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# Arran not an easy driving test option despite high pass rates

'Even experienced drivers who visit the island can have problems on Arran's roads'

**REPORT**  
by JENNIFER LYON  
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Brodick boasts the second highest pass rate for driving tests in the whole of Scotland, according to new figures released this week.

But Arran driving instructor Peter Mackay insists sitting a test on the island is no easy option.

He said: 'The driving test is about observation, control of a vehicle and showing competent driving skills. It makes no difference to the types of roads and whether there are traffic lights or roundabouts.

'Traffic lights are red or green to go if it is safe to do so. I think Arran drivers can cope with temporary traffic lights on the Lamlash hill.'

Mr Mackay, who has been a driving instructor in the island for 20 years, said he was not aware of any abuse of the system with people coming to the island to learn to drive or sit their test.

'All the people I teach either live on the island or have permanent jobs here,' he said.

He said an instructor only came to the island when there was a demand. He said on

average four or five people took their test every couple of months.

Mr Mackay, who is a grade five examiner added: 'Even experienced drivers who visit the island can have problems on Arran's roads.'

The information shows that drivers sitting there test on Arran have an 82.3 per cent chance of passing, almost double that of Anniesland in the north of Glasgow. Statistically, young people are twice as likely to pass their test in a rural area compared to a busy town or city.

The Argyll town of Inveraray topped the national league table, with 87 per cent of people aged 17-25 sitting tests there passing.

Brodick was second with 82.3 per cent, Rothesay on the Isle of Bute followed with 74.4 per cent pass rate and Portree with 69.9 per cent.

The area with the lowest pass rate was the Inverclyde town of Greenock which ranked bottom of the top 50 list with 50.3 per cent of people passing.

Irvine, Ayr, Aberdeen north and Lanark also ranked as some of the worst areas for successful tests.



Finlay Murchie was invited to address the haggis at the Scottish parliament's Burns Supper last week.

## Parliament honour for young Finlay

One of the country's most talented young Burns performers was invited to address the haggis at the Scottish parliament last week - and he just happens to be from Arran.

Fifteen-year-old Finlay Murchie of Tigheanfraoch Farm, Shiskine was the winner of last year's S3/S4 nationwide Burns competition.

And when he was heard performing at a competition in Aberdeen, the par-

liament's presiding officer approached him to take part in her annual Burns Supper for members of Scotland's Consular Corps and Members.

'To a Haggis'

The evening included a feast of traditional Scottish music, poetry and song that featured Finlay reciting 'To a Haggis'.

'Fair fa' your honest, sonsie face, Great chieftain o the puddin'-race!

Aboon them a' ye tak your place, Painch, tripe, or thairm:

Weel are ye worthy o' a grace As lang's my arm.'

Presiding officer Tricia Marwick MSP said: 'I do not think I have ever heard such a fantastic rendition of the much-loved 'To a Haggis'.

'Well done Finlay and thank you for taking part in our fantastic Burns Supper.'

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## Contract awarded for terminal ground works

A Glasgow firm has won the contract to carry out ground investigation works for the redevelopment of the Brodick ferry terminal.

The firm Structural Soils Ltd were chosen from seven tenders received by Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) following a procurement process undertaken on Public Contract Scotland.

The cost of the work will be around £225,000.

The firm are due to start on site this month (February), although the exact date is not yet known as it is dependent on a calm weather 'window' to tow the working barge to Brodick from Fairlie where it is presently berthed.

The site works are due to take approximately four weeks and will involve a number of marine boreholes undertaken from a jack up barge, as well as trial pits and probes on the foreshore.

The contractor's site accommodation will comprise two or three containers/cabins, which will be placed on the gravelled area to the east of the existing marshalling area.

It will be the first visible signs of the £18 million redevelopment getting underway.

Pier operator CMAL is to reclaim land to the east of the existing pier to create a new two-berth pier and terminal fit for the 21st century.



Staff at the Co-op dressed in their tartan finery. 20\_b05shp01

# Co-op staff go mad for Rabbie Burns

Staff at the Brodick Co-operative store paid their respects to Scotland's national bard on Friday with a very special coffee afternoon.

### Small donation

Dressed in their tartan 'bunnets' and plaid 'troosers' the staff handed out teas and cof-

fees and homemade cakes for a small donation.

The event was organised to allow customers to come along and help the store decide which three local charities they will be donating money to this year.

Manager Liz McLean ex-

plained: 'Last year we raised £3,000 for the Carers Trust but this year we want to give £1,000 each to three island based charities.'

### Charities

'So we are asking the customers to tell us which charities they would like to see us

raising money for throughout the year. Suggestions so far have included the Mountain Rescue Team, APAWS and the First Responders and we will make a decision soon.'

Anyone with suggestions can hand them in to the Co-op this week.

## Boom time for Paterson's shortbread

Britain's shortbread market is booming and the big winner is Paterson Arran.

Newly published data shows that 11.9 million people bought shortbread, 669,000 more than last year, and the market value rose by 14.9 per cent to £76.8m.

Paterson Arran has dramatically stretched its lead in the highly competitive market and secured its position as the number one branded shortbread with sales growing by 31.7 per cent, outstripping nearest rivals Marks & Spencer.

Allan Miller, sales and marketing director at Paterson Arran said: 'We're delighted that we've retained the number one spot in a very tough market place.'

'Paterson's Shortbread offers consumers great shortbread and great value. The market data confirms that shoppers clearly appreciate our offer.'

## Supermarket fraudster goes on trial

A store supervisor is facing trial charged with embezzling £1,000 from her employer.

Fiona Crawford, 24, allegedly took the money while working as a team leader at the Co-op in Brodick.

Miss Crawford, of Douglas Villa, Lamlash, denies carrying out the offence in January 2013.

The case was adjourned at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court for the preparation of CCTV evidence and she will stand trial next month.

## Clarification

In last week's editorial we incorrectly stated that Jackson Carlaw MSP 'insists that 87 per cent of islanders are against' the proposed biomass plant in Lamlash.

This is not the case. On the front page it correctly stated that 87 per cent of those who responded to the survey were opposed, not 87 per cent of the total population of Arran.

Mr Carlaw has never said that the survey results represented the entire population of the island.

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The pupils at Corrie Primary School discovered how The Banner is put together each week. 20\_b05cor01

# Corrie kids learn about journalism

The children at Corrie Primary School were given an insight into the world of journalism last week with The Arran Banner.

Teacher Mrs Kirsten Picken asked chief reporter Jenny Lyon to come along and be interviewed by the children as they continue their look into the world of commercial writing.

The pupils were introduced to the art of shorthand and were guided through the journey of a story - from finding out about an incident on the island to the finished article being published in print and

on the internet.

Jenny said: 'I thoroughly enjoyed chatting with all of the children and answering their questions about journalism and the world of newspapers.

'The questions that they asked me were all very clever and insightful and I think that there might be a few future Jeremy Paxmans and Kirsty Warks in that classroom!

'I was particularly impressed when one little girl asked me if being a reporter was like being a spy. I suppose it sometimes is!'

Teacher Mrs Picken said:

'This term we have been looking at commercial writing so we have been developing our interview skills and today was an ideal opportunity to practice asking questions and listening carefully to the answers.'

Jenny added: 'I think some of them should definitely consider a career in the media. It was lovely to have such an inquisitive group eager to learn who were all very well behaved.'

'Thank you to the school for inviting me to visit and I look forward to working with them on a big story soon!'

# Arran will have to wait three years for broadband rollout

The majority of Arran is in line for a full superfast broadband service, but not for nearly three years.

West of Scotland MSP Jackson Carlaw asked the Scottish government when the residents of Arran could expect the level of broadband service taken for granted on the mainland.

### Flourish

Mr Carlaw said: 'A complete next generation, superfast broadband service for Arran will allow the development of future business and enterprise on the island to flourish.'

'It would also provide a more reliable network to the mainland and beyond for the

residents, an essential resource for an island community in the age of social media and online communications.'

'The Scottish government owe it to the people of Arran to meet their target of 91 per cent coverage by the end of 2016, and I will be making sure they live up to their promise.'

In a written parliamentary reply to Mr Carlaw, who is also deputy leader of the Scottish Conservative Party, deputy first minister Nicola Sturgeon said: 'The Scottish government and its partners are investing over £280 million in our Step Change programme which, alongside commercial

deployment, will deliver next generation broadband access to 95 per cent of premises in Scotland by 2017-18.'

'Deployment to Arran falls within the scope of the Highlands and Islands broadband project.'

### Available

'Next generation broadband services are expected to be available in all 10

of Arran's exchange areas by 2016.'

'Coverage to those parts of North Ayrshire being delivered in the Highlands and Islands project (Arran and the Cumbraes) will be around 91 per cent of premises by the end of 2016.'

# Arran's old ferry comes to the rescue

The MV Isle of Arran came to the rescue on Sunday night after the Caledonian Isles broke down, just one day after returning to service following her annual refit.

Technical difficulties forced the cancellation of the Ardrossan ferry on Saturday morning but she sailed again later that day.

However on Sunday the Caledonian Isles was forced to turn back to Brodick after setting off for Gourock at 10.30am.

The MV Isle of Arran arrived from Campbeltown at 6pm and a return sailing took place from Brodick later that night.

A CalMac spokesman said: 'We regret any inconvenience caused by the unexpected technical problems which arose on the MV Caledonian Isles last weekend.'

'A replacement ship was deployed as soon as possible and a huge effort is now underway to repair the fault as

quickly as possible.'

'In this case the issue relates to new tailor-made pipework associated with the replacement of the turbo-chargers which has been carried out for safety reasons on the recommendation of the manufacturers.'

'Our own engineers and the manufacturer's specialists are working round the clock to get this fixed and we hope to have her back in service as soon as possible.'

He added: 'It is very disappointing that this break-

down happened so soon after leaving refit as formal sea trials were undertaken twice before she was put back into service and neither gave any cause of concern.' When asked why CalMac do not run a 6am sailing when the boat is forced to berth overnight in Brodick, he said: 'Putting on an earlier sailing would extend the working day and the consequence of this, due to hours of rest legislation, would be the loss of a later service at the end of the day.'

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## Check your calendar for new refuse collection routes

A new household bin collection programme begins next week and residents are being urged to check for any changes to their collection days.

Every household in North Ayrshire will have their 2014 waste collection calendar delivered to them.

There have been some changes to routes and collection days for some households, so it is important to check your calendar for the correct collection date.

Keep this calendar safe as it provides important information on collection days for your blue recycling, brown organic and food waste, and grey bins.

As well as a calendar, residents will also receive a handy guide to the types of materials accepted in each bin.

This is especially important when using blue bins as non-recyclable material or tied black bags can result in the entire contents of the bin being left uncollected.

This year NAC are also rolling out our food waste collection to flats, rural homes and other households which were not part of the initial phase.

Brown bins, kitchen caddies and liners will be delivered to these households over the next few weeks.



Councillor Bruce and headteacher Mr Auld watch as senior pupils Moir McCallum and Ceile Swinton-Boyle plant the commemorative silver birch. 20\_b05ahs01

# Arran High plant tree in memory of the Holocaust

Councillor John Bruce joined pupils at Arran High School on Monday to commemorate the Holocaust.

The school is one of 10 in North Ayrshire chosen by the council to receive a Silver Birch Tree working in partnership with the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust (HMDT).

HMDT is a UK wide charity that promotes and supports Holocaust Memorials.

After two senior pupils planted the tree, Councillor John Bruce said: 'It is a sobering thought that some three gen-

erations after the end of World War Two the young people of Arran High School feel a very genuine need to mark Holocaust Memorial Day, recognising the unspeakable horrors that took place in Europe in the mid 20th century.

### Genetic memory

'Because evolution has not blessed humanity with a genetic memory, we have to put down markers to great significant events.

'It is a sad reflection, however, that most of our existing memorials commemorate tragedy in all its forms, be

they natural disasters or the periodic genocidal tendencies of mankind.'

He continued: 'The planting of this simple silver birch represents our commitment to remember what took place at Auschwitz-Birkenau - Birkenau of course means the area of birches.

'I would also like to believe, along with our young generation, that this tree most assuredly symbolises renewal and our fervent hope that sometime soon we, as humankind, learn to embrace strategies and policies which prove life-enhancing instead of life-destroying.'

## Search begins for Arran's voices

The search has begun to find the island's storytellers to take part in the 'Arran Voices' project that will culminate in a storytelling performance evening at the end of March. Jacqueline Harris, a local professional storyteller, is hoping to encourage people to share stories and engage in oral storytelling as a way to both bring old stories back to life and to encourage the telling of new Arran stories that may not have been heard before.

Jacqueline is looking for people who would be willing to chat to her about Arran stories, such as folktales, stories of the supernatural, funny stories or simply stories about what Arran and its landscape means to them.

She is also looking for people who might like to work alongside her to develop a shared storytelling performance at the end of March.

If you would be happy to share some stories and/or want to take part in the performance, please contact Jacqueline on 860163 or 07796227507 or email jah@storyheel.co.uk

## New Dippen picnic site

A new car park and picnic area is being planned at Dippen by the Forestry Commission.

The proposal is to build a car park for six cars next to the A841 on ground that was forested but has now been cleared. The site is to the west of Creagraineach.

The proposal was first submitted last May but new drawings have now been submitted and the plan is now under active consideration by North Ayrshire Council planning officials.



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## Elderly warned about bogus caller

Police Scotland Officers are continuing enquiries and warning members of the public to be on their guard following a bogus caller incident in Ardrossan last week. An 85-year-old woman was in her house in St Andrews Road, Ardrossan when she answered the door to a man who asked to check the water pipes within her property. The woman allowed him into the house, where he stayed for a short while, and after he had left, the woman noticed that a sum of money was missing from her house, although the amount is unknown at this time. The man is described as white, early twenties and around 5ft 5 inches in height. He has light brown hair with highlights and was wearing a black jacket. Police Scotland would like to remind anyone, and particularly elderly members of the community that if anyone comes to your door, always, without exception, ask them for identification.

Always close and lock your door while you contact the company or the Police in order to check they are genuine before allowing anyone access to your home.

Use your door chain to ensure they cannot gain entry until you are satisfied with their identity and do not to place handbags and purses in open view, especially with large amounts of cash within.

## Livestock sales

United Auctions in Stirling had forward 1,582 store cattle, 208 cast cows and 3,052 store and breeding sheep last week.

Cast cows: Birchburn (SimX) £1190, 154p, Kilpatrick (BB) £815, 118p, Bellevue (Cont) £585, 121p, Craighdu (Lim) £525, 95p, Hawthorn (AA) £565, 97p, Clauchlands (Hols) £665, 86p, Knowe (Hols) £625, 87p.

Lambs: Craighdu (Tex) £77.50, Kilpatrick (Tex) £76, Drumnaghinier (Tex) £64, Drumnaghinier (Suff) £69, Whin (Suff) £50, Sheddock (Cross) £66  
Ewes: Hillhead (Cross) £51.50, Altgolath (Cross) £47.50, Kilpatrick (Tex) £67.50, Hillhead (Tex) £51.50, Balgowan (BF) £40.50, Altgolath (BF) £36.50, Sheddock (BF) £33.50, Bailemargaidh (BF) £32.50

Cast rams: Drumnaghinier (Suff) £84.50, Marganaish (Suff) £76.50, Kilpatrick (Tex), £83.50, Altgolath (BFL) £62.50, Ceither Gaoithe (Cross) £40.50, Ceither gaoithe (BF), £55.50, Drumnaghinier (BF) £50.50, Balgowan (BF) £58.

# Antiquarians need new blood or the group might fold

The annual general meeting of the Arran Antiquarians took place on Monday 20 January in Brodick Hall when 55 members attended.

The business part of the meeting followed a welcoming glass of wine, so everyone was relaxed and attentive to Tom Macleod (chairman), Harry Davidson (secretary) and Margaret Bruce (treasurer), as they gave their reports.

The society has had a good year, with a membership of

130 and an average attendance of 70 at the monthly meetings. Despite outlay on sound equipment we are financially secure. The officers are happy to remain in post for another year and the committee is unaltered, except for the retirement of Margaret Bryce.

There followed the usual slide show compiled by Tom and Harry and delivered by Harry in his own inimitable way.

This featured the speak-

ers over the past year with a brief résumé of their lecture, then pictures of the annual outing to Stirling Castle, and the field trip organised by Liz Dale to Auchencar.

Both Tom and Harry have intimated their decision to stand down from office in 2015 after three years and 17 years respectively. It would be very sad if such a successful group had to close, but no-one appears to be willing to take over. Could you do it? Make yourself known to us – it is fun and rewarding. It is the intention to hold an extraordinary general meeting at the conclusion of the meeting in July, when the hoped for volunteers will appear or a decision with regard to the future of the society will be discussed.

We meet every month (except December) on the third Monday in Brodick Hall at 2 pm. Visitors are also welcome. Come and have an interesting afternoon and a cup of tea or coffee, biscuits and a chat.



## Lights donation for rescue team

Bernie Jackson, left, hands over a cheque for £100 to Alan McNicol leader of the Arran Mountain Rescue Team. Bernie raised the money from his annual Christmas light display at his home in Whiting Bay.

He has raised a considerable amount of money for charities, both on the island as well as nationally and internationally over the years.

And he has pledged the lights will be back on for his 25th year this coming Christmas. 20\_20lights01

## Arran livestock sales

United Auctions in Stirling had forward 1,261 store cattle and cast cows, 4,681 store and prime sheep last week.

Suffolk cross hogs: Craigraineach £77, Cross hogs: Braehead £68, Blackface: Hillhead £50.

Texel cross ewes: Bellevue £68.50, Texel cross ewes: Kilpatrick £60.50, Cheviot/Mule: Auchenhew £64.50, Suffolk cross: Hillhead £68.50, Auchenhew £51.50. Mule: Bellevue £50.50, Blackface: Craigraineach £43.

## Lost gloves

A lady has made a plea over her lost leather gloves.

The gloves, which are chocolate brown, were lost somewhere between Brodick and Whiting Bay after she had attended a concert in Brodick Hall and a church service in Whiting Bay over the weekend of January 18/19.

Anyone who can help is asked to contact Linda Ross on 870229.

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### Corrie pupils thanked by Queen

Staff and pupils at Corrie Primary School received a surprise letter from a very important person recently.

Her Majesty The Queen sent the school a thank you note after the pupils sent her designs for an incredible pram that could be used by the new royal baby, Prince George.

Teacher Mrs Picken said they were thrilled to receive the letter which was proudly displayed by Lori Murchie this week.



## The Arran Banner on holiday

'The Banner on Holiday' feature started six years ago, and we continue to be absolutely overwhelmed by the number of fantastic photographs of our readers that have come through the doors.

Maureen Thersby from Yarm and

Shiskine took a copy of The Arran Banner to read at the top of the ski run in the Alps at La Plagne, France on her recent ski holiday. What a view!

Don't forget to pack your copy of The Banner if you are going on holiday. It could be from Perth or St Pe-

tersburg, it really doesn't matter; we would love to see your photographs.

**Send**

Please send them to us either by email to editor@arranbanner.co.uk or to The Arran Banner, Douglas Centre, Brodick KA27 8AJ.

### Surgeon quits before hearing

AN ARRAN surgeon who faced being struck off the medical register after a series of botched operations has been allowed to resign before facing any disciplinary action.

Colin Mains, 57, was on the receiving end of several complaints after a series of failed operations. Among those who suffered at his hands was Edinburgh patient Sean Spence, who was left in constant pain after a spinal implant was fitted in the wrong place.

Mains treated 620 patients and carried out 400 operations at Glasgow's Ross Hall Hospital between 2008-2009, earning £250,000.

He originally faced 50 misconduct charges, but was allowed to admit only 13. Among those were allegations that he misplaced implants and screws, carried out inappropriate surgery and failed to make adequate checks on surgery.

His withdrawal from the medical register means he cannot be punished by the General Medical Council.

## Corrie and Sannox SWRI hold Old New Years Nicht celebrations

Corrie and Sannox SWRI held their Auld New Years Nicht celebration on 10 January when they hold a supper with entertainment and invite one of the other rurals to join with them. On this occasion it was Kildonan and they had also invited central councillor and H and H advisor Vivienne Haigh to be with them.

A goodly part of friends were there, 15 guests and 11 members. A very tasty supper had been provided by mem-

bers and was enjoyed by all.

Mike Bailey then set to and gave a lovely selection of songs accompanied on the guitar including 'The Muck Spreader' a west country song and his own composition 'Farewell to Lochranza'.

#### Recitations

The president then gave guests some Scots recitations and a much requested song 'The Wee Cock Sparr'. The secretary also gave a Scottish version of Eenie Meenie

Minie Mo, which she hoped people would remember and not let die out.

The very generous raffle was drawn and over £100 was raised for Scottish War Blinded.

The very happy evening came to an end when members were reminded that the next meeting will be on Thursday 13 February at 2pm in the school annex when it is hoped young mothers and children will join them.

## Kilmory auction raises vital hall funds

The impressive sum of £1,025 was raised for hall funds at an auction in Kilmory Hall on Saturday afternoon.

The directors of Kilmory Hall would like to thank everyone who donated and bought items at the sale.

Thanks to everyone who helped on the day especially auctioneer David Thomas who made the afternoon run smoothly and managed to sell 172 items; and to John Picken for showing off the items so elegantly!

Special thanks to Phyllis Picken for organising another great fundraising event for the hall.

The next big event is the Casino Night, tickets are available from the Hall or 1934 Club.

Hope to see you all there.

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## Searching for Britain's greatest generation

Arran's men and women in their late 80s, 90s and 100s who have vivid and interesting stories to tell from their past are being urged to take part in a new television programme.

Award winning history documentary company Testimony Films are making a new series for BBC2 paying tribute to Britain's Greatest Generation.

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The Young Nats gathered for their re-arranged Christmas party last week.

# Megan is named young naturalist of the year 2013

Arran's budding young naturalists celebrated the end of the year with the presentation of a very special award recently.

Megan McCartney from Corrie was named as the young naturalist of the year for 2013 with Emma Girbow and Mary Smyth as runners-up.

The party at the Ranger Centre in the grounds of Brodick Castle had to be

postponed until January after dangerously high winds forced the closure of the country park back in December.

Organiser Corinna Goeckeritz said: 'The Young Nats didn't seem to mind the extension of Christmas into the New Year!

'Well done to all of the winning naturalists.'

**Suitable for children**  
The Brodick Country Park

Young Naturalists Club meets on the second Saturday of each month at the Ranger Centre, and is suitable for children between the ages of six and 11.

Most of the session takes place outdoors, exploring wildlife and natural history in a fun and hands-on way.

Please phone the Ranger Service on 302462 for more information.

## North Ayrshire welcomes Afghans nationals who worked alongside UK troops

Afghan nationals who assisted UK forces in the war torn state will be invited to make North Ayrshire their new home, if a proposal to the local authority is approved.

A national resettlement scheme – for key personnel who served on the frontline in Helmand – will be considered in detail at next week's meeting of the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council.

### Welcome

The UK government is asking all local authorities to welcome the Afghan people and reward them with the chance of a new start in life.

Council leader Willie Gibson said: 'I believe that we

owe these people a debt of gratitude for the part they have played in helping allied troops overcome the forces of terrorism.

### Better society

'In extending the hand of friendship, we help others who, in turn, will help us create a better society and a better place in which to live.

'I implore everyone to join me in welcoming these people – and giving them the chance to live with us in peace and harmony, away from the horrors of war.'

Applicants who move to the UK will be able to apply for permanent settlement after five years.

## Shiskine senior citizens say thanks

The Shiskine and Machrie Senior Citizens Committee would like to thank Shiskine Golf Club and the Kinloch Hotel's Mackerel Lottery for their kind donations to their funds.

Sadly due to unforeseen circumstances the coffee afternoon at the Kinloch scheduled for Saturday 1 February has been postponed until Saturday 15 February.

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# THE ARRAN BANNER

## Testing time for Arran's drivers

Brodick apparently now boasts the second highest pass rate for driving tests in the whole of Scotland - an impressive feat for an island so small.

Statistically, young people are twice as likely to pass their test in a rural area compared to a busy town or city.

But Arran driving instructor Peter Mackay has insisted that sitting a test on the island is no easy option.

For years I've been ridiculed by my mainland friends for passing my driving test on Arran.

People found it hard to believe that you could sit a driving test in a place with no traffic lights or roundabouts.

At the age of 19 I had learnt to drive in Dumfries but just hadn't had time to sit my actual test.

While working here for the summer I booked four lessons with Peter MacKay and he arranged my test.

We drove all over Brodick and Lamlash, reversing around corners in Murray Crescent, doing three-point turns at Brodick Church and parallel parking on Brathwic Terrace.

I thought I was doing okay until the day of my test arrived and I realised I'd be driving through Brodick at the dreaded FERRY TIME.

Now for those accustomed to driving daily through the centre of Glasgow or navigating roundabouts and motorways on your way to work, driving through Brodick when the ferry is in probably doesn't seem so very scary.

But trust me, even now, 10 years later, I still do everything I can to avoid driving at ferry time and I certainly don't go down Market Road or try to get petrol or anything stupid like that when there's a boat unloading.

Okay so we don't have traffic lights and there are no roundabouts but we do have to contend with drivers who seem to think it's okay to leave the Highway Code at home when using Arran's roads.

Cars are frequently abandoned anywhere in Brodick - yellow lines or not.

People will pull out of Market Road right in front of you as if being a ferry passenger automatically gives you the right of way.

And don't get me started on the swarms of pedestrians who seem surprised to see that Arran actually has cars.

Peter is absolutely right when he says that the driving test is about observation, control of a vehicle and showing competent driving skills.

It really doesn't make any difference where you sit your test, you are still faced with the same obstacles. JL

### 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.

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

### your letters

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

## Letters to the Editor



### Ferry consensus

Sir,  
My word, the natives certainly are getting restless.

Since the difficult weather conditions of December there has been a definite upsurge in the criticism of the operation of our dedicated main ferry by a multitude of Arran residents - this is good, let us shout louder than our voices may be heard above the continuing gobbledy gook that's coming out of Gourrock.

Last week's Banner had five critical and one supportive letter of CMAL.

Enough has been said of the lack of service we've received from the Calamity Isles, though not enough of the splendid service received from the Clansman when she was acting as relief ship during our current incumbent's annual overhaul.

Though I must say that the gangways were far from perfect for people with large bags, unsteady of foot and the likes, I must also point out that if spotted or requested there was invariably a crewman handy to assist.

I was unfortunate enough to be on the final sailing of Clansman this winter when foot passengers had to disembark via the car deck as the gangway had been removed prior to leaving with the Clansman on Friday morning.

I hear you; 'What's he moaning about now?', I personally was not put out by this fact as I am not yet too elderly or infirm and managed the stairs down to the car deck without difficulty.

A lady immediately in front of me with a small aircraft walk-on sized suitcase was struggling and kept apologising for holding us all up, I couldn't help as my shopping bag was pulling my arm out, the other was hanging on to the hand rail.

Despite my urging her to just take her time and get down safely she kept on with her apologising, bless her.

Right, whinges out the way column inches being eaten up I had intended passing comment on the other correspond-

ents letters, messrs Kerr, Ferguson, Mackay, Arthur and Anon were generally in agreement with me or had stolen some of my limelight by pre-empting what I was planning on writing about in this or future issues, did I hear a loud cheer there?

I know Mr Kerr, as a near neighbour of mine, has an interest in shipping as I've had to pass a Sea Breezes magazine back to him as it had been left at my place by mistake. As for the others I can't at this moment tell.

As for Jim McCann's letter where he basically tells us we're wrong for condemning management for refusing to sail in 'horrendous storm conditions' he should realise we were condemning management for not sailing in just windy conditions and blaming a weather forecast that no one else had seen.

Yes Mr McCann, we chose to live on Arran but we do expect a ferry service that will get us home in all but the most severe weather conditions.

Yours  
John Lawson  
Catacol

### Passenger ferry

Sir,  
One possible way out of this impasse might be for CalMac to add a new passenger only ferry to the Brodick-Ardrossan run, to complement the Cally Isles which would continue as primarily a vehicle carrier.

A ship designed for passengers would be cheaper, more seaworthy since lower in the water and better able to access the mainland ports owing to less windage and a deeper keel; especially important would be that no linkspans would be required.

Given the two berths which the new terminal will have, in the summer the Cally Isles would shuttle with the summer boat (Isle of Arran or whatever) using the linkspan side and the passenger boat would use the second berth.

The island could do with fewer road vehicles, not more. A higher proportion of foot passengers, complement-

ed by improved bus services, would surely enhance the attractiveness of the island.

Yours,  
Ian Ferguson  
High Corrie  
Complicated terminal

Sir,  
RE 'Getting the pier right' in the edition of Saturday 18 January.

Mr Robert Kerr appears to me to hit so many nails on the head with his ideas on the general layout and ease of passenger movement within the new terminal area.

There are so many crossover points between passengers and vehicles, and between embarking and disembarking passengers in the proposed design.

As Mr Kerr says, and I have already suggested this to CMAL, why not eliminate these conflicts.

To get back to real basics is there a real need for two berths especially as only one will have vehicle handling facilities.

Why not fix what is already there, which is an easily accessible terminal, by land or by sea, with no stairs or lifts and no conflict points between opposing traffic flows - in short a set-up that makes using the terminal an uncomplicated experience.

Yours,  
Alistair Glen  
Brodick

### To think again

Sir,  
So NEDL, the proposers of the biomass plant at the Dyemill have withdrawn, to think again.

NEDL were proposing a plant that would achieve only 23 per cent efficiency because there was no use for the heat generated.

Technically the plant was offered as Combined Heat and Power [CHP] but the heat produced was to be released into the atmosphere.

In 2013 both UK and Scottish governments were active in redesigning the electricity market.

Green objectives remain in place, including through the

use of biomass.

The new Electricity Market Reform [Cm8674] measures have been designed to tighten up the contracting regime so as to provide consumers with greater price stability as well as assurance of the viability and efficiency of specific projects.

The Scottish government's 'Electricity Generating Policy Statement' of 2013 sets out laudable green energy objectives for this country.

Here are two points from that statement set against the NEDL plan for Arran.

11 per cent of required heat to be supplied from green energy by 2020. The NEDL plant would not contribute a single therm to that goal.

Preference for biomass in heat only or 'good quality' CHP schemes. Heat only schemes can reach 80-90 per cent efficiency and CHPs can reach 50-70 per cent. It will beggar belief that the NEDL 'CHP' plant as presently conceived could be deemed 'good quality' at an efficiency rate of 23 per cent.

These underlying public policy arguments add to those against this project to be found at the excellent [www.arranenergy.org](http://www.arranenergy.org) developed by, and hugely supportive of, residents on the island.

You report that NEDL remain 'fully committed' to the Dyemill project.

Can this be so? The combination of evidence-based local opposition and a new and tougher policy environment provide the reasons for their withdrawal.

They also suggest that NEDL will never return to the Dyemill site.

Yours,  
John Taylor  
Whiting Bay

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# Arran's thriving businesses



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## Active Finance Scotland

Do I need a financial advisor? It's not perhaps the first thought that jumps into your head in the morning. But since the arrival of experienced advisor Daniel Lamont on the island more than two years ago, it is a question being considered by many on Arran. Neither of the island's banks now employ financial advisers so Daniel offers a one-hour, completely free, no obligation financial health check. With years of experience working with both the Royal Bank of Scotland and the Cooperative he is able to improve any person's financial situation. 'Basically my remit is to make you money, save you

money and protect what's most important to you,' said Daniel. Based in Dalry, Daniel visits the island regularly and is happy to discuss any money matter with you in the comfort of your own home. You might be thinking: 'I have a good salary or pension, I pay my bills on time and I know how to do my taxes...my finances are doing pretty well,' but Daniel can make you aware of financial opportunities and best practices to yield more in the long run. So give him a call today and find out what he can do for you!



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## Paragon Solutions web design

It's difficult to find a website on Arran that hasn't been created by Zabdi Keen at Paragon Solutions web design. Her websites include Torrylinn Creamery - www.realarrancheese.com, www.bigwoodenhouse.com, www.arrancoast.com and www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk as well as many more here and abroad. She started the business five years ago after the birth of her son but has had an interest in web design for nearly 20 years. Zabdi said: 'Every website has its own unique characteristics which is why a free template website never fits. We create a custom design using existing branding or we can create a new image with you. Your website should be built to fulfil your needs and the aims of your desired audience.' With a team of designers around the world which includes her partner

Maurice Geraghty and sister Anna Keen in France, Zabdi can create a fabulous website for your business or organisation. They can be developed for self-management or Zabdi can run it for you and all websites can include the most up to date video and interactive technology. If you are a North Ayrshire business you may be eligible for grant assistance towards half the costs of your website so why not give Zabdi a call today.



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'I'm a problem solver, pure and simple.' Those are the words of Bill Stewart when we asked what exactly it is that Incidentals Arran does. Bill, who has more than 30 years experience working in the computer industry, has done everything from design heating systems for golf clubs to water wheels for a home. PC recovery and repair is Bill's speciality and he can do this in the comfort of your own home or from his workshop in Catacol. As a qualified teacher of computing he is also able to show you what you need to do to get the most from your system

'I won't sell you anything that you don't need,' explains Bill. 'Just because you have a faulty key on your keyboard doesn't mean you need a new laptop. Most things are fixable, very few are beyond repair.' As well as computer repairs Bill also works online managing databases and computer systems all over the globe from Newcastle to Brazil. Believe it or not but Bill can remotely repair computers on trains in Sweden from his workshop in Catacol. So for all your problem solving needs give Bill at Incidentals Arran a call today.



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## Andrew Ross-Bain

With more and more of us installing stoves in our homes chimney sweeping has become big business on Arran. And one man who knows only too well how vital a clean chimney is, is Andrew Ross-Bain who has been sweeping the island's flues for the past five years. Moving to the island from Stratford-upon-Avon Andrew immediately saw a gap in the market. 'There were one or two sweeps working on the island but there were more and more fires be-

ing installed and Arran needed another chimney sweep,' said Andrew. He now has 300 customers all over the island and he is happy to travel to all four corners. 'I have customers in Lochranza and Lagg, it doesn't matter where you are, I'll come to you.' As well as sweeping chimneys he now also offers a removal service for anyone wanting to move furniture or goods from one part of the island to another!



To advertise in our next business feature call Laura on 01770 302142

## Valentine's dinner to raise Malawi funds

Nine high school pupils preparing for a trip of a lifetime to Malawi are hoping to get Arran in the mood for love as they host a fundraising Valentine's dinner.

On Friday 14 February those attending will receive a three-course meal prepared by Alastair Gold and his team from Arran on a Plate.

On top of this, during dinner there will be live entertainment from some of the school's very talented students.

The meal will be a set menu and guests are invited to bring a bottle of their choice to enjoy.

James McEnaney, one of the teachers involved in organising the Malawi 2015 trip, said: 'Whilst this is a Valentine's dinner we would be thrilled to welcome peo-

ple arriving individually or in groups, and will provide a range of seating options so it won't just be lots of couples in the room.'

Tickets for the evening are set at the very reasonable price of £25, although there are a limited number of VIP tickets available for £30 as well.

### Privilege

VIP ticket holders will be seated in the cafeteria area and will have the privilege of watching the chef's work, as well as being served first for each course.

Every penny raised will be going towards the group fund for the expedition next year.

They hope to see as many people as possible at the event and look forward to providing an excellent evening for those supporting it.

### Music festival dates released

The 2014 Arran Music Festival will take place in the community theatre at Arran High School on March 26, 27 and 28.

Copies of the festival syllabus are now available at several island shops and at all the schools. Unfortunately a few copies with the wrong dates may have been distributed. The correct dates are shown above.



One hundred per cent of Samsø's power consumption is supplied by wind turbines and 70 per cent of the heat comes from r

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# Island seeks of power sup

## Arran can learn lessons in community

Arran is looking to learn from a renewable energy island in Denmark.

Backers of a new community energy project on Arran believe it is time the residents of the island had a major say in the better integration of power supplies on the island.

And they hope eventually to set up their renewable energy scheme for the benefit of the whole island.

In the search for inspiration they have been looking at how the small Danish island of Samsø became self-sufficient in electricity just four years after it was made a Renewable Energy Island in 1997.

Although just a quarter of the size of Arran the island nine miles off the Jutland Peninsula has a population of nearly 4,000 and is described as 'Denmark in miniature'.

Today 100 per cent of the island's power consumption is supplied by wind turbines and

70 per cent of the heat comes from renewable sources such as straw, solar energy and wood chips.

The island has experimented with rapeseed oil for transportation and intelligent storage of solar energy and aims to be a fossil free island by 2030.

And the Samsø Energy Academy is now an international meeting centre visited by more than 6,000 politicians, journalists and students from around the world each year to learn from the community's experience.

### Opportunities

The island itself is said to have a beautiful and varied countryside that offers many experiences and opportunities for activities, like Arran.

'We may be seven years behind but there is a lot we can learn from the experiences in Samsø. Although smaller its landscape and climate and population are not unlike Ar-

ran which makes it an ideal place to learn from,' said Bill Calderwood who is the leading light behind the Arran energy plan.

'Maybe someday we will be able to ecological tourists to Arran's renewable energy projects.'

This week Mr Calderwood gave an update on the Arran Community Energy (ACE) proposals to the community council.

And they are at a crucial stage of evolving with charity status being sought and various pieces of the jigsaw beginning to fall into place.

'ACE is not a single project. It is about looking at all the various projects on the island and seeing if we can bring them together for the benefit of the community,' said Mr Calderwood.

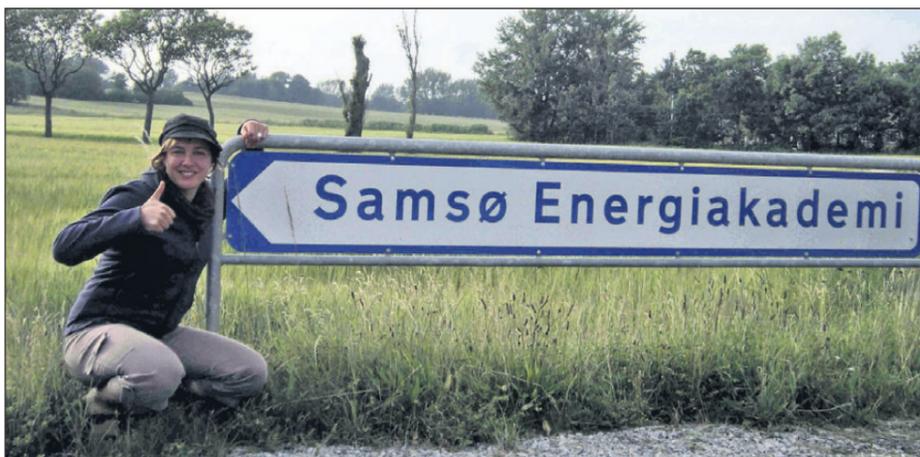
They are already talking to the National Trust for Scotland about their four hydro schemes



renewable sources such as straw, solar energy and wood chips.

### The aims of Arran Community Energy

- Work with current providers to facilitate restructure of the existing grid network to remove vulnerability to users in the event of supply interruptions from the mainland.
- Promote the development of renewable energy generating systems and maintain capacity in line with projected demand.
- To promote substantial savings on electricity consumption.
- Promote schemes which contribute to significant heating cost savings.
- Evaluate alternative fuel options for transport on the island.
- Actively include residents and businesses to enable optimisation of new opportunities as they may arise.
- Work with the various local groups to prepare a project plan for Arran showing options and potential benefits. Agree initial focus of activities.
- Monitor new building regulations to minimise the future vulnerability for new build premises and evaluate what could be introduced to ensure new builds have alternative heat sources as a basic condition of building regulations.



The Samsø Energy Academy is now an international meeting centre visited by more than 6,000 politicians, journalists and students from around the world each year to learn from the community's experience.



The small Danish island of Samsø became self-sufficient in electricity just four years after it was made a Renewable Energy Island in 1997.

# Integration supplies

## energy from 'Denmark in miniature'

in Brodick Country Park.

They themselves have identified three possible sites for a hydro scheme near Corrie and another at Shiskine.

However it has become clear that the potential needs of the island will not be met with hydro alone and there needs to be considered a multi-option approach to providing a secure and reliable power supply.

### Enhance

To this end the group have established dialogue with SSE technical management responsible for grid structure and initial discussions held to scope a potential project which could enhance village resilience and provide a model for roll out to wider applications.

The group is also supporting Glasgow University students following their approach looking for background information related to Arran's energy needs for an assigned project.

That project, which is now

part of a number of engineering degree programmes, involves providing technical designs for energy conversion technology suitable for development on Arran and a 10 year business plan.

Mr Calderwood added: 'We have also identified and engaged with three interested potential Trustees who will add heritage, engineering and transport experience to the scheme.'

But the initiative also extends beyond the island as they have agreed a partnership with Cumbria and Bute through the Scottish Islands Federation to create a 'Cluster' of Clyde islands to share experiences and work together. They have also prepared an 'Expression of Interest' to participate in the SmileGov project which should lead to the creation of an island plan.

The project has its origins when in June 2012 Arran Com-

munity Council established an energy sub-committee to review energy schemes being proposed by private developers, in particular the biomass plant at Dyemill.

However, it quickly became clear that there was a strong interest in developing other viable options in which the community could contribute and ensure that the benefits directed to key community projects.

Following a review of various sites around the island the sub-committee focused on a site on mainly forestry land at Loch Garbad on the south of the island.

### Abandon

However, after some preliminary works it was decided to abandon the scheme and look for other sites.

That has now expanded into the all encompassing Arran Community Energy scheme will should see significant development in 2014.

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# Bill calls it a day after 34 years with the fire brigade

Firefighters from around the island, old and new, recently gathered at the Ormidale Hotel in Brodick to celebrate



Bill receives his commemorative plaque from area manager Jim Scott.

with Bill McNicol as he ended a 34 year career with the fire brigade.

Bill was joined at the Ormidale by his family where he was presented with a retirement plaque with gold axe for his service by Paul McClintock, who was an officer in charge of Arran for a duration of Bill's service, and who had come over from the mainland especially to attend.

Another presentation took place at Brodick Fire Station on Tuesday 14 January, when area manager Jim Scott presented Bill with a commemorative plaque.

Bill joined Brodick fire brigade in 1979 where he served as a firefighter until he was promoted to watch commander.

Bill officially retired from service on 31 December 2013 and all crews past and present wish him a happy retirement!



Paul McClintock presents Bill with his gift accompanied by his wife Alison.

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## MSP backs school no closures plan

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson has welcomed SNP government proposals to prevent unnecessary or inappropriate closures of rural and island schools.

Speaking in the Scottish parliament Mr Gibson said: 'Back in late 2007 and early 2008 Labour controlled North Ayrshire Council set out to close Corrie Primary School, a proposal defeated with the resolute support of the people of Corrie and many others in the wider Arran community.'

'Had Corrie closed, no doubt a domino effect would have led to further closures, impacting hugely on Arran and its very viability as an island in which to raise children.'

'The legislation passed by the Scottish parliament to prevent other rural and island communities going through the same process as Corrie has been challenged and so must and will be tightened to protect our small schools.'

The cabinet secretary for education and lifelong learning Michael Russell, MSP for Argyll & Bute added: 'I know that Mr Gibson, like me, is

deeply committed to our rural and island schools and recognises their importance to many communities.'

'In order to improve and strengthen the process for school closure proposals, the SNP Government is taking forward amendments to the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.'

'For rural and island schools specifically, I intend to amend the act to clarify how the presumption against closure should operate in practice. 'A key policy objective of the 2010 act was to create a presumption against closure of rural and island schools. However, following a recent judicial review, the court concluded that the 2010 act does not contain such a presumption and the resultant confusion between communities and local authorities means there is a need to revise it.'

'The SNP government remains committed to a presumption against closure of rural and island schools and consequently, our amendments will clarify exactly what is meant by that pre-

sumption and describe it in precise legal terms to ensure they have the intended consequences.'

'Closing schools can be counterproductive. Closing island schools may accelerate population decline because it can threaten the very existence of small communities.'

'In all those circumstances we need to be very careful when talking about closing good, viable island schools.'

'That is very important. There is no evidence that the closure of a good school benefits education anywhere, and we should remember that,' he added.



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# More runners sought for 10K race

The 16th annual Ormidale 10K road race will be staged in April.

Held every year since 1998 race numbers have been falling in recent years.

### More people

Now a major bid is to be made to get more people involved in the fun run which this year will be staged on Sunday 27 April.

Organiser Tommy Gilmore said: 'I was really disappoint-



And they're off. The runners in the very first Ormidale 10K road race. b05run01



ed in the numbers last year and I hope we can encourage more people to take part this year and turn it back into a major calendar event.

### Pretty flat

'The course is pretty flat and people could walk the route if they don't want to run.

Participants can also use the race to raise money for charity, but people can also

The eager first race runners head out of Knowe Road. b05run02

do it just for a bit of fun. The same route has been used since 1989. Runners start at the Ormidale Pavilion and head out to Merkland Point and back, with a diversion up the Knowe Road to make the precise 10,000 metres.

### Heyday

The first race attracted 43 runners, half of them from the mainland but since its heyday in the years that followed numbers have dropped.

Now it is hoped to put the 10K back on the Arran events map.

# Friends of Brodick Castle enjoy memories of Orkney

The Friends of Brodick Castle were entertained by Joy Blair with an illustrated talk on 'A week in Orkney'.

Joy had spent time there as a child and was full of reminiscences of Orkney as it was, as well as describing a recent week's holiday there with a friend. Her natural storytelling ability was complemented by a lovely selection of photos showing the island attractions. These included The Tree growing in the main street (there is only one tree on Orkney), the main street devoid of traffic, banned for the day to allow cruise ship visitors to wander safely, the magnificent Italian chapel and the brochs and stone circles of ancient times.

These recent memories were interspersed with her childhood ones; the difference between her high proficiency at the three Rs, com-

pared with those of the local children who were, however, much better at knitting; the school break which lasted as long as it took the headmaster to go to the farm for the day's milk.

After the talk, many Friends were heard promising themselves a visit to these fascinating islands after such a tantalising glimpse.

At the next meeting on Wednesday February 19, Glenda White will talk on 'A sort of amateur schoolmaster'. Visitors are always welcome to the meetings which are held at Brodick Castle.

The Friends day trip is on Friday May 16 to the David Livingstone centre at Blantyre and the September four day trip is to the Harrogate area. Please contact Ann Hollingworth for further details.

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# Open day success for Isle of Arran Homes

Around 40 people attended the Isle of Arran Homes (IoAH) Open Day to see what life in a sheltered housing complex on the island could offer.

On Saturday 18 January, coordinators Ann Reid and Mary Adams and other IoAH staff were on hand to answer any questions about sheltered housing and show guests around the developments.

Three tenants very kindly allowed guests to have a look around their one bedroom properties.

With tea and biscuits and

a raffle, the day was a huge success and 71 per cent of visitors rated the overall event as excellent and 24 per cent rated it as good.

Guest comments included that there was 'very good information' and 'a welcoming atmosphere' with 'friendly staff.'

IoAH has two Sheltered Housing developments on Arran, all the flats are on ground floor level and most have a walk-in shower.

The flats are modern, warm and well insulated and heating

is charged at a fixed monthly rate. IoAH on site staff provide housing support to tenants and co-ordinate support from the council and others to meet each tenant's needs.

Staff can also provide information about claiming housing benefit; home owners may be eligible for housing benefit for six months while their old property is on the market.

IoAH also arrange for authorised contractors to carry out all repairs and maintenance and upkeep of the grounds.



MacKellvie Road in Lamlash is one of two Sheltered Housing developments on Arran.

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# Arran's interiors to be recorded in new book

From Art Deco fireplaces to ancient wooden beams the island has many magnificent interiors

Many properties on Arran hide a wonderful array of original and interesting fixtures and fittings.

From Art Deco fireplaces to ancient wooden beams the island has many magnificent interiors that have never been seen by the public and the Arran Civic Trust is hoping to document these in a new book.

Some time ago the trust appealed for photos for interesting artefacts, fittings, appliances and interior architecture from the island's homes and buildings.

Each year as houses are altered, renovated and modernised, many fittings are lost forever.

Original fittings of all types both decorative and functional can include anything from doorknobs, finger plates, stained glass, light fittings and fitted furniture to interesting woodwork and even domestic electrical appliances.

Even items not original to a building but with a particular period flavour or merely an interesting 'one off' may be worth recording.

A spokesman for the Civic

Trust said: 'We already have about sixty photographs, many of the Art Nouveau period and the Arts and Crafts movement.'

'We have photos of interesting plasterwork, stained glass and old door locks, but we know that there are lots more which we'd like to photograph and document with a short description.'

'To do this we'd appreciate your help by informing us of anything you think worth recording and offering us the chance to photograph it.'

He added: 'Individual houses will not be identified in any publication and confidentiality will be assured.'

'You may have items that you feel are worthy of note, so please don't hesitate to call or send a photograph taken by yourself.'

For those willing to take part please contact John Inglis at Red House, High Corrie or telephone 810659 or email [noj673@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:noj673@tiscali.co.uk)

If you live in the west of Arran you can also contact David Scott at 860275 or [pdscott37@eclipso.eu](mailto:pdscott37@eclipso.eu)



Often taken for granted, old beams are an important architectural feature. b05civ03NO



Even items not original to a building but with a particular period flavour or merely an interesting 'one off' may be worth recording. b05civ02NO



A beautiful pulpit in an Arran church. b05civ01NO



Let's all work together to grow a cleaner greener island



This week Eco Savvy is delighted to report that the pupils and teachers of Whiting Bay Primary have been awarded the Green Flag by Eco-Schools for all their hard work.

The children chose to focus on litter, school grounds and biodiversity and they have willow dens, vegetable boxes, play-ground markings, a fitness trail, flower pots, a shed for their den and a stunning mural.

For biodiversity they have built bird boxes, made fat balls, bat boxes, an insect hotel and they grow a range of different plants.

Looking at litter was a huge part of gaining the Green Flag award and by all working together the children now have zero litter in their playground.

After three years of working towards the award, headteacher Mrs Treble said: 'Well done everyone. You should be extremely proud of what you have achieved.'

Whiting Bay is the only school on Arran currently to have a green flag however every other nursery and school is working hard to achieve this top award and Eco Savvy will be helping and supporting them in every way he can.

Thank you for a fantastic response to the Rubbish Diet and if you haven't signed up yet please do.

As we all 'slim our bins' the one thing we can't stop

putting in the black bin is our food waste.

Many of us compost in our gardens but cooked food that can't be composted could be processed in another way.

On the mainland NAC is running Food Composting collections and here on Arran, Eco Savvy would like to work towards doing the same.

This waste doesn't need to be shipped off to land fill and could be of great use to community gardens.

Support for the Rubbish Diet will be invaluable in proving that Arran wants to do more and work towards gaining funding to establish a Food Waste composter for the community.

Arran Eco Savvy Communities' goal is to work together to 'Grow a cleaner greener island'.

If you want to get involved or have any questions please contact us at [arran.ecosavvy@gmail.com](mailto:arran.ecosavvy@gmail.com)

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**APPEAL**

Whiting Bay Primary School's eco committee members, Dylan, Naomi, Iona, Susanna, Daisy, Rhys, Stuart, Lori, Lucas and Liam are looking for a flag to help them fly their new Green Flag. Can anyone help?

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**THE ARRAN**

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**TWENTY YEARS AGO**

**Saturday 5 February, 1994**

**How fair?**

The Office of Fair Trading is to investigate Arran Transport for creating a monopoly situation for itself against Western Scottish Buses.

This may seem paradoxical because it is not yet two years since Arran Transport complained to the OFT and said Western were using underhand tactics to create a monopoly on the island.

Western Scottish now claim that Arran Transport is running an uneconomic service with the aim of forcing them off the island.

**Water meeting**

Around 70 people attended a meeting on Tuesday night to discuss private water supplies in the Shiskine valley.

It was organised by the ACVS for people with no mains water supply to find out how their private supply could be connected to the public system.

Compared to the rest of Strathclyde Arran has a high proportion of private supplies, with 215 such properties recorded.

**Going Dutch**

Catherine MacBain of Whiting Bay has been selected to represent Scotland in an international football tournament in July.

She has been invited as a guest to join the girls' team from Dunoon Grammar School which will be travelling to Amsterdam to compete in the Holland Cup.

**Headmaster to retire**

Arran High School rector David Oakes is to



The ladies of Brodick Golf Club held their annual dinner and prizegiving at Brodick Bar where club captain Elspeth MacRae presented the cups and trophies the top golfers had won. b05twe04

retire at the end of this session.

David, who is 60, came to Arran as the geography teacher in the 1960s and on the retirement of Mr Petrie became the headmaster in 1972.

**Co-op planning delay**

No plans have yet been lodged for the new Scottish Co-op supermarket to be built on the site of the Island Hotel in Brodick so we are unable to show any drawings of the new building.

We understand however that the style will be very similar to the existing hotel building and that care will be taken to make it as attractive as possible.

**Rolling pin attack**

Police were called to an incident in Lamlash at the weekend following a report that a man had been attacked 'in the traditional manner'. He was trying to resolve a domestic dispute when a woman hit him on the head with a rolling pin.

The man required six stitches to his head but no charges were made.

**Ferry delays**

Strong easterly winds have played havoc with the ferry sailings this week.

On Thursday the 8.20am and 9.45am ferries sailed as normal but the 11.05am could not berth in Brodick. She returned to Ardrossan where she spent the rest of the day.

Around 40 passengers were allowed to sleep on board.



Comedian Billy Connolly and Lama Yeshe Losal hold a small model of the winning entry in the Holy Isle Architectural Competition following the official announcement of the winner in Glasgow this week. b05twe02



Jock Kelso of Shiskine recites at The Kinloch Burns Supper. b05twe03



Inspector Cliff Francis paid a visit to the island's temporary Police Sergeant Jim Richmond and Constable Paul Martin this week. Inspector Francis said that his superiors are 'actively pursuing' the question of a permanent sergeant on the island. b05twe01

# What's on

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## Everyday

Trout Fly Fishing Loch Garbad, Bank fishing  
 Brodick Castle, Garden Open Daily 9am-Dusk  
 Arran Brewery Open Mon-Fri 12.30-5pm, Sat 10-5pm Closed Sunday  
 Arran Brewery tour 2pm

## Saturday 1st February

Army Cadets Auchrannie Road 11am - 1pm  
 Over 21s Disco Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
 Karate Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm  
 Family Games Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Arran Dancers (4yrs & up) Arran High School, 10am  
 Junior Football P4s and upwards, Arran High School, 11am-12.30pm  
 Arran vs Paisley Rugby Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 3pm  
 Gaelic Workshop Brodick Hall, 2-3pm

## Sunday 2nd February

Family Games Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Fun in the pool Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm  
 Cocaine Anonymous (& all other drugs) Ormidale sports pavilion, 2pm - 3.30pm  
 AA Meeting Brodick Church Hall, 4pm - 6pm  
 Mackerel Lottery Kinloch Bar, 5pm  
 Arran Pool Open Drift Inn, 2.30pm

## Monday 3rd February

Quiz Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm  
 Over 50s Badminton Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm  
 Badminton Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm  
 Citizens Advice Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30-1.30pm  
 Senior Fitness Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 Table Tennis Corrie Hall, 6.30pm  
 Aerobics (low impact) Shiskine Hall 6pm  
 Badminton Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm  
 Arran Junior Football Club Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm  
 Yoga Corrie Village Hall, 11am - 12noon  
 Lunch club Brodick sheltered Housing, 12.30pm

Yoga - Arran  
 Shirley & Sarah fitness class  
 Scottish Country Dancing  
 Bridge Club  
 Metafit

Kinneil, Lamlash, 3-4.30pm  
 Lamlash High School, 6.30-7.30pm  
 Beginners & Improvers Corrie Hall, 2-4pm  
 Lamlash Golf Clubhouse 7pm  
 Shiskine Hall, 5.15 - 5.45pm

## Tuesday 4th February

Pop Quiz Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Alcoholics Anonymous Brodick Church Hall, 2pm  
 Youth Club Kildonan Hall, 7pm  
 Rotary club Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm  
 Streetly Dance pre school Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.45-2.30pm  
 Streetly Dancing minis P1-3 Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4-4.45pm  
 Streetly Dancing Juniors P4-7 Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4.45-5.30pm  
 Streetly Dancing Seniors Auchrannie Gym Hall, 5.30-6.15pm  
 Weight Watchers St Molios Church Hall, 6pm  
 Junior Hockey Club Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6-7pm  
 Healthy Outdoors 10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre  
 Winter bowls Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm  
 SFA Early Touch Football P1-P4s, Arran High School, 6-7pm  
 Metafit Arran High School, 6pm - 6.30pm  
 Scottish Country Dancing Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm  
 Food & Craft Market Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick, 11-4pm

## Wednesday 5th February

Hockey Auchrannie Games Hall, 6.30-7.30pm  
 Tae Kwondo Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm  
 Alcoholics Anonymous Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm  
 Arran Brass Rehearsal Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm  
 Yogalates Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am  
 Aquafizz Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am  
 Music Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am  
 Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service 10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30  
 RunArran mixed ability Auchrannie car park, 5.30pm  
 Running Coaching Auchrannie car Park, 5pm  
 Yoga-Arran Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm  
 Sports Club P4-S2s, Arran High School, 6-7.30pm  
 Coffee morning Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15-12 noon  
 Batteries not included advice Douglas hotel, 2-4pm

## Thursday 6th February

Senior Fitness Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 General Knowledge Quiz Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Lochranza Craft Club Lochranza Hall, 2pm  
 Live music Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay 8.30-11.00pm  
 Weight Watchers Ormidale Pavilion, 5.30pm  
 Yoga Corrie Village Hall, 6pm - 7pm  
 Shirley & Sarah fitness class Lamlash High School, 6.30-7.30pm  
 Brodick Embroidery Group Brodick Library, 7.30pm  
 Winter bowls Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm  
 Metafit Auchrannie sports hall, 6pm - 6.30pm  
 Bridge Club Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7pm  
 QuiltArran Fire Station, Lamlash, 2-4pm  
 Lunchbox Ormidale Sports Pavillon, 12.30-2.30pm

## Friday 7th February

Aqua Fizz Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am  
 Yogalates Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am  
 Arran Youth Foundations Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm  
 Lochranza Kids Badminton Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm  
 Lochranza Adults Badminton Lochranza Hall, 8pm  
 Arran Ceilidh Dancers Corrie Church Hall, 8-10pm

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Previous hotel work would be helpful, but it is more important that you are friendly and outgoing, and can show that you know what good service means to a hotel guest. All positions could be full-time or part-time over 5 or 6 days a week. We may be able to provide accommodation.

**For more information please call Timothy or Geoffrey on 01770 600559. To apply send your CV to admin@glenislehotel.com**

Glenisle Hotel & Bistro, Shore Road, Lamlash, Isle of Arran KA27 8LY

## MOTOR MECHANIC WANTED

Apply in writing to:  
Angus Lambie  
Unit 11 Market Road, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8ED

## VACANCY Office Junior

This is an opportunity for a young person to train in administration and office skills.  
Applications in writing please to:  
John Thomson Construction Ltd.  
Park Terrace, Lamlash, Isle of Arran, KA27 8NB

# Property

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## Are you looking to move house?

43% of those planning on buying a house in the next year have been exposed to advertising in the regional press, double the number in any other medium.



# Public Notice

### 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 Monday 3 February 2014 on 01294 310000. 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 £60 including VAT.

Applications will close on 28 February 2014. Applicants from previous years are not automatically re-enrolled on the scheme and are required to re-apply.

### THE NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (MARKET ROAD, BRODICK, ISLE OF ARRAN) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2014

On the 24 January 2014, the North Ayrshire Council made the above named Order in terms of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

The Order which comes into operation on the 9 March 2014 was advertised in the Arran Banner on the 21 December 2013 and the effect of the Order is as stated in said notice. Copies of the Order and map relative thereto are available for inspection during normal working hours Monday to Friday inclusive at the offices of:-

Development Planning Services (Roads), North Ayrshire Council, Perceton House, Irvine, KA11 2AL

Democratic & Administration Services, North Ayrshire Council, 1st Floor (Legal), Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE

Arran Local Office, North Ayrshire Council, Lamlash, Isle of Arran, KA27 8JY

Any person who wishes to question the validity of the Order or of any provision contained in it on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or on the grounds that any requirement of that Act, or of any instrument made under it, has not been complied with in relation to the Order may, within six weeks from the 24 January 2014 apply to the Court of Session for this purpose.

### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined at Development Planning Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine\*, between 9am-4.45pm weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk \*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

Written representations may be made to the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 21.02.14. Any representations received will be open to public view.

### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)

Format: Application No; Address; Proposed Development

13/00319/PP; Site to West of Creagraineach, Kildonan, Brodick; Formation of car park and picnic area.

14/00025/PP; Site to the South of Seawinds, Sandbraes Road, Whiting Bay, Brodick; Erection of dwelling house.

14/00019/PP; Site 3 to the West of Drimlabarra Croft, Kildonan Road, Kildonan, Brodick; Erection of detached dwelling house and garage

Elma Murray  
Chief Executive  
Cunninghame House  
IRVINE KA12 8EE



NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

## BANNER BANNER PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES

## Marine Scotland Fisheries displacement study



Marine Scotland invites fishermen to a series of events to discuss how fishing activity may be managed in the future, should Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) be designated later this year.

These events will give you a chance to share your local knowledge, help us design appropriate management measures, and help ensure that we can properly assess the potential effects of displacement.

The following events are taking place during February;

Date	Port	Venue	Time
5th February	Troon	Marine Hotel	7:30pm
6th February	Castlebay	Learning Centre	7:30pm
10th February	Kyle of Lochalsh	Kyle Hotel	7:30pm
11th February	Ullapool	MacPhail Centre	7:30pm
12th February	Stornoway	Cabarfeidh Hotel	7:30pm
19th February	Oban	Royal Hotel	7:30pm
20th February	Tarbert	Anchor Hotel	7:30pm
24th February	Campbeltown	Ardshiel Hotel	7:30pm
28th February	Mallaig	Community Centre	2:30pm

Further information about the events, the displacement study, and development of possible management measures can be found at;

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/marine-environment/mpanetwork/Displacement>

If you cannot attend an event and would like to participate please send your views and comments to [Marine\\_Conservation@scotland.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:Marine_Conservation@scotland.gsi.gov.uk)

# EVENT TO PUBLICISE?

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[www.arranbanner.co.uk](http://www.arranbanner.co.uk)

## The New Instant

### THE ARRAN BANNER

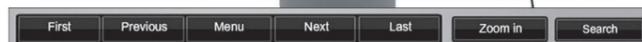
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Isle Of Arran  
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01770 860878  
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07733 738127  
Email: john@  
thornbankwoodcraft.co.uk

BANNER CLASSIFIEDS  
BANNER CLASSIFIEDS

# Drive Times

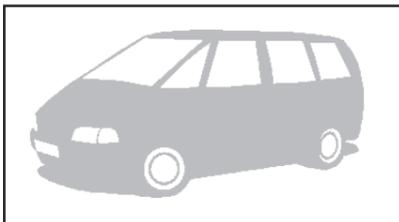
## FORD KA 2001



Bright blue; very low miles for year 24500; mechanically excellent condition; new rear suspension, front wishbones and discs; new spare tyre. Taxed and MoT to end of May.  
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MOT August  
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**£1000 o.n.o.**

### CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited.

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

- 1 Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.
- 2 The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
- 3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
- 4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
- 5 Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.
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- 10 Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
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- 12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

# Classifieds

## UNDER £30

Russell Hobbs Smoothie Maker never used £15, Ladies Black Leather Fitted Jacket Size 12 £15, Sony Music System with CD/Cassette/Radio/Speakers £25, Round Extending Teak Dining Table and 3 Chairs £30, Tel: 600976

Dark wood nest of tables in very good condition. £25. Tel: 820391, Hi-Fi cabinet in dark wood with glass fronted door in very good condition. £25. Tel: 820391

Dingy oars as new £28 Tel:700371, Oscillating fan H/C on tall stand £25 Tel: 700371

## WANTED

Table Tennis Table - any condition, will collect Tel:302843  
Small wooden pieces of furniture for footprints shop. Can collect Tel:700424

## OVER £30

Bowls size 1 with bag £45. Tel:600188  
Three piece suite, blue, good condition. Three seater couch £80. Tel:302506

**BANNER CLASSIFIEDS**  
**BANNER CLASSIFIEDS**

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DESCRIPTION.....  
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.....  
PRICE..... TELEPHONE.....

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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

(in full communion with the Church of England)  
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay  
**Sunday, 2nd February**  
 Holy Communion, 11.30  
 Rev Simon Mackenzie,  
 Priest-in-Charge  
 Coffee and sandwich lunch after service  
 PLEASE NOTE LATER TIME  
 ALL WELCOME

**ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER**

There will be Taizé worship on  
**Thursday 6th February**  
 at 7.30 pm, in St Molios' Church, Shiskine.  
 ALL WELCOME  
 The offering at last Sunday's Celebration of Christian Unity totalled £406.01.

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Parishes of North Arran Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pimmill 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 2nd February**  
 Brodick Church, 10.30am, Morning Worship.  
 Corrie Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.  
 A Service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm  
 Lochranza and Pimmill Churches, 10.15am  
 Sacrament of the Lord's Supper at Lochranza.  
 Shiskine Church, 12noon, Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Kilmory linked with Lamlash  
 "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"  
 Sunday 2nd February  
 Kilmory 10am  
 Lamlash 11.30 am  
 Both Churches:  
 Mrs Liz Clarke  
 All welcome, including families; children's area  
 Scottish Charity SC015072

**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings  
**Sunday 2nd February**  
 11 a.m. Morning Worship in The Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick  
 Tea & coffee after the service.  
 Wednesday at 7.30 p.m.  
 Home Fellowship Group for Bible Study and Prayer.  
 Contact phone no. 600222.  
 Everyone warmly invited.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(Charity Number: SC014005)  
**Sunday 2nd 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.  
 During the service, two new elders will be welcomed into the Kirk Session when Mrs Anne Rudge is admitted and Mrs Farquhar Ross is ordained to the office.

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.

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Sunday morning masses 11am

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

**Sunday 2nd February**  
 Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)  
 Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)  
 Dr Graham Keith

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(continuing)  
**Sunday 2nd February**  
 Morning Service 11am  
 Trust Housing Lounge  
 Glen Estate, Brodick  
 Evening Service 6-30 pm  
 5 Glen Road, Brodick  
**Wednesday 5th February**  
 Prayer Meeting 7pm  
 5 Glen Road, Brodick  
 All welcome

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS**

Quakers meet every Sunday at 11am.  
 For meeting venue ring - 830622, 820223

**SALVATION ARMY**

House Group/Bible Study  
 Mondays 2.30pm.  
 If you are interested in joining us please ring 810251 for more information.

**DEATH**

**HART** - Thelma Robina (nee Brown). Peacefully at Cooriedoon Nursing Home, Whiting Bay, Isle of Arran on Saturday, 25th January 2014. Thelma, aged 94, beloved wife of the late Archie and dearly loved mother of Alan and Linda, mother-in-law of Ann, grandmother of Graham, Gillian & Andrew and great-grandmother. A memorial service will take place on Monday 3rd February 2014 at 3.00pm at Corriedoon Nursing Home.

# Heavy rainfall turns roads into beaches

It was hard to tell where the beach began and the road ended in Lochranza on Sunday as heavy rainfall overnight brought large amounts of stones and debris down onto the road.

The village was just one of many places on the island affected by the huge volume of rain that fell on Saturday night. Water is still lying in many parts of the island as there is no where for it to drain away to.



**HAPPY 21ST**

**HAPPY 21ST ANDREW**



Love from all the family xx

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[www.facebook.com/arranbanner](http://www.facebook.com/arranbanner)

**Golf**

**Brodick Golf Club**  
 Wednesday 22 January, eight played on a poor day weatherwise once again.

1 C O'Neill 75-15=60, 2 B Allison 85-22=63. There was one two C O'Neill.

Sunday 26 January, Brandon and Winter Cup wiped out yet again by the weather.

Fixtures: Sunday 2 February, AGA Duncan Trophy at Shiskine. Sweep at Brodick. Open draws at 9am and 12pm.

Sunday 9 February, Winter Cup and postponed January Brandon. Class draws at 9am and 12pm.

**Machrie Bay Golf Club**

Tuesday 21 January, the 18 hole stableford became a nine-hole competition. 1 Campbell Laing 16pts, 2 Brian Sherwood 12pts, 3 Elizabeth Ross 12pts.  
 Fixtures: Tuesday 4 February, Winter Cup tee off 12pm. Saturday 8 Lochranza Hotel Cup and Freebie Final tee off 12pm.

**Whiting Bay Golf Club**

Due to the rather inclement weather nobody was daft enough to play in the Sunday sweep on Sunday 26 January!

Fixtures: Sunday 2 February, AGA Winter League at Shiskine. Sunday 9 February, Winter Cup round 5.

**Shiskine Golf Club**

Sunday 26 January, Gents Ryder Cup. Nearest the pins:

at the 4th Donald Logan and at the 10th David Price. Table after second game with Blackwaterfoot getting the bonus point for most holes won: Blackwaterfoot 6.5, Shiskine 5.5, Torbeg 3.5, Kilpatrick 2.5.

Thursday 23 January, Ladies 12 Hole Medal. 1 S Brookes 58-10=48, 2 E Henderson 65-16=49 BIH, 3 I MacDonald 58-9=49. Scratch S Brookes 58 BIH.

Fixture: Thursday 6 February, Ladies 18 Hole Medal. Saturday 8 February, Gents 18 Hole Medal. Sunday 9 February, Ryder Cup. Sunday 16 February, Ryder Cup.

**Arran Golfers Association**

Winter League/Duncan Trophy 2013-2014. After three rounds Whiting Bay are on top undefeated with six points, second place is Corrie on five points, next Machrie on three, Shiskine with two and lastly Brodick and Lamlash with a paltry one point.

Up and coming fixtures: Winter League/Duncan Trophy 2013-2014, fourth round at Shiskine Golf Club on Sunday 2 February.

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

**GRADUATION**



Jaqui Letby (nee) Lennox, daughter of Alice and the late Jack Lennox graduated from the University of Derby with a bachelor of science with honours in Psychology.

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# Sport

Arran's Weekly Newspaper

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## Adventurer receives Mountain Festival radio



Zabdi Keen, left, presents Sano Babu Sunawar with the radio donated by the Arran Mountain Festival. b05zab01NO

The National Geographic 'adventurer of the year 2012' was presented with a radio recently on behalf of the Arran Mountain Festival.

While running paragliding courses in Nepal this winter, Zabdi Keen

from Brodick gave the radio to Sano Babu Sunawar.

Funds for the radio were raised at last year's festival after the showing of his groundbreaking film.

In 2012 Sano flew a tandem pa-

raglider from Everest, gaining the World Altitude Record after they flew above the summit.

They then spent one month kayaking down to the sea in India.

As a result he and his adventure

partner Sherpa Lakpa were chosen by National Geographic as the adventurer of the year.

This years Arran Mountain Festival runs from 16 - 19 May.

## Time again for the MacKenzie Darts

It's time to dust off your darts for the annual Donald and James MacKenzie Memorial mixed doubles darts competition.

It will take place in Kilmory Hall on Saturday 15 February at 7.30pm.

Those wishing to take part should give their name to Margaret MacKenzie on 870309 by Friday 14 February.

Donations of raffle prizes and goodies for the hamper will be very much appreciated.

The Social Club bar will be open on the night and transport will be arranged.

## Arran prepare for Paisley game

Arran RFC's rescheduled match with Paisley will take place at the Ormidale Park in Brodick today (Saturday).

The game was postponed in November at the request of the visitors and will kick-off just after 2pm.

After a promising restart to the season after Christmas Arran are now sitting fifth in the west division three table with 20 points.

Uddingston RFC are currently leading with 44 points.

Please come along on Saturday and support the island's team.

## PT1934 lead pool league

Whiting Bay Golf Club and PT1934 have both had successful starts to the pool knockout shield competition.

The golf club beat Mac's Bar 8-2 in the first leg of the shield semi-final and PT1934 beat the Drift Inn B 8-2.

In the first leg of the salver final Kildonan were beaten 4-6 by a victorious Drift Inn A.

As the league prepares to re-start PT1934 are enjoying a comfortable four point lead at the top of the table.

The draw for the second

round of the Arran pool singles has now been completed. All games should be played on or by Sunday 9 February.

S McMaster (1934) v P Stewart (Drift) at Whiting Bay Golf Club, A Picken (1934) v J McKechnie (WBay) at Kildonan, S Campbell or G Boyle (Drift) v J Aisworth (WBay) at Kildonan, S Pearce v K Gan or I Murchie (Drift) at Whiting Bay Golf Club, P McKinnon (Mac's) v S Tattersfield (Drift) at Whiting Bay Golf Club, I McDonald

(Drift) v R Adams (Drift) at the Drift Inn, D Smith (1934) v M Worthington (1934) at PT1934, R Hughes v E Picken (1934) at the Drift Inn.

All winners must phone the Drift Inn with results on

600608. Some other dates for your diary include: Sunday 2 February - Arran Pool Open at the Drift Inn from 2.30pm.

Sunday 23 February - Ladies Pool Open at the Drift Inn from 2.30pm.

	P	W	D	L	Pts
PT1934	6	5	0	1	10
Drift A	5	2	2	1	6
WBay GC	6	1	3	2	5
Mac's	6	1	3	2	5
Kildonan	6	1	2	3	4
Drift B	5	1	2	2	4

Sunday 16 March - Champion of Champions at Whiting Bay Golf Club at 2.30pm.

Sunday 23 March - Finals Day at PT1934 from 3pm.

### NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

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



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The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.