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The shoparran.com event attracted huge numbers of local shoppers. 01_b05shp01

Island-wide co-operative hosts unique shopping event

A unique shopping event took place on Saturday when a 'Giant January Sale' was held in Brodick Village Hall featuring a cooperative of island shops.

The event was organised by ShopArran.com and those present included The Curtain House, Red Door, Arran Active, Buntys, Cladach Pottery, Arran Asia, The Farmer's Wife, Adele's Cupcakes, The Boathouse and the Old Byre Showroom.

Lorna Mansfield of the Old

Byre is one of the project's co-ordinators. She said: 'On behalf of all the businesses who took part in the sale we would like to say a big thank you to all who supported us. 'We hope that you managed to grab a bargain or two! It was great to see such a fantastic turnout and we hope to repeat the idea again in the future.'

Derek Shand, advisor for Business Gateway who supported the event, said: 'It was really great to see a collaborative event taking place on

Arran that was such a success and we would encourage more people to take part in events of this kind.' ShopArran.com is still in the initial stages of development and the group would like to stress that all established Arran shops are welcome to join. Lorna added: 'We'll keep you posted with its development and meanwhile if anyone would like more information please feel free to call myself or Claire Berrie at the Old Byre Showroom on 840227.'

Council defends its role in Arran care home closure

'It is our duty to make the best use of public money to fund the highest quality of care possible'

North Ayrshire Council has rigorously defended its role in the closure of an Arran care home by emphasising that they were 'obliged to follow regulations'.

The closure of Craigelea in Whiting Bay at the end of November sparked furious criticism of the council who allegedly did nothing to stop the business shutting down.

The owners of Craigelea, Eddie and Judy Waterland, told The Banner just after New Year that North Ayrshire Council offered them no support during the long drawn out closure process.

However Councillor David O'Neill, leader of North Ayrshire Council, said that while the authority did not wish to see the closure of any care home, the health and wellbeing of residents was the council's foremost concern.

Indeed, he told The Banner that the Care Inspectorate, NHS and Fire and Rescue Services had all raised concerns about Craigelea over the last three years.

REPORT
 by JENNIFER LYON
 editor@arranbanner.co.uk

He said: 'All care homes are governed by the Care Inspectorate - an independent body - rather than the council.'

'The Care Inspectorate found that Craigelea Care Home had failed to provide consistently adequate standards of care.'

'Given these findings the council was obliged to follow regulations agreed by the Care Inspectorate which prevented any new residents being admitted to Craigelea.'

He added: 'It is wholly untrue for the owners of Craigelea to claim that the reason for the closure of Craigelea Care Home was down to decisions made by the council.'

'It is our duty to make the best use of public money to fund the highest quality of care possible. This quality of care was simply not being provided at Craigelea.'

Fran Hadden, whose mother was a resident at Craigelea for four years, told The Banner that at no point did she have

any concerns about the level of care being provided.

She said: 'In November I contacted another care home in North Ayrshire with exactly the same grades as Craigelea and found that it was still admitting new residents. It then was re-inspected, the grades fell but new residents were still allowed.'

'On the one hand there was an improving home, on Arran, starved of new residents and the accompanying funds, forced into closure.'

'On the other hand there is a mainland home with poorer and falling grades which can still take admissions. One can only ask why?'

Mr O'Neill added that at no time did North Ayrshire Council - or the Care Inspectorate - take any action to close the home.

He said: 'On the contrary we provided considerable support and advice, as did the Care Inspectorate, NHS and Strathclyde Fire and Rescue.'

'The ultimate responsibility lies with the operators.'

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Arran's best road hill climbs

The String Road and the Ross Road have both been included in a new book for cyclists that describes the toughest road hillclimbs in Lowland Scotland.

The Cyclist's Guide to Hillclimbs on Scottish Lowland Roads is the result of more than two years of field visits by Scottish author John McKendrick. He said: 'The book aims to encourage more cyclists to rise to the challenge of road hillclimbing.

'It would be nice to think that with the inclusion of these local climbs in the book, more visitors will think about cycling on the Isle of Arran.'

Double tragedy for former Brodick family

In a double tragedy for the family, well-known former Brodick hoteliers and mother and daughter team Valerie Somerville, 62, and Muriel Young, 91, have just died suddenly within a week of each other.

Passed on

Valerie, who with her mother owned the successful Allandale House at Brodick from 1989 to 2001 had been ill with cancer for only a few months when she passed on

at St Margaret's Hospice in Yoker on 21 January.

Her daughter Mandy Ford, 40, was with her to the end. The day before Valerie's funeral on Saturday 28, however, her mother Muriel died suddenly of heart failure at Balmanno House in Glasgow.

Muriel's son Clive Young, 53, said: 'We were devastated. I had been with Mum less than an hour before.

'She was very sad about

Valerie, of course, but otherwise in remarkably good spirits.'

'Valerie and Muriel had worked and lived together for over 30 years. Even when Valerie left Arran to run a hotel in Glasgow with her daughter, Mandy, Muriel continued to be closely associated with the business, still cooking breakfasts at 86 and even winning a Glasgow award for the best-kept business garden.

'Mum and Valerie were so close,' said her son Clive, 'I think Mum's heart was broken seeing her daughter die and maybe it was something inevitable about her own end, but we were all terribly shocked it happened so quickly.'

Muriel Young's funeral, which will include a memorial to Valerie, will take place at 11.15am at Brodick Church on Friday 3 February.

Arran's clinical services review to take place

Local GPs and other senior clinicians and managers from NHS Ayrshire and Arran will be taking part in a panel discussion about health care at Brodick Hall on Wednesday 8 February at 7.30 pm. Local people are encouraged to come along and find out more about the progress being made reviewing health care on Arran and the recommendations from the review.

The panel members will include island GPs Dr Malcolm Kerr and Dr Greg Hamill.

Arran's GPs have been working closely with NHS Ayrshire and Arran's health-care directors and associate medical directors for emergency services, community services and primary care throughout the recent clinical review of health services.

The purpose of the review was to make recommendations that would deliver modern, safe and sustainable services into the future.

Arran GP Dr Greg Hamill will be the clinical lead for the next stage of the project.

He said: 'Each of these recommended changes presents challenges and opportunities. 'Healthcare staff working on the island will see real improvements to their working lives and to patient care as a result.

'It's understandable for people to be worried about the implications of changes; but should be reassured that our first priority is to get the best result for patients.

'We are just at the beginning of implementing these changes – and it's important to stress that staff and patients on Arran are the ones who will plan the process.'

The clinical review will take 12 months to put in place.

Cheap peak-time train fares from Ardrossan are axed

Cheap rail fares for Arran's pensioners travelling from Ardrossan are to be scrapped during evening rush hour.

Concessionary ferry fares, however, have not been affected and will stay at £2.40 for another year.

The elderly and disabled are currently entitled to concessionary fares across the old Strathclyde network at any time after 9am.

Last week councillors responsible for Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) voted in favour of banning such travel from 4.30pm to 6pm.

The move means that pensioners catching a train from Ardrossan after 4.30pm will not qualify for a cheap fare.

However, Arran's pensioners are exempt from this when travelling to the port to catch the ferry back to Arran.



Arran Community Council discuss 'knotty' issues

The thorny and emotive issue of the spread of Japanese Knotweed and how to tackle the invasive species was discussed at Tuesday night's meeting of Arran Community Council.

For the full story see next week's Banner.

The rubble remains of the Marine House Hotel.

Marine House Hotel is demolished

The Marine House Hotel in Lamlash has gone.

Most of the building has been demolished by local contractor Armitage Groundworks and now just a pile of rubble remains. Plans have been approved by North Ayr-

shire Council for the partial demolition of the hotel and erection of eight new apartments with associated parking and landscaping.

The applicant for this development is Ossian Construction Ltd of Paisley.

Chiropody @ Inspirations

Stephen Gourlay, Chiropodist, will be visiting Inspirations of Arran, Brodick, on

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Queen's Diamond Jubilee to be celebrated in Brodick

A street party is to be held all along Shore Road in Brodick to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee in June.

At a specially convened meeting of Brodick Improvements last Tuesday night, it was agreed that they will co-ordinate the celebrations on Tuesday 5 June with a nostalgic nod to the 1950s.

All Brodick businesses and organisations are being invited to come up with their own suggestions as to how they might participate.

Many activities are being planned for all ages, with children particularly welcome.

Chris Atkins, secretary of Brodick Improvements, said: 'The best of Brodick's cuisine will be on offer throughout the day, along with speciality food and drink.'

Following the street party, a beacon will be lit on the top of Goatfell together with a bonfire on the shore, all accompanied by music from the 1950s.'

Street parties have been held on the island in the past, most notably to celebrate the 50th anniversary of VE Day in 1995.

The committee is keen to involve as many individuals, local groups and others as possible in the event.

If you would like to participate, perhaps by providing entertainment, or by helping to organise any aspect of Brodick's street party, please contact Harry Davidson on 302036 or e-mail admin@brodickimprovements.com

Digital coverage concerns expressed

Concerns have been expressed about the digital television coverage in the western part of the island.

A number of people living on the west of Arran have experienced problems receiving the channels predicted to be available at their address.

A spokesman from Digital UK told The Banner that Relay Transmitters broadcast around 15 freeview channels from the public service broadcasters.

These include all the BBC channels funded by the television licence fee, and a number of radio and text services.

He added: 'Our online coverage checker shows that a good digital signal should be available from the relay transmitters on Kintyre to the properties on the west coast of Arran.'

'If people are continuing to experience problems receiving the channels predicted to be available at their address, then a reputable local installer will be able to advise on the best course of action.'

Entry deadline for music fest

Organisers of the Isle of Arran Music Festival would like to remind all readers that entries for this year's festival should be in the hands of the secretary by Wednesday 8 February.

Ferries review

Hard copies of the Scottish Ferries Review are available for perusal at a number of locations on Arran. They can be obtained at Brodick Library, Lochranza Village Hall (between 10am and 1pm on Tuesday and Friday), The Kinloch Hotel, Kilmory Public Hall, The Kildonan Hotel, The Pillar Box in Whiting Bay, the Elderly Forum and ACVS offices in Lamslash.

Local council candidates invited to election briefing

Prospective local councillor candidates are being invited to a briefing on the upcoming elections.

Planning for the election, which will be held on Thursday 3 May, is already well underway.

A total of 30 councillors will be elected across eight multi-member wards - each ward returning either three or four elected members.

Elma Murray, the Returning Officer for North Ayrshire, said: 'A great deal of planning goes into local government elections and we are

working hard to ensure the election goes as smoothly as possible.

'It is important that prospective candidates are aware of the process they will be involved in. I am, therefore, inviting them to attend a briefing on arrangements for the election in North Ayrshire.'

'The briefing will be held on Saturday 18 February.'

'Where political parties have already selected their own candidates they will be invited to the briefing, as will any independent candidates coming forward.'



Elma Murray, Returning Officer for North Ayrshire.

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Spring has sprung

Left - Primary Seven children from Shiskine Primary School distributed spring bulbs to the residents of Blackwaterfoot this week. The blooms were grown by all the children from the school. Pictured is Bella Kelso, left, being presented with her bulbs by pupils Keir Robertson, Lucy Crawford and Cailean Robertson.

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Corrie and Sannox SWRI

Members please note the change of venue for this month.

The meeting will be at 2pm in Corrie and Sannox Golf Clubhouse and the speaker will be Jim Cassels who will be talking about the birds of Arran.

The competition for this month is for any bird ornament.

Any enquiries to Isla, 302896.

Corrie and Sannox Wednesday Club

The next meeting of Corrie and Sannox Wednesday Club will be on Wednesday 8 February.

Would members please note the change of venue for this month.

The meeting will be at 2pm in Sannox Golf Clubhouse and the speaker will be William Anderson who will be talking about his work as an estates manager.

If you have any enquiries call Isla on 302896.



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Making your garden count

By Jim Cassels

Last weekend, Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 January, was the weekend of the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch.

Look out in next week's Banner for the Arran results of this survey. While this annual, hour-long survey provides an excellent snapshot of garden bird communities at the end of January, it does not record the seasonal changes like winter's Redwings departing nor spring's Siskins arriving.

Every season is different but there is a garden bird watch that you can join that enables these comings and goings to be recorded; the British Trust for Ornithology Garden Bird-Watch (GBW). It encourages people to record their garden bird sightings throughout the year.

The GBW data is useful. For example, despite anecdotal



Song Thrush numbers are at a four-year low. b05bir01
Photo Fiona Brown.

reports of quiet gardens during the mild winter weather, the GBW data for the UK reveal numbers of birds held up well in December in comparison with recent Decembers.

Overall counts in December 2011 were on a par with 2008 and 2009, although they were nearly 15percent down on the same month last year – the coldest December in a centu-

ry. Average counts of finches rose almost 10 per cent compared with December 2008 and 2009, while more tits were seen in December 2011 than during December 2009.

Song Thrush numbers, however, reached a four-year low, with average GBW counts down by a third on December 2010.

To find out more about the BTO Garden BirdWatch visit the website <http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/gbw>

Enjoy your birding. Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at james.cassels@virgin.net. I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Report 2010 and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk

Independence referendum consultation launched

Scotland's First Minister Alex Salmond has outlined detailed proposals for the referendum in autumn 2014 on whether Scotland should be an independent country.

The consultation paper – Your Scotland Your Referendum – seeks views on:

- What the ballot paper should say
- What spending limits should be set
- How the referendum should be managed and regulated

The consultation will close on May 11, 2012.

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'For the

first time since the Act of Union in 1707 Scots will have the opportunity to vote directly to secure the restoration of Scotland as an independent nation.

Discussion

As readers of The Arran Banner will be aware, the vote will be in the autumn of 2014, allowing more than two and a half years for the widest possible discussion and debate.

'The consultation on the independence referendum is now open and will run until Friday 11 May and I urge everyone to have their say.'

Gio Benedetti to be guest speaker at awards ceremony

Ayrshire businessman and entrepreneur 69-year-old Gio Benedetti has accepted an invitation to be the guest speaker at the 2012 Provost's Civic Awards ceremony in Seamill Hydro on Friday 23 March.

Mr Benedetti came to Scotland from Italy when he was 12 years old and was just 18 when he bought a small dry cleaning shop in Kilwinning and within five years the business had expanded to 16 shops.

Banner readers will remember that Mr Benedetti purchased the Whitehouse Hotel and grounds in the heart of Lamlash in October 1981.

He subsequently announced ambitious plans to 'do up' the hotel to create a luxury establishment open 12 months a year and to possibly include a curling rink, swimming pool and time-share lodges. But the hotel was demolished shortly after that and the site lay empty for 20 years until Mr Benedetti put the Whitehouse Woods up for sale in December 2001 and it was purchased by John Thomson Construction in August 2002.

North Ayrshire Provost Pat McPhee said: 'I am honoured that Gio Benedetti has agreed to attend as my special guest

on the night.

'As well as being a fantastic local success story, Gio does a great deal to nurture talent through his directorship of the Princes Scottish Youth Business Trust.'

Mr Benedetti is chairman of Wallace Cameron, the largest First Aid supplier in the UK.

Nominations for the 2012 North Ayrshire Provost's Civic Awards close today Friday 3 February.



Gio Benedetti is to speak at Provost's awards.
b05ben05

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SANCTUARY

Anna's Amsterdam art studio is burnt to the ground

All Anna Keen's works of art went up in smoke last week.

Banner readers may remember that Anna was brought up on Arran, attending Kilmory Primary School and Arran



Anna Keen, still smiling in the ruins of her burnt-out Amsterdam art studio.

b04anna03

High School. She left the island to study art in Paris and went on in her successful career to live in Rome and Venice.

For some time she has been living and working in her large art studio in Amsterdam but last Tuesday 43-year-old Anna had a shock when she opened the door of her studio. Anna's mother Patsy still lives at Coastguard House in Kildonan and she told the Banner: 'Her studio burnt to the ground. My heart goes out for the loss of her paintings and the home she had made for herself and the students.'

'Anna said: 'To my horror, the wall opposite me was on fire. I ran down in a vain at-

tempt to put it out, but my hair began to singe as huge flames raced up to the ceiling.

'My painting of a frozen Dutch landscape was the first to burn.

'Save the students' - I suddenly thought, and ran back upstairs screaming 'Wake up; the shed's on fire!'

'We all stumbled outside in pyjamas; we couldn't call for help as our phones were inside. As I watched, the fire consumed about 20 paintings, all of my brushes, precious pigments, my big old easel and a huge collection of art books, along with clothes, documents, credit cards and computer.

'Artistically speaking, the

ruins are marvellous, two days later I began drawing them with charcoal from the burnt wood!

'We have lost everything we possessed, except the most important thing; our lives.'

Patsy added: 'At least Anna and her partner Florent are alive - she is six months pregnant, but appears to be OK. What rises from the ashes we will see. I'll be sending some money just to tide them over.'

Anna has appeared in the Banner on other happier circumstances; winning a police safety poster competition in 1979 and in a feature with her hang gliding sister Zabdi in 2001.



Anna starting to sketch the ruins of her studio with charcoal from the debris.

b04anna02

Northend amenity group set up to tackle local problems

A village meeting group is to be started in the northend of Arran to offer help and support for those with local concerns and problems.

Lochranza and Catacol are the only villages on the island not to have an improvements committee, so it is hoped this new group will be a channel for receiving and giving information to and from the Arran Community Council.

Steph Hill, community councillor for the two villages, said: 'An open meeting was held on Friday 20 January where 35 villagers attended and it was decided to initiate a regular village meeting once a month.'

'We hope the scheme will be a benefit to all the villagers, irrespective of their age and working/not-working status.'

The first meeting of the group will take place on Wednesday 15 February at 7pm in Lochranza Village Hall.

Ardrossan Town facing axe

Train journeys from Ardrossan Harbour to Glasgow Central could soon be a few minutes shorter for Arran travellers.

One possible outcome of Transport Scotland's current 2014 rail review is the closure of Ardrossan Town station.

Transport Scotland is currently running a public consultation on a review of the country's rail network.

This could lead to the closure of Ardrossan Town, the station between the harbour and Ardrossan South Beach. It states that among the 350 stations in Scotland, there are a number of stations in close proximity to one another. One such is Ardrossan Town, one of the oldest operational stations in Ayrshire, and with both the harbour and South Beach being used by more passengers, the axe could fall on the Town station.

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Queen's jubilee a reason to celebrate

Arran will mark the 60th anniversary of Queen Elizabeth's ascent to the throne later this year with a series of celebratory gestures across the island.

Plans are already in place for a street party in Brodick on June 5 and it is hoped that other island groups will also get involved in the celebrations.

Many on the island feel that the achievements of our 85-year-old monarch deserve to be celebrated on Arran - one of her smallest outposts!

For some curmudgeons, this will not be an occasion to mark with celebration. But for many of us it will be a day to join with others both here on Arran and around the globe to rejoice at this significant milestone for the British Monarchy.

With the doom and gloom of the ongoing recession a Royal anniversary is the perfect antidote to perk us all up a bit. There's just something about a Royal occasion that heightens community spirit and patriotism for a while and makes us all feel better. One of the greatest days I ever experienced on Arran was the visit the Queen made to the island in 1997. Standing with hundreds of others at the gates to the distillery in Lochranza I watched in complete awe as the ruler of our country stepped out of her car.

Even as a young teenager I was more than aware of the significance of her visit and it made me feel so proud to be part of the community that day. Last April the wedding of Prince William and Katherine Middleton had the same effect for similar reasons - it made us feel a part of something very special. So however depressing the current economic situation may be, at least we have a jolly good fun, knees-up to look forward to in June.

Just for the sheer fun of it here are some little known facts about our monarch:

- She has owned more than 30 corgis during her reign.
- Her robes were so heavy at her Coronation that she asked the Archbishop of Canterbury to give her a push, saying: 'Get me started.'
- She carries good luck charms from her children in her bag.
- She was a big fan of 70s cop show Kojak
- The Queen signals to staff with her handbag. If she wants to leave a dinner in five minutes, she puts her bag on the table.
- Technically, she still owns the sturgeons, whales and dolphins - known as Fishes Royal - in the waters around the UK because of a 1324 statute.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Be imitators of God and live a life of love, just as Christ loved us and gave Himself up as an offering and sacrifice to God.' (Ephesians 5: 1-2)

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.

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your letters

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Letters to the Editor



Second breakwater needed

Sir,
Most interested members of the Arran community will have had a look at the Scottish Ferry Services Draft Plan for consultation, an easily read, clear document which will be discussed by Arran Ferry Committee at its February meeting.

Separately, any individual is entitled to respond directly.

From recent experiences there is one glaring omission in the Ardrossan/Brodick service recommendations which is not the fault of the review body alone but of the original responders including the Ferry Committee.

Whereas there is reference in the review document to Brodick pier - 'current harbour infrastructure acts as a capacity constraint' (albeit a matter which is addressed in the review) there is no mention of Ardrossan and the major 'constraint' which is the difficulty of berthing at Ardrossan. This will be raised at Ferry Committee.

Given that climate predictions suggest wetter, windier conditions for this part of the northern hemisphere this is not an issue we can ignore. As most of you will know, Ardrossan was developed as a trading port in the 19th century and the existing breakwater was constructed by Thomas Telford, one of the most renowned civil engineers in Scottish history. Proposals were drawn up for a second breakwater, which was never built.

Ardrossan, because of its distance from Arran and also because of its upgraded facilities near the harbourside, is Arran's ideal mainland port - but not if it remains to be so often inaccessible!

The terminal and port at Ardrossan belong to Clydeport, which is part of a bigger business consortium, and whether the dues paid by Calmac/CMal and the importance of the two marinas will persuade Clydeport to create another breakwater or harbour protec-

tion is a question that must be asked. The long-term sustainability of businesses on Arran such as Auchrannie (front page story 28 January) and the smooth-running of life on Arran depend upon a reliable 'lifeline' ferry service.

Yours,
Councillor Margie Currie
Eastland
Shiskine

Ferry anomaly

Sir,
I have been reading - with more than a little passing interest - the local reaction to several cancelled ferry sailings during the overhaul period of the MV Caledonian Isles and, like a previous writer, I am surprised CalMac did not make greater use of the larger ro-ro berth at Ardrossan especially when the normal linkspan was storm damaged in early January.

I am also mystified as to why the relief vessel was diverted to Gourock on Wednesday 4 January when conditions had obviously eased later that day and the alternative berth was available.

Likewise I was puzzled to see the Isle of Arran making its way to Wemyss Bay on Sunday 22 January when, in my opinion, Ardrossan was perfectly accessible, a view shared by many who were equally puzzled especially when the MV Caledonian Isles, returning from annual overhaul, berthed with apparent ease at Ardrossan after passing the MV Isle of Arran en route from Brodick to Wemyss Bay. Work that one out!

I'm not suggesting Ardrossan's accessibility in adverse weather could not be improved but it is a fact of life that island communities will be cut off in times of severe weather. However it is a undeniable fact that the severe weather conditions experienced in this country and in Northern Europe since November last year have been some of the worst experienced in living memory, not only affecting Ardrossan but also Britain's premier ferry port of Dover which was closed for a time.

Bad weather can throw up a

few anomalies as with some occasions in recent years when the Rothesay - Wemyss Bay service was cancelled and surprisingly the Ardrossan - Brodick vessel was still operating. It is my opinion that a concerted effort has to be made by port owners Peel Ports/ Clydeport and Caledonian MacBrayne to improve Ardrossan's accessibility in all weather. This could be done by upgrading key areas of the port's infrastructure to allow better all weather access and by CalMac ensuring Relief Masters & Masters on Relief Vessels possess the necessary operational experience to handle certain weather related conditions on the Ardrossan - Brodick route.

The Ardrossan ferry port by virtue of its location and excellent and unrivalled transport infrastructure still has a significant part to play in the economic development not only of Arran but also North Ayrshire.

Yours,
Jim McCann
Ardrossan

CalMac thanks

Sir,
CalMac have recently attracted some criticism in the local press however I would like to redress the balance and express my thanks to CalMac staff in both Ardrossan and Brodick Offices (in particular Moira) for their excellent customer care which surpassed all expectations.

Last Tuesday, 24 January, I was travelling back from visiting family on the mainland and got caught up in the gas emergency that caused the cancellation of trains between Glasgow Central and Paisley Gilmour Street. Several staff at the station told me to take the bus to Paisley where I would be able to catch a train but when I arrived at Gilmour St there were no trains to Ardrossan Harbour. They called a taxi to take me to catch the last ferry but unfortunately it took 50 minutes to arrive so we did not set off till 5.40pm. CalMac were excellent when I called them to let them know what had happened.

Not only did they hold the

ferry for me but they called me on my mobile twice to check on progress during the journey. Thank you Moira and all the staff at Ardrossan for ensuring I got home safely.

Yours,
Jenni Martin
Auchensidhe
Whiting Bay

All is not lost

Sir,
Some readers may have noticed that CalMac recently advertised for a new managing director.

An extract from the company's advertisement may offer some hope to beleaguered passengers and frustrated hoteliers. The company suggests that the ideal candidate will: 'Have worked effectively in an environment which requires excellence in both operational and customer service delivery.' Perhaps all is not lost after all!

Yours,
Ian McCallum
Whiting Bay

Established bookshop

Sir,
I see that the Co-op is selling books and stationery.

Come on, guys - selling newspapers was bad enough, but there is an excellent bookshop nearby; and please don't give us the guff about national policy. In order that your customers in a small community appreciate your national buying power you must surely demonstrate you also have a local strategy. In this case, making a few quid on books will be counter-productive. Arran readers, if you want to be served by polite, intelligent efficient and sympathetic staff, can I suggest Waterstone's in Glasgow. On the other hand, if you want an entertaining challenge and are prepared to spell out the big words in your chosen title, you can order any book from the established bookshop and browse the comprehensive selection on the shelves.

Yours,
Marc A Head
Whiting Bay

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Burns Supper with a difference

The Arran Guerrilla Supper Club hosted a Burns Supper with a difference last Wednesday, as the venue wasn't revealed to diners until the day before.

The 14 people who were lucky enough to be part of it gathered at the Big Wooden House in Brodick and enjoyed a gastronomic and social evening.

As it was Burns Night with a twist there was great entertainment and even a chance for some Blues.

Host Joni Keen said: 'This might be a new idea for Arran, but supper clubs have been around since the 1930s.'

'The main reason for hosting a supper club or being a member of one is having a passion for food - either cooking it or eating it.'

Corrie raises money to continue swim lessons

Corrie Primary School's Parent Council would like to thank everyone who contributed to their fund raising coffee morning last Friday.

The school council are attempting to raise money so that the pupils can continue with swimming sessions, funding for which has been cut from the local authority budget. Nici Boni of the Corrie Parent Council, said: 'Many thanks to all who came along, contributed baking and added to yet another community based success.'

'The true spirit of support from the village was once again at the fore, making us thankful that our children have the opportunity to be educated within such a framework.'

'Even some people unable to attend sent in donations and we managed to raise £210 on the day.' Thanks once again to the people of Corrie, Sannox and beyond.'

Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall 200 Club

The winners of the Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall 200 Club January draw were: 1st prize Jim Jack, 2nd prize Sue Kerr.

It pays to advertise in the ARRAN BANNER

Passla running Ormidale 10K for Tibetan charities

Brodick woman makes her competitive running debut in island event

Passla Gautier of Brodick will be putting her best foot forward on Sunday 22 April.

She is taking part in the Ormidale 10K run to raise money for charities that are dear to her heart. Passla is not generally known as a runner and says that she has not run competitively before.

All she wants to do is finish

the race in a reasonable time and raise as much funds as possible.

She said: 'Hello and tashi deleck! (a translation is 'may all auspicious signs come to this environment').

'My name is Mrs Passang Tsamchoe Gautier. I was born in Lhasa, the capital city of Tibet.

'I went to school in Nepal and India and went back to Tibet where I worked as a tour guide for two years. I came to the UK in 1991 and since 2004 have lived on the Isle of Arran with my husband and our two children.

'My work is as a Tibetan, Nepali and Hindi freelance telephone interpreter.

'This year I am taking part in the Ormidale 10K run in order to raise money to support various Tibetan charities. I am counting on your generous support and thank you very much in advance.'

Passla says that she has been training in the gym and on the road since last September.

She will be wearing a Save Tibet T shirt and added: 'No doubt I will be very emotional.'

The links for making donations are: www.justgiving.com/PASSANG-TSAMCHOE-GAUTIER and www.justgiving.com/PASSANG-TSAMCHOE-GAUTIER



Passla Gautier ready for running the Ormidale 10k.

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Burns Night magic on Arran...as

High school students entertain at Lamlash

Members of Lamlash Guild enjoyed a Burns lunch last Tuesday when four talented young men from Arran High School entertained them.

The haggis was piped in by young piper Iain Clarke and dramatically addressed by Colin Mackenzie, followed by the Selkirk Grace.

Committee members served traditional haggis, neeps and tatties before enjoying shortbread, tea and coffee.

Struan Robertson's rendering of 'Holy Willie's Prayer' and Finlay Murchie's recitation of the acclaimed 'Tam O'Shanter' were very well received.

Iain played 'The Sound of Sleat' and 'Paddy's Leather Breaches' on the pipes and it was such a treat for the Guild members to have such an excellent performance from all four boys who had kindly volunteered their services.

Morag Campbell expressed thanks to them on behalf of everyone present.



Gordon Bloy surprised the audience with a beautiful rendition of a Scots poem. 01_b05pir01



Chris Traill recited some exciting excerpts from Tam O'Shanter. 01_b05pir02

Pirnmill school Burns Supper begins centenary celebrations

An unforgettable Burns Supper featuring the talented pupils of Pirnmill Primary School was held last Wednesday night to kick-start the school's centenary celebrations.

Lochranza Village Hall was packed out after a last minute venue change when the distillery was sadly damaged in the recent storms.

The evening was started by headmistress Hazel Gardiner who welcomed friends, family and former pupils to join the year-long centenary celebrations.

The Selkirk Grace was beautifully recited by Abi Traill and Nicol Weir before the haggis, carried by Janine Crisp, was piped in by Rev Angus Adamson.

Catherine Bloy, Archie Innes and Ross Traill then addressed the haggis in a rather spectacular manner before the guests tucked into their traditional Burns Night fare.



The Rev Angus Adamson piped in the haggis, which was carried by Janine Crisp. 01_b05pir03

The evening was rounded off by a wonderful array of speakers that included

Sheila Gilmore who had composed a truly wonderful toast to the school.

Teacher Mairi Farquhar composed a reply to Sheila's toast and there were very few dry eyes left in the audience when she talked so highly of her wonderful pupils.

Pupils performed select pieces of Burns poetry and Abi Traill, Meagan Bennett, Nicol Weir, Catherine Bloy, Maili Beatan, Archie Innes, Ross Traill and Ben Innes all read individually composed toasts celebrating their own lives as well as that of Robert Burns.

The school will be hosting a different event every month throughout 2012 to celebrate 100 years since the school was built.



Archie Innes addresses the famous haggis. 01_b05pir04



Speakers at the Kinloch Burns Supper last Saturday night; Jock Kelso, Neil Arthur, Deborah Robertson and Willie Robertson. b05kin01

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Kinloch Hotel event returns after 20 years

After a 20-year break with Burns suppers the Kinloch Hotel decided to return to an event to honour the national bard.

In the intervening years the Shiskine Hall Committee have filled the gap with excellent bi-annual suppers.

Seventy-five people attended the Kinloch event last Saturday 28 January, trying out a new format with the three speeches taking place between courses.

Chaired by Neil Arthur, the speakers were Jock Kelso who addressed the Haggis and gave the Toast to the Immortal Memory, Willie Robertson with the Toast to the Lassies and Deborah Robertson with a great Reply for the Lassies.

Music followed with Chris Traill. A raffle raised £323 for the local improvements funds. It seems that the Kinloch Supper will be back on the calendar.

talent shines through at suppers



Ninety-six-year-old Nan Lowe addressing the haggis. b05loch01

Nan, 96, delights Lochranza company with enthusiastic address to the haggis

On Saturday 28 January Lochranza celebrated Burns Night, and what a splendid night it was.

A good turn out was entertained by some of the wealth of talent that we have on Arran. The Selkirk Grace was given by Sinclair Macleod then the haggis was piped in by young piper Aidan Gold and carried by Richard Wright.

Much to the delight of the company the haggis was addressed and then attacked by 96-year-old Nan Lowe

with an enthusiasm and vigour reminiscent of an Alfred Hitchcock movie.

Songs O' Burns duets were performed by Iain Buchanan and Aileen Wright who moved the audience with a beautiful and emotive rendering of Flow Gently Sweet Afton.

Nikki and Andy Surridge entertained with Burns songs in a more modern style. A very creditable recitation was given by young Gavin Anderson, while Liz Dale performed in her own delightful and inimitable style.

Chae Cruickshank proposed the Toast to the Lassies with a reply from resident playwright Wilma Stark. That renowned raconteur and Burns aficionado Robbie Glen delivered the Immortal Memory. While his tales kept the company hugely amused, his subsequent summary of

Burns' life and work was enlightening.

Highlight of the evening was the recitation, with actions, of Tam O' Shanter by Fiona Crawford and Archie Cumming. They really brought the house down.

Archie played Tam while Fiona played a dual role; Tam's wife and his horse Meg. Will anyone forget the hilarious sight of Tam sitting astride Meg and riding off furiously.

A toast to the Hall was given by John Ford and a reply by Kate Hartley. The continuity of the whole evening was managed amusingly and expertly by MC Fiona Crawford. A vote of thanks was proposed to the speakers, entertainers, and all those volunteers who had worked so hard to make the event such a success. It was truly a night to remember. TC.



Aidan Gold piping in the haggis, carried by Richard Wright. b05loch02



A recitation by Liz Dale. b05loch03

Burns Suppers for Montrose House and St Brides Ladies



Finlay Murchie addressing the haggis, watched by piper Iain Clarke, at Montrose House. 02_b05mon01



The residents of Montrose House welcome the haggis, being piped in by Iain Clarke. 02_b05mon02

The Friends of Montrose House hosted their annual Burns Supper for the residents of the Brodick residential home for the elderly last Wednesday evening 25 January.

Young Iain Clarke piped in the haggis which was carried and addressed by Finlay Murchie. Alex Lawrie gave the Selkirk Grace and the residents enjoyed a super haggis supper while John Clarke entertained them on piano and accordion.

Charli McKillop danced the Highland Fling and the Sword Dance and Finlay Murchie recited an excerpt from Tam O' Shanter. Fraser

Blain played a medley of Scottish tunes on the fiddle and Iain Clarke and his dad John played Highland Cathedral on whistle and piano.

The company joined in with a medley of Burns songs to round off the evening's entertainment.

St Brides Ladies celebrated Scotland's Bard with a Burns supper in Brodick Church Hall on Monday night.

Ally Hume piped in the haggis which was ably addressed by Stewart Lambie while Alistair Paul and the Arranach Ceilidh Band provided musical entertainment.

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History Society hear of puffins' return to Ailsa Craig

Birds, particularly those who nest in burrows are vulnerable to rats

'Wildlife conservation on Ailsa Craig' was the subject of the indoor January meeting of the Arran Natural History Society earlier this month. Members gathered on Thursday 12 January in the Rangers Centre in Brodick when Dr Bernie Zonfrillo from Glasgow University bravely braved the inclement weather to come to Arran to speak

about the uninhabited island close to Arran's shores.

His excellent presentation started by setting Ailsa Craig in its historical, geographical and interestingly, its poetic context.

In 1871 the puffin colony on Ailsa Craig was described as in 'bewildering numbers... so great that they darkened the sky'.

But by 1934 they were 'practically extinct'.

What happened in between was that rats from ships had been introduced.

The first rat was recorded in 1889, and a year later the light-keepers killed over 900 rats.

Birds particularly those that nest in burrows are vulnerable to rats.

Ailsa Craig was infested by rats until 1990 when Dr Zonfrillo and his team got involved.

On 15 April 1991 the last live rat was seen on Ailsa Craig. Dr Zonfrillo explained how this was done with the aid of over five tons of lethal Warfarin rodenticide, a Sea King helicopter, a lot of hard work and a systematic monitoring program over years.

For more information, see this article by Dr Zonfrillo 'Before and After the Eradication of Rats' - www.ayrshire-birding.org.uk/index.php/articles/18-articles/22-before-and-after-the-eradication-of-rats-in-1991



The granite crag of Ailsa Craig, just south of Arran. b05a1101



Puffins have begun to breed again on Ailsa Craig after the destructive rat population was eliminated.

With regards to the puffin, which had formerly bred in vast numbers on Ailsa, over the next 10 years the numbers built up and in 2002 Dr Zonfrillo said: 'Twenty birds were seen on the island over the summer, of which four paired up and were seen carrying fish, a sure sign that they are breeding.'

This year on occasions there have been over 300 puffins around Ailsa Craig, all potential future breeders.

The future looks bright for these wonderful birds on Ailsa Craig. Dr Zonfrillo said: 'It's not just the puffins that are benefiting since the rats were exterminated. Other seabirds on Ailsa Craig are successfully producing more chicks, plus rare plants, other mammal species such as pygmy shrews and even the island's reptiles, slow worm and common lizard are flourishing again, now the rats have gone.' Throughout his presentation Dr Zonfrillo clearly demonstrated his extensive knowledge, his passion for conservation and with his humour and excellent illustrations gave the audience a most informative and entertaining evening.

An indoor meeting of the Arran Natural History Society will take place on Thursday 2 February starting at 8pm in the Rangers Centre in Brodick Country Park. At that meeting Carl Reavey from Islay talked about 'Eating the

Wildlife'.

Carl was taking a look at the first human settlers to move into Scotland after the last Ice Age - around 10,000 years ago.

These were Mesolithic, or 'Middle Stone Age' people, and they had no knowledge of farming, metals or pottery.

They lived by hunting and gathering direct from their 'natural' environment.

What kind of animals and plants were these folk eating? How different was the flora and fauna of Scotland, and particularly the west coast islands, from what we know today?

Tradition has it that humans then were 'at one with nature', and altered the environment in which they lived very little. Was that true?

Carl trawled through some obscure corners of the internet and drew on his own collection of photographs from his home island of Islay to paint a picture of what life must have been like when looking after yourself had a completely different meaning.

It was another fascinating presentation.

Kildonan WRI hold quiz

A very entertaining and sociable evening was held in Kildonan Hall on Tuesday 17 January when Kildonan WRI welcomed friends from Kilmory and Whiting Bay.

Twenty-five ladies tackled the excellent quiz made up for them by Christine and Denise.

The evening was brought to a close with a raffle and supper provided by the members.

The next meeting will be held at 2pm on Tuesday 14 February when the members will have a cookery demonstration by Mrs Angela Irvine.

The competition is four heart shaped cookies.

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The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday, February 8, 1992

Second dentist for island

Arran is to have a second full-time dentist. Ayrshire and Arran Health Board is advertising for a dentist to work and live on Arran as a colleague of Miss Morag Neilson. It is planned to incorporate a second dental surgery at the Douglas Centre in Brodick.

Hunterston study commissioned

British Steel has confirmed that the Hunterston plant will close in September.

The Scottish Office has commissioned a study into the future potential of the site, and as part of a European Port Development, it is suggested that it could become a new port for the Arran ferry.

Library interruptions

The use of Brodick Hall is be-

ing interrupted by the building of the new Brodick Library.

The Folk Festival has had to change its venue and the Gilbert and Sullivan Society will lose the space for 60 seats when the library is being knocked through into the hall.

Kildonan deleted

The ruin of Kildonan Castle has been deleted from the list of buildings of historic or architectural interest.

It is believed that Robert the Bruce stayed there while waiting for the signal from the mainland telling him that the coast was clear to cross to Turnberry and begin his campaign against the English.

Cocktail bar at Douglas

The new cocktail bar at the Douglas Hotel is now open from Tuesday to Sunday for

strictly over 25s. A curry night will be held on 22 February.

Ravi's Bar is closed until further notice.

Kinloch top the league

Kinloch are leading the Arran Pool League division one table and The Anchor top division two.

Ormidale are top of the darts league with the Breadalbane and Cameronia at the bottom.

Two new

shop-owners

David and Renee Hadley have sold Whiting Bay Village Shop to Barbara l'Anson of Arran Herb Gardens.

Along the road, County Home Stores has been sold by Bill Jones, who is over 80 now, to Jake Thomson of Homestyles in Brodick.

Kissogram for Dennis

Dennis Smith would like to thank all his friends for gifts received and especially Isobel and Lesley for the kissogram and cake for his birthday party. Thanks to Ron Stewart for the soup and sandwiches.

Bunkhouse for Brodick

A £250,000 project to convert Neary's House and the old Brodick Inn into a bunkhouse and a low-cost restaurant is being considered by landowner Charles Fforde. It could cater for groups of walkers and other people who do not want or cannot afford to stay in hotels.



Barbara l'Anson, new owner of the Village Shop in Whiting Bay serves customer Sue Stuart. b05twe01



Neary's House and Brodick Inn, considered for conversion into a bunkhouse and restaurant. b05twe02



Missionaries Arabella Paul and Linda Brimage, on Arran as part of a Faith Mission and calling at every house in Kilmory last week. b05twe03

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Last week Archie was sitting on the pavement outside the Ormidale Pavilion. First correct answers came from Grant in Edinburgh, Colin in Wetherby, Cara in Shiskine and Kirsten in Bathgate. This week he is sitting on a path with a warning sign behind him, but where does that path lead? 02_b05arc02



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

Whats On

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com

ISLE OF **ARRAN** BREWERY

EVERYDAY

Arran Brewery
Arran Brewery Tour
Trout Fly Fishing
Brodict Castle Gardens Open Daily

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

SATURDAY 4 FEBRUARY

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

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
Brodict Library, 1-2pm

SUNDAY 05 FEBRUARY

Alcoholics Anonymous
Family Games
Fun in the Pool
Teddy Bears Picnic
Arran Pool Open Competition

Church Hall, Brodict 4.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm – 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm – 5pm
Playbarn, Auchrannie, 2pm – 3pm
Mac's Bar 2.30pm

Monday 06 February

Over 50s Badminton
Badminton
Weight Wise
Ladies Netball
Citizens Advice
Breathe 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, Brodict 10am-2pm
Kinneil, Lamlash 5.15pm
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
Arran high School, 6pm – 7.30pm
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 7 February

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
Youth Club
Scottish Country Dancing

Kinloch 11am- 12pm
Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm-9.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodict Church Hall – 2pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 10am-2pm
Kildonan Hall – 7pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6pm-7pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 2pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio 2pm
Brodict Hall, 6.30pm – 8pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30pm

Winter Bowls
Zumba Fitness Class
Rowan Singers
Weight Watchers

Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7pm-9pm
Arran High School, 6.30-7.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
St Molios, Church Hall, 7pm

Wednesday 8 February

Hockey
Tae KwonDo
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Senior Badminton
Museum Archives & Genealogy Service
Yogalates
AquaFizz
Music Mayhem Class Parents and little ones
Kids Games
Circuit Training
Dog Training
AYF Film Making Club
Health Care Meeting

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm-8pm games hall
KA Leisure Kids, 6.30pm-7.30pm Adults 7.30pm- 8.30pm
Lamlash church Hall 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm
High School Games Hall 8pm – 9pm
10.30am -12.30pm & 1.30pm – 3.30pm
9.30am – 10.30am Auchrannie studio
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
Brodict Church Hall, 4.30pm-6.30pm
Brodict Hall 7.30pm

Thursday 9 February

General Knowledge Quiz
Lochranza Craft Club
Youth Club
Coffee Morning
General Knowledge Quiz
Brodict Embroidery Club
Brodict Bridge Club
Winter Bowls
Arran Music and Drama Club Rehearsals
Zumba Fitness Club

Ormidale Hotel 9pm
Hall 2pm
Youth cabin, Lamlash 7-9pm
St Molios Church 10.30am – 12pm
Kinloch Bar 9pm
Brodict Library 7.30pm – 9.30pm
Brodict Golf Club 7pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall 7pm – 9pm
Brodict Hall 7.30pm
Arran High School, 6.30-7.30pm

Friday 10 February

Arran Ceilidh group
Senior Badminton
Quiz
Aqua Fizz
Yogalates
Rock Disco
Arran Youth Foundations
Kids Party Games
Weight Watchers
Darts Competition

corrie Hall, 8pm – 10pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall 2pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club 8pm
Auchrannie Hotel Pool 9.45am – 10.30am
Auchrannie Studio 10am – 11am
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Church Hall, Brodict, 7pm – 9pm
The Playbarn, Auchrannie 5 – 6pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 6.30pm
Kinloch Hotel, 8.30pm

Saturday 11 February

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

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
Brodict Hall 7.30pm

Sunday 12 February

Alcoholics Anonymous
Family Games
Fun in the Pool
Teddy Bears Picnic
Jazz Café Band

Church Hall, Brodict 4.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall 3pm – 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool 4pm – 5pm
Playbarn, Auchrannie 2pm – 3pm
Kinloch Hotel, 2pm



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

Recruitment



Caledonian MacBrayne Crewing (Guernsey) Limited has a requirement for:

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Ref 314-SG

Applications are invited for the position of Seaman/Purser to sail on the Lochranza/Claonaig Route within the Small Ferry Division.

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Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP

t: 01475 650100 f: 01475 650268

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Golf

Lamlash Golf Club

Sunday 29 January, Winter Stableford, CSS 36 pts to Stableford. 1 Alan Smith 38 points, 2 Graeme Andrew 35 points. Best Scratch Iain Murchie 29pts. One two from Iain Murchie at the 16th. Fixtures: Sunday 5 February, Winter League (team game) at Machrie at 9.20am Lamlash v Corrie. Thursday 9 February, 15-Hole Medal - make up own groups.

Arran Golfers Association

Winter league/Duncan Trophy 2011/2012. The fourth round will be played at Machrie Bay Golf Club on Sunday 5 February.

Machrie v Whiting Bay at 8.30am

Lamlash v Corrie at 9.20am Brodick v Shiskine at 11.50am

Please leave results and team sheets for Dougie to collect.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday 29 January, only four braved the slippery slopes to try their luck against the course in a Bogey Competi-

tion from the yellow tees. The winner was captain Ronnie Mann who finished 2 up, second was Jamie MacPherson at 2 down and third Dave Hackett at 3 down.

Fixtures: Sunday 5 February, AGA Winter League at Machrie, 8.30am start against Machrie.

Corrie Golf Club

Results: Monday 30 January 14 played in the Monday Cup. Yellow tees, sweep 1 Paul Bremner 64-5=59, 2 Stephen Beardsley 65-4=61, 3 Drew Crawford 77-13=64 bih over H Taylor and J Henderson. Magic twos, Jim McConachie, Paul Bremner, Stephen Beardsley, Len Hartley. Fixtures: Saturday 4 February Winter Cup, counting round. Tee off 8.30am and 12noon, weather permitting. Monday 6 February, Monday Cup 12noon.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday 18 January, 13 played. Tricky conditions with wind and showers, which allowed the cream to rise to the top! Gordon Sillars with a superb 63 won at a canter from Harry Davidson 64 and Charlie O'Neil 65. Wednesday 25 January, 11 played. Another Windy day and with Gordon having his 15 minutes of fame the previous week deciding to give the others a chance. 1 Jim Green 64, 2 Charlie O'Neil. League Table of best five results so far: 1 J Green 317, 2 Wolfi Kroner

318, 3 Dougie Robertson 319, 4 J Dick (Whiting Bay) 320, 4 C O'Neil 321.

Sunday 29 January, Clochen-dichter. The first of the singles encounters saw the street move into second place on their own with a win over the league leaders. The Robertson family were at the centre of two fluctuating games. A fine comeback by Findlay Sillars saw him overcome Gordon, whilst Bryce Walker fought back from 6 down only to lose on the last green to father Robertson. Village v Alma: Iain McMillan beat Bert McGunnigle, Bruce Jenkins beat Joe Rae, John Dick lost to Don Rudge, John McKean lost to Len Hartley, Angus Raeburn beat Brian Smith, Jimmy Armit lost to Henry Tait, Sid Sillars beat Gus Robertson, Matthew Keir halved Donald McKinnie. Knowe v Street: Ken McMillan lost to Nicol Hume, Terry Raeside lost to Gordon Sillars, Gordon Robertson lost to Findlay Sillars, Gordon Hendry lost to Chris Pattenden, Bob McCrae lost to Russell Duncan, David Hendry beat John Hartley, Iain MacDonald beat Ross Buchard, Doug Robertson beat Bryce Walker. League table: Knowe 26pts, Street 21pts, Village 20pts, Alma 13pts. Fixtures: Sunday 5 February, AGA Duncan Trophy. There will also be a sweep at Brodick, open draws at 9am and 12 noon. Sunday 12 February, Brandon and Winter Cup. Shiskine Golf Club

Saturday 28 January, Gents 18 Hole Medal, 7 played. 1 Q Oliver 93-25=68, 2 H Hesp 90-18=72 BIH, 3 B Green 94-22=72. Scratch A Jeffrey 78. Congratulations Quintin - well done!

Sunday 29 January, Gents 12 Hole Medal and Winter Cup, 14 played over 11 holes (3rd hole closed). 1 and Scratch S Black 41-4=37, 2 A Kerr 46-6=40, 3 D Price 48-7=41 BIH. Very well done Stewart!

Fixtures:

Thursday 9 February, Ladies 12 Hole Medal, 10.30am tee off. Saturday 11 February, Gents 18 Hole Medal, 12 noon tee-off.

ALGU

On Saturday 28 January, 20 ladies played in the Drumadon at Lamlash Golf Club. After a chilly start the weather improved, the greens thawed out and we were all delighted to be out playing golf again on a dry day.

We would like to thank Lamlash for the courtesy of the course and to thank Holly and Stuart, the new caterers, for the soup and sandwiches which were very welcome after the game.

1 Jenni Turnbull 82-15=67 and best scratch, 2 Carole Stewart 86-7=69 BIH.

Fixtures: Saturday 11 February, Brodick Golf Club at 10.30am.

The draw will be made on Sunday 5 February so please make sure you have your name on one of the lists before then or contact Carole 860530.

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Please send your CV to
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BIRTHS



HARVEY
Mark & Janna (Nee Sloss) are delighted to announce the arrival of Emma Jane 8lbs 5ozs on 24th January. A first Grandchild for Jim Sloss

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Anne Murdoch Dickie. (Nee Jones) 11.12.1933 – 30.01.2011
While you, dear Mother, rest and sleep, Your loving memory we'll always keep.
Colin, Louise and Family
Nicol, Jill and family.

CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(in full communion with the Church of England)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
SUNDAY, 5th February:
Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
Mrs Janis Gallagher.
Coffee after Service.
ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
North Arran, Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill 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 5th February
Brodick Church, 10.30am
Corrie Church, 12noon
Lochranza/Pirnmill 10.15am at Pirnmill, 10.15 at Lochranza Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Shiskine Church 12noon
Sacrament of Lord's Supper
A service of worship will also be held in Montrose house at 1.30pm

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Morning Mass, 11am

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(Charity Number: SC014005)
Sunday 5th February 2012
The Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated

by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am. This table belongs to the Lord Jesus and all who love Him are most welcome. There will also be the ordination to the Eldership of Mrs Muriel Crockett. There will be activities for our young people in the Church Hall. Tea and coffee will be served after the service. All welcome. There will be a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm to which all friends are welcome.

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday 5th February
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.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Kilmory linked with Lamlash
A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 5th February
Rev. Gillean Maclean
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30am
In both churches:
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 5th February
Shiskine 11am
Adam De Jong
Brodick 7pm
All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)
Sunday 5th February
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road Brodick
Prayer Meeting
Wednesday 8th February 7pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
All welcome

Religious Society of Friends Quakers:
Meeting for Worship on Sunday 5th February at 11 in Dippen.
Enquires to Judith 820 223

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
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PERSONALS



Glew - Dellicott
Married on 29th October, 2011 by the Rev. Angus Adamson at St Mollo's Church, Shiskine, were Kate Glew, daughter of Jackie Stewart and the late Norman Glew of Blackwaterfoot, and Adrian Dellicott, son of Fred and Monica Dellicott of the Midlands. Kate is a Drama teacher and Adrian an IT consultant in the Midlands where they will make their home.



Hazel & John's Wedding 29/12/11
Our wedding day was so special because we were lucky enough to be surrounded by the people we love. Your thoughtfulness and generosity have been truly appreciated. Thank you for sharing in the start of our new life together.

6th February 2012
HAPPY 90th BIRTHDAY SANDY RUSSELL.
All our love to the greatest dad. Iain, Liz & Jeannette & with much love from all your family far and wide xxx



HAPPY 21ST NEAL

Love Mum, Dad & Laura

HAPPY 40TH BIRTHDAY BATMAN!!!


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Zumba party to raise money for Vanessa

A Zumba fitness party in aid of the Vanessa Riddle appeal is being held in Lamlash next week.

Vanessa, from Loans, Ayrshire, is a close friend of little Jessica Reid from Clachlands and has a severe form of cancer called neuroblastoma and needs treatment in the US.

All proceeds from the Zumba fitness party will be going to help this cause.

The event will take place in Arran High School on Sunday 12 February between 2pm and 3pm.

It will be £5 for the hour.

Bridge

Brodick Bridge Club

The results from the tournament on Thursday 26 January were as follows: Match pointing N/S 1 Brenda Livingstone and Jean Murchie 59.52%, 2 Roddie Thompson and Eendy McNiven 59.26%, 3 Trisha Martin and Douglas Hamilton 53.97%.

E/W 1 John and Mary Dick 62.8%, 2 Janie MacLure and Anne McKelvie 61.31%, 3 Douglas and Margaret Bruce 56.85%.

Lamlash Bridge Club

The results from Monday 30 January were as follows: N/S 1 R and P Thompson +1300, 2 M Gardiner and B Livingstone +1190, 3 E McKellar and I Macarthur +1170.

E/W 1 E McNiven and L Paul +810, 2 P Adams and E McConnell +640, 3 J and J Beattie +540.

BANNER
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The victorious PT 1934 pool team after beating Kildonan in the final of the Arran Pool Team Knockout at the PHT on Sunday. They are, from left: Max Worthington, Jamie Picken, Stewart Kilpatrick, Alan Picken, Eddie Picken, Niall McMaster, Alex McDonald, Dennis Smith and Tommy Mulholland. 02_b05pool01

PT 1934 are Arran Pool Knockout champions 2012

PT 1934, the pool team based in Kilmory Village Hall, are the 2012 Arran Pool Team Knockout champions.

Last Sunday afternoon they narrowly defeated the Kildonan Hotel pool team by six games to four in a dramatic final match that was played in the best of spirit and went right down to the wire.

Celebrations continued into the night as they dropped in

to the Kildonan Hotel for a light refreshment on their way home. In a former life as the Lagg team, they had previously won this trophy in 1993 and 1998.

The Second Chance Salver was also played at the PHT, later that evening.

It turned out to be a more straightforward affair as the Drift Inn quickly took con-

trol against the Bar Eden.

The Drift boys eventually ran out overwhelming winners by 10 games to nil to lift the Salver. They continued their winning streak by staying in the bar to win the Sunday night PHT quiz.

The next competition is the Arran Open Pool tournament to be played in Mac's Bar, Brodick at 2.30pm this Sunday 5 February.

Drift Inn dominate Arran pool league

The Drift Inn have yet to lose a game this season as they continue to dominate the Arran Pool League.

The Lamlash team beat Whiting Bay Golf Club 6-4 last Thursday night to remain top of the table with 14 points.

PT1934 beat Kildonan 6-4 and took another gallon of beer to keep them in second place.

Catacol had been languishing near the bottom of the table after a 6-4 defeat at the hands of the PHT.

However a delayed win over Kildonan on Monday night had allowed them to edge back to the middle of the rankings.

Mac's Bar beat the Bar Eden 7-3 but it wasn't enough to move them from the second last spot.

This week (Thursday 9 February) Catacol play Bar Eden, Whiting Bay GC take on the PHT, Kildonan are at home against the Drift Inn and Mac's Bar play PT1934.



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