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Epic feature film to be shot on Arran



The production crew for *The Naiads* at Auchrannie; writer Craig Guild, host David Barbour, producer Lili Sandelin, post production supervisor Steve Johnston, co-producer Ryan Martin, director Tom van den Hurk, publicist Brian Baglow. 02_b05film01

The Naiads will be 'a fantastic tale' exploring the depths of human desires

REPORT
by HOWARD DRIVER
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Arran is going to be the setting for a new feature length film shot here in the autumn.

Seven members of the production crew outlined the details of the film at a meeting in

Auchrannie last Wednesday. Called 'The Naiads', it will be 'a fantastic tale, exploring the depths of human desires, the sheer destructive force, and the extent we will go to in order to make our innermost dream come true'.

The story centres on the fictional island of Murray and

the character of Islay Buchan, a celebrated writer but now an alcoholic recluse with just a few months to live.

She returns to the family home of Buchan House (actually filmed at Kincardine Castle, Aberdeenshire) and desires to write just one more masterpiece.

To achieve this, she enters into a tryst with the Naiads, three mythical ancient beings in the shape of beautiful maidens who grant her wish, but at a terrible price. The outdoor action of this 100-minute film will all be filmed on Arran, some of it in the King's Cave where the Naiads shelter.

The filming should take around three weeks and be shot with a Red Epic camera, the same one that was used for *The Hobbit* and *Spiderman*.

A production team of 50 will stay on the island for up to two months, and they will be looking for extras and helpers from the local community.

Road closures for major improvement works

Three sections of Arran's roads face necessary closures for improvement works.

North Ayrshire Council is to invest almost £2 million on island road improvements. The Council will spend £900,000 on improvements to the String Road and C147, supplemented with £600,000 from the Scottish Timber Transport Fund (STTF). Work will begin later this year at a 750m section of the C147 at Kilpatrick north of the forestry timber extraction point at Rubha Garbhard.

This programme will include carriageway reconstruction, road widening and the introduction of safety measures such as priority restrictions at double bends.

Reconstruction

The second phase of work at the B880 String Road will begin in 2014 and involves the reconstruction of around 1.5km of road – continuing work carried out in 2011.

In a separate project, NAC has also received around £400,000 funding from Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) to carry out improvements to the road at Rubha Airigh Bheirg north of Thundersguy, known locally as the switchback.

This is to allow for the passage of low floor buses on the island which would not be able to currently negotiate this section of undulating road.

These works will involve road closures of four to six weeks.

Work is being carried out on the final design and is expected to commence later in the year.

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Trees felled at water burst in Brodick

Residents of Brodick had an unexpected dry spell last Sunday.

Anybody getting up early for breakfast found that there was no water in the taps and no cup of tea.

A mains water pipe running from Corriegills and under the main road towards Alma Park fractured at about 6am and Scottish water staff were called out.

The burst was found to be directly under an alder tree. In order to get to the pipe, staff had to fell three trees and then grub out the roots with a digger.

The whole village was without water for a little over four hours and by 10am it was back on tap again.



Sue Girbow receiving a cheque from members of the Arran Youth Foundation and leader Graeme Johnston. They are: Adam and Megan McNicol, Trefor Goronwy, Lewis Coyne, Abbie Jackson, Emma Shaw and Jessica Demazeux. 02_b05arc01

Youngsters boost Arran's ArCas cancer charity

The youngsters of Arran Youth Foundation handed over a cheque for £100 to Arran's cancer charity ArCas last Thursday.

Over a couple of weeks before Christmas, under the guidance of leader Graeme Johnston, they had been operating a personal mail delivery service in the Brodick area.

For a nominal sum of 30 pence each, they were

delivering Christmas cards from a collection base in Bilslands to raise funds for the Foundation and for a local charity. On Thursday

representatives of AYF met at Brodick pier and gave the cheque to manager Sue Girbow in the ArCas shop.

She said: It is much appreciated and great that the youngsters thought about us and gave up their time to help others.'

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Call our reporters on 01770 302142

Planning approvals

Planning applications approved this week by North Ayrshire Council include one for accommodation pods at Shore Lodge, Brodick Country Park and the amendment to remove the reference to listed building at the Royal Hotel, Whiting Bay.

Both approvals are subject to conditions. The applicants have requested a review of the decision to refuse the application for a wind turbine at Craigdhu Farm, East Bannan.

Janice nears end of epic cycle ride

Janice Small of Brodick is coming to the end of her epic charity cycle ride from Bangkok to Singapore.

Starting on Sunday 20 January, she has been covering up to 100 miles a day in what she describes as 'searing heat of 100 degrees F'.

'This is a young, fascinating fit group of people from

around the world,' she added. 'And I am the oldest by far.'

As well as coping with the 'busy, noisy, smelly heaving towns' one of the party was bitten by a stray dog on Tuesday. Husband Murray said: 'She is finding it really tough in the oppressive heat.'

Janice is due back in Arran next week.

Lifeboat crew get into a lather at car wash

Local lifeboat crew will be getting into a lather next Saturday 9 February.

They will be offering a car wash service at the lifeboat station in Lamlash and raising funds for the Ayrshire Hospice.

This is in support of the trans-Atlantic row being undertaken by Calum McNicol of Brodick, also raising funds for the hospice in memory of his mother. The car wash will be from 10am to 2pm.

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Mr Hodge of Wallace Hodge & Company Solicitors, Ayr
 will be in Arran on Thursday 7th February 2013 and would be happy to meet with clients old and new to discuss matters and their legal affairs.
 Mr Hodge proposes to call at various clients homes throughout the day of his visit to Arran and we would ask that you telephone for an appointment to be made on 01292 611177.
 Please also note that Mr Hodge will be happy to meet with clients of the former Firm of Thom Matthew & Company, Kilwinning whose papers have been transferred to the custody of Wallace Hodge & Company



Rocking around the clock in Brodick Co-op – staff entertained customers with the launch of their charity of the year.

Rocking around the clock in Brodick Co-op

Shoppers in Brodick Co-op were in for a surprise last Thursday.

Members of staff were in fancy dress to launch the Co-op's charity of the year, The Princess Royal Trust for Carers in Scotland (PRTCS).

The charity aims to tackle feelings of isolation and provide desperately needed breaks and support for 14 to 25 year-olds facing the challenges of caring.

With a 'rock around the clock' theme, the staff were entertaining customers in a rock and roll style in a throw back to the 1970s.

Store manager Liz Mclean said: 'We're delighted that PRTCS is our charity of the year and that we have a chance to make a difference to the lives of young people in our communities who undertake practical and emotional caring responsibilities for a family member or friend who cannot cope on their own.'

There are an estimated 37,000 unpaid carers in the Ayrshire and Arran Health Board area.

Countrywide, the Co-op aims to raise £5million to transform the lives of unpaid young adult carers.

Council's £19million savings

Councillors were due to meet on Wednesday 30 January to decide how NAC will spend more than £422million next year on services for local people and businesses.

£41million is earmarked for investment in roads and other network infrastructure and £5million for renewable energy.

Between now and 2016, the Council needs to find £19.637million of savings to achieve that target.

Among the savings is the sum of £52,000 from the creation of joint school headships in small schools on Arran.

The budget includes the provision of £3.8million for a new care home for the elderly on Arran to replace Montrose House at Glenclay.

Councillor Willie Gibson, leader of NAC, said: 'There are never any easy decisions when preparing a budget and a number of difficult choices

had to be taken in order to bring these proposals before the Council.

'All of the options impact on local people, however we have been able to protect a number of essential services.'

Colin Turbett, branch chairperson UNISON North Ayrshire said: 'This follows extensive consideration over several months where numerous proposals to meet the £19m shortfall were looked at and debated in secret.

'The outcome is predictable; there simply is nothing left to cut that does not affect vital services; the options available were unpalatable and an embarrassment to our elected representatives who were voted in to serve the area.

'They can dress a lot of it up as 'change' and 'efficiency' but the reality is that our community, sadly one of the most deprived in the country, will suffer further and 110 full

time equivalent jobs that are desperately needed, will go.

'We have been told that every effort will be made to avoid compulsory redundancies and that it is hoped that there are enough people who have expressed interest in Voluntary Early Retirement (VER) to

avoid this; however they are offering no guarantees.

'Councillor Willie Gibson has kindly agreed to attend the Branch AGM on 19 February. We hope members will attend in large numbers to hear his explanations and give him their views.'

Youth issues in spotlight

On Tuesday night, members of Arran Community Council heard a presentation by Nikki Harris on Youth Services; Community Learning and Development.

She outlined the work of the service on Arran, dealing with youth issues such as transport costs, alcohol misuse, depression, homelessness, confidentiality in a small community, rural isolation and cliques.

She also explained the constructive work of the Arran

Youth Forum with weekly meetings, music events and activities at the youth centre.

One major issue is the lack of public transport to get home from evening events.

Community Council chairman John Inglis commented: 'You have given a terrific explanation of what is going on. Obviously public transport times and costs are a big issue.' Brenda Stewart added: 'I was totally unaware of these problems.'

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Foodbank set up to feed those in need of support

North Ayrshire Foodbank is recruiting support on the island to help distribute food to people enduring a food crisis.

The Foodbank was launched by North Ayrshire Council Provost Joan Sturgeon at Ardrossan's Church of the Nazarene in December 2012 in response to requests for assistance in the provision of shopping.

Stimulate

Organiser Craig Crosthwaite said: 'I am working with some agencies on Arran and they asked if I could submit a story to the Banner to stimulate interest. If anyone can help we would love to hear from them'

Since the launch the service has received support from a growing number of volunteers all concerned about the issue of food access.

Identified

The Foodbank relies on other agencies working with those in need of support and referring to the Foodbank when food is specifically identified as an issue.

Craig added: 'A referral can be received from any agency that signs up to the Foodbank. The underlying cause can be anything from medical (hospital discharge/sudden illness), to work related (unemployment/long-term illness), debt, release from prison, addictions, homelessness,

or escaping a poor domestic situation.

'We are looking for partners who have space to store the Food boxes and staff who can exchange them for a voucher. Ideally it would be of benefit if this location was open regularly and over many days of the week.

'The voucher will tell a beneficiary where the location is. 'To date mainland volunteers have collected just under two tons of food from supermarket collections.

'It would be good to have a team of volunteers on Arran who could do a set amount of collections from local stores. Volunteers encourage shoppers to buy a little bit extra and that is the donation.

'It is expected that over 2,500 people will need assistance over the year and some will no doubt come from Arran.

'If you, your agency or your company think they can help to expand this service to cover the island we be pleased to hear from you. Together we can do our best to make sure people do not go hungry during a crisis.'

To contact the foodbank you can either phone Craig Crosthwaite on 07411113126 or email - nafoodbank@btinternet.com



Like ships in the night – MV Caledonian Isles returns to service

This unusual picture snapped by Richard Butler of Ardrossan last Thursday morning shows the MV Caledonian Isles arriving back to relieve the MV Hebrides after her annual refit.

The Caley Isles, as she is affectionately known, returned to her duties on the Brodick to Ardrossan run on Thursday evening.

For almost three weeks she has been in dry dock at The Garvel for annual overhaul while MV Hebrides has been ably filling in for her.

Not notice

Passengers will probably not notice much difference, with most of the work being out of sight. b05heb01NO

ROUND THE RURALS

Kilmory SWRI

On Monday 14 January the members of Kilmory Rural had a fun-filled evening as we celebrated our Rural's birthday.

We enjoyed a lovely supper and had many laughs with the Scottish Quiz that followed.

The competition for a £2 decorated parcel was won by Mairi Duff and Janet Mulholland.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 11 February at 7.30pm in Kilmory Hall where the ladies of Shiskine, Kildonan and Whiting Bay SWRIs are warmly invited

to join with us for a Burns Evening. A special thank you to the ladies of Kildonan Rural for their 'Come Dine With Us' invitation.

It was a lovely surprise to be at Kildonan Hotel for a cookery demonstration and a delicious meal on Wednesday 16 January.

Lamlash SWRI

On Wednesday 6 February the ladies of Lamlash WRI will be meeting again at the Lamlash Fire Station at 7.30pm for a talk by Lynn Walker on Neals & Nails.

All members and visitors are most welcome to attend.

Our competition for the evening is a bowl of spring bulbs and the exhibit is a hair ornament.

Lamlash would also like to thank Corrie & Sannox WRI for a most entertaining evening on 10 January; the food and entertainment were excellent.

A note for your diaries; the last meeting of this session will be the AGM held at the Fire Station on Wednesday 6 March.

There will be a popular 'Dress to Impress' from AR-CAS, so come along ladies and start hunting for that outfit.



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MP questions the fuel duty pilot scheme

Arran's MP has questioned the government on the island fuel duty discount pilot which has been applied to the island since March 2012.

Under the scheme motorists on island locations receive five pence per litre discount on pump prices.

Concerns have been raised however that island locations still face significantly higher prices than those charged on the mainland.

Katy Clark MP requested that the government consider increasing the discount of-

ferred to island customers.

Ms Clark said: 'It is deeply concerning that prices on island locations remain substantially higher than those on the mainland.'

'Recent prices of unleaded petrol on Arran have been upwards of 14p per litre higher than the UK average.'

'It is not fair that drivers who live on islands such as Arran are penalised when buying fuel and the Govern-

ment should be looking at taking radical measures to ensure that this is not the case.'

She added: 'Unfortunately the response which I received from the Treasury did not indicate that the government was aware of the problem, let alone willing to take action to address it, and I will continue to press them on the urgent need for action.'

The local MP will be attending a fuel summit with the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Scotland and MPs for other island locations as well as retailers and distributors later this month to discuss island fuel prices.

Mums on the Run coming to the island

Arran's JogScotland group has a new leader.

Marion McNicol is the new jog leader and is working together with Laura Aitcheson on organising the popular sessions.

Laura and Marion told the Banner: 'This spring we are bringing Mums on the Run to Arran. And last week we launched new beginners groups in Blackwaterfoot, Brodick and Lamlash.'

'Anyone who wants to start jogging is welcome to come along. Men can come along too; we look forward to starting a men-only group this spring.'

'The Advanced Beginners group are currently training for their first 10km race in May which is a fantastic achievement as last year none of them had ever run before.'

'We have lots of new projects coming up - we are bringing Mums on the Run to the island. Getting back into exercise after having a baby can be an uphill struggle. With reduced sleep and trying to get into a new routine, exercise may seem like the last thing on your mind.'



Jog leaders Marion McNicol and Laura Aitcheson.

b05run01

'That's where JogScotland's advice and solutions to help new programme Mums on the Run comes in. The programme offers guidance, mums enjoy the benefits of getting out. Check us out on facebook - arranabrunners.'

Corrie housewarming for Passla and Philippe

Last Sunday Passla and Philippe Gautier held an open house-warming party in their new Corrie house and later in the village hall.

They have recently moved from Brodick to one of the new houses in Red Quarry Road and wanted to celebrate with their friends. Around 80 people turned up on a miserably wet afternoon, with some coming from as far away as Kilmory. The many youngsters enjoyed dancing, music and good food prepared by chef Phillippe in Corrie and Sannox Hall.

Passla said afterwards: 'A big thank you goes to everyone who came along.'

'Donations amounting to £220 will be going to The Office of Tibet in London, the official agency of His Holiness the Dalai Lama.'

Philippe and Passla in their Corrie house on Sunday with eight-year-old son Tenzin and seven-year-old daughter Yeshe. 02_b05pas01



Arran Music Festival cups

Could all cupholders from the 2012 festival please return them to their schools or to Brodick Dental Surgery at the Douglas Centre by 22 February.

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Where did all the sport go?

Looking back through the Banners of yesteryear to compile the weekly 20 years ago feature, it is impossible not to notice the dearth of sport played on the island nowadays.

Yes, we still have a rugby team playing in autumn and winter months and four or five senior football teams playing a short season in summer, but what about the other sporting activities?

Arran boys and girls junior football teams used to regularly compete in mainland tournaments. And came back with several trophies.

We used to have a successful ladies hockey team.

There was even an active squash league at the Kinloch with men's, women's and junior championships.

Badminton was a widespread and popular social feature of Thursday nights with league matches being held in most village halls and Lamlash Primary School.

There used to be up to 13 men's darts teams playing league matches in such places as The Moorings, the Heathfield and Cameronia.

Ladies darts wasn't far behind, with eight league teams playing at the likes of The Greannan, The Rock and Montana.

There were 14 pool teams playing in two leagues at venues such as the Blenheim, Whiting Bay Hotel and the Ormidale.

Now there is no men's darts, a couple of ladies darts teams and just six pool teams, no badminton, no league squash and no competitive ladies hockey.

There is definitely more competitive golf being played nowadays, cricketers still nurdle at the Sannox Oval and bowls, both indoor and outdoor, is as popular as ever.

Arran Runners continue to hold their own, and indoor activities like netball, volleyball, Tae Kwon-do and Zumba fitness have all gained in popularity.

But of course, in those days there was no such thing as Sky Sports or ESPN.

Competitive sport may well have declined on the island over the years, but some other aspects of Arran life never seem to change.

Again, looking through archive Banners we can see that the issues being aired again and again down the years are the poor state of the roads, lack of affordable housing, moans about CalMac and the ferry service and gripes about the Council. It's reassuring to know that some things will never change.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though He was rich, yet for your sakes He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich. (2 Corinthians 8:9)

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



Roads are shocking

Sir,
On a recent visit to Arran, the road approach at Ardrossan reminded me of the roads in Arran in the past.

On arriving in Arran I was not disappointed.

The roads are shocking.

When I left there was even a headline in your paper about the damage caused to people's cars because of this.

Yours,
**Billy Hutcheson
Woolston
Warrington**

Support for Balmichael

Sir,
As you reported two weeks ago, the new Balmichael Centre is soon opening for business and this letter is just to record our grateful thanks for all the enthusiasm and encouragement we are receiving.

I don't think the three of us quite anticipated such strong public support and it just goes to show that we do need to cater for the much more sophisticated society we have become.

For the past six months I personally have spent many hours visiting and talking to operators and suppliers and found for instance that there are no less than 10 different types of climbing wall.

To explain a little: the core business as we see it is the coffee shop and restaurant together with the quad bikes, and it is ironic that a 'coffee shop' makes or breaks a visitor centre, but it does.

Our focus after that is to develop wet weather facilities for all ages and of course this does take big money and we have to invest in big things.

We are sure you will appreciate that just as with the climbing walls we have about 1,000 different attractions to choose to invest in from computer games to blow football, so if we do make the wrong decisions from time to time, please bear with us!

Some of the things not to do have come from Darryl and Lucy, but in the long term since they are now no longer

involved in the centre, these mistakes will be ours and as we are in this business not just for the initial three year lease (it is in fact 20 years); we do need to take care to get it right.

As always we have been greatly encouraged by your responses and suggestions; it will be a slow start in the beginning but we are determined to get it right.

Yours,
**Bob Haddow,
John Copperwheat
and Steve Scott.**

PS. If you are a budding potter, glass blower, weaver, artist, cabinet maker or ventriloquist, do come and talk to us at Copperwheats.

Chill out

Sir,
Have you or your readers ever given thought to what makes you want to chill-out? My favourite moment is to watch, as dusk begins to fall the new coals take on life as the flames dance and produce patterns on my ceiling now is the time when all activity on my part ceases and I chill out.

Recently I was reading for the umpteenth time a poem by the Persian poet Omar Khayyam and I wondered what he would think of such a question.

The answer I came up with was this excerpt from his poem: 'A book of verses underneath the bough. A jug of wine a loaf of bread, and thou beside me singing in the Wilderness.

Wilderness be thou paradise enow.'

What peace!

If any of you have had such a moment perhaps you would share it with us, it could be lots of fun.

Yours,
**Margaret Fitzpatrick
Kilmory
By e-mail**

Bert sought

Sir,
In the October 3 issue of The Banner you kindly published my letter seeking anyone with information concerning Bert Teasdale.

As a schoolboy in the 1940s

Bert lived in Lamlash and later made headlines in the national newspapers with his exploits in Cyprus during the 1950s uprising.

While serving there as an Edinburgh Police Officer on detachment he eloped with and married a Cypriot girl.

We know he returned to Lamlash but lost track of him thereafter.

If anyone has information we would be most grateful if they would please contact me on email royjudd@talktalk.net or by mail at 4 St Giles Way, Waterlooville Hants PO80EE.

Yours,
**Roy Judd
Hants**

New transport committee

Sir,
In response to Ian Ferguson's letter, I would like to express my full support to his call for a new committee.

My idea is to have a Public Transport Committee to look at all aspects of public transports from Ardrossan to Claonaig.

It is not only the fact, that eventually we will have more frequency from Ardrossan to Brodick, but also the question are there more coordinated trains to and from Ardrossan Harbour?

And what about the buses on the island itself? The policy of five services each way around the island is really not sufficient, not for the tourists who want to have green holidays, nor to our own population.

At least a one-hour-interval between 6am and midnight is the absolute minimum standard. Another thing which could improve our standing would be a direct rail-service from Prestwick (Ayr) to Ardrossan Harbour (the physical connecting rail is in situ).

This would mean guests arriving and departing Prestwick have not to change at Kilwinning, with that quite dangerous climb twice over bridges on the outgoing journey. Such a new committee will have quite a substantial agenda, going far wider than my few suggestions here.

Example 1: Why do the

drivers have to sell tickets? That causes delays in peak times quite a lot. Why have the buses just have a front door for in and out?

Example 2: Why are the prices in the same County (North Ayrshire) so much differing to the disfavour of our own population? I have tried to take up discussion of this point with a leading member of the Ferry Commission, but it seem the commission does not show any interest to see the points.

Yours,
**Bruno Baumgärtner
Corriecrievie**

Old habits die hard

Sir,
The vote that you report (editorial 25 January) in Kerry's County Council allowing those in remote areas to have two or three drinks and drive home shows that the Co Kerry's old ways are continuing.

In Ireland as a whole, the Kerryman, and to some extent the man of Co Cork, is the butt of jokes about his eccentricity.

In the 1960s, visitors to Cork itself from the rural points outside were prodded awake by the Gardaí (police) until they crossed the city boundary, then their horse took them home.

It seems that old habits die hard, though the car, unlike the horse of old, needs steering.

Yours,
**Jeremy Godwin
Penrith**

Ferry joystick

Sir,
There has been a degree of amusement on the 'Ships of Calmac' forum over the article about the Caledonian Isles, then under construction (and currently stormbound, I see), where reference was made to a 'pause control'.

It should have said 'Ulstein Poscon', which apparently is the joystick, a single lever controlling both engines, bow thrusters and rudder.

Who says the Internet isn't educational?

Yours,
**Jane Ann Liston
St Andrews**

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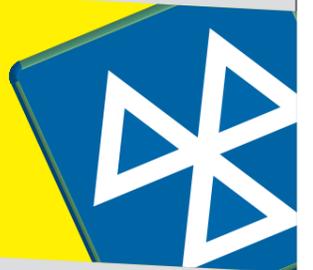
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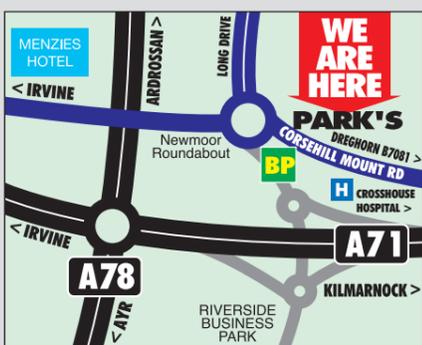
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Exciting year ahead for Arran Antiquarians

On a freezing, snowy Monday afternoon 50 hardy members attended the Arran Antiquarians' AGM.

The Society has had a successful year with a membership of 129 and the ten meetings last year were all well attended and there were some excellent speakers.

In June the summer outing was to Inveraray Castle and Auchindrain historic village and in February and October there were also two 'History Tours' around the island by bus led by Iain Hendry and David Aitchison.

Despite inflation the society remains financially sound and the 2012 committee and officers were re-elected en bloc.

The members were then entertained with a picture presentation by the Chairman and Secretary, Tommy Macleod and Harry Davidson, featuring speakers and events from last year's activities.

Arran Antiquarians meet on the third Monday of every month in Brodick Hall at 2pm. New members are very welcome, as are visitors.

The next meeting is on Monday 18 February when Nancy Anderson of Strathaven (formerly a Brodick lass) will talk about 'Covenant Country' and her childhood on Arran.

Natural History Society hear about Katie's expedition

Well-chosen illustrations and endless enthusiasm

A full house at the Arran Natural History Society meeting on Thursday 10 January thoroughly enjoyed Katie Thomson's fascinating account of an expedition into the Barba Azul Nature Reserve in Bolivia

Katie is a fourth year student studying Marine and Freshwater Biology at the University of Glasgow.

She is currently enjoying a year's work placement on Arran with COAST as part of her MSc year. From the age of 17 she has undertaken a number of scientific research expeditions particularly in South America.

In 2012 she was given the opportunity to lead a group of students from the University of Glasgow's exploration society to the Barba Azul Nature Reserve in the Beni Savannah region of Bolivia.

With the use of excellent photographs, Katie gave the background to the reserve.

The Beni Savannas of Bolivia are a complex ecosystem of grasslands, marshes, forest islands and gallery forest which is largely in the hands of cattle ranchers, and every year untold habitat is lost to intentional burning for pastureland.

The Barba Azul Nature Reserve was created in July 2008, the first and only protected area for the critically endangered Blue-throated Macaw.

There are thought to be less than 300 left. As well as the Blue-throated Macaw, the 11,530 acre Barba Azul Nature Reserve protects several threatened bird species and the neglected Beni Bolivian grassland habitat.

The Barba Azul Nature Reserve protects the red-listed Maned Wolf as well as high concentrations of Giant Anteater, Pampas deer (both near-threatened), Southern Tamandua, Black Howler

Monkey, Jaguar, Puma and Capybara.

With well-chosen illustrations and endless enthusiasm Katie outlined the work of the expedition including the survey procedures used throughout their seven weeks there.

In addition with good humour Katie gave a realistic flavour of what it was like travelling to this remote area and coping with the challenges of daily life while doing valuable scientific research. It was an excellent presentation.

The next indoor meeting of the Arran Natural History Society will be on Thursday 7 February at 8pm in the Rangers Centre in Brodick Country Park.

The committee will bring members up to date with some of the work of the society including Mapping Arran's Birds and Improving Wildlife Awareness. All welcome.



Katie Thomson, speaker at Arran Natural History Society. b05nat01

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Love of Arran is imprinted on Sarah's face

Can you see anything familiar in this sculpture of a woman's face? Yes, it is Arran! Sarah Lothian who lives in the town of Zaragoza in Spain sent The Banner a picture of this sculpture made for her by a friend so that she wouldn't miss the island. Sarah said: 'I haven't been to Arran for a few years now but it is a place that is very special to me.'

'I am the seventh generation of my family who has holidayed on Arran. I spent every summer until I was 18 in Corrie.'

'My aunt spends quite a lot of the year there and sends me her Arran Banner every week, so I am up to date on all the Arran news.' The sculpture was made by Jesús Gazol, a highly regarded sculptor from Zaragoza. Jesús wanted to make a special present and created this beautiful piece for Sarah.

The sculpture of Sarah's face that was made in the shape of her favourite island - Arran.

Rain can't stop Wullie and Birch

Torrential rain could not dampen the spirits of Arran's dog handlers last Friday, in particular Wullie Stevenson and his dog Birch.

The second Arran Nursery dog trial of the season was held at Glenkiln on Friday 25 January in pouring rain and on a sodden field.

Once again, Wullie Stevenson and Birch came out on top in both the nursery and sweepstake sections.

Full marks

In the sweepstake, the pair scored 96 points in an almost faultless display, gaining full marks on the outrun, lift and fetch, and just dropping two points at the cross-drive gate and two at the shed.

The judge for the day was Alec Miller and 12 dogs took part.

Results: Nursery, 1 Wullie Stevenson and Birch 71pts, 2 John Murchie and Midge 62 pts, 3 Niall McMaster and Sweep 49 pts.

Sweepstake: 1 Wullie Stevenson and Birch 96 pts, 2 Geoff Brookes and Shona 92 pts, 3 Niall McMaster and Anne 88 pts.

The next nursery trial will be held at Balmichael today (Friday) from 11am.



Willie McConnell and Craig with a clean pen. 02_b05dog01



Geoff Brookes and Shona took second place. 02_b05dog02

Two Arran hotels in TripAdvisor top 25

Two Arran hotels have made it into the top 25 listing of 'TripAdvisor Travellers' Choice Best Small Hotels in the UK 2013'.

The Douglas Hotel is listed at number 16 and Auchrannie House Hotel at number 18.

One comment for The Douglas said 'best small hotel on the planet' while

Auchrannie was labelled 'perfect escape from the world'. Gordon Hay, business development manager at Auchrannie said: 'For Arran to have won two of the top 25 places is quite an achievement.'

The number one award for 2013 went to The Chester Residence in Edinburgh.

Arran livestock sales

United Auctions had forward 1,563 store cattle, 206 cast cows and 7,126 prime and store sheep at their Stirling Livestock Centre last Wednesday.

Cattle prices:

Charolais cross cows £875, 128p, Springfield, Limousin cross heifers £705, 147p, Springfield, Hereford cross bullocks £1070, 201p, Altgolath, Simmental cross bullock stirks £680, 212p Bellevue.

Sheep prices:

Lambs: Craighdu (Texel cross) £68, Whin (Texel cross) £55, Drumnaghinier (Texel cross) £46, Drumnaghinier (Suffolk cross) £59.50, Drumnaghinier (Cross) £51, Craigraineach (Cross) £43, Ceither Gaoithe (Blackface) £34.

Tups: Ceither Gaoithe (Cross) £63.50, Ceither Gaoithe (Easy Care) £45.50, Ceither Gaoithe (Blackface) £38.50, Glenkiln (Cheviot) £46.50.

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Protect your family's financial future

Get a free will in February

Question: What does almost everyone know they should do but never seem to get around to?

Answer: Making a Will

It is a surprising fact that over two thirds of the population do not have a Will. Of those who do, many made the Will years ago, maybe when they bought their house, and it is out of date and not "fit for purpose" today.

Unfortunately, when people die leaving no up to date Will, the people who lose out are their children and immediate family - precisely the people they want to protect!

When making a Will

it is important to obtain professional advice from a qualified Solicitor experienced in the field. They will look at family circumstances and finances to provide the best solution to protecting the family's inheritance.

Remember, if you leave your affairs in a mess that is what your loved ones will be left with. If you don't sort it out now it is unlikely they will be able to correct matters when you have gone.

WW&J McClure are long established Solicitors who have decades of experience in advising on Wills and Inheritance. They have

particular expertise in the area of care costs and inheritance tax.

They are offering a FREE Will to clients who book an appointment before the end of February when they can advise on the best way to protect your hard-earned assets and your family's inheritance.

McClures offer home visits as standard and have the benefit of working alongside Daniel Lamont, Financial Services Scotland Ltd who has had a significant presence on the island for several years.

This removes any excuse for putting things off any longer!

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The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday 6 February, 1992



Retiring milk recorder Kathleen Duncan (seated) at a special dinner in the Kinloch Hotel last Friday. b05twe01

Benlister homes completed

The first phase of 10 new houses at Benlister in Lamlash is complete.

Two further phases of 10 houses each should be completed in May and September.

These starter homes were built for Kirkcare by John Thomson Construction.

Robbie is new port manager

Brodick has a new port manager in Robbie Brown following the untimely death of Donald White. Robbie came to Arran at the age of 13 when his family bought a farm.

He worked in The Sheilin Restaurant and then the Pirate's Cove, both of which were family businesses after swine fever had put paid to the pig farm.

The current pier staff is six pier hands and two office staff.

13 plays in festival

This year's One Act Drama Festival has attracted 13 entries which will be performed over five evenings at Lamlash Community Centre. The adjudicator is Mr Tom Martin of Edinburgh.

Gourock sailings again

The Arran ferry sailed to Gourock more times during January of this year than she did in the whole of 1992.

The Banner office has been plagued by callers complaining about the 15-hour journey on the storm-bound ferry last week.

Milk recorder retires

A dinner was held at the Kinloch Hotel last Friday at which Arran's dairy farmers said farewell to their milk recorder Kathleen Duncan.

For the last 17 years Kathleen, from Dunfermline, has visited each farm once a month to take samples of milk for fat and protein analysis. Her successor is Jean Paterson of Whitefield Farm, Kings Cross.

Champion hen

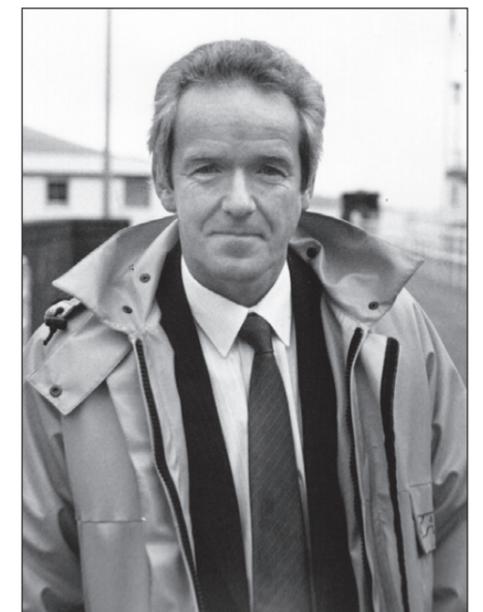
John Dalby of Whiting Bay won first in class and champion large fowl at the Scottish National Poultry Show in Ayr last Saturday with his prize Black Orpington hen.



Dougie and Heidi Macfarlane moving into their new house at Benlister. b05twe02



Brodick Golf Club ladies captain Elspeth Macrae presents Yvonne Brothers with the club championship at the annual dinner. b05twe04



Robbie Brown, new Brodick port manager. b05twe03

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Last week Archie was sitting in front of The Inkpot on the Ross Road near Bennecarrigan. First correct answers came from Mary Mackenzie, Margaret Parker and Allan Little. This week he is taking a dip, but where is that stretch of water?

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

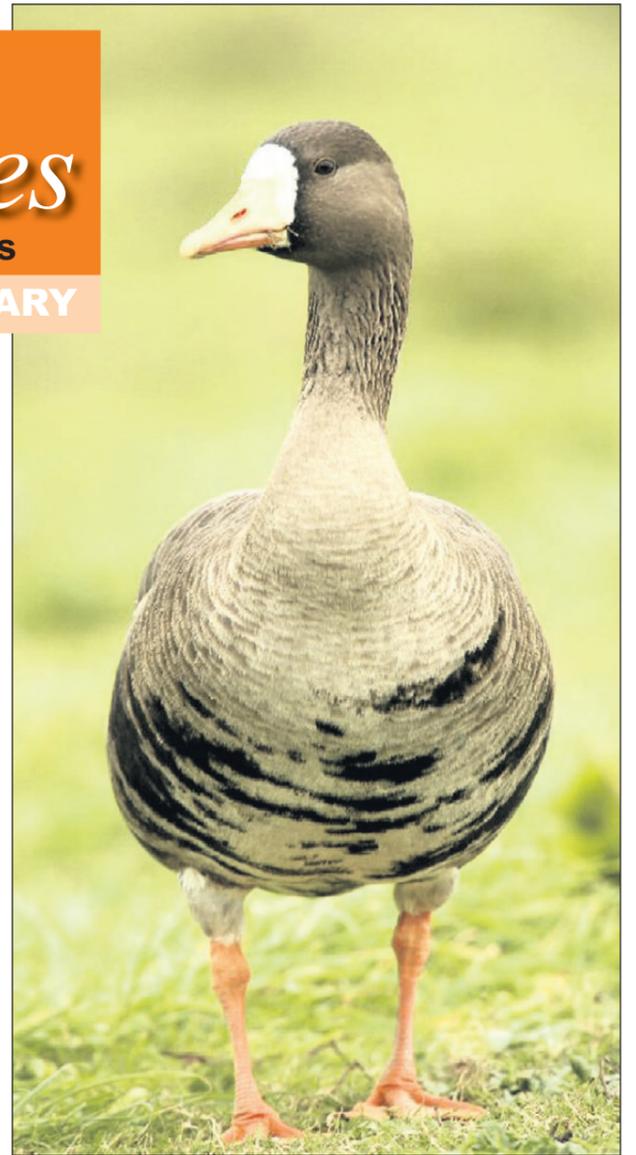


Greylag goose. b05grey01

Bird notes

by Jim Cassels

JANUARY



White-fronted goose. b05white01

Three types of 'grey geese' on Arran

Here on Arran there are three types of 'grey geese' that are seen in the winter: the Greylag Goose, the Pink-footed Goose and the White-fronted Goose.

Appearing distantly across a field and mixing together in shuffling herds, the similar 'grey geese' of the genus *Anser* can seem difficult to separate.

Here are a few features to help you tell them apart.

The Greylag is by far the most numerous on the island with flocks of up to 500 in the Shiskine Valley and at the south-end round Clachaig.

On the ground, look for the large pinkish-orange bill and dull pinkish legs. In flight the front of the wing is a striking pale ash-grey contrasting with the dark rear parts of the wing.

These flocks are worth checking for other 'grey geese'.

The largest group of Pink-footed Goose reported in 2012 was 75. Slightly smaller and more compact than the Greylag, the Pink-footed has a small bill typically mostly black with only a pink band across the outer part.

The head is rounded and the head and upper neck are dark brown-grey contrasting with the paler lower neck and body. The legs are pink.

In flight the dark head and neck contrast with the pale upperwing and back.

In 2012 there was only one report of White-fronted Goose. It was with the Greylag in Shiskine Valley in January.

The adult has a prominent white blaze surrounding the

base of the bill and black transverse markings on the belly.

These features begin to develop from the end of the first winter. Juvenile birds have a dark tip to the beak.

Armed with this information, hopefully you will be more confident about checking the flocks of shy geese that do not tolerate close approach, looking for the interesting individuals hidden by the other geese or vegetation or with their legs and bill stained with mud or

simply lying down asleep! Who knows there may even be a Bean Goose or a Lesser White-fronted Goose to be identified!

Enjoy your birding. Please send any bird notes to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at atjames.cassels@virgin.net. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Report 2011 and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk



Pink-footed goose. b05pink01

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Auchrannie Road 11am – 1 pm.
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Arran High School, 10am
Kinloch Hotel 2-4pm

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Lamlash SWRI
Whiting Bay SWRI

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
Ormidale Pavilion, 11am-1pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am – 12noon
Fire station 7.30pm
St Margaret's church, 7.30pm

Sunday 3rd February

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

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

Thursday 7th February

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

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Hall, 2pm
Youth Cabin, Lamlash, 7-9pm
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
Rangers Centre, 8pm

Monday 4th February

Quiz
Outside Boot Camp
Over 50s Badminton
Badminton
Citizens Advice
Morning Fitness
Breathe Walk Class
Table Tennis
Badminton
Lamlash Bridge Club
Volleyball Club
Arran Junior Football Club
Scottish Country Dancing
Lunch Club
Arran Civic Trust Meeting
VisitArran PB meeting

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
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
MacKelvie Road, Lamlash 12noon
Ormidale Pavilion, 7pm
Dougals Hotel, 7.30pm

Friday 8th February

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

Tuesday 5th February

Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Youth Club
Rotary club
Streetly Dance pre school
Streetly Dancing Classes P1-S7
Youth Club
Rowan Singers
Weight Watchers
Junior Hockey Club
Auchrannie Winter Bowls
Healthy Outdoors
Cricket Practise
Scottish Country Dancing

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
Lamlash church hall, 7.30-9.30pm
St Molios Church Hall, 6.30-7.30pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6-7pm
Auchrannie, 7pm-9pm
10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7pm-9pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30-9.30pm

Wednesday 6th February

Hockey
Tae Kwondo
Alcoholics Anonymous

Auchrannie Games Hall, 6.30-7.30pm
Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 2pm



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Public Notices

ARRAN MEDICAL GROUP

The island GP surgeries will be closed for training from 1.00PM on Wed 6 February 2013

If you need to contact a doctor urgently when the surgeries are closed please phone

NHS 24 On
08454 24 24 24

In an emergency please phone 999

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL - GRASS CUTTING SCHEME

North Ayrshire Council is now accepting applications to the Council's Grass Cutting Scheme which is limited to grass and hedge cutting. The scheme covers cutting grass of an area no bigger than 150 square metres and hedges where they border a path. No weeding or planting is provided for. Due to the limited number of gardens to be included on the scheme, applications will be accepted on a "first come first served basis."

To be eligible the applicants must permanently reside at the property and meet the following eligibility criteria:
 Be Aged 75 and over.
 Or
 Aged 65 and over and in receipt of Attendance Allowance (higher rate) or free personal care.
 Or
 Aged under 65 and in receipt of DLA high rate (mobility) or highest rate (care).
 To apply to the scheme contact the Council by telephone from Friday 1 February 2013 on 0845 603 0594. An assessment of eligibility will be made during the telephone application process and payment for the scheme will be taken. The charge for the scheme is £50 plus vat at 20% (£60).
 Applications will close on 28 February 2013. Applicants from previous years are not automatically re-enrolled on the scheme and are required to re-apply.

Elma Murray
 Chief Executive
 Cunninghame House
 IRVINE KA12 8EE



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THE ARRAN TEAM

Customer Service Assistant

We are looking to recruit a full time member of staff in our busy Brodick office. The position will include administration duties, dealing with customers and taking bookings for our holiday lets. Occasional weekend work will be required. The ideal candidate should have good local knowledge and the following experience:

- Ability to use initiative to work alone but also as part of a team
- Have excellent customer service experience in dealing with customers both face to face and over the phone
- Knowledge of IT programmes, mainly word, excel and email
- Ability to work under pressure and have good organisational skills

A current driving licence and own transport preferred.

Please apply in writing with CV to: Jane Mack, The Arran Team, The Douglas Centre, Brodick, KA27 8AJ
jane@thearranteam.co.uk
 Closing Date Wed 13Feb 2013

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Café Staff FT/PT Seasonal- waiting and cooking experience preferable, but not essential as full training will be given, flexible and able to work as part of a team with passion, flair and attention to detail.

Weekend work will be required.

Applicants should apply with CV to:
 Faye Black, Visitor Centre Manager, Isle of Arran Distillers, Lochranza, Isle of Arran, KA278HJ
 Tel: 01770 830 264
 e-mail: visitorcentre@arranwhisky.com
Closing Date Monday 18th February

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Whiting Bay Golf Club
 Results: Sunday 27 January.
 Only three played in the Gents Sweep from yellow

tees in rather testing conditions. The winner was Dave Hackett (12)62 who beat Jamie MacPherson on the better inward half.

Fixtures: Sunday 3 February, AGA Winter League at Shiskine. Machrie Bay v Whiting Bay at 11.50am.

at the 7th, and D Price at the 10th

Well done Brian on winning the Medal.

Fixtures: Thursday 7 February, Ladies 18 Hole Medal - 11am tee off. Sunday 3 February - AGA Winter League, course closed all day!

fore making a guest appearance for the Knowe.

The overall result in this game was a draw with each team winning 8 points.

The Village played the Street and the results were as follows:

A Hume (Village) won against his younger brother Nicol Hume (Street), John McKean (Village) won against Ross Butchard (Street), Bruce Jenkins (Village) won against Finlay Sillars (Street), Jimmy Armit (Village) lost to Gordon Sillars (Street), Lindsay Keir (Village) lost to Campbell Russell (Street), Billy Armit (Village) lost to Russell Duncan (Street), Matt Keir (Village) lost to Alan Hart (Street), Ian Sillars (Village) lost to Bryce Walker (Street).

This gave the Street their first victory under the Captaincy of Bryce Walker winning five matches to three and the Street gaining 10 points to the Village's 6 points.

The league table is as follows:

Knowe 26 points,
 Village 19 points,
 Alma 19 points,
 Street 16 points.

The next round of the Clochendichter is on 17 February, shotgun start at 10.30am

The Knowe play the Street and the Village play Alma.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Results: Tuesday 22 January Winter Cup, 1 Brian Sherwood 69 (bih), 2 Alastair MacDonald 69, 3 David Wilkinson 71. Scratch Brian Sherwood and Alastair MacDonald.

Fixtures: Saturday 2 February Lochranza Hotel Cup, tee off 12noon, Tuesday 5 February Winter Cup, tee off 12noon.

Corrie Golf Club

Results: Saturday 26 January Winter Cup, 11 played CSS 62. 1 S Wood 77-19=58, 2 R Logan 67-6=61, best scratch R Logan 67. Magic twos J Adams, P Bremner, R Logan, I MacMillan.

Fixtures: Saturday 2 February Winter Cup 8.30am and 12noon, white tees.

Lamlash Golf Club

Results: Sunday 20 January Glenburn Cup, 1 M Wren 78-10=68(bih), 2 I Bremner 73-5=68. No twos, best scratch I Bremner 73. Thursday 24 January Yellow Medal, 1 Alan Smith 65-8=57, 2 Andy Smith 74-16=58.

Twos, Andy Smith at 4th. Sunday 27 January Winter Stableford, 1 Andy Smith 36pts, 2 Ian Bremner 35pts.

No twos, best scratch I Bremner 30 pts to Stableford
 Fixtures: Sunday 3 February Winter League Team Game, Lamlash v Shiskine at Shiskine

Thursday 7 February Yellow Medal 11am start.

CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 (in full communion with the Church of England)
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 3rd February
 Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
 Mrs Janis Gallagher.
 Coffee after service.
 ALL WELCOME

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER
 There will be Taizé worship on Thursday, 7th February at 7.30pm in St Molios' Church, Shiskine.
 ALL WELCOME

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

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

Sunday 3rd February
 Brodick Church, 10.30am, Sacrament of Communion.
 Corrie Church, 12noon, Sacrament of Communion.
 Lochranza and Pirmill Churches, 10.15am,
 Morning Worship at Pirmill.
 Shiskine Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.

A Service of Worship, including sacrament of communion, 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 3rd February
 Kilmory 10 am
 Lamlash 11.30 am
 In both churches:
 Rev. Dr. Ian MacLeod
 All welcome, including families; children's area
 Scottish Charity SC015072

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Sunday 3rd February Mass 11am

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 (Charity Number: SC014005)
Sunday 3rd February
 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 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 3rd February
 Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick
 11am Morning worship
 Tea/Coffee after the service
 Home Fellowship Group meets on Wednesday at 7.30pm.
 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 Gavino Fioretti
 All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 3rd February
 Morning Service 11am
 Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
 Evening Service 6.30pm
 5 Glen Road, Brodick
 Prayer Meeting
Wednesday 6th February
 at 7pm
 5 Glen Road, Brodick
 All welcome

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS

Quakes meet every Sunday at 11am.
 For meeting venue ring - 830622, 820223 or 302779.

DEATHS

CANT
 Lawrence (Laurie) Age 84 Formerly of Knowe Road Brodick, volunteer at Brodick Castle and Brodick Bowling Club, passed away peacefully at Trefula Nursing Home in Cornwall on the 28th January 2013. Further details from Mr D Barnicoat, Funeral Director. 01872 223200.

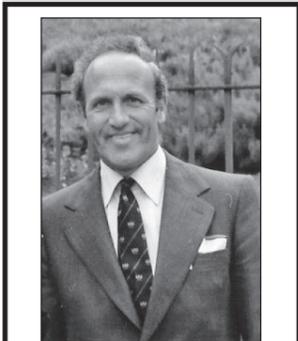
DEATHS

PROFESSOR JOHN HUNTER
11/08/1922 to 26/01/2013
 Passed away peacefully at home in Milngavie after a short illness on 26th Jan surrounded by his family. Beloved husband of the late Brenda, father of Lynn and the late Keith, grandfather of Rhona and Hollie and great-grandfather of Cameron.
 John loved to spend much of his time at his other home, Arnloss, in Machrie. There he played golf, cut grass and enjoyed watching the sun set all the way to Lochranza with a whisky. He will be much missed.
 Funeral at Clydebank Crematorium 10.30am Friday 1 February 2013.

MACRAE - Stella Dorothy Clayton, M.B.E

Peacefully at Montrose House, Isle of Arran on 26th January, aged 93 years. Funeral Service at St.Brides Church, Brodick on Friday 1st February at 11.30am. No flowers, donations if desired to, Friends of Montrose House, Brodick.

BIRTHDAY



Happy 80th Birthday Greetings!
To John Anderson
 of Hillcrest, Machrie Isle of Arran.
 Love and best wishes from all the Anderson families, relatives, Arran friends and correspondents all around the world.

BIRTHDAY

GATOR & DIPS 110TH BIRTHDAY PARTY

Saturday 2nd February

Bus leaving Whiting Bay at 6.45pm going through Lamlash and Brodick

Returning from the Kinloch at 1am

Arran Ladies Golf Union

ALGU fixture: A real lull between storms allowed the third Drumadoon fixture to go ahead at Shiskine on Saturday 26 January.

Although blustery from the start, we had lovely sunshine for most of the 24 players. Sadly, the last three groups did not finish dry and battled the last five or six holes in rain - well done to you all!

As always at Shiskine, the westerly wind is a challenge to be dealt with. Warm soup provided by Elizabeth Kelso, curry parcels by Viv Parks and sundry baked cakes by Fiona Scott saw everyone fed and watered - a warm welcome much appreciated by all the players - thank you.

Results: Yvonne Brothers 2nd with 68 (17) (and scratch 85), 1st goes to Mary Jo Tod with a 67 (36) - many congratulations Mary Jo - and well done to everyone who came along and took part.

Next ALGU fixture: Saturday 23 February 10.30am Machrie. Please sign up as usual via your clubhouse noticeboard by Saturday 16 February.

Arran Golfers Association

Winter League/Duncan Trophy 2012/2013.

Fourth round at Shiskine Golf Club on Sunday 3 February.

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

Shiskine Golf Club

Results: Gents 12 Hole Medal and Winter Cup 27 January, 17 played.

1st Class: 1st B Sherwood 49 - 6 = 43, 2nd & scratch R Crawford 48 - 4 = 44, 3rd G Andrew 51 - 6 = 45.

2nd Class: 1st R Woods 57 - 10 = 47, 2nd M Hesp 60 - 12 = 48, 3rd W Robertson 63 - 13 = 50.
 Magic twos: B Sherwood

Brodict Golf Club

Mens results: Sunday 27 January Winter Cup. 8 played. Non-counter for handicap.

1 R McCrae (6) 33 pts (acb), 2 I Sillars (13) 33 pts. There were 2 twos .

Fixtures: Sunday 3 February AGA Duncan Trophy and Sweep. Sunday 10 February Brandon. Sunday 17 February Clochendichter.

Wednesday 23 January, 11 fine gentlemen played in very reasonable conditions. 1 Jim 'the bandit' Green. 76-21=55 2 Wolfi Mackroner 72-12=60. Magic twos from both the aforementioned. Although not a medal winner, Derek Roxburgh deserves a mention with a 66 scratch!

Charlie hovers on the edge of red card land for annoying Wolfi, however they make an unbeatable team when it comes to four hand cribbage.

Clochendichter competition

On Sunday 20 January the fourth round of this year's Clochendichter competition took place with the first round of the singles and a shotgun start at 10.30am.

The Knowe played Alma and the results were as follows in no particular order:

Dougie Robertson (Knowe) lost to Ian McDermid (Alma) who retained his unbeaten record in this competition. Gordon Robertson (Knowe) lost to Henry Tait (Alma), Iain MacDonald (Knowe) lost to Robbie Duncan (Alma), Terry Raeside (Knowe) won against Gus Robertson (Alma), Kenny McMillan (Knowe) won against Jim Reid (Alma), Gordon Hendry (Knowe) won against Brian Smith (Alma), David Hendry (Knowe) halved his match with Donald McKinnie (Alma), Keith Aitken (Knowe) halved with Bert McGunnigle (Alma).

Keith got out of his bed earlier than normal to ensure the course was in good order be-

THANK YOU

THANK YOU

Bobby and Ina Whiteside would like to thank all friends and neighbours for their lovely cards, flowers and good wishes following Ina's recent stay in hospital.

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Kildonan Hotel win Second Chance Pool Salver

Kildonan Hotel won the Arran Pool Second Chance Salver last Thursday night. They beat Catacol Bay by six games to four in a tense final at Kildonan, having already drawn five each in the first leg at Catacol. The final score from the two ties was Kildonan 11, Catacol Bay 9. The final of the Pool Knock-out Cup proper will be played next Sunday 3 February be-

tween PT 1934 and Whiting Bay Golf Club. It will start at 6pm in the PHT, Lamblash. In the semis last Thursday, Whiting Bay beat the PHT by an aggregate score of 14-6, drawing five each having won the first leg 9-1 at home. In the other semi final PT1934 beat Mac's Bar by 13-7, drawing the first leg five each and winning 8-2 at home.



Kildonan Hotel pool team, Second Chance Salver 2013 winners, minus George Stewart who had to catch the last bus home. From left, Roland May, Howard Driver, Dave Nicholson, Phil Milland and Ryan Hughes. 02_b05pool02

Max is 2013 Open Pool Champion

It was an all-Kilmory affair as Max Worthington of PT 1934 won the Arran Open Pool championship 2013 last Sunday in Mac's Bar. He defeated fellow team-mate Robert Davidson in a best of five final. Robert took an early lead winning the first two games, but seasoned campaigner Max fought back to take the title by three games to two. On his way to the final Max had also grannied the 2012 champion Euan Ingram. A total of 24 players took part on two tables.



Max Worthington, left, 2013 Arran Open Pool champion with pool league secretary Eddie Picken in Mac's Bar last Sunday. b05pool03

25th year for Donald MacKenzie darts

The 2013 Donald MacKenzie Memorial Darts tournament will take place in Kilmory Social Club on Saturday 9 February, starting at 7.30pm. This is the 25th year that the event is being staged by Margaret MacKenzie in memory of her late husband Donald. As usual, funds raised will be going to a local charity which this time is going to be in aid

of a public access defibrillator for the village. Margaret said: 'It's amazing the way it has kept going over the years. I'll have a lot of family coming over, and it is going to be a busy night.' Donations for the raffle and hamper should be given to Margaret at Ferdean by Thursday 7 February.

Brodict Bridge Club results

The results for the tournament played on Thursday 24 January were as follows:
 N/S 1 Jan Beattie and John Beattie -140, 2 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton -700, 3 John Baraclough and Jennifer Wales -1770.
 E/W 1 Alison Bilsland and Elaine Duncan +4260, 2 Janie McLure and Anne McKelvie +4010, 3 Douglas Bruce and Margaret Bruce +2960.

Waterlogged pitch stopped rugby

Arran's home rugby tie against Paisley was cancelled last Saturday due to the pitch at Ormidale Park being waterlogged. The next scheduled league match is away to Loch Lomond on Saturday 16 February.

Second round of pool singles draw

The draw for the second round of Arran Pool Singles is as follows:-
 I MacDonald (Mac's Bar) v J Simmonds (W/Bay) at PHT, J Ainsworth (W/Bay) v C Duncan (Drift) at Bar Eden, P Stewart (PHT) v D Smith (1934) at Bar Eden, C Clugston (Mac's Bar) v D Head (W/Bay) at PHT, D Hackett (W/Bay) v R Buchan (Mac's Bar) at PHT, S Scott or L Wilson (Drift) v A Picken (1934) at Bar Eden, M Worthington (1934) v G MacLeod (W/Bay) at Kildonan, S Robinson (1934) v G Stewart (1934) at 1934.
 Ties to be played on or by Sunday 10 February. Results to be phoned to the PHT on 600418. The Arran Ladies Open will be played at the PHT on Sunday 24 February, starting at 3pm. Next week's pool league fixtures are: Mac's Bar v PT1934, PHT v W/Bay Golf Club. Kildonan and Catacol both have byes.

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