People can also access the service by visiting www.homeheathelpline.org.uk online.'



An overview of the fourth Spring exhibition of Arran Visual Arts in Kilmory Hall in April 2009. 02_b02ava01

Arran Visual Arts needs you

Arran Visual Arts (AVA) group announced in September that they desperately needed new volunteers to come forward onto the committee.

Unfortunately no-one came forward and they say that there is a danger that AVA will fold. Any volunteers are asked to contact Alison Barr on 303607, Tessa Smith on 830622 or Jan McGregor on 700249.

The group meets monthly and has a varied programme of workshops and two exhibitions a year.

This year's Easter exhibition venue has been changed from Kilmory Hall to the Community Theatre in Lamlash.

A spokesperson said: 'We are grateful to Kilmory Hall for the use of their hall over the last six years, but we thought we would try a change. We will welcome your help once again.'

AVA workshops for 2012 will start on Sunday 15 January with Josephine Broekhuizen giving a class on 'Still

Life in your choice of medium'.

Josephine will be sharing her experience of still life painting techniques and helping participants setting up their own arrangements.

Preliminary drawing will be followed by painting when Josephine will teach ways of creating different effects with

particular emphasis on texture, tone and shade.

For information about this and any other workshops, please contact Alison Barr on 303607 or Tessa Smith on 830622.

The annual general meeting will be held on Friday 3 February at 7.30pm in the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick.

THE KINLOCH
PRESENTS
A wee bit of Burns !
Saturday 28th January, 7pm
3 Course Meal
Toast and Speeches
Ceilidh & Disco
£15 per person – ticket only
Please call 01770 860444 to book

M.B.S.

BUILDING AND TIMBER SUPPLIES

The Old Pier, Whiting Bay. Tel: (01770) 700202, Fax: (01770) 700711

TIMBER



PAINT

PLUMBING

TOOL HIRE

OPEN Monday-Saturday 8.00 a.m.- 5 p.m. **DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE**

ARMITAGE

Building & Groundwork Contractors



New Build
Foundations
Renovations
Hard Landscaping
Marshalls Approved Contractors
Extensions

All forms of Drainage,
septic tanks etc
Plots available
Concrete works
Design service
Plant Hire

Phone now for a FREE Quotation!

Tel: 01770 303971 Fax: 01770 303847 The Pier, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AU
E: info@armitagegroundworks.co.uk W: www.armitagegroundworks.co.uk

THE ARRAN BANNER

Braveheart v Lionheart

The year 2014 is going to be a big one for Arran. We should be getting a bigger linkspan in Brodick and two new ferries to replace the *MV Caledonian Isles*.

It is also the year we will finally see the much-anticipated RET introduced to the island bringing down ferry fares and helping to increase tourism. But on a national scale, in 2014 Scotland will go to the polls to make the biggest decision since the Act of Union in 1707 united Scotland with England. We, the people, will decide if Scotland becomes an independent country separate from the rest of the United Kingdom or not.

First Minister Alex Salmond has long championed independence to allow the country greater control over lucrative oil and natural gas reserves in the North Sea.

His separatist Scottish National Party insists that winning autonomy over tax and spending policies - powers the Scottish government doesn't presently have - would help replicate the economic success of neighbours like Norway, which has used its energy riches to fund state pensions.

On Monday Mr Salmond accused Prime Minister David Cameron of pushing for an early vote in Scotland in the hope of killing off any split in the United Kingdom.

Both Mr Cameron and opposition leader, the Labour Party's Ed Miliband, plan to campaign against Scottish independence.

In a counter-attack Mr Salmond declared on Tuesday that he will use his majority in the Scottish Parliament to order a vote on ending the 305-year-old union.

The Coalition will challenge that plan, insisting that the power to call a referendum remains with ministers at Westminster.

Recent polls suggest that fewer than four in 10 of Scots back independence at the moment.

The Coalition is demanding a straight 'Yes' or 'No' question, so the outcome is unambiguous. But Mr Salmond is refusing to rule out the possibility of a third option that would allow devo-max – increased powers for everything but defence and foreign affairs transferred to Holyrood.

It's widely seen as a face-saving option in the event of Scots voting 'No'.

The SNP also wants to see the franchise extended to 16 and 17-year-olds for the referendum. This is believed to be because youngsters are seen as being more partial to independence. Whatever your opinion on independence it is imperative that all of us take an interest in this crucial decision. We have two years to make our choice – make sure that when the time comes you use your vote!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Because Jesus Himself has passed through the test of suffering, He is able to help those who are in the midst of their test.' (Hebrews 2:18)

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.

The Arran Banner adheres to the Press Complaints' Commission's Code of Conduct. The views expressed in *The Arran Banner* are not necessarily those of The Oban Times Group.

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

Light in the darkness

Sir,

On Tuesday 3 January, the storm struck and the lights in Kings Cross (and elsewhere) went out at 7.30am.

This is described in common, but errant, parlance as an act of God!

But I write to praise the acts of those unknown heroes who, in Arctic conditions, and called out from their New Year break, climbed poles, chopped trees, joined wires and by 6pm had lights restored and the Christmas tree again shining.

These men deserve our praises, our admiration and our gratitude and have given us a salutary lesson of that genuine act of God of 'the real light that shines on in the darkness', and of those many poor in the world who live by candlelight all day and every day.

We experienced it for less than 12 hours, and that was enough!

Yours,

John G Webster
Planetree
Kings Cross

Storm helpers

Sir,

We are writing to express how grateful we are to the numerous people who helped us in the aftermath of last week's terrible storms.

Chris Gillson, Edward O'Donnelly, and Luke Furze all pitched in to help patch up the damage sustained on the roof of our house.

George Stewart, of the Lochranza Hotel, kindly allowed us to stay at the hotel for two nights as we had no power at the house for over 60 hours (the beer and great food helped keep the spirits up too).

Others offering accommodation, the use of their phones, stoves, caravans and generally just making sure we were alright was quite overwhelming and confirmed what a friendly community we live in. We would also like to thank the engineers who managed to get the island power supplies

up and running again in what must have been some treacherous and testing conditions.

Roll on Spring time!

Yours,

Bryan and Louise
Ballarie
Lochranza

Motorhome response

Sir,

I refer to the front page article in the Banner of 31 December 2011 regarding the proposed RET plans for the Arran Ferry. I write in particular regarding the comment made re the possible influx of motorhomes to the island.

As a motorhome owner I found the comment unacceptable and the apparent acceptance by the paper of the political point-scoring disappointing with no information to justify or back up the remark.

It has been consistently shown that motorhome owners make a significant contribution to the local economies of the areas which they visit. Motorhome users may be self-sufficient in some areas but they spend money in local shops, restaurants and tourist facilities.

I also note the government minister failed to answer the question of locals taking advantage of mainland shopping facilities with cheaper fares available.

I believe this would be a much more serious issue for island businesses particularly with the possibility of a regular crossing using two boats. I have sent a copy of the article and my response to a national motorhome magazine for their information in view of the nature of the comment and it being made by a government minister.

Yours,
Alastair Baillie
21 Cheviot Road
Hamilton
Lanarkshire

Sad and avoidable

Sir,

I was staggered to read your report on the closure of Craigielea Care Home (December 3).

Staggered and dismayed, as

it was a complete travesty.

I visited the residential home myself during the summer and was a witness to the considerable programme of improvements and investments in the home to meet an ever-changing series of demands and variable standards imposed by North Ayrshire and Arran (sic) Council, which appeared to have pursued a prejudicial agenda throughout.

I saw for myself the care being delivered by the staff.

I met the residents and their families all of whom were content with the care on offer and settled and happy at Craigielea.

I understand neither Kenneth Gibson MSP nor Elma Murray, chief executive of North Ayrshire Council ever bothered to cross the threshold.

It is simply untrue to say that there had been 'no improvement at all over the three years' when there was material and documented improvement with every assessment in the last months.

At no time did I see any sense of purpose from North Ayrshire and Arran (sic) Council even when other authorities acted decisively to make good the necessary approvals for Craigielea to continue.

Frankly I am dismayed at the ruthless blow petty officialdom has struck.

Very elderly residents have now been disrupted and distressed to no advantage.

Arran has lost a committed staff at a much-loved residential home.

Arran will suffer as a result. A very sad and wholly avoidable day.

Yours,
Jackson Carlaw MSP
West Scotland

Ferries review for all to see

Sir,

This is my reply to Councilor P McNamara's letter the issue two weeks ago.

I feel it would be churlish of me not to thank Councilor Peter McNamara for providing me with the opportunity, during this period of adverse

weather, to enjoy a good belly laugh, admittedly at his own expense, upon reading his letter about the Scottish Government's Ferry Review.

In what looks to me suspiciously like a pre-formatted letter from the Labour Party in North Ayrshire, where you just endorse the bottom of the script with a signature, (and I have a similar example to hand), Cllr McNamara suggests that the Ferry Review has been 'kicked into the long grass until after the local elections'.

Oh, dear (silent laughter).

The Ferry Review was published last month. And, indeed, Labour MSPs in Holyrood were duly offered a briefing by the Transport Minister Keith Brown MSP.

No communication from Labour MSPs at Holyrood yet received by Cllr McNamara? Perhaps it's in the mail but delayed due to the prevailing stormy weather.

Cllr McNamara has, to the best of my knowledge, never attended a meeting of the Arran Ferry Committee as an elected councillor.

Not a smart idea, councillor, if you want to be taken seriously on the subject of ferries.

Our very own island newspaper was similarly briefed. Congratulations to The Banner for giving a very fair summary.

By now I would consider that our entire island resident population has been briefed either online or in hard newsprint.

Positive news for the island recognised generally, with the exception of Cllr McNamara and his colleagues, still playing 'catch-up' it seems.

For all The Banner readers, and hopefully that will include the councillor, may I offer the Internet link to the relevant Scottish Government publication:

<http://www.transportscotland.gov.uk/strategy-and-research/publications-and-consultations/draft-ferries-plan-consultation>

Yours,
John Bruce
Corrie

Arran Deliveries

Glasgow Depot
Arran Deliveries
149 Balmoral Street
Glasgow G14 OHB

Arran Deliveries
The Parcel Point
Harbour Road,
Ardrossan
North Ayrshire
KA22 8BZ

Open Mon - Fri 9am - 5pm
Daily collection throughout Ayrshire,
Glasgow and surrounding districts

Tel: 01475 676 255
Fax: 01294 469 492

*We deliver the goods
not excuses*

Overwhelming support for Provost's Civic Pride Awards

Local businesses and organisations have taken the opportunity to demonstrate their overwhelming pride in North Ayrshire.

Kind-hearted companies have jumped at the chance to recognise the area's community champions and have snapped up all but two of the 29 tables available at the North Ayrshire Provost's Civic Pride Awards Charity Dinner, which will take place at Seamill Hydro on Friday 23 March.

Local businesses and organisations were quick to throw their weight behind the second North Ayrshire Provost's Civic Pride Awards.

Within a matter of weeks of the 2012 Awards being announced, local companies and organisations eager to show their support for local heroes lined up to take tables, sponsor award categories and donate prizes for the raffle or auction.

North Ayrshire Provost, Pat McPhee, said: 'I am delighted

that almost all of the tables at the Charity Dinner have been reserved. This is proof positive that local businesses and organisations are proud to be part of North Ayrshire.'

'There's still time for local companies to demonstrate their civic pride – any local business or organisation who wishes to support the Civic Pride Awards and Charity Dinner can donate a prize for the auction.'

And as we enter a new year, local people are being en-

couraged to nominate their local heroes for one of the five North Ayrshire Provost's Civic Pride Awards to be presented on the night.

Last year local group Arran Art in Mind were one of the award winners.

If you know an outstanding individual, inspiring volunteer or committed group who enriches the lives of those around them, make sure they're in with a chance to be officially recognised by nominating them for one of the coveted Civic Pride Awards.

Nomination forms are also available online, at your local school and from a variety of North Ayrshire Council offices including libraries, community centres and local area offices.

Completed forms should be returned to Communications Team, Chief Executive's Service, North Ayrshire Council, Cunningham House, Irvine KA12 8EE.



Provost Pat McPhee started the awards last year to recognise the area's community champions.

Financial advice key to a secure future

Do I need a financial advisor?

It's not perhaps the first thought that jumps into your head in the morning.

But with the arrival of experienced advisor Daniel Lamont to the island this week it is definitely a question worth considering.

With his years of experience working with both the Royal Bank of Scotland and The Co-operative, he is able to improve any person's financial situation.

'Basically my remit is to make you money, save you money and protect what's most important to you,' said Daniel.

Based at the Douglas Centre in Brodick, Daniel is happy to discuss any money matter with you either in his new office or in the comfort of your own home.

He has worked on Arran previously under his remit at the Co-op and is keen to foster new clients as well as looking after his current ones.

You might be thinking: 'I have a good salary, I pay my bills on time, I know how to do my taxes, I have insurance... I'm handling my finances pretty well; spending time and money on financial planning is not worth it for me.'



Daniel Lamont is an experienced financial advisor and can help you make the most of your money. 01_b02dan01

Many people think this way, but often it is because of a lack of awareness of financial opportunities and best practices.

Well-researched

Indeed, time spent devising and implementing a well-researched and sound financial plan will likely yield: more money for you and your family; better preparation and flexibility for life changes and increased protection against mistakes and unexpected circumstances.

Bin workers' thanks

Arran's friendly refuse collectors would like to thank islanders for their kindness during Christmas and New Year.

Iain MacDonald said: 'On behalf of all the boys (and old men!) in the bin lorries we would like to thank all our customers for their kindness and goodwill over the festive period.'

'All the best for 2012.'



FINANCIAL SERVICES SCOTLAND LTD

Plan for the future

Independent Financial Advisor

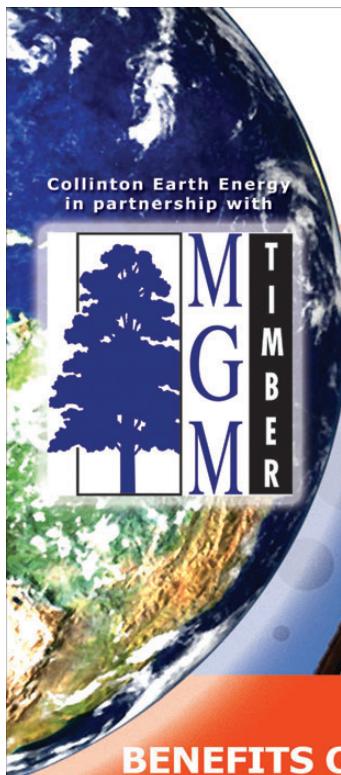
Daniel Lamont will be available on Arran 2 days per week for home or office visits.

For all your financial advice please telephone

07738 121 607

Email: daniellamont@financialservicesscotlandltd.co.uk

- Investments
- Pension
- Life Assurance
- Mortgage Advice



Collinton
Earth Energy
Renewable Energy Specialists

BENEFITS OF INSTALLING SOLAR PANELS

- FREE ELECTRICITY
- REDUCE YOUR HEATING BILLS
- REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT
- GET PAID FOR GENERATING YOUR OWN ELECTRICITY

CALL US TODAY ON 01292 614400
FOR YOUR FREE ENERGY EVALUATION AND FIND OUT HOW TO GET FREE ELECTRICITY AND LOWER YOUR HEATING BILLS!!

www.collinton.com
62 VIEWFIELD ROAD, AYR

Arran Youth Foundation

Following the Christmas break, the weekly Friday night activities in Brodick Church Hall will recommence tonight (Friday 13 January).

We hope to see as many of the young people there as possible to discuss our plans for the coming year together.



Boys Brigade camp at Kings Cross is a record breaker

The Boys Brigade 205th Glasgow Company are record breakers.

For 56 consecutive years they have been coming to Arran to camp in Bob Haddow's field on the shore at Kings Cross. The 205th company is based in Eaglesham and last summer they spent their usual 10 days under canvas as part of the celebration of 125 years of Boys Brigade activities.

The 38 boys and 12 staff arrived on the island on Friday 15 July and left on Sunday 24 July.

Leader Dr Brian Fraser said: 'This is the 125th anniversary of BB camping and the 205th Glasgow Company's 56th camp at Pointhouse broke UK Boys Brigade records by being the longest continuous camp on one site without a break.

'We had over 50 on site between boys and staff and a wide range of activities across the 10 days including football, hockey, tennis, badminton, canoeing, swimming, baseball, cricket and much more, as well as visiting Holy Isle and climbing Goatfell!

'It is a traditional camp in format; a bit old-fashioned, but with a full range of modern equipment and activities.

Completely New

'We had on site a completely new set of canvas, funded by the Whitelee Windfarm Scheme. This provided two replacement marquees, seven boys tents, two senior tents and five staff frame tents.

'We have been coming for so long that we are really integrated into the community.'

The camp has a well-organised daily agenda, starting

with reveille at 7am when the boys get up, wash and begin to ready their tents for morning inspection.

Breakfast at 8am is porridge and full Scottish followed by morning prayers and a short service by the orderly tent and officer. A bathing parade is held at noon every day, weather permitting, to give the boys a refreshing dip in the sea. Lunch is a hot or cold two-course meal 'of the highest quality'.

After daytime activities, the boys have supper at 9.30pm with some 'inter-tent banter'. The day closes with evening prayers and last post at 10.30pm.

Among the camp standing orders are 'every boy will give prompt and cheerful obedience to all orders and will remember the object of

the Boys' Brigade whether in camp or out of it', and 'mobile phones are not permitted at camp'.

Worshipped

The Kings Cross camp was visited by over 50 parents on Fair Monday and the whole Company worshipped in Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church for the 56th consecutive fair Sunday with the Rev Elizabeth Watson who is an honorary chaplain of the Company.

Dr Fraser added: 'The Company and people of Eaglesham would like to express their appreciation to the Haddow family at Pointhouse for the provision of the superb facility at Kings Cross over all these years.'

'It is difficult to imagine a better and more scenic site for a BB camp.'

CAMP SITE MAP



Members of the Boys Brigade entertaining the residents at Cooriedoon Residential Home for the Elderly. b02boy04

THE ARRAN BANNER

Delivered to your letterbox or your inbox. The choice is yours.

1 year subscription £42
Delivered each week straight to your door

Call now to give the perfect gift.

1 year digital subscription £25.^{.55}
Available to download every Friday from 7am

Phone Subscriptions on 01631 568000

New for January 2012

- Introduction to Horticulture
- Working in the Community

Courses will run between January and July 2012 and places will be limited.

Contact us today for information on these short full-time courses and bursary funding opportunities.

tel: 01631 559500
email: lin.kengen@argyllcollege.ac.uk



Stags Pavilion



The Stags Pavilion will be closed until further notice due to storm damage.

We would like to thank all our friends and neighbours in Lochranza and around the island for their tremendous help, support and good wishes.

All our gratitude
Val and Reno

Lochranza Tel: 01770 830600



The boys and staff at the Kings Cross BB camp. b02boy01

The Boys Brigade 205th Glasgow Company at Pointhouse. b02boy03

The camp on the shore, overlooking Holy Isle. b02boy02



LOCHRANZA & CATALCOL VILLAGE HALL
SCO 18338

The famous Lochranza Burns Supper

BURNS SUPPER

Immortal memory
by guest speaker

Robbie Glen

Saturday 28th January
7.00 for 7.30 pm

TICKETS £15
available from

Tel: 830226 & 830 270
(Limited to 100 tickets)

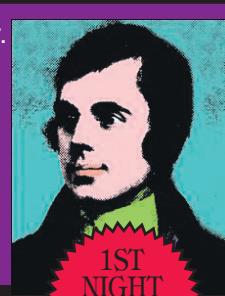
Dinner and Licensed Bar

Come dine with us on 25 January.
BURNS night with a TWIST.
The most exiting Burns Night
on the Island. Secret location.



@ArranGuerrilla
Menu and booking at
www.theboorach.com

ARRAN GUERRILLA SUPPER CLUB



1ST
NIGHT
OFFER
£20

The Pirnmill Primary Centenary Burns Supper

LOCHRANZA
VILLAGE HALL

Wednesday 25th January – 6.30pm – 9pm

Tickets: Adults - £8, Child - £4, Family Ticket - £20

Tickets available at Pirnmill Shop,
Pirnmill School and the Book and Card Shop

THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH FIELD... ON NOW SALE



UNBEATABLE
CITY BREAKS
Our insiders'
guides to
the best of
Scotland's
cities

READ...

THE TRAIN
TUNNEL
FROM
STRANRAER
TO BELFAST

A year on:
Linda Norgrove's parents

FREE 44 PAGE
HOMES & GARDENS DIRECTORY

A new era for Rosslyn Chapel
MEET THE REAL CATRIONA SHEARER
Ten miracle hangover cures!

ROSHVEN, LOCHAILORT: HOUSE OF DREAMS

Win
£3,000 of
luxury
breaks

SUBSCRIBE...

CHOOSE FROM ONE OF OUR 3 AMAZING
CHRISTMAS SUBSCRIPTION OFFERS GO TO
WWW.SCOTTISHFIELD.CO.UK/CHRISTMAS
WWW.SCOTTISHFIELD.CO.UK

THE ARRAN BANNER

- on holiday . . .



Margaret and Vic Shaw of Lamlash took their Banner to Unicorn Island in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam.



Marion MacLaren and her family caught up with all the news from home while she visited her daughter Fiona Hamilton and family in Rotorua, New Zealand. In the photograph are Archie, Fiona, Beth, Erin and Maya Hamilton with friends Lillian and Mike Gilbert who own the vehicle with the registration plate '1 ARRAN'.



Linda Smith and Teresa Deighton are pictured sharing their Banner with children at the Naata School in the Gambia.

For four years 'The Banner on Holiday' feature has been running in the pages of The Arran Banner and it is proving to be as popular as ever.

We have been absolutely overwhelmed by the number of fantastic photographs of our readers that keep coming through the doors.

Arran residents and holidaymakers are still making sure that they pack their copy of the Banner to keep up with local issues when they go abroad.

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

It could be from Ayr or Andorra, 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.



Dave Craig from Lamlash taking it easy reading The Banner while his daughter Gerry Waters takes the strain while holidaying in Florida.



Harri Cohen-Craig took her Banner to Eingadi in the Dead Sea.

PHOTOGRAPHIC ORDERS

THE ARRAN BANNER



You can now order photographs published in this newspaper

A5 photograph: £4.41
A4 photograph: £6.76

Order from the Banner office by filling in the coupon below, quoting the code, shown alongside the picture

Name.....			
Address.....			
Picture Code	Date of Paper	A5 No of copies £4.41 per photo (inc. VAT)	A4 No of copies £6.76 per photo (inc. VAT)
Total			

Payment can be made in cash or by cheque, (cheques to make out to Wyvern Media)
Please add £1.30 to your total order if you require delivery of your photographs to cover postage and packing

Please send/bring your order to:
The Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8AJ

The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday, January 18, 1992

Arran football kicked out

The Arran Football Association has been suspended from membership of the Scottish Amateur Football Association.

The SAFA say that the six Arran clubs have not replied to letters and have not paid fines levied on them. Arran chairman Murray Small said that there were no benefits of membership and it all came about because Lamlash and Shiskine wanted to play in the West of Scotland Cup three years ago.

Ferry to Hunterston

The Arran ferry should sail to Hunterston. That is the suggestion of Councillor Fergus Clarkson in response to the running down of Ravenscraig Steelworks and Hunterston ore terminal. Cllr Clarkson is promoting this idea with winter weather in mind.

Horse doubts

Doubts have emerged over the ownership of some horses involved in the dispenishment sale at Mayfield Farm, Dippin.

Auctioneer Robbie Wilson of A & J Wilson, acting on behalf of sequestrators Kenneth Ross and Sharkey, said that he had to telephone Tony and Josette Thompson of neighbouring Dippin Lodge who were on holiday in America to get a clear description of horses that they owned and were not to be sold.

Part-time library

The new library in Brodick will not be full-time. It will

only be open 20 hours a week with a staff of three including a driver for the library van.

Clauchlands silage tops

Alex Reid of Clauchlands Farm in Lamlash has the best silage on Arran and almost the best silage in south-west Scotland. When he became the first Arran farmer to enter the South West Scotland Grassland Society 19th annual silage competition, they were surprised to find just how good his silage was. Judge John Watson said: 'He's shown that with proper management you can run a good dairy farm on Arran.'

Biggest-ever drama

This year's drama festival in February looks like being the biggest ever with no fewer than 14 one-act plays being put on over five nights in Lamlash Community Centre.



John Sillars adopted as Labour Party candidate.
b02twe03

Pool cancelled

The new pool planned for the High School has been cancelled. The Education Department said that the running costs of a pool at the High School could be as high as £20,000 per annum compared with costs of using existing local pools at £2,500 per annum.

Social office for Lamlash

The Irvine Social Security Office is to open a one-day-a-month advice service in Lamlash.

Two officers will be available in Lamlash Community Centre from 11.30am to 3.30pm to answer queries on national insurance, sickness benefits and income support.

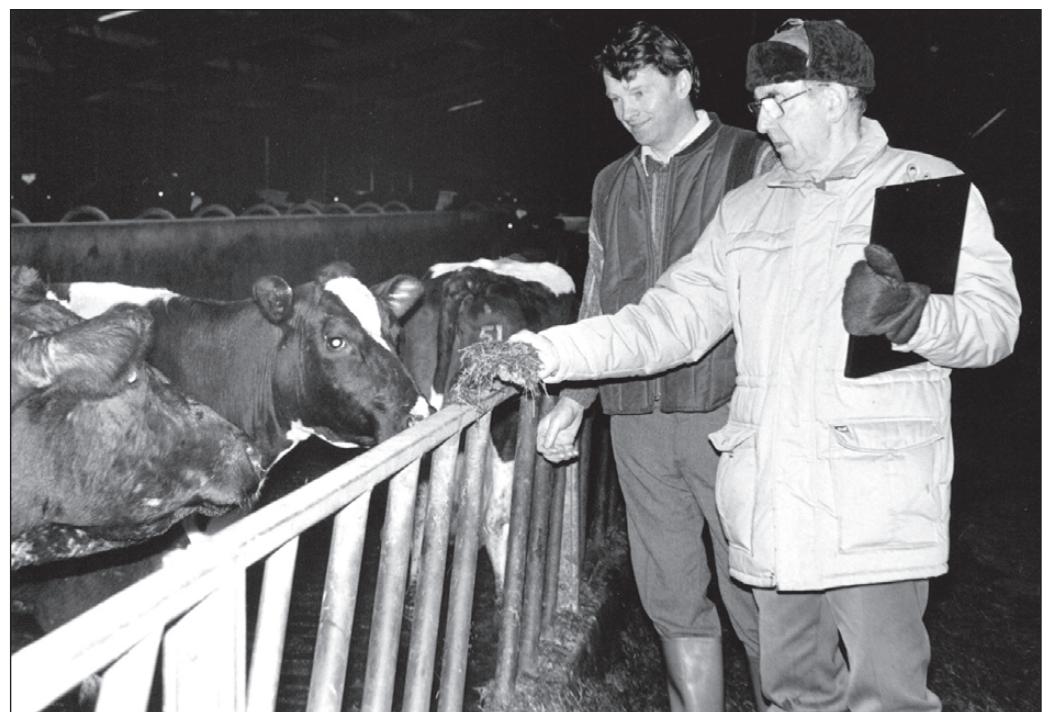
Vigil for Festival Theatre

Following the successful staging of the one-woman show Joan of Arc in September, the Festival Theatre in Lamlash is to mount an Easter production for three nights; The Vigil by Ladislas Fodor. It will be directed by Stan Huyton.

Sillars candidate

John Sillars has been formally adopted as the Labour Party candidate in the forthcoming District Elections by the constituency, district and local Labour Party.

Branch secretary Norman Kebell said: 'Should there be any other candidates standing in the District Elections, John looks forward to a constructive debate around any issues.'



Farmer Alex Reid and silage judge John Watson examining Clauchlands' prizewinning silage. b02twe01



Dippen horses grazing peacefully this week unaware of any ownership concerns. b02twe02

Now even better...

NEW colour copier at Krisp Print

Ideal for short runs - leaflets, flyers, brochures, posters, menus and postcards

krisp print

Cost effective promotional material
Print only what you need!

Professional design service available or print from files supplied

- Design
- Copy
- Print

fast turnaround

Campbeltown 01586 554975 • email: staff@krispprint.co.uk
Oban 01631 568015 • email: sales@krispprint.co.uk

www.krispprint.co.uk



Where's Archie?

Sponsored by

The Pillar Box

Pet Food Suppliers,
Post Office Service,
Fair Trade Gifts and Crafts
Shore Road, Whiting Bay
Tel: 01770 700205
enquiries@pillarboxarran.co.uk
www.pillarboxarran.co.uk



Burns Pet Nutrition
The Holistic Approach to Health and Nutrition

gibson
galston

Last week Archie was sitting outside Lamlash Church of Scotland. First correct answers came from Doreen from Australia, Susan of Copmanthorpe, Karen from Motherwell and doggie pal Sannox from Holmfirth. This week he is on the road, but where is that junction behind him?



If you think you know then post your answer on the website www.arranbanner.co.uk
Or email us at: editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Bird Notes for December

by Jim Cassels

December was one of the wettest months of the year with a rainfall of about four times that of December 2010.

The mean temperature was over four degrees higher than last December and this milder weather may have delayed the arrival of some of our winter visitors.

For example the first Goldeneye was not reported until there was one at Port-na-Lochan on the 4th and the first Pink-footed Geese were not reported until four were re-

ported in the Shiskine Valley on the 31st.

In addition, unlike last year, when there were a number of reports of these species, there was only one report of Brambling in Kilmory on the 9th, one report of Jack Snipe at Auchenhew and one report of Woodcock in Lamlash both on the 11th.

Having said that, there was a wide variety of interesting reports including: a Merlin at the top of the String on the 8th, 29 Black-headed Gulls at Auchenhew on the 11th, a Long-eared Owl at the top of the String on the 14th, two over-wintering Stonechats at Pirnmill on the 14th, a Little Grebe in Loch Ranza on the 15th, 10 Great Northern Divers off Cosyden on the 16th and a Kingfisher in the Rosa Burn on the 23rd.

Other wintering geese in the Shiskine Valley included: a Barnacle Goose on the 9th and over 300 Greylags with four White-fronted Geese on the 18th.

These were the first reports of Barnacle and White-fronts this year.

Highlights included: a female Black Redstart on Cleats Shore on the 15th the first report of this scarce passage migrant this year and a long staying Jay at Cnoc na Dail on the 17th.

The Jay, first seen on 17 October, is the first Arran record since 1985.



Three Purple Sandpiper were seen at Drumadoon on December 15.

Wintering flocks included: 150 Fieldfare at Balmichael on the 2nd, 80 Chaffinch in Shiskine on the 9th, 30 Greenfinch at South Feorline on the 15th, 250 Starling in Kilpatrick also on the 15th and 53 Blackbird at Auchenhew on the 18th.

On the shore, reports included: three Purple Sandpiper at Drumadoon on the 15th, a Bar-tailed Godwit on Cleats Shore also on the 15th, two Greenshank at Clauchlands on the 16th, 156 Golden Plover at Machriewaterfoot on the 16th and a Gannet off Sandbraes on the 8th was only the third December report in the last six years.

This species normally return in January.

Garden reports included: a female Yellowhammer in Shiskine on the 2nd, a male Blackcap at Balmichael on the 11th and 10 Long-tailed

Tit at Clachaig on the 21st.

On 25 December, Meleagris gallopavo with Oxycoccus palustris gave a lot of pleasure to a great many people on the island.

Finally, here is a date for your diary: the weekend of Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 January.

That weekend stock up your bird feeders, spend one hour of your weekend watching your garden birds, and note down the highest number you see of each bird species. This is the weekend of the 'Big Garden Birdwatch'.

Last year nearly half a million people throughout the UK took part in this valuable

exercise.

For more information or to get the form, visit the RSPB website Big Garden Birdwatch <http://www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch/> or phone 0300 456 8330.

Enjoy your birding.

Please send all sightings for 2010, giving 'what, when, where' by Monday 9 January 2012 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 2010' and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk



Highlights in December included a female Black Redstart spotted on Cleats Shore.

ATTENTION ALL BUSINESSES

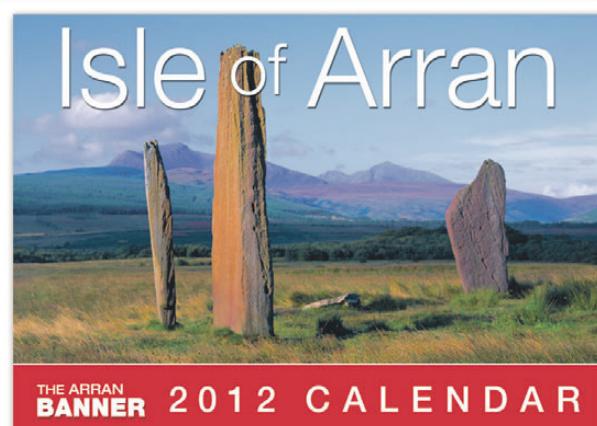
Did you know we can design, print and distribute your leaflets through the local media?

A woman is shouting into a megaphone.

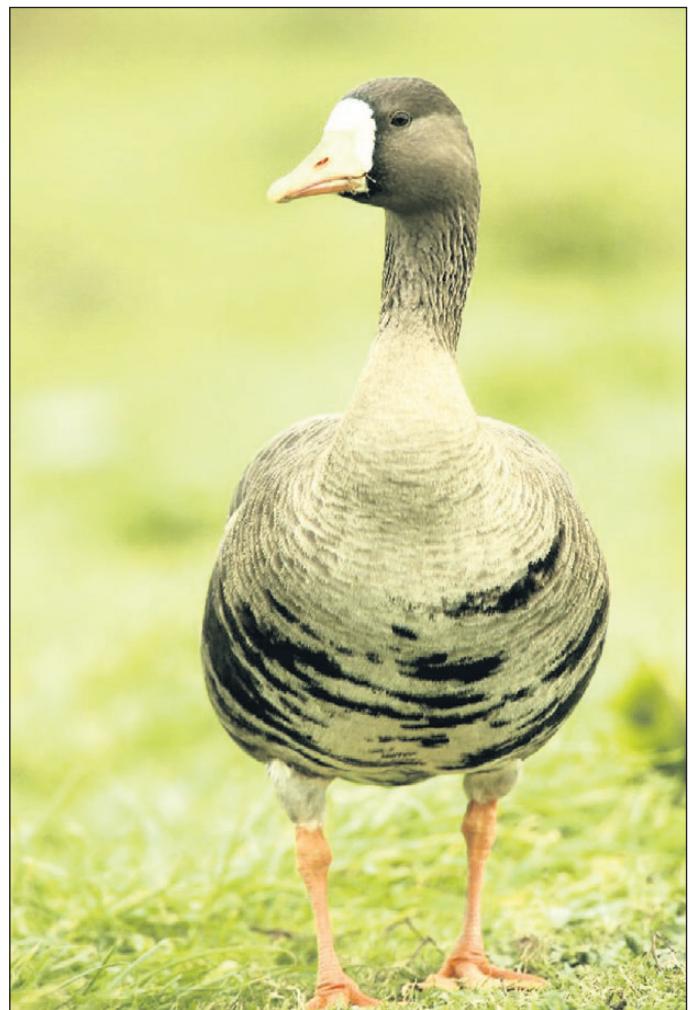
Distributed through the Oban Times, Argyllshire Advertiser, Campbeltown Courier and Arran Banner we can offer our customers highly competitive print prices and unique discounts on distribution. Coupled with the facility to target specific areas, we can ensure you reach your maximum potential.

For more information call Fiona on 01631 568018 Email: fmacinnes@obantimes.co.uk

The New 2012
Arran Banner Calendar is
ON SALE NOW



Available in all the usual Arran Banner stockists
Price is £5.40
or order online: www.scottishcalendars.co.uk



Four White-fronted Geese were spotted in the Shiskine Valley a week before Christmas.

What's On

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery
www.arranbrewery.com



EVERYDAY

Arran Brewery
 Arran Brewery Tour
 Trout Fly Fishing
 Brodick Castle, Gardens Open Daily

Open Mon-Sat 10am-4pm, closed Sunday
 2pm
 Loch Garbad, Bank
 9am - Dusk

Saturday 14 January

Arran Music Society
 Over 21s Disco
 Karate
 Family Games
 Fun in the Pool
 Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
 Teddy Bears Picnic
 Kids Family Quiz
 Lunchtime Concert
 Waking the Warrior
 Black and White Boys

Brodick Hall, 1.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
 Arran High School, 10am
 Playbarn Auchrannie, 2pm - 3pm
 Playbarn, Auchrannie, 5pm - 6pm
 Brodick Hall, 1.30pm
 Lochranza Hall, 7pm
 Douglas Hotel, 9pm - 11pm

Sunday 15 January

Alcoholics Anonymous
 Live Music/Folk/Rock/Blues
 Family Games
 Fun in the Pool
 Teddy Bears Picnic

Church Hall, Brodick, 4.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
 Playbarn, Auchrannie, 2pm - 3pm

Monday 16 January

Over 50s Badminton
 Badminton
 Weight Wise
 Ladies Netball
 Citizens Advice
 Breath Walk Class
 Table Tennis
 Hatha Yoga
 Activity Time
 Come Dance With Me – LeRoc Modern Jive
 Scottish Country Dancing for Beginners and Improvers
 Yoga
 Arran Junior Football
 Circuit Training
 Quiz
 Lamlash Bridge Club

Lochranza Village Hall, 2pm - 4pm
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
 Hospital Bungalow, 5pm - 5.30pm
 High School Sports Hall – Seniors, 7.30pm - 9pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10am - 2pm
 Kinneil, Lamlash, 5.15pm
 Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
 Arran High School, 6pm - 7.30pm
 Hospital Bungalow, 5pm-6pm (School Kids)
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7.30pm
 Corrie Hall, 2pm - 4pm
 High School, 6pm
 Ormidale Park, 6pm - 7pm
 Auchrannie Spa Gym, 6pm - 7pm
 The Shurig at Bar Eden, 8.30pm
 Lamlash Golf Clubhouse, 7pm

Tuesday 17 January

Lochranza Swimming Club
 Army Cadets
 Pop Quiz
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Citizens Advice
 Youth Club
 Rotary Club
 Junior Hockey Club – 8yrs up
 Melody Movement, Ballet Class-2 ½ yrs up
 Dudes & Divas Funky Dance Class- 2 ½ yrs up

Kinloch, 11am - 12pm
 Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 10am-2pm
 Kildonan Hall, - 7pm
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6pm - 7pm
 Auchrannie Dance Studio, 2pm
 Auchrannie Dance Studio, 2pm

Wednesday 18 January

Youth Club
 Scottish Country Dancing
 Winter Bowls
 Zumba fitness class

Wednesday 18 January

Arran Elderly Forum
 Friends Of Brodick Castle
 Hockey
 Tae Kwon Do
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Arran Brass Rehearsal
 Felt Making Class
 Senior Badminton
 Museum Archives & Genealogy Service
 Yogalates
 Live Country Music
 Aquafizz
 Music Mayhem Class Parents and little ones
 Kids Games
 Circuit Training
 Dog Training

Ormidale Pavilion 11am. All welcome
 2.30pm in castle tearoom. Speaker Sir Kenneth Calman
 Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm games hall
 KA Leisure Kids - 6.30pm - 7.30pm Adult's 7.30pm - 8.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7.15pm
 Shipfield Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
 High School Games Hall, 8pm - 9pm
 10.30am - 12.30pm & 1.30pm - 3.30pm
 9.30am - 10.30am Auchrannie studio
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45am - 10.30am
 Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am
 The Playbarn, Auchrannie, 5pm - 6pm
 Auchrannie Spa Games Hall, 6pm - 7pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 1pm

Thursday 19 January

General Knowledge Quiz
 Lochranza Craft Club
 Youth Club
 Coffee Morning
 General Knowledge Quiz
 Brodick Embroidery Club
 Brodick Bridge Club
 Winter Bowls
 Arran Music and Drama Club Rehearsals
 The wee blether
 Zumba fitness class

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Hall, 2pm
 Youth Cabin, Lamlash, 7 - 9pm
 St Molios Church, 10.30am - 12pm
 Kinloch Bar, 9pm
 Brodick Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Brodick Golf Club, 7pm
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7pm - 9pm
 Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
 Whiting Bay Village Hall, 12pm - 1.30pm
 Arran High School, 6.30 - 7.30pm

Friday 20 January

Senior Badminton
 Quiz
 Aqua Fizz
 Yogalates
 Rock Disco
 Arran Youth Foundations
 Kids Party Games
 Arran Ceilidh Group

Auchrannie Sports Hall, 2pm
 Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm
 Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45am - 10.30am
 Auchrannie Studio, 10am - 11am
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Church Hall, Brodick, 7pm - 9pm
 The Playbarn, Auchrannie, 5pm - 6pm
 Corrie Hall, 8pm - 10pm

Saturday 21 January

Over 21s Disco
 Karate
 Family Games
 Fun in the Pool
 Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
 Teddy Bears Picnic
 Kids Family Quiz

Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
 Arran High School, 10am
 Playbarn Auchrannie, 2pm - 3pm
 Playbarn, Auchrannie, 5pm - 6pm

Sunday 22 January

Alcoholics Anonymous
 Live Music/Folk/Rock/Blues
 Family Games
 Fun in the Pool
 Teddy Bears Picnic

Church Hall, Brodick, 4.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
 Playbarn, Auchrannie, 2pm - 3pm

FORTHCOMING EVENT

Music weekend

Douglas Hotel 27,28 and 29th January



To appear in What's On telephone the Arran Banner 01770 302142

PUBLIC NOTICE

EDUCATION AND SKILLS REGISTRATION OF INFANT BEGINNERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS SESSION 2012/2013

Children who attain the age of 5 years between 1 March 2012 and 28 February 2013 should be registered for education during the week commencing Monday 16 January 2012.

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.

A leaflet providing information for parents on enrolment of children in the schools and details of placing request procedures may be obtained from any school or the Corporate Director [Education and Skills], Cunningham House, Irvine, KA12 8EE or by telephoning 0845-603-0596. Information can also be found on the Council's web site at www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk.

Registration at your catchment area school does not guarantee entry to that school.

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 Corporate Services, Cunningham House, Irvine, between 09.00-16.45 weekdays (16.30 Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

Written representations may be made to the Solicitor to the Council (Corporate Services) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 03.02.12. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1)

Format: Application No; Address; Proposed Development
11/00856/PP; Site to south west of seaside, Kings Cross, Brodick, Isle of Arran; Erection of one and half storey detached dwelling house with associated drainage, access & parking.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunningham House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



ARRAN BRASS BAND AGM
Feb 1st Whiting Bay Hall 7pm
Everyone Welcome

EVENT TO PUBLICISE?
THE ARRAN BANNER
Tel: 01770 302142
www.arranbanner.co.uk

PRIVATE CLASSIFIED

£30 AND OVER

AIR ROWING MACHINE, Top of the range machine. Must be seen £100 ono Tel: 01770 302153

BEAUTIFUL VICTORIAN Mahogany corner 'what not' 54"x 25" wide at base. £100 ono Tel: 830201

GREENHOUSE 8"x10" foot curved eaves Greenhouse. Some work needed. Buyer removes £250 ONO Tel: 01770 820 308

FOR SALE - Dining Table & 6 chairs - £300 Commercial Dryer - £80 Freestanding Fryer - £75 Dishwasher - £80 Tel: 01770 700 510

£30 AND UNDER

ABS Machine £30 Tel: 01770 302153

FOR SALE two single beds (metal framed)with mattresses if wanted. One bed can be lowered to fit underneath the other, truckle style. Ideal for holiday home. Can

FREE TO UPLIFT

BAGGED MANURE. Oakbank, Lamlash Donation to Arran RDA Tel 600752

22in FERGUSON TV with Tel: 01770 700348

BANNER CLASSIFIEDS
BANNER CLASSIFIEDS
BANNER CLASSIFIEDS
BANNER CLASSIFIEDS
BANNER CLASSIFIEDS
BANNER CLASSIFIEDS

PROPERTY

Cottages & Castles

SCOTLAND'S LEADING HOLIDAY LETTING AGENCY

COTTAGES & CASTLES

Arran and Scotland's Leading Holiday Houses

Flexible Service for owners

Tel: 01738 451610

www.cottages-and-castles.co.uk

HOUSE FOR YOUNG LOCAL COUPLE

A young local working couple with a young child, looking for a long let in Brodick, Lamlash, Whiting Bay as soon as possible. 2 or 3 bedrooms required.

Please contact 01770 600 493 or 07894 882774

RECRUITMENT

AN ENTHUSIASTIC COOK/CHEF REQUIRED

to support lets at the House of Machrie.
Apply Mrs. Gibbs, Dougarie Lodge.

tel. 01770 840 229.

The healthiest life possible for the people of Ayrshire & Arran

Arran War Memorial Hospital, Isle of Arran

Staff Nurse

Band 5: £21,176 - £27,625 pa

37.5 hours per week, rotational shifts

The Isle of Arran, often described as 'Scotland in miniature' is an island some 20 miles long by 10 across, separated from mainland Ayrshire by an hour long ferry crossing from Ardrossan to Brodick, and in summer, by a shorter ferry from the Mull of Kintyre to Lochranza. Arran's stable population of just over 5,000 increases approximately 3 fold during the summer months. Arran War Memorial Hospital is a 19 bedded hospital providing care to a diverse patient population on an inpatient and outpatient basis, including Accident and Emergency services, endoscopy and outpatient clinics. Patient care services are provided by a wide range of clinicians from both Primary and Secondary care settings.

You must be a Registered General Nurse, be able to provide evidence of work experience in a variety of care settings including care of the elderly people/elderly people assessment, to join our team of staff providing care to clients within all of the hospital settings. Ref: N/393/11 Informal enquiries to Mrs Ailsa Weir, Senior Charge Nurse, Tel: 01770 600777.

For an application form please contact the Department of O&HRD, 63 Lister Street, Crosshouse Hospital, Kilmarnock, KA2 0BE, Tel: 01563 825711 or email allison.robertson@aaaht.scot.nhs.uk

Closing date: 27 January 2012.

PLEASE QUOTE REFERENCE NUMBER ON ENQUIRY

To find out more about NHS Ayrshire and Arran and services visit www.nhsayrshireandarran.com

NHS

Ayrshire & Arran

COORIEDOON NURSING HOME

CARE STAFF VACANCY

Full time as per rota

Preferably with SVQ Level 2 or 3 in Care

However training will be given if unqualified

Phone Sandra/Daisy at Cooriedoon
tel: 01770 700247

LOOKING FOR NEW STAFF?

THE ARRAN BANNER

Tel: 01770 302142
www.arranbanner.co.uk

TRADE CLASSIFIED

TREES



Tree & hedge cutting and clearing
Brush Cutting and strimming.
All types of fencing

Call Jamie McKinnon:
01770 810 222 or 07760 247201

LOGS

Barran Log Supplies

Supplier of Seasoned Firewood
Delivered Island Wide
Call 07827 777 875
Evening Call 302 987
If unavailable leave a message and ill get back to you

MAINTENANCE



ALL ASPECTS OF PROPERTY MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS UNDERTAKEN
No job too small
Free Quotes Available

Tel: 303113
Email:
info@thearranteam.co.uk
www.thearranteam.co.uk

CHIMNEY SWEEPING



Chimney Sweeping ALL AREAS COVERED FROM NORTH TO SOUTH

Tel 01770 870214

Mobile 07810820374
andyrossbain@live.co.uk

DECORATORS

CARTSIDE DECORATORS

Ames Taping
Coving
New Build
Painting
Est1980

M 07531 729 767

PRINTERS

Business Cards, Compliment Slips & Headed Paper

Every business should have them, be professional impress your customers.

Contact us at

The Arran Banner
Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ
Tel: (01770) 302142 Fax: (01770) 302021

WOOD FUELS



ARRAN WOODFUELS

NATURALLY SEASONED LOGS
WOOD ENERGY PELLETS
BULK WOOD CHIPS
www.arranwoodfuels.co.uk
Tel: 01770 870 207
Mob: 07943 256 248

BANNER CLASSIFIEDS

BANNER CLASSIFIEDS

Co-operative Memorials



- Traditional and modern styles
- Free quotations
- Additional inscriptions • Home visits

Visit our display area at Sorbie Road, Ardrossan, opposite Cemetery Gates or phone

01294 461554

CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(in full communion with the church of England)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay
Sunday 15 January
Holy Communion, 11.30am
Mrs Janis Gallagher
Coffee after service
All welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

North Arran, Brodick,
Corrie, Lochranza,
Prinmill 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 15 January

Brodick Church, 10.30am
Family Service
Corrie Church, 12pm
Family Service
Lochranza/Pirnmill
11am at Pirnmill
Shiskine Church 12.15pm

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 15 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

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Ormidale Sports Pavilion
Brodick

Sunday 15 January

11am Morning Worship
Tea/Coffee after the service
Home Fellowship Group meets
On Wednesdays at 7.30pm.
For details telephone 860232
Everyone very welcome.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
'A faith to proclaim – a
fellowship to share'
Sunday 15 January
Mrs Sharon MacLeod
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30am
In both churches:
All welcome, including
families; children's area.
Scottish Charity SC015072

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 15 January
Family Service
Shiskine 11am
Rev Hywel Jones
Brodick 7pm
All welcome



Shiskine Golf Club

Sunday 1 January, Alan Smith plate, SS 44, CSS 46.

1 Jenni Turnbull 50-8=42, 2 Liz Kerr 54-9=45, 3 Heather Burnet 58-11=47 BIH. Scratch Jenni Turnbull 50.

Arran Golfers Association

Winter league / Duncan Trophy 2011/2012

The third round was played at Shiskine Golf Club on Sunday 8 January. A remarkably rare dry day emerged from the gloom enabling us to get the match off at the first attempt, course was pretty dry considering recent rain although greens were pretty bumpy and difficult to predict, everyone playing seemed to enjoy the golf and the soup and sandwiches were appreciated in the Clubhouse after. Thanks to Shiskine and to Dougie in the shop for their efforts on the day and the offer of a New Year drink in the Kinloch which was a nice touch.

First match out saw hosts Shiskine take on neighbours Machrie, a strong home team this month saw them take three matches out of four with one tied giving an overall score of three and a half points to a half.

Next out were leaders Lamlash against their neighbours Whiting Bay, Lamlash with their usual strong team saw them take the first three matches and even though Tam and Jamie won the last match it wasn't enough to stop Lamlash maintaining their winning season with a comfortable three games to one scoreline. Finally Brodick took on Cor-



The third round of the AGA Duncan Trophy was played at Shiskine Golf Club on Sunday. Photo by H Bannatyne.

rie in the last match. With one game each after the first two ties Gordon and Nicol won their game then watched as Kenny McMillan and young Finlay Sillars finished their match tied to enable Brodick to take the match by two and a half games to a half.

After three rounds Lamlash top the table with five points, Brodick four, Shiskine and Whiting Bay three each, Machrie on two and bottom team are Corrie on one.

Fixtures: Next month's ties at Machrie Bay Golf Club on Sunday 5 February are:

Machrie v Whiting Bay at 8.30am, Lamlash v Corrie at 9.20am and Brodick v Shiskine at 11.50am.

Brodick Golf Club

Sunday 8 January, Sweep, eight played. Poor weather and the AGA Winter League at Shiskine kept the numbers down. 1 R McCrae (7) 32 BIH, 2 B Walker (17) 32,

3 T Raeside (7) 31. There

were twos from R McCrae and T Raeside.

Fixtures: Sunday 15 January, Brandon and Winter Cup, open draws at 9am and 12 noon.

Corrie Golf Club

Results: Saturday 7 January

non-counting round. Sweep 11 players 1 A Smith 77-10=67 bih, 2 J McGovern 74-7=67 best scratch J McGovern 74,

Magic twos, one only; Peter McKinnon. Monday 9 January

15 played in the Monday Cup.

Sweep 1 B Barr 75-16=59, 2 J McGovern 62-2=60, 3 J Adams 66-4=62. Best scratch

J McGovern 62. Magic twos

Bill Barr and J McGovern. No game at Corrie as Arran Ladies have the use of the course this Saturday 14 January.

Fixtures: Monday 16 January Monday Cup.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday 8 January, Whiting Bay lost to Lamlash by three games to one in the latest round of the AGA Winter League at Shiskine.

Fixtures: Sunday 15 January Winter Cup, round four.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday 5 January - the 15 Hole medal was cancelled to bad weather.

Arran Junior Football Club

Arran Junior Football Club training will restart on Monday 16 January at Ormidale Park between 6pm and 7.30pm.

Sunday 8 January, Winter League at Shiskine. Lamlash 3 Whiting Bay 1. Well done to Lamlash in the difficult conditions.

Fixtures: Sunday 15 January, Glenburn Cup 9.30am and 12noon starts. Thursday 19 January, 15-hole Medal. Make up own groups.

Bridge results

Lamlash Bridge Club

The results from the tournament on Monday 9 January were as follows: N/S 1 T Martin and A Bilsland +1850, 2 H Boyd and J Murchie +1750, 3 J and M Dick +1380.

E/W 1 P Adamson and E McConnel +2110, 2 J McLure and A McLure +1210, 3 E and M Jones +900.

Brodick Bridge Club

Results for Brodick Bridge Club on Thursday 5 January: N/S 1 Margaret McGill and Elizabeth McConnell +1050, 2 Liz Paul and Helen Boyd +590, 3 Vic and Michael Iutz +470.

E/W 1 John and Mary Dick +1460, 2 David Scobie and Douglas Bruce +630, 3 Trisha Martin and Douglas Hamilton +620.

Wishing all members a very Happy New Year.

Arran rugby season gets back in gear

Arran's rugby season gets back in swing this Saturday when the boys travel away to Pollock Park to play Strathclyde Police in a league match.

Arran are currently sitting in second place on 36 points, two points behind league leaders Lanark.



Action from Arran's home victory by 55 points to five against Braidholm in November. 01_b47rug02


Janey and Bobby would like to thank everyone for cards, gifts and attending their wedding

Corporate stationery

Business cards, letterheads, envelopes, comp slips

Personal stationery

Matching paper & envelopes,
postcards, address labels



Contact us at: Krisp Print & Stationery,
Burnbank, Burnside Street,
Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6JD
Tel: 01586 554975 Email: staff@krispprint.co.uk
www.krispprint.co.uk

Promotional material

Posters, flyers, leaflets, calendars, tickets

Photocopies/Laminating

Colour double sided copies up to A3
Laminating up to A3



Contact us at: Krisp Print & Stationery,
Burnbank, Burnside Street,
Campbeltown, Argyll PA28 6JD
Tel: 01586 554975 Email: staff@krispprint.co.uk
www.krispprint.co.uk

Sport

Arran's Weekly Newspaper

Nick wins nine-mile New Year handicap

The race gets run no matter what the weather is like

Nick Emsley of Arran Runners was the winner of the 2012 Arran Runners New Year multi-terrain nine-mile handicap race on Monday 2 January.

This event takes place annually during the New Year holiday period and 11 intrepid runners competed this year.

Arran Runners invites friends from Irvine Athletic Club to come over and compete in this 'fun' event, which takes place whatever the weather.

Organiser Paul Emsley said: 'We've run it in deep snow, packed ice, gales, rain, and occasionally in bright sunshine. This year was one of the windy ones!'

'The handicapper has to decide how long each runner will take to cover the course which starts at the Ormidale

Pavilion and goes via Corriegills, Dunfion, Clauchland Hills, Cnoc Na Dail, and Glen Cloy, finishing back at the pavilion.

'Each runner starts out at a time which should see all runners arrive at the finish in a bunch sprint - well, that's the theory.'

The first runner home is the one who will have beaten his or her handicap by the biggest margin, and they receive the Millennium Trophy, plus £1 from each other runner, which covers the winner's lunch in the Ormidale Hotel after the race.

This year's Handicap winner was Nick Emsley of Arran Runners, who also ran the quickest time of the day. Alastair MacFarlane of Irvine was second in the handicap race, with Jan Ems-

ley (Arran Runners) in third place. Was this anything to do with the fact that the handicapper was Paul Emsley?

In the results, the 'Expected Time' shows how long the handicapper thought each runner should take.

The 'Actual Time' shows how long each runner actually took to complete the course.

Winner: Nick Emsley Expected time one hour, six minutes, 30 seconds, Actual time one hour, four minutes 28 seconds: two minutes and two seconds better than handicap.

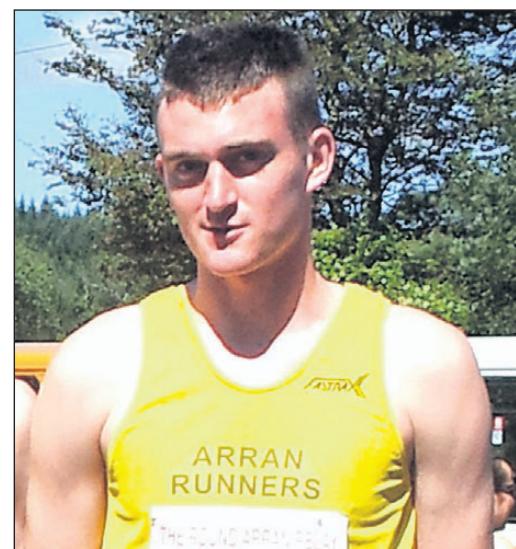
Second was Alastair MacFarlane in one minute and five seconds better than handicap; third Jan Emsley, 22 seconds slower than handicap and fourth Gordon Allsop, one minute and five seconds slower than handicap.

The winners were due to play in the first leg of the semi-finals of the Knockout Shield last night (Thursday night 12 January) with Catacol Bay v Kildonan and Whiting Bay Golf Club v PT1934.

The losers were due to play the first leg of the semis of the Salver Competition on Thursday with Bar Eden v Mac's Bar and Drift Inn v PHT.

The second return legs of both tournaments are to be played next Thursday 19 January with the cumulative total of both legs deciding the winner.

The winners will play in the final of both competitions at the PHT on Sunday 29 January at 3pm.



New Year Handicap race winner Nick Emsley.



Gordon Allsop coming into the Ormidale Pavilion in fourth place. 02_b02run01



Niall McMaster, Stuart McMaster, Eddie Picken and Phil from Whin House with team mascot Genevieve Pilgreen. b02dart01

Arran pool team knockout

The first round of the annual pool team knockout came to a conclusion last Thursday with the second legs being played.

Results over the two legs were:

Whiting Bay Golf Club 11 PHT 9, PT1934 13 Drift Inn 7, Kildonan 14 Mac's Bar 6, Catacol 6 Bar Eden 4 (walkover due to no-show by Bar Eden).

First Leg

The winners were due to play in the first leg of the semi-finals of the Knockout Shield last night (Thursday night 12 January) with Catacol Bay v Kildonan and Whiting Bay Golf Club v PT1934.

The losers were due to play the first leg of the semis of the Salver Competition on Thursday with Bar Eden v Mac's Bar and Drift Inn v PHT.

The second return legs of both tournaments are to be played next Thursday 19 January with the cumulative total of both legs deciding the winner.

The winners will play in the final of both competitions at the PHT on Sunday 29 January at 3pm.

Southenders win team darts

A strong Southend team won the New Year darts team competition at the Kinloch Hotel last Saturday night 7 January.

Niall and Stuart McMaster, Eddie Picken and Phil from Whin House beat Colin Haggarty, Crawford Duncan, Gill McCormack-Duncan and Iain 'Loco' McDonald in the final.

Ten teams of four competed on four boards in the hotel dining room. Games consisted of four singles, two doubles and a team game of all four players if the scores were tied at three each.

Many matches went the full stretch and the competition had quite a late finish.

Arran DRIVING RANGE
BALMICHAEL – Straight down access road past barn and park where signed
OPEN EVERY DAY 10.00AM – 4.00PM BRING £1 COINS
CLUBS AVAILABLE FOR FREE USE
SAVE MONEY WITH A DIGICARD FROM
THE BOOK AND CARD SHOP, BRODICK, OR
TELEPHONE 860530 / 07917 830166

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING



Recycled paper made up 75.5% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 2004



9 771742 235074

Published by Wyvex Media, Brodick, Isle of Arran
Tel: 01770 302142 - Fax 01770 302021
E-mail: editor@arranbanner.co.uk
Registered at the Post Office as a Newspaper



The Arran Banner's circulation is independently audited by the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC Ltd) - www.abc.org.uk. The total average weekly net circulation for the 52 issues between 1st January 2010 and 31st December 2010 was 3,209. The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.