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Arran's Weekly Newspaper SATURDAY, 12 JANUARY 2013 No 1891 59p

# Tourist attraction set to re-open at Balmichael

'It will be great to get the place open again and good for the economy of this side of the island'

**REPORT**  
by **HOWARD DRIVER**  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Balmichael Visitor Centre is set for a new lease of life.

On Saturday morning five people signed a formal memorandum of understanding with the intention of re-opening the popular west-side tourist attraction by Easter.

Owners and landlords Darryl and Lucy Urquhart-Dixon signed the document in their Balmichael farmhouse along with new shareholders Bob Haddow and Stephen Scott and advisor John Copperwheat. The enterprise will be called The New Balmichael Centre.

**Economy**  
Darryl said: 'The centre closed in October 2011 and the limited company was wound up. It will be great to get the place open again and good for the economy of this side of the island.'

Bob added: 'We expect to take entry on 1 March and be ready for Easter.'

The three-year lease includes seven craft shops a coffee

shop and 16 acres of land. Stephen will be running the Old Mill Coffee Shop and serving evening meals there in the summer.

He said: 'It will take a bit of work to get it ready for Easter, but we have lots of new ideas.'

**Inviting**  
'These include a crazy golf course and inviting the helicopter to come back.'

Darryl added: 'Quad bikes and good food are fundamental to the success of this operation.'

'Yes,' agreed Bob, 'We are particularly keen to re-establish quad biking; on site to begin with, and perhaps off-site trekking in future.'

Bob was also anxious to point out that they will welcome back any of the former tenants of the craft shops.

**Welcome**  
He said: 'They are very welcome to come back and talk to us, and we are looking for new tenants. We'll have an open day for prospective tenants next Saturday 19th January.'

Other plans are for an indoor children's play area with an



Signing an agreement for the New Balmichael Centre in the farmhouse on Saturday morning; from left, John Copperwheat, Lucy and Darryl Urquhart-Dixon, Stephen Scott and Bob Haddow. 02\_b02ba01

indoor climbing wall in the near future.

Sheila Gilmore, Executive Director VisitArran, said: 'It will be great for the west side of the island to have this tour-

ist attraction open again.'

Balmichael Centre was opened in March 1997 by David and Gillian MacClelland who bought the farm and buildings from Colin Currie in

autumn 1995.

Previously, plans had been made for a hotel, golf course, airstrip and chalet development at Balmichael.

Darryl and Lucy bought the

property and business in April 2001.

Darryl added that the property, which had been up for sale, has now been taken off the market.

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### Fire at Machrie Golf Club

Local police are looking for any information about the outbreak of a fire at Machrie Golf Club during the hours of darkness from Friday 4 January to Saturday 5 January.

Sergeant Allen Dodds said: 'We are appealing for any information from readers. They are asked to contact us at the Police Office in Lamlash, even if they think it may not be relevant.'

### Misuse of drugs offences

After extensive enquiries by Lamlash police officers, with the assistance of the local Arran community, a Lamlash resident has been reported to the Crown Office Procurator Fiscal in relation to Misuse of Drugs Act offences with a substantial street value.

# Scotland named top tourist destination by CNN news

'VisitScotland must seize this opportunity to promote Scotland'

Island MSP Kenneth Gibson has welcomed cable news channel CNN's decision to make Scotland their number one global tourist destination for 2013, with the 'Year of Natural Scotland' given as a major reason to visit.

#### Factors

CNN decided to put Scotland at the top of the list of world travel destinations, after taking a number of factors into account including value for money, major events, airline routes and accessibility as

well as the range of hotels and new hotel openings. Scotland emerges as top of the 'hot seven' places in the world to visit next year ahead of locations like Morocco, the Caribbean and Amsterdam.

CNN list events and special deals planned around the 'Year of Natural Scotland', Scottish Food and Drink Fortnight and the great opportunities for trekking and walking.

Mr Gibson said: 'It is great news that one of the world's

biggest news networks has chosen Scotland as the number one tourist hot spot this year.

#### More appeal

'Our combination of natural beauty, increased number of air routes direct to Scotland and the fantastic events of the 'Year of Natural Scotland' have given Scotland even more appeal as a place to take a great holiday this year.

'Of course, whether it is magnificent scenery, outdoor pursuits like walking and

climbing, visiting a castle or distillery, Arran as 'Scotland in miniature' has much to offer visitors of all tastes and ages.

'VisitScotland must seize this opportunity to promote Scotland.

'I have no doubt too that VisitArran will work to ensure the beautiful island of Arran is included and I will contact CNN directly to encourage visitors to Scotland to add Arran to their Scottish itinerary.'

### Another rockfall south of Whiting Bay



**More boulders fell onto the road south of Whiting Bay on Tuesday.** 02\_b02road01

Another rock fall at the Gaery has left two large boulders in the road.

Following heavy sustained rainfall, a wide section of the hillside above the C147 road has become unstable.

This follows an incident at the same spot in November when a car carrying holiday-makers from Lancashire was hit by a boulder falling on to the road.

The family's BMW X5 had the rear window smashed, but luckily no-one was injured.

Car driver Robin Walsh told the Banner: 'Our Golden Retriever was in the back and got quite a shock. There was glass everywhere.'

A spokesperson for North Ayrshire Council said at the time: 'We have been dealing with continual slippage in this area for a number of years.'

'Our design team is working to address this problem and a barrier system is being prepared in order to contain any potential rockfall and to protect the road.'

Cones have been placed around this latest rockfall.

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### New Year's hack for Arran Riding Club

Seventeen hardy horses and their riders took part in Arran Riding Club's annual New Year ride last Sunday in rather misty conditions. Anne McConnell and her daughter Lizanne said the club members enjoyed 'a wonderful hack up the forestry' and all returned home safely, although a bit cold, to enjoy some soup and sandwiches. Anne said: 'We all had a brilliant day and thanks to all who helped it happen.'

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# First lambs a wee bonus at Kildonan

Arran has seen the first lambs of a new year arriving this week.

Robert Lammie of Creagraineach Farm, Kildonan, welcomed six new arrivals over the past few days.

### Wee mistake

The six lambs, four of them pure-bred Suffolks, are the result of a wee mistake last August.

Robert explained: 'One of the tups got out among the ewes last August for a couple of days. I didn't think they would be in season, but when we scanned the ewes in Oc-

tober, it was clear that half a dozen had caught.'

When we saw them on Tuesday, the sheep were safely tucked up in a shed on warm straw and looking after their lambs.

One of the sturdy little chaps was already showing promise for exhibiting as a tup lamb at the 2013 Arran Show.

Looking at the healthy little lambs, Robert added: 'This was a wee bonus I wasn't expecting.'

Robert first appeared with new lambs in the Banner in January 1984.



Robert Lammie with two pure-bred Suffolk lambs and a two-crop ewe mother.

02\_b02lam01

# The Steamie coming to Brodick Hall

When Tony Roper's nostalgic 1950s Scotland comedy had a musical score added, it was the recipe for an all-time resounding success.

Excerpts and repeats on television are much enjoyed by all ages, showing life in Glasgow with humour and pathos during this era.

Now we look forward to seeing it again in Brodick Hall in May.

On Thursdays January 17 and 24 there will be read-throughs of the script for everyone interested in joining in this pawky production. No matter in what capacity, both male and female.

### Principal roles

Auditions for the principal roles will be held in Brodick Hall on 31 January.

On the social side, Arran Music and Drama Club now

look forward to a February Fayre in Brodick Hall on Saturday 2 February, so watch your Arran Banner for the full details soon.

But in the meantime do come along at 7.30pm to Brodick Hall on 17 and 24 January.

See you then. JB

## Daffodils already in bloom on island

Is this the earliest first daffodil ever seen on Arran?

While much of the country is in the grip of chilly winter weather, the warming effects of the Gulf Stream on Arran have never been so evident.

Vic Iutz took this photo in the front garden of his Blackwaterfoot home at 2.45pm on Wednesday 9 January.

His wife Christine said: 'I planted these bulbs a few years ago; I think they are February Gold.'

Vic added: 'Christine has been noting the first flower for many years and this is by far the earliest. It was 20 February last year.'



A very early daffodil in Blackwaterfoot. b02daf01

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Obituary:

# Canice Donnelly 1960 - 2012

Canice Donnelly was born in Leeds on 8 October 1960. I first met Canice when he was manager of the Co-op

in Brodick - the wee original Co-op across from the chemist shop. I think that was around 1986/7.

He was a quiet, gentle-mannered man and always very helpful even then. Running and music were

passions of his. He could run a mean race and hold a fine tune - although getting him to keep time was sometimes a problem!

He joined the Arran Music and Drama Club in 1987 for 'The Merry Widow' but it was not until some years later when I became Director for the club that we became good friends.

**My pleasure**

It was my pleasure to cast Canice in all but one of my musical productions - the last he missed because of his illness.

I especially loved his portrayal of the travelling salesman, Ali Hakim in 'Oklahoma' in 2001 and his Jack in 'Jack the Ripper' a few years later.

His own sound effects were legendary as were his others in the gents dressing room where the memories will forever linger.



Canice Donnelly. 02\_b02can02

His daughter Kelly inherited her father's love of music and followed his footsteps onto the amateur stage.

There are many funny stories I could recall, but these are now confined to happy memories.

Sadly, Canice became ill with a brain tumour which he fought so bravely for almost two years.

On 22 April 2012 he took part in a 10k race on Arran fundraising for Brain Tumour Research Support and yet another race in July in Yorkshire.

Little did we realise then that he would not survive more than five months, and sadly he passed away, peacefully with his family around him on 13 December 2012.

To his daughter Kelly and son Daniel we give our sincere condolences and the comfort of knowing how well loved their father was.

Canice may be gone but we will always remember him with a smile and a song. **MS.**

There will be a celebration of Canice's life on Arran at a future date to be announced.



Canice Donnelly as Jack the Ripper, with Laura Selkirk in the 2007 production by Arran Music and Drama Club. 02\_b02can01

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## Christmas day lunch with the Salvation Army

The Salvation Army on Arran once again hosted a lunch on Christmas Day at McKelvie Road sheltered housing complex in Lamlash.

**Great success**

Lexie Andrade, Commanding Officer for Arran and Irvine, said: 'The lunch was a great success with a number of new people attending, and the return of some regular at-

tendees. We also had the advantage of some new volunteers helping out on the day.

'It is great to see this event growing in popularity.

'It has now reached a point where we will need to consider another larger venue for this year. We were bursting at the seams!

**Grateful**

'We are forever grateful

to all the folks whose input makes this possible, from donations of gifts, to the chef - Michael Fisher, who works so hard to produce a wonderful meal, Santa and his Elf and Mrs Claus, our kitchen assistants and waiters, and Guy Bodie for unselfishly interrupting his own day to provide transport.

'It really is one of these oc-

casions where we see first hand the very best of humanity in practice.

**Thank you**

'Thank you to everyone who came and to all who made it happen.

'We hope to see you all again this year.

'Wishing you all a happy, blessed and healthy year in 2013.'

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Dominoes champion Ali, centre, with Alf, left and George, right, and stand-in coordinator Fiona Mackenzie and Michael Fisher. 01\_b02dom01

## Ali is crowned 2012 dominoes champion of McKelvie Road

Last Thursday, Huseyin Ali was crowned 2012 Dominoes Champion at McKelvie Road sheltered housing.

Ali and his two chums, Alf McMaster and George Fullar-

ton, have been playing weekly sessions of double sixes in the lounge at the Lamlash housing complex.

George described their sessions as 'friendly but compet-

itive' and Ali added 'we only argue sometimes' while Alf chuckled in agreement.

Ali added: 'We are open to challengers - we'll take on anyone!'

## Corrie Film Club Film of the Month: The Trouble With Harry (USA PG)

Trouble erupts in a small, quiet New England town when a man's body is found in the woods.

The problem is that everyone thinks they have something to do with his death! Master of suspense, Alfred

Hitchcock directs a delightful black comedy-mystery with plenty of humour a la Hitchcock and love affairs between the major characters.

After several unearthings of the corpse, the real cause of death is revealed and Harry

troubles no-one again. It's a delightful romp and a decidedly different Hitchcock film. It is also notable as Shirley MacLaine's film debut.

See this in Corrie and Sannox Village Hall on Sunday 13 January at 8pm. BYOB.

# 84<sup>th</sup> Arran Music Festival

The dates for the 84<sup>th</sup> Arran Music Festival are from Wednesday 20 March to Friday 22 March.

The venue will once again be the Community Theatre at Arran High School in Lamlash. The syllabus is already available at the schools and in several island shops.

As always, the principal objective of the Festival is to provide a platform for

amateur performers - young and older - to demonstrate their skills in music, verse or dance.

The adjudicators are aware that many weeks or months training and tuition lie behind the performances, and they are ready to acknowledge the standards that are being achieved.

The comments sheets, issued to all entrants, frequently

include helpful tips to further improve their talents.

Please note that entry forms should be in the hands of the Festival Secretary Tony Smith no later than 6 February.

This is to allow time for the programme to be prepared and the adjudicators' schedules to be arranged.

For any further details, please contact the Honorary Secretary on 700203.

## Doggie classes for pooches and owners start up again on January 16

The last session of dog classes in Whiting Bay Hall finished in December when all the dogs came to a Christmas Party.

Most of the dogs (and their owners) had got into the spirit and were festooned with Christmas hats and tinsel.

Organiser Margaret Kay said: 'Santa's Little Yelper (that's me) was on hand to distribute Christmas presents to all.'

'The dogs all got treats and chews to take home and their owners enjoyed home-baking and chocolates with their teas and coffees. We are all set to start up a new session on Wednesday 16 January in Whiting Bay Hall

- 1pm to 2pm and 2.30pm to 3.30pm running for 10 weeks.

'Anyone wanting more information can call me on 600725.'

### Obedience

'Classes are closely affiliated to Kennel Club Good Citizen Dog Scheme where dogs are taught good manners and obedience and owners are guided in the responsibility of dog ownership.'

'Talking of which, we are also a pick-up point for dog poo bags, so anyone who needs or wants them can come along to the hall to collect some.'

**Northern Energy Developments**  
Wood Fired Combined Heat & Power

**Event 1**  
Invitation to Consultation Event

Arran High School, Lamlash  
Broddick Isle Of Arran

Saturday 12th January 2013  
Drop-In between 10:30am - 4:30pm

Northern Energy Developments Limited (NEDL) has been working on the development of a biomass project on Arran. A Planning Application (Local Application) was submitted to North Ayrshire Council and was subsequently withdrawn in September 2012 to allow for further consultation on the application.

Ironside Farrar Ltd Environmental Consultants have been appointed to assist with consultation and will be running two new Consultation Events on Arran to during January and February 2013 with the aim of:

- Clearly setting out the Scheme Proposals
- Communicate the detail of the scheme and include the opportunity for site visits
- Allow further Community Consultation
- Review the opportunity to address issues raised and provide further mitigation
- Assist community/stakeholders participate and make representation to the planning process

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## When is it going to stop raining?

We have endured persistent rainfall throughout 2012 with the ground sodden for long periods of time.

The water table is so high that as more rain falls there is nowhere for it to soak in to, so it just runs off, causing localised flooding.

2012 was the second wettest year since 1910 and just a few millimetres short of the record set in 2000. And the months of April and June were the wettest ever.

So how does that impact upon us? First of all, you have to feel sympathy for farmers and growers, struggling to till the land and grow crops, while their cattle and sheep are up to their oxters in mud and glaur.

We are even being told now that crops grown last year, even grain crops, have less nutritional value than normal because of the excessive rainfall.

The produce on display at last August's Arran Horticultural Show in Lamlash was the poorest ever, according to one of the judges. Not the fault of Arran's gardeners, but a result of the weather. And Arran Farmers Society suffered a financial loss at the Arran Show because the rain kept so many visitors away.

On a personal note, this wet weather gets everyone down. Experts tell us that the incidence of SAD (Seasonal Affective Disorder) is higher than ever this winter. This year that figure is expected to exceed 10 percent of the population. Symptoms are lethargy, depression, sleep problems, and most worryingly, loss of libido. Suggested treatments are exposure to special lights emitting more lumens than normal bulbs or taking extra vitamin D supplements.

But perhaps the best solution is to get on the internet, search out some cheap flights, and jet off to some wonderful winter sun.

This Saturday 12 January, Northern Energy Developments Ltd are holding a Community Consultation Event at Arran High School.

The aim is to explain to islanders their revised plans for a biomass plant just south of Lamlash. When the company's original plans were lodged with North Ayrshire Council last July there were many concerns expressed by residents. The plans were withdrawn in September.

This is an opportunity for the company to explain how their revised plans could address the concerns. It is also an opportunity for residents to find out first-hand what the implications will be for the island. Let us hope that Arran folk take this opportunity.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Because Jesus has Himself 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.

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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



### Ardrossan harbour issues

Sir,  
Further to my letter of 19 November re Ardrossan harbour, I have now learned that the reason that the issue has not been further pursued publicly is that nothing can be done about it.

Ardrossan harbour is owned by the privatised Clyde Ports which is in turn owned by Peel Ports, based in Manchester. It is one of the largest infrastructure and maritime service companies in the UK. Peel Ports is in turn a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tokenhouse Holdings, based in Guernsey.

Clyde/Peel, acting on the advice of architects retained to investigate alternative ways of improving the harbour, are apparently reluctant to make more than minor improvements, blaming CalMac for any operating failures.

Clyde Ports, with its parent company Peel Ports, possesses detailed figures for the number of cancelled and diverted sailings between Ardrossan and Brodick. These figures show that during the year 2010/2011 two percent of sailings were affected. The company maintains that this is well within acceptable limits for the route.

The Scottish Government effectively owns CalMac and can therefore influence both the ships operated by the company and aspects of its operating procedures.

Since it has no control over Clyde Ports or Ardrossan, the only way in which the sailings can be improved is by introducing more suitable ships on the route. CalMac admit the Caledonian Isles is less than ideal for the run.

The intention is to commission two new, smaller and more weatherly ships which would have a better chance of operating in and out of Ardrossan in bad weather.

Apparently, neither Troon nor Fairlie are viable alternatives.

The new terminal at Brodick, although seemingly a huge expense, is necessary

since the existing one is in poor condition. Assuming the Ardrossan issue can be resolved or at least mitigated, the terminal will in due course perform the job for which it is being designed to the benefit of the island.

Questions remain to be answered are first, why cannot the 'Irish berth' be used as an alternative by the Caledonian Isles?

This berth permits ships to have straight runs into the inner harbour where they can manoeuvre in calmer waters.

Secondly, would it be possible for the Scottish Government to compulsorily purchase the ferry operating part of Ardrossan harbour? If the Government owned the ferry terminal it would be up to us as taxpayers to commission the necessary improvements rather than leaving these to a private business whose primary responsibility is to its shareholders rather than the general public.

Yours,  
**Ian Ferguson**  
Northbeck Cottage  
High Corrie

### God bless you, one and all

Sir,  
A Happy New Year to the Captain and all his crew on the Caledonian Isles for getting us safely and happily back and forward to Arran.

Also good wishes to the staff at the Co-op for being so cheery and helpful; to the bus drivers for safe journeys and the cheery staff at my favourite shop ArCaS in Brodick.

God bless you, one and all; take care.

Yours,  
**Kitty Milne**  
9 Newton Road  
Lochranza

### Thanks to Captain Bain

Sir,  
Our thanks must go to CalMac's captain Colin Bain for all his efforts in 'adverse weather conditions', ensuring that most if not all sailings were completed over the Christmas and New Year

period.

Congratulations, and a Happy New Year.

Yours,  
**Jane Murray and friends**  
Brodick

### Wild West String Road

Sir,  
We've all heard of the Wild West; well, as far as the String Road on Arran goes, this is it!

There's 'aagh-patchies' all along the way - vicious they are. Touch the brakes at the wrong groove or bump, and it'll be 'three wheels on your wagon', or it will throw you across the road.

In the Wild West there was the Oregon trail; on the String

Road, 'awra trail's gone (sic Stanley Baxter).

Please, North Ayrshire Council, can we have a similar surface on all of the String Road as on the two miles that were laid last year?

The suspension on my car has broken twice this year costing me £600 on top of road tax and normal servicing charges. Petrol also is 30pence a litre dearer than at ASDA in Ardrossan - why?

Tourists will soon be singing the Proclaimers song adding the words 'Arran no more' as it is altogether too expensive., and they must be horrified at the state of the roads.

Yours,  
**Audrey Allan**  
9 Kinloch Court  
Blackwaterfoot

## THE ARRAN BANNER - on holiday...



### Christmas in Peru with the Arran Banner

Dr Helen Jamieson is pictured relaxing with her copy of the Banner on the town square in Rioja in northern Peru on a medical and holiday trip over Christmas.

Dr Jamieson regularly holidays with her family in Whiting Bay. b02ban01

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# Rachel Barnettson Phillips MBE

Rachel Barnettson Phillips (nee Rhodes) of Sannox was awarded an MBE in the New Year Honours list.

We made a brief mention of this in last week's Banner and have now made contact with her in Australia where she is holidaying with her family.

Her award was for services to Scottish Country Dancing and she has been dancing since the age of nine years old.

Rachel commented: 'To be awoken at midnight in Australia, for an urgent phone call from The Cabinet Office had to be my son playing a practical joke from the UK.'

'It took some convincing by the caller that it was not as I thought 'why me'?

'It was a huge and complete surprise and with so many others more deserving, I am most indebted to whomever suggested the award.'

Rachel was a founder member of the Stockport Branch of Scottish Country Dancing in 1940 and of the Liverpool Branch in 1951.

She is a Life Member of the Royal Scottish Country Dance Society.

Rachel took her teaching certificates at St Andrew's Summer Schools in the 1950s and has taught voluntarily

since, initially in Barrow-in-Furness, Manchester and Swansea and then for 40 years at Chester St Andrew Society.

In Chester she took all stage of classes – beginners, improvers and demonstration teams which took part in Scottish Country Dance Festivals and competitions in Newcastle, Leeds, Liverpool, Stockport, Southport and performed internationally in Auxerre, France and in Colwyn Bay, North Wales.

For 30 years, Rachel led the team organising Biennial Day Courses in Chester which attracted dancers from across

the Northern Counties, Midlands and North Wales.

On retirement to Arran, she took on the Brodick group, originally started by Margaret Hart, and helped Pirnmill and Brodick schools with preparation and performance for the Arran Annual Day of Dance held each November.

Scottish Country Dancing is sociable dancing with seven others in a set providing a variety of dance partners and exercise that is fun and entertaining.

There is such enjoyment in dancing, and with so many superb Scottish tunes from the times of Neil Gow and Scott Skinner to those of Muriel Johnstone, Ian McPhail, Ron Kerr and scores of others, that one can not sit still.

As has recently been medically proclaimed, it is the activity of mind and coordination of feet, arms and the

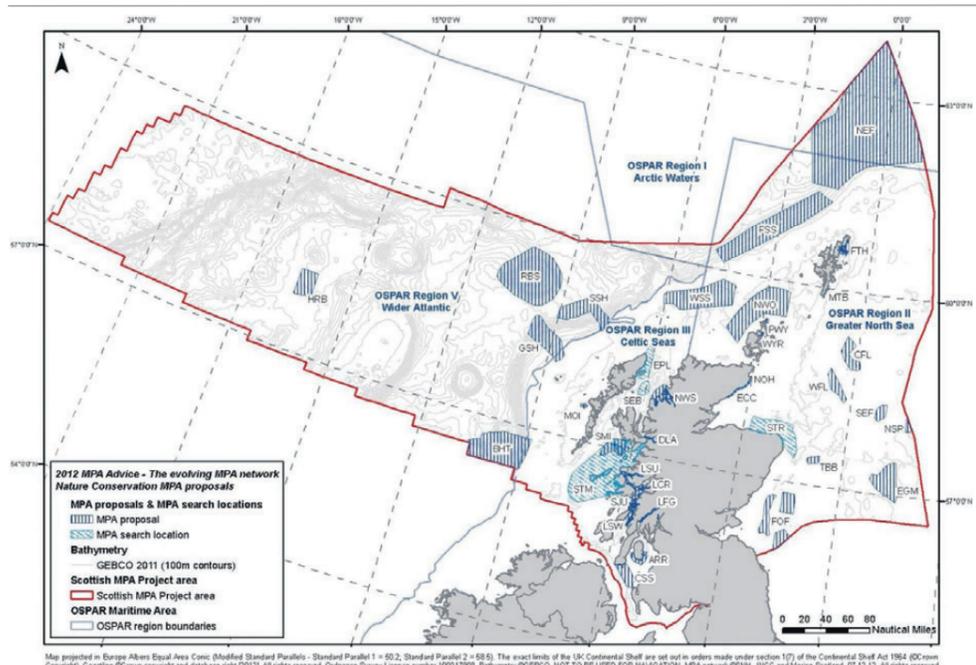


Rachel Phillips MBE. b02mbe02

whole body in remembering ly of benefit and joy in help- ing to keep fit, and smiling of formations, that is so huge- – regardless of age.

## Lochranza 200 Club Christmas draw

The winners of the Lochranza 200 Club Christmas draw were: First prize Jane Phillips, second prize Mary Anderson and third prize Ian Buchanan.



Proposals could see a Marine Protected Area being introduced at the southern end of Arran.

## Arran's marine heritage to be protected

Steps are being taken that could see a Marine Protected Area (MPA) being implemented at the south end of Arran.

It would form part of a network of areas equivalent to the size of Scotland being created in Scottish waters.

If designated the MPA network would almost double the 12 per cent of Scotland's seas currently protected, bringing the total area to more than 20 per cent.

### Comparable

This would cover around 32,000 square miles – comparable with all of Scotland's landmass.

Richard Lochhead, cabinet secretary for Rural Affairs and the Environment, said:

'Accounting for 13 per cent of Europe's seas and 61 per cent of UK waters, Scotland's seas include many diverse habitats, with rare and beautiful species that it is our re-

sponsibility to protect. That's why the Marine Act included ambitious commitments to safeguards our seas.'

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# Madcap swimmers take to the water



Come on in, the water is lovely. 02\_b02doug05



18 happy volunteers assembled on the Douglas terrace before heading for the sea on New Year's Day. 02\_b02doug01



Ryan Hughes, left, and four hotel guests make their way back from Pladda. 02\_b02doug01

## New Year's Day dook at Brodick and Kildonan

Following on from the famous Lamash Boxing Day Dook, Kildonan and Brodick had their own versions of this madcap openwater swimming event on New Year's Day.

At 10am on Tuesday 1 January, Kildonan hotelier Ryan Hughes and four hotel guests picked their way over the beach to frolic in the waves for several chilly minutes.

On New Year's Eve, more people had agreed to do the

dook, but in the cold light of day a few didn't quite manage to turn up.

But as the intrepid swimmers got back on dry land, hotel owners Anne and Rod Acuna were on hand to offer warming tots of cognac.

A couple of hours later, some 18 resolute souls were assembling at the Douglas Hotel in Brodick.

On the stroke of noon they set off along the road towards Bilslands with a chill wind blowing off a snow-capped Goat-fell across the bay.

The dookers made their way gingerly down the slipway and into the icy waters with some climbing out to jump back in again. Then it was a quick dash back to the hotel for some welcome shots of vodka.



These two penguins appear to have had enough! 02\_b02doug04



The Kildonan five splash their way into the sea on New Year's Day. 02\_b02kild02



The first swimmers get into the water in Brodick. 02\_b02doug03



Stripped off and making their way down the slippery slipway. 02\_b02doug02



A warming shot of vodka back at the Douglas. 02\_b02doug06

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# The Arran Banner 20 years ago



Bus drivers Andy Lane and John Murray with an Arran Transport bus in Rothesay. b02twe01



Ollie the llama shelters from the snow at North Sannox Farm Park. b02twe03

## Saturday 16 January, 1993

### Heavy snowfalls and flooding

For the first time in 10 years, almost all of Arran was covered in a layer of snow several inches deep this week.

Several primary schools and Arran High School were closed. A sudden thaw and high tides later led to widespread flooding.

### Heading for the Falklands

Mr and Mrs John Fowler of the Blackwaterfoot Hotel have left Arran to live in the Falkland Islands.

John has previously been a school headmaster there.

### Spate of car thefts

A spate of car thefts has hit the island.

Three cars, all locked, were stolen from Brodick and Shiskine, and a Brodick garage was broken into last week.

All the vehicles were damaged and goods taken.

### Arran coaches in Rothesay

Six Arran coaches from local bus owner Bob Haddow of Arran Transport have started to operate a service on Bute, based in Rothesay.

Mr Haddow successfully tendered for the Bute contract after Western Scottish took the Arran contract.

### Held up in prison

After the scheduled speaker at the Brodick WRI January meeting informed the ru-

ral president that he would be in prison on Wednesday 6 January, the committee quickly organised a show by their own members at short notice.

### Local Plan on view

The finalised Replacement Local Plan will be available for inspection from next Monday in Cunninghame House, Brodick Library and Lamlash Council Offices.

Responses to the Plan should be received in writing by Cunninghame District by Monday 1 March 1993.

### Magistrate's experiences

Ron Ridyard, president of Whiting Bay Thursday Club, welcomed Mrs Evelyn Sillars to last week's meeting as guest speaker.

Mrs Sillars told the members about her work as a magistrate and of her experiences as a prison visitor.



High tides caused widespread flooding this week, especially around Curries of Brodick. b02twe04



Youngsters enjoying sledding on Lamlash Golf Course on Monday afternoon. b02twe02

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# Where's Archie?

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Last week Archie was in Lochranza opposite the Sandwich Station. First correct answers came from Judith from Crewe, Carol from Lochranza and John from Macclesfield. This week he is racing over a bridge, but where would you find that wooden structure?

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

## Cartha Trio concert in Lamlash

The next concert of Arran Music Society will be a performance by the Cartha Trio in Lamlash Community Theatre at 1.30pm on Saturday 19 January.

Prevented from coming to the island last year by bad weather, this exceptional trio of viola, clarinet and piano will play a varied programme, including a rare chance to hear Mozart's Kegelstatt Trio.

Please note, this concert will be in the Community Theatre so as to take advantage of the splendid Kawai piano.

But a small mystery surrounds the recent concerts of the Society.

On the last few occasions that John Roberts has placed a poster for a Music Society concert on the notice board outside Brodick Post Office it has disappeared.

All the other posters remain untouched. Perhaps Alma Road is harbouring some philistine with a grudge against classical music.

## Kildonan SWRI

The members of the Kildonan SWRI have had a very eventful December with that month's meeting taking place in the bustling and friendly atmosphere of Coast, Whiting Bay, where excellent food and company was on the menu.

Joyce Millard won the competition for the best wrapped Christmas present.

On Christmas Eve the Kildonan children were entertained with good party food, fun games, entertaining music and of course the magical arrival of Santa bearing gifts for the children, thanks Santa we look forward to your visit next year and a special thanks to all those who helped to make this event happen.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 16 January at 7.30pm when we will be hosting our invitation evening with the Kilmory and Whiting Bay SWRI members.

## Outdoor talk for Friends

The January meeting of the Friends of Brodick Castle will feature a talk by Nigel Marshall of the Arran Outdoor Centre in Lamlash.

The meeting will be at 2.30pm on Wednesday 16 January in the Castle tea-room.

# Arran Bird Report

In 1872 Robert Gray wrote a booklet called 'Birds of Arran' published by Bell and Bain of Glasgow.

In his introduction, before giving a catalogue of all the species on the island, he writes eloquently about Arran and its birds.

This is a short extract: 'With the exception of Skye, there is perhaps no part of the Western Hebrides more remarkable for the sublimity of its bird haunts than Arran.'

In 1956 J A Gibson wrote a booklet called 'The Birds of Arran' published by Bute Newspapers Limited.

The opening paragraph reads: 'The Island of Arran is one of the great glories of the Clyde area, and the lack of an up-to-date account of its birds is a most serious gap in our present knowledge of Clyde ornithology.'

In 1968 Kenneth Richmond wrote a book called

'A Regional Guide to the Birds of Scotland' published by Constable. He wrote of Arran: '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.'

### Interesting

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

These reports provide a unique record of the bird life of this special island over the last 30 odd years.

In 2006, the responsibility for writing the report fell to me. I have been encouraged that in 2012 to date over 6,000 sightings from around 300 contributors have been sent to me.

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

Best wishes for 2013. Please send all sightings for 2012, giving 'what, when, where', by Friday 11 January 2013 to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at james.cassels@virgin.net.

Bird Notes by Jim Cassels

The Arran Bird Report 2011



Published in 2012

The Arran Bird Report 2011. b02bird01

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### Cartha Trio

Viola - Scott Dickinson, Clarinet - Barry Deacon, Piano - Laura Baxter  
They will play a varied programme, including a rare chance to hear Mozart's Kegelstatt Trio, written for exactly this combination of instruments.

Afternoon of Saturday 19th January, 1.30 p.m.,  
Lamlash Community Theatre

Concert brought to you by Arran Active (The Outdoor Shop) and Arran Music Society  
Tickets £8 (students and children free) available from Inspirations of Arran, www.arranevents.com or at the door.

## ARE YOU RRRREADY!!!



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**Saturday 12th January**

Army Cadets  
Over 21s Disco  
Karate  
Family Games  
Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)  
BioMass Public Drop-in  
Arran Rugby v Oban

Auchrannie Road 11am – 1 pm.  
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm  
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
Arran High School, 10am  
Arran high School, Lamlash, 10.30am – 4.30pm  
Ormidale Park, 2pm

**Sunday 13th January**

Alcoholics Anonymous  
New Al-Anon Meeting  
Family Games  
Fun in the pool  
Open Mic Session  
Folk night  
Film Cub

Church Hall, Brodict, 4.30pm  
Brodict Church Hall, 4.30 – 6 pm.  
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm  
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 2pm-5pm  
Ormidale Hotel, 8.30pm  
Corrie Hall, 8pm

**Monday 14th January**

Quiz  
Outside Boot Camp  
Over 50s Badminton  
Badminton  
Citizens Advice  
Morning Fitness  
Breathe Walk Class  
Table Tennis

Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm  
Whiting Bay Park 6am  
Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm  
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30-1.30pm  
Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
Kinneil, Lamlash, 5.15pm  
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm

Badminton  
Lamlash Bridge Club  
Volleyball Club  
Arran Junior Football Club  
Scottish Country Dancing  
Lunch Club

Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm  
Lamlash Golf Club, 7pm for 7.15pm  
Auchrannie Games Hall, 7-8pm  
Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm  
Beginners & improvers, Corrie & Sannox Hall, 2-4pm  
Glen Estate, Brodict 12.30pm

**Tuesday 15th January**

Pop Quiz  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Youth Club  
Rotary club  
Streetly Dance pre school  
Streetly Dancing Classes P1-S7  
Youth Club  
Weight Watchers  
Junior Hockey Club  
Auchrannie Winter Bowls  
Healthy Outdoors  
Cricket Practise  
Open Darts  
Riding for the Disabled AGM

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
Brodict Church Hall, 2pm  
Kildonan Hall, 7pm  
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm  
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.45-2.30pm  
Auchrannie Gym Hall, 3.45pm – 6pm  
Brodict Hall, 6.30 – 8pm  
St Molios Church Hall, 6.30-7.30pm  
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7.30pm  
Auchrannie, 7pm-9pm  
10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre  
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7pm-9pm  
Kinloch Hotel from 8pm  
Brodict Library, 7pm

**Wednesday 16th January**

Hockey  
Tae Kwon Do  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Arran Brass Rehearsal  
Senior Badminton  
Yogalates  
Aquafizz  
Music Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones  
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service  
Arran Absolute Beginners Runners  
Northend Football Training  
Outside Boot Camp  
Coffee morning  
Arran Elderly Forum  
Friends of Brodict Castle  
Dog Classes

Auchrannie Games Hall, 6.30-7.30pm  
Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm  
Lamlash Church Hall, 2pm  
Whiting Bay Hall, 7.15pm  
Arran High School, 8-9pm  
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am  
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am  
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am  
10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30  
5.30pm Auchrannie Spa Car Park  
Lochranza, 7pm  
Whiting Bay Park, 6am  
Lamlash church Hall, 10.15am-12noon  
Ormidale Pavilion, 11am-1pm  
Castle Tearoom, 2.30pm  
Whiting Bay Hall, 1-2pm & 2.30-3.30pm

**Thursday 17th January**

Morning Fitness  
General Knowledge Quiz  
Lochranza Craft Club  
Youth Club  
Zumba Fitness Club  
Live Country/Folk music  
Brodict Embroidery Group  
Brodict Bridge Club  
Auchrannie Winter Bowls  
Ladies Netball  
Lunchbox

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
Hall, 2pm  
Youth Cabin, Lamlash, 7-9pm  
Arran high School, 6.30-7.30pm  
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay 8.30-10.30pm  
Brodict Library 7.30 p.m. – 9.30 pm  
Brodict Golf Club, 7 pm for 7.15 pm  
Auchrannie, 7pm-9pm  
High School sports hall – seniors, 7.30-9pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, 12.30-2.30

**Friday 18th January**

Aqua Fizz  
Yogalates  
Arran Youth Foundations  
Weight Watchers  
Lochranza Kids Badminton  
Lochranza Adults Badminton  
Disco  
Outside Boot Camp  
Arran Ceilidh Dance Group

Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am  
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am  
Church Hall, Brodict 7pm-9pm  
Ormidale Pavilion, 5.30pm  
Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm  
Lochranza Hall, 8pm  
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
Whiting Bay Park 6am  
Corrie Hall, 8-10pm

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# Public Notices



## Kenneth Gibson MSP

Will hold advice surgeries at the following times and locations.

<b>Monday 14 January</b>	
Corrie & Sannox Village Hall	11.15-12.15
Shiskine Village Hall	13.00-14.00
Lamlash ACVS	15.00-16.00
<b>Monday 11 February</b>	
Whiting Bay Village Hall	11.15-12.15
Kilmory Village Hall	13.00-14.00
Brodick Health Centre	15.00-16.00

**No appointment necessary**

To contact Kenneth outside these times, please contact his constituency office:  
15 Main Street, Dalry, KA24 5DL Tel: 01294 833 687  
Email: Kenneth.gibson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

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Golf

Shiskine Golf Club

Results: Gents Mahogany Trophy 31 December, 28 played.

1st Class: 1 Brian Sherwood 49 - 6 = 43, 2 David Hardie 51 - 7 = 44, 3 David Price 53 - 7 = 46 (BIH). Scratch Colin Allison 49 (BL3)

2nd Class: 1 John Clark 50 - 8 = 42, 2 John Culpán 53 - 10 = 43, 3 Ian Clark 52 - 8 = 44.

Magic twos: Billy Anderson at the 3rd, Jimmy Morrison at the 3rd and David Hardie at 4th. John Clark wins the Mahogany Trophy - congratulations!

Ladies: Alan Smith Plate 1

January, 31 played CSS 45.

Silver: 1 Lynda Howie 56 - 12 = 44, 2 Viv Parks 58 - 11 = 47, 3 Elizabeth Kelso 58 - 10 = 48 (BIH). Scratch Christine Maxton 55.

Bronze: 1 Mary Jo Tod 64 - 19 = 45, 2 Fiona Malcolm 61 - 14 = 47, 3 Elizabeth Ker 64 - 15 = 49.

Lynda Howie won the Alan Smith Plate - very well done.

Gents - Colditz Quaich 1 January, 55 played. 1st Class: 1st and Scratch David Tod 46 - 3 = 43 (BIH), 2 Gordon Stewart 49 - 6 = 43, 3 Callum Rae 50 - 6 = 44, 2nd Class: 1 John Culpán 54 - 10 = 44, 2 Andrew Malcolm 59 - 14 = 45, 3 Ian Rae 56 - 10 = 46.

Magic twos: B Ker, M Maxton, D Hardie, G Andrew and D Tod.

David Tod wins the Colditz Quaich - congratulations!

Mixed Foursomes - D S Bannatyne Shield 2 January, 25 pairs played. 1 Allan McDonald and Mary Hardie 51 - 8.5 = 42.5, 2 Rab Robertson and Clare Buchanan 55 - 12 = 43, 3 Sandy Kerr and Sally Smyth 50 - 6.5 = 43.5.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

The nine hole Cross Country competition was washed out on Wednesday 2 January.

Sunday 6 January, 12 played in round four of the Winter Cup - CSS-63. Nicol Auld (2) 60, Jamie MacPherson (5) 63, Gordon Provan 99) 65.

There were magic twos by Gordon Provan, Sandy Pringle, Nicol Auld and Graeme Crichton. Nicol also won scratch with an excellent 62.

Fixtures: Sunday 13 January, AGA Winter League at Whiting Bay from 10am against Shiskine.

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Shiskine Golf Club captain Alan Bannatyne, front right, presented the trophies to Lynda Howie (Alan Smith Plate), John Clark (Mahogany Trophy) and David Tod (Colditz Quaich). b02golf01



Donald Bannatyne, (second right), and club captain Alan Bannatyne presented the D S Bannatyne Shield to winners Allan McDonald and Mary Hardie on Wednesday 2 January. b02golf02

(8) 35 pts (acb), 2 D Robertson (13) 35 pts, 3rd R McCrae (6) 34 pts. There were three twos. Tuesday 1 January, Hirsell Trophy and New Year Bottle. Non-counter for handicap.

1 A Hume (9) 36 pts, 2 D Robertson (13) 34 pts (acb), 3 S McCalla (8) 34 pts. There was one two. Sunday 6 January Brandon and Winter Cup, 18 played. CSS 64. 1 T Raeside (8) 63, 2 G Robertson (7) 64 (acb), 3 B Jenkins (7) 64. Scratch E McKinnon 67.

There were four twos, Peter McCalla got two. 1st Class Brandon T Raeside, 2nd Class Brandon not awarded - no qualifying score.

Fixtures: Sunday 13 January AGA Duncan Trophy and Sweep. Sunday 20 January Clochendichter.

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AGA Duncan Trophy and Sweep. Sunday 20 January Clochendichter.

2 John McGovern 73-9=64, 3 Rob Logan 73-6=67. Best scratch Euan McKinnon 60. Magic twos E Cannon, R Logan, E McKinnon 2. Winner of Ne'erday Shield and Bottle - Euan McKinnon.

Saturday 5 January Winter Cup, Sweep. 1 R Logan 68-6=62, 2 A Smith 72-8=64, 3 S Beardsley 70-5=65. Best scratch R Logan 68. Magic twos S Beardsley 2, B Rooney, D Logan, R Logan.

Fixtures: Saturday 12 January Winter Cup 8.30am and 12noon. Monday 14 January Monday Cup 12noon (sharp) if weather permits.

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71-5=66. Best Scratch Ian Bremner 71 BIH over Iain Smith at the 5th and 16th.

Wednesday 2 January, The Course Backwards. 1 Dougie Macfarlane 66-1=65 BIH, 2 Callum Rae 77-12=65 Better last Six, 3 Todd Jameson 69-4=65. Best Scratch D Macfarlane 66. Twos from D Macfarlane at the 9th, N Young at the 16th, P Jameson at the 15th, Iain Murchie at the 6th and 15th.

Fixtures: Sunday 13 January, Winter League (Team Game) Lamlash v Corrie at Whiting Bay. Thursday 17 January, Yellow Medal 11am draw. Sunday 20 January, Glenburn Cup at 9.30am and 12noon starts.

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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

(in full communion with the Church of England)  
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
**Sunday 13th January**  
Holy Communion, 11.00 am.  
Mrs Janis Gallagher.  
Coffee after service.  
ALL WELCOME

**ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER**

CELEBRATION OF CHRISTIAN UNITY  
**Sunday 20th January**  
at 12.00 noon in Lamlash Church.

Preacher: Richard Tiplady (Principal, International Christian College)  
Offering to International Christian College.

BE THERE! EVERYBODY IS MOST WELCOME.

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Parishes of North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine  
Independent but working together.  
Minister, Rev. Angus Adamson, Parish Assistant, Mrs Jean Hunter.

Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times, to which all are invited.

**Sunday 13th January**  
Brodick Church, 10.30am, Morning Worship.  
Corrie Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.  
Lochranza and Pirmill Churches, 10.15am, Morning Worship at Pirmill.  
Shiskine Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.  
A Service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Kilmory linked with Lamlash  
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"  
**Sunday 13th January**  
Kilmory 10am  
Mrs. Liz Clarke  
Lamlash 11.30am  
Mr. Ian Watt  
In both churches:  
All welcome, including families; children's area  
Scottish Charity SC015072

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**Sunday 13th January**  
Mass 11am

**BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(Charity Number: SC014005)  
**Sunday 13th 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 welcome.

**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

**Sunday 13th January**  
Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick  
11am Morning worship  
Tea/Coffee after the service  
Home Fellowship Group meets on Wednesday at 7.30pm.  
For details telephone 860 232  
Everyone very welcome.

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Services as follows  
Shiskine 11.00am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)  
Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)  
Rev William Paterson  
All welcome

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(continuing)  
**Sunday 13th January**  
Morning Service 11am  
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick  
Evening Service 6.30pm  
5 Glen Road, Brodick  
Prayer Meeting  
**Wednesday 16th January**  
at 7pm  
5 Glen Road, Brodick  
All welcome

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS**

**Sunday 13th January**  
in Dippin House, Dippen at 11am.  
Enquiries to Judith 820223.  
All welcome

**DEATH**

**DOUGLAS - COLIN ROBERT**  
Peacefully at the Beatson West of Scotland Cancer Centre after a long illness stoically fought. Colin, aged 29 years, dearly loved son of Jim and Merle, adored wee brother of Jonathan and Laura, also cousin Christopher. Doting uncle of Kyle, Toby and Bobby, also their mum Kimberley. Greatly missed by all his Aunts and Uncles, Family and Friends. Funeral service in Brodick Church on Friday 11th January 2013 at 11.30am, thereafter to Lamlash cemetery to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to ArCaS or Leukaemia and Lymphoma research.



The players at the Shiskine v Southend darts match last Sunday. b02dar01

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**PETER ALBRICH** - Heartfelt thanks for all the support, words of comfort, cards and letters. To Dr Graeme Thompson, district nurses Vera and Kate for the care and dignity you showed Peter. To the wonderful Rev Gillean Maclean who brightened difficult days and Clair and David for quietly attending to Peter. To friends and family who helped in so many ways, in particular Nina, Roderick, Dougie, Doreen and Sylvia for the flowers. Peter would have touched by the generosity of your donations to ArCaS. Penny, Heidi and Michael Albrich

**MARGOT BANNATYNE** - Our family wish to thank all of Margot's dear friends who joined us for the celebration of her life. We are especially grateful to David and Clair Hendry, John Kerr and the "Chalisters" for their kind consideration. A gentle service from Rev. Jean Hunter and Valerie's loving dedication. A total of £1014.41 was raised for the Calum McNicol atlantic row 2013 in aid of the Ayrshire hospice.

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**Arran Bridge Results**

**Brodick Bridge Club**

The results for Brodick Bridge Club on Thursday 3 January were as follows:

N/S 1 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton +4240, 2 John Dick and Mary Dick +3710, 3 John Baraclough and Jennifer Wales +2790.

E/W 1 Jan Beattie and John Beattie -730, 2 Eendy McNiven and Janette McBride -1760, 3 Michael Iutz and Vic Iutz -1910.

**Lamlash Bridge Club**

The results of the Lamlash Bridge Club tournament on Monday 7 January were as follows:

N/S 1 Trish Martin and Alison Bilsland +3310, 2 Jean Barclay and Jennifer McArthur +2470, 3 Evelyn Sillars and Margaret McGill -70.  
E/W 1 Jeanette McBride and Eendy McNiven +400, 2 John and Jean Beattie +320, 3 John and Mary Dick -500.

**GRADUATION**



Congratulations to Rory Gilmore from the Ormidale, Brodick for receiving a M.Phys. in Theoretical Physics from The University of St Andrews. Rory, a former pupil of Arran High School, is now studying for a Ph.D in Condensed Matter Theory at Queen Mary College, University of London. Well done!!

**Shiskine take half time lead over Southend in darts match**

The first round of the annual Shiskine versus Southend darts competition at the Kinloch Hotel ended in a victory for the Shiskine boys by eight games to four.

But Southend won the all-important gallon of beer.

The return match will be played at the new Kilmory Social Club at a date to be arranged.

**BIRTHDAY**

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The assembled cricketers at the drinks trolley on Ormidale Astroturf last Saturday. b02crk02

## Honours even at Sannox New Year cricket match

Last Saturday saw Sannox cricketers take to the Astroturf in Brodick for their annual cocktail party/new year match. And for the third year in a row, amazingly, the match ended in a draw.

This winter being not the bleak affair of previous years, the cricketers were basking in temperatures pushing 7 and 8 celsius – almost Mediterranean.

#### Collapsed

The Sannox drinks trolley, which collapsed last year on its sojourn from the Astroturf to the Ormidale, was replaced

by a fine new Raleigh globe drinks cabinet. Arriving players were offered a Singapore Sling cunningly concealed beneath the far-east section of the globe.

Players kept turning up as the match progressed and the original five who strode onto the field of dreams left as eleven at the end.

As tradition dictates, the adapted rules led to close match.

Several players were retired having scored their designated 25 runs. New youngsters like Trefor Goronwy

and Bailey Robinson showed an enthusiasm that belied the conditions. Only once did captain Tony Brookes have to leave the arena to retrieve a ball that nearly ended up in the Brodick Church steeple.

#### Incentive

He who hits the ball over the wire has to retrieve it. It is a great incentive to play strokes along the ground. Several players could be seen fielding both ball and telephone calls at the same time. It was a match of multi-tasking.

The Pomeroy team needed only three runs off the last

three balls. Two nipped and clipped singles drew the teams neck and neck but frustratingly, Dan Goronwy, batting without greatcoat, couldn't get the last ball away and it ended in a draw.

More serious winter cricket practice continues in the Auchrannie every Tuesday starting on 15 January at 7pm and new or returning players are always welcome.

#### Harboured

Equipment is available and coaching is freely offered. If you have secretly harboured a desire to get back into the

game, this is your chance.

More information can be had from the club website [www.sannoxcricketclub.com](http://www.sannoxcricketclub.com) or by phoning Martin, club secretary, on 700431.

### Busy weeks ahead for Arran's pool players

The draw for the semi-finals of the pool Shield and Salver competitions has been completed.

In the first leg of the Shield on Thursday 17 January Whiting Bay Golf Club will play PHT and Mac's take on PT1934.

The following week the fixtures will be reversed.

In the first leg of the salver competition Catacol are playing Kildonan at home and it will be reversed on Thursday 24 January.

The Drift Inn has a bye and goes straight in to the final of the salver.

The first round of the singles competition is to be played on or by Sunday 13 January.

The draw is as follows: A Picken (PT1934) v P Holmes (PHT) at Bar Eden, P Stewart (PHT) v J MacAnaney (PHT) at the PHT, F Barr (Whiting Bay) v D Smith (PT1934) at Kildonan, J McKechnie or I Clark v D Hackett (Whiting Bay) at the Drift, E Picken (PT1934) v J Ainsworth (Whiting Bay) at Kildonan, S Scott (Drift) v P Millard or L Wilson at Bar Eden, M Worthington (PT1934) v N McMaster (PT1934) at PT1934, D Head (Whiting Bay) v J Picken (PT1934) at Kildonan, F Dunn (Mac's) v J Simmons (Whiting Bay) at PHT, C Duncan (Drift) v S Tattersfield (Drift) at the Drift, B Donlin (PHT) v G McLeod (Whiting Bay) at the Drift, I McDonald (Mac's) v J Copperwheat or P Holmes at Bar Eden, T Mulholland (PT1934) v C Clugston (Mac's) at Bar Eden, J McIntosh (Drift) v R Buchan (Mac's) at PHT and finally S McMaster (PT1934) v G Stewart (PT1934) at PT1934.

The Arran Open Pool Competition will be held on Sunday 27 January at 2pm in Mac's Bar.

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