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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 22 FEBRUARY 2014

No 1949 60p



**Our Arran Weddings
special starts on page 10**

Flood prevention needed to protect Lamlash properties

Forty happy years remembered

Arran High School's head teacher celebrated his retirement on Friday after 11 years in the post.

Mr Douglas Auld celebrated the end of his successful 40-year teaching career at a school assembly and with a small party for staff members and friends.

Mrs Sharon Gregg took up the post of acting head on Monday. She will stay in the role until a new head teacher is appointed.

Mr Auld announced his departure in December last year and admitted it would be a 'massive wrench' to leave his office.

In his 11 years in the job, he has seen the school roll fall from 350 when he arrived to less than 250 and it will remain at that level for the next few years as fewer young families are coming to the island.

He started his teaching career in 1974 as a PE teacher in St Andrew's High School, Clydebank, before moving to Eastwood High



Douglas Auld, right, celebrated his retirement on Friday. Mrs Sharon Gregg has been appointed acting head until a new head teacher is found. 20_b08ahs02

School in Newton Mearns as a PE and guidance teacher.

He then went back to Clydebank to the post of head of PE at Braidfield High School in 1983 where he served until 1990.

In 1992 he was appointed assistant head teacher at

Boclair Academy in Bearsden before coming to Arran in 2003 as head teacher.

He told The Banner he was now looking forward to spending more time with his grandchildren and family in Glasgow.

Hotel owners demand action after high water levels threaten wedding booking

REPORT

by JENNIFER LYON
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The owners of a Lamlash hotel are demanding action to prevent further flooding on Shore Road after high water levels almost forced the cancellation of a wedding booking last weekend.

Geoffrey Dallamore from the Glenisle Hotel told The Banner that he believes too little is being done by North Ayrshire Council to tackle ongoing problems which have resulted in recent deluges of water.

On Friday night the water was up to the knees of staff at the shorefront hotel as they tried desperately to bail water from the front door.

The flooding is being caused by a blocked culvert which runs underneath Lamlash Green.

The beach has eroded, blocking the exit to the channel and as a result heavy rainfall has nowhere to go.

'We told the council about the problem this erosion was having two years ago but very little has been done about it,'

explained Mr Dallamore. 'At that time fencing was put up around the entrance to the culvert but now, two years later, that fencing which was at one time four-feet from the beach is now teetering on the edge.'

He added: 'As the erosion continues, the entrance to the culvert has been almost completely blocked so the water is overflowing on to the road.'

Over the past few weeks the front green in Lamlash has been flooding regularly due to the high volume of water coming off the hillside and the road has been closed on numerous occasions.

Mr Dallamore said that he and his partner Timothy Billings were now looking at installing various flood defence methods to protect their property.

A spokesperson for North

Ayrshire Council said: 'The weather on Friday was particularly wet and this, combined with snow melt, resulted in the culvert under the road running at near capacity.'

'The seafront defences had been damaged by previous storms and were further damaged during the recent severe weather.'

'On Friday night the outfall of the culvert had been partially obstructed and this caused water to back up and flood the road.'

'Our roads team attended on Friday night but due to high tide were unable to clear the blockage, however the water on the road was reducing as the tide receded. They returned on Saturday morning and cleared the obstruction.'

'We are aware of the storm damage at Lamlash and are currently determining the full extent of the required repairs. We will then determine the best way to address the damage.'

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Dog owner accused after attack

A woman from Bolton has at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court denied causing injury to an Arran woman when her dog was dangerously out of control.

Lorna Delvard, age 72, is accused of walking on Newton Shore, Lochranza, in June of last year when her Staffordshire bull terrier broke free from her and was dangerously out of control.

The dog allegedly attempted to attack another dog, owned by the victim and attacked her instead, causing injury.

Ms Delvard entered a not guilty plea by way of a letter and will face trial in September of this year.

Collision car sought

Police are appealing for information after a car collided with another vehicle in the Brodick Co-operative car park and left the scene of the accident.

It has been described as a Vauxhall Corsa type vehicle and the driver left the car park quickly after hitting a Hyundai at 2.45pm on Saturday 18 January.

If anyone has any information about this incident please call Arran police on 101.

Got a story for The Arran Banner?
Call 01770 302142



A warm welcome awaits customers from the hotel staff, left to right, Ailsa Barr, account manager Kate Russell, comi chef Paul Coleman, Hollie Adamson, bistro supervisor Malcolm Pennycott and Poppy Haggarty.

Wonderful staff help Douglas claim coveted prize win

Bosses at The Douglas Hotel have said a big 'thank you' to guests who have helped them gain a prestigious award.

The Brodick hotel has been named the 25th top small hotel in the UK in the 2014 Tripadvisor Travellers' Choice awards, as first reported in The Banner last month.

Recent reviews of the hotel state comments like: 'Brilliant time spent in the Douglas', 'effortless', 'amazing hotel and staff' and 'fantastic, love it!'

Marketing manager Elaine Campbell said: 'We are really delighted to be included in the Top 25 UK small hotels

Tripadvisor awards. Tripadvisor reviews are so influential on the decisions that people make, and we are grateful to all of our guests who take the time to comment.

'The vast majority of reviews which we receive relate directly to our wonderful staff. We are hugely proud of all of our team here. They are a real credit to the hotel.'

'Many of the guests know our staff by name, which makes them feel really at home,' she added.

'Awards like this really do encourage more visitors to our lovely island, and we do our bit to ensure that they

keep on coming back.'

The Douglas was named Boutique Hotel of the Year 2013 at the Scottish Hotel Awards and has a Good Food gold laurel.

In the same awards the Auchrannie Spa resort held on to its title as the best family hotel in the UK.

The top small hotel in the UK is the Chester Residence in Edinburgh, followed at number two by Castlecroft in Stirling.

The only other Scottish hotels in the list are the Abbot's Brae Hotel in Dunoon, and Knockendarroch House Hotel in Pitlochry.

Hydro scheme developers press ahead

A proposed hydro electric scheme for the hills above Lamlash has taken a step forward

All the parties with an interest in the development met in Irvine last week to discuss the progress of the proposals.

The Glenkiln hydro scheme would harness water from the fast flowing Benlister Burn and be capable of producing 500kW of electricity which is enough to power 480 homes, as reported by The Banner last month.

The project is a joint venture between landowner Kenny Bone and developer MEG Renewables based at Inchinnan, Renfrewshire.

The meeting at the North Ayrshire Council headquarters involved the developers, council planners, Scottish Natural Heritage, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and other interested organisations.

Productive

MEG Renewables business development manager Kenny Hunter said: 'It was a productive meeting and we will take on board the issues raised by the various parties as we are aware of the sensitivities of the site.'

A screening and scoping report for the site is still being considered.

'Consultants will be car-

rying out more work on the site over the next couple of months and we will be looking at a planning submission in the spring,' he said.

He said they hoped this would be April, but could not be certain.

However, he said they were keen to press on as soon as possible as he said changes to feed-in tariffs (FIT) threatened future hydro projects.

Rates

He said: 'As a result of recently introduced changes to feed-in tariffs for hydro schemes we are projecting a 20 per cent drop in FIT rates from April this year.'

'We have a very finite timescale but hopefully we can get agreement in time that makes the project feasible,' Mr Hunter said.

MEG Renewables is a wholly-owned subsidiary of M&Co, the Scottish-based fashion retailer.

If planning permission is approved work could start by the end of the year with construction taking eight to 12 months. It would be scheduled where necessary to minimise disturbance to the wildlife and environment as the site is within the Arran Moors Special Protection Area (SPA) which is designated for hen harriers and has two sites of special scientific interest.

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High school and energy on community council agenda

Arran Community Council will hold its next meeting on Tuesday 25 February at the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick.

Starting at 7.30pm there will be updates from the police, roads and ferry committee together with a visit from the parent forum of Arran High School.

There will also be discussion on forthcoming resilience training at the Arran Outdoor Education Centre and updates on ACE, the Arran Community Energy initiative highlighted recently in The Banner.

Everyone is welcome to attend.

Kilmory casino night cancelled

As a result of an insufficient number of tickets being sold, the Casino Night at Kilmory Hall has been postponed until later in the year.



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Corrie seal washed away found on Ayrshire beach

Arran's famous Corrie seal has been found safe and well after being washed away in the storms.

There was devastation at the weekend when Marvin Elliott's famous wooden seal was found missing from his rock off the Corrie shore after strong winds and a high tide battered the north shore again.

But in a remarkable turn of events it was found just 24 hours later on the beach at Turnberry - 30 miles across the Firth of Clyde.

Marvin was stunned when he received a phone call the next day telling him that his seal had been found.

He said: 'The first I knew it was missing was when a friend told me it was not there when he passed on Saturday night. It has been there for 12 years and, to be honest, I am surprised it has lasted that long.'

The life-sized seal made of oak driftwood was attached to the rock with a metal rod which went through it.

Marvin said he had been searching the shore hoping that the seal had been washed up on the island.

'I was really surprised to get a phone call telling me it had turned up at Turnberry Golf Course. It was found by people walking on the beach and one of them thought it may have an Arran connection so they went on the internet and found a photo of the seal and a contact for me.

'The wood must have been really heavy and sodden but seems to be in one piece. It



Margo McLellan stands in front of the rock in Corrie from where the seal went missing. 20_b08seal01

took about six of them to move it, but they seem to have cleaned it up. I am really grateful that they went to all the trouble they did.'

Marvin is now waiting to hear from them to discuss

how to get the seal 'repatriated' back to Arran.

Marvin first carved the seal and placed it on the rock outside the grocers shop and gallery he ran to attract customers.

Margo McLellan at the shop, which is now the Rock Pool, said it was still helping to get visitors to stop today.

She said: 'It is a tragedy it is gone; it is an absolute landmark. Drivers literally slam

on their brakes when they see it.

'I am delighted it has been found and will be very glad to see it back as we have hundreds of postcards of the seal to sell,' she quipped.

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Rotary 'Youth Speaks' team a credit to island

A team from Arran High School was flying the flag for the island on Sunday as it took part in the Rotary's annual 'Youth Speaks' competition in Glasgow.

The topic that Ceile Swinton-Boyle, Sophie Corbett and Sarah Jenkins chose to discuss was 'Earth is changing - we've messed up!' at the district finals in Pollokshaws Burgh Halls on Sunday afternoon.

The youngsters performed brilliantly on the day with Sarah as chairperson, Ceile as speaker and Sophie doing the vote of thanks.

But unfortunately they were just pipped at the post by the team from the High School of Glasgow who will go on to represent the district at

the national finals. Jim Lees, president of the Isle of Arran Rotary Club, said: 'The team were a credit both to Arran High School and to Arran itself.'

'I also feel that their teacher James McEnaney should get credit for his mentoring and support of the team up to and including the district final itself.'

Team

This year the school managed to raise only one team to take part in the popular Rotary competition 'Youth Speaks'.

In 2009 Arran High School's team of Chris Jenks, Katherine O'Donnelly and Iona Flewitt made it to the national final in Somerset and won the competition.



The Arran High School team at the district finals of the Rotary of Great Britain and Ireland Youth Speaks competition in Glasgow.

Lochranza walking basketball demonstration

Everyone knows exercise is good for you.

But what about those who are not as mobile as they once were?

Basketball Scotland think it has the answer - walking basketball.

It is giving a talk and demonstration of walking basketball in Lochranza Village Hall at 12.30pm on Friday 28 February.

Everyone is welcome.

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Matt Johnston's song 'Saorsa' has been hailed as a modern 'Caledonia'.

Lamlash songwriter credited with new 'Caledonia'

A song written by a Lamlash singer-songwriter has been hailed as an up-to-date version of the famous Scottish ballad 'Caledonia'.

After singer-songwriter Matt Johnston from Lamlash appeared on BBC Alba's programme 'Buskers', he was approached by a kiltmaker and asked if he could write a song for the launch of a new tartan.

Matt wrote them a song called 'Saorsa' (Freedom)

and in return was paid for its use by being given a kilt.

The song was recorded with a band that included Douglas I'Anson from Whiting Bay on drums and JJ Greig from Lamlash on electric guitar.

Barbados

It was released for download on iTunes and intriguingly reached No 35 in the download charts in Barbados last summer.

A video was made of the song being recorded, which

has now clocked up more than 10,000 views on YouTube.

Privately released, without a publicity machine to back it, this has been achieved purely through word of mouth.

It has received praise from all over the world, with many people referring to it as an up to date 'Caledonia' and calls have been made for it to be played at both the Commonwealth Games and the Year of Homecoming 2014.

Council's Carol Kirk to retire after eight years

Carol Kirk, North Ayrshire Council's corporate director of education and skills, is a well-known face on Arran and next month she is to retire after eight years with the local authority.

Ms Kirk has chosen to take early retirement to pursue other opportunities.

Tribute

The council's cabinet member for education, Councillor John Bruce, paid tribute to Ms Kirk and thanked her for her hard work and commitment to improving education within the area.

He said: 'Carol is a highly respected individual who has been instrumental in

improving educational standards in North Ayrshire.

'Her experience and ability have been recognised through her appointment to several national bodies. We wish her well for the future.'

Ms Kirk added: 'I have very much enjoyed my time in North Ayrshire and I appreciate having had the privilege of working with so many dedicated and professional colleagues.'

Opportunities

'Even though I will miss my colleagues, the education community and the partners I have worked with, I am looking forward to pursuing other opportunities.'

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Items sought for Shiskine Hall auction

Shiskine Hall will be holding its annual fundraising auction on Saturday 22 March.

Anyone in the Shiskine Valley who has items to be uplifted in the week prior to the auction should contact Gordon on 860726 - no beds, wardrobes or mattresses can be taken.

This year also marks the 20th anniversary of the hall re-opening after major refurbishment so, to celebrate, a glass of bubbly is going to be included in the admission.

The hall committee is also looking for photos of activities at the hall during the last 20 years to display at the auction.

Please contact Diana on 860427 or any committee member if you can help with this.

Duke of Edinburgh group to hold car boot sale

The members of the Arran Duke of Edinburgh group are holding an indoor car boot sale in Brodick Hall on Saturday 1 March from 11am to 2pm.

If anyone is interested in having a table to sell items, please contact Julie Cannon on 600341 to reserve a table.

Fisheries team helps reconnect Holy Isle



Team work helps to restore power to Holy Isle. From left to right - Steffan from Aggreko, Angus Raeburn, Sam Tattersfield, Ryan Limert and Donald Andersen of SSE, Gordon Hamilton from Aggreko and Ross Funnell from the Scottish Salmon Company.

Joint effort sees power restored within an hour

The Scottish Salmon Company (SSC) which has a fish-farm in Lamash Bay has been working alongside Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) to help restore power to Holy Isle after it was cut-off during a spell of bad weather last month.

The storms and high tides of the previous weeks had damaged the undersea power cable running to the island.

This meant the Buddhist monks and islanders were plunged into total darkness without heating for nearly 12 hours.

On January 23, SSC site manager at Lamash Bay Kris Laird was asked by representatives from Aggreko whether he and his team would be available to assist with the transportation of engineers and generators to help get the power back up and running.

Kris quickly instructed his team of four to down tools and begin work to get an emergency operation in place.

They began by using SSC's fast boat to take Scottish and

Southern Energy engineers over to the island for an initial review of the situation.

After sourcing a quad bike from a local company the team was then able to use SSC's landing craft to transport the bike and two generators to the Holy Isle.

Kris said: 'Although weather conditions were not ideal, by working together with the guys from SSE we managed to get the kit onto the boats and over to the island quickly and safely.'

Help

'My team and I were happy to help as we knew without help the island would not have power for at least another day.'

'I'd like to thank all the guys on my team; Charles Todd, Graham McArthur, Ross Funnell and Jamie Sillars, for their excellent teamwork and support on the day.'

Once the engineers and equipment were landed the team was able to restore power on the island within the hour.

Successful fundraiser for Save the Children

The remarkable sum of £1,091 was raised for the local branch of Save the Children after a cheese and wine evening at Brodick Golf Club last Wednesday.

This was an increase of £90 compared to last year's event. In her welcoming remarks the chairman, Carol Burge, intimated that the proceeds of the evening were going to the appeal for

the 'Children of Syria'. The decision was made in view of the government's promise to match all donations pound for pound.

As usual a large buffet supper was provided by the committee and was enjoyed by everyone present.

Carol had compiled an interesting and challenging quiz which kept everyone entertained during the

evening. Following supper the usual large raffle and separate whisky raffle were drawn and the proceeds included in the above total.

The evening was brought to a close with a vote of thanks from Carol to Brodick Golf Club, the Save the Children committee and, not least, the supporters without whom the event would not have been a success.

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Brodick Castle gates close on 'boy racers'



Property manager David Cameron with a broken sign at the damaged gates. 20_b08race01



The exit castle gates which are likely to be closed at night. 20_b08race03

The gates of Brodick Castle could be locked in a bid to keep out the persistent nuisance of 'boy racers'.

Management at the castle are seriously considering the drastic action after more damage was caused this week by cars speeding through the castle driveway in the dead of night.

It would mean the country park closed to cars from 5pm or 6pm, forcing dog walkers and others using the park in the evening to enter on foot only.

The latest incident saw the soft verges of the two-mile private road through the castle grounds churned up by car tyres and signs damaged.

Police Scotland have been called in and are investigating.

As reported in The Banner earlier this month a gate near the visitor centre was left badly damaged after it was hit by a car being driven at high speed.

Now the team at the National



David shows the damage caused to the grass verges. 20_b08race02

Trust for Scotland property have had enough.

Castle administration manager Chris Mills said: 'We have been left no option but to consider locking the gates at night to prevent cars driving at high speed through the castle grounds.'

'As usual it is the mindless minority ruining it for everyone else, but this has got to stop.'

'If we go ahead the gates at each end of the castle grounds will be locked but the emergency services will have keys in case they require entry for any reason.'

'The only other alternative would be CCTV, but because this happens at night it would need heat motion detection and would be a considerable expense. We have to look

at the most cost effective solution and that looks like closing the gates.'

The gates of the castle have not been closed for many years and property manager David Cameron said that repairing them to operate would only add to the cost of the damage already caused.

Spent

He said: 'The cost of all this is money that could have been better spent elsewhere.'

'I could have employed another person over the summer season, so it is hitting jobs.'

The 'boy racers' drive with one wheel on the grass verge and one on the road spraying dirt a muck across the road and leaving the hard working gardeners to clean up and repair the mess. A review of

the speed bumps on the castle drive has also been carried out.

Chris added: 'What these people are doing is extremely dangerous and there are people who live in the grounds who are being seriously disturbed.'

'If people think they can do what they want because it is a private drive they are seriously mistaken.'

'The Highway Code still applies if the public have access to a private drive,' he added.

Arran Police Sergeant Allen Dodds confirmed Police Scotland had a road accident report in relation to the damaged gate which was under investigation.

'We are giving the location extra attention on our patrols,' he added.

♥ Congratulations ♥
Mrs & Mrs Watson ♥

The hotel & leisure club are closed on Saturday 1st March 2014

for the celebration of Clair & Blair's wedding!

No lunches or evening meals will be served
The public bar will be open for drinks from mid-day until midnight.



Our best wishes to the happy couple

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Time to step up a gear in 10K training

The island's 10K race is now nine weeks away and if you have followed The Arran Banner schedule you should be starting to feel the benefits of your hard work.

With this increase in fitness it is now time to really step up a gear and extend your training session up to eight minute intervals, if you can manage it. With this increase you should be relaxed and still able to hold a conversation with training partners in short sentences. Music can be

a great motivator when training alone but ensure not to have it too loud. For safety, it is essential you can still hear what is going on in your surroundings. But under SAA rules iPods are banned during races.

Steady runs at this capacity build the aerobic base. You are exercising your heart and lungs, building stamina and increasing energy levels while the muscles in your legs are building strength.

An interesting training part-

ner available today, if you have a suitable smartphone, is its inbuilt GPS which, when coupled with an appropriate app, can track your runs. The Sports Tracker App, by Sports Tracking Technologies, is long established and available for both Android and Apple devices, but is just one of many free apps available. It is a hassle-free way to track and log your progress.

Or why not encourage others and let them know how you're getting on using Twitter #Arran10K.

If you find that you need company, or would like sup-

port, then contact the Arran Jog Scotland group RunArran through Facebook or alternatively contact Marion McNicol or Laura Aitchison.

Week 3:

On day one increase your run time to 3x8 minute sessions with two minutes recovery walking in between. Repeat this for days three and five then on day six do some cross training like cycling or swimming or get on the internet and follow a free session online. Rest on days two, four and seven, but don't forget to do your stretching or perhaps some yoga instead.

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Fans urged to support music festival

Parents, grandparents and music lovers are being urged to come along and enjoy this year's Arran Music Festival to help support the young singing talent on the island.

Music teacher and pianist Lorna Buchanan told *The Banner* that she has often been asked why there are no primary/junior choirs running on the island.

'The simple answer is that there are,' she said. 'But there are very few opportunities for these young people to perform so usually the only showcase

'They need an audience. It's no fun performing to an empty room'

available apart from school concerts is the Arran Music Festival, and even then very few people actually come along to support them.'

Lorna runs singing groups in Corrie, Pirrmill and Shiskine Primary schools during the winter until Easter term which she says would not

be possible without the huge support of all the teachers and headteachers.

She added: 'In Corrie and Pirrmill, all the children from P1 to P7 are involved and in Shiskine all boys and girls from P5 to P7 are taking part. We try to keep the songs light and fun and within capabili-

ties of even the most shy performer and it's quite amazing how quickly words are memorised and tunes learned.

'It's not always perfection as trying to find music challenging enough for the older pupils whilst being within capabilities of the youngest is not always entirely possible but we do have a lot of fun in the trying!' Funding has also been secured to run another island-wide primary singing project in the summer term, similar to one held two years ago.

All the children from P4 to P7 will get a chance to take part and there will be a concert towards the end of the summer term where all schools will perform together as one choir.

Lorna said: 'I would urge parents, grandparents and those who just have an interest in music making to come along and support the children at this year's music festival at the end of March. They need an audience. It's no fun performing to an empty room.'

'Please come along for a morning, afternoon or even a whole day if you have the time and help us to ensure



Music teacher Lorna Buchanan runs singing groups in Corrie, Pirrmill and Shiskine primary schools.



Pupils at Shiskine Primary School practising for the Arran Music Festival next month.

that all their hard work is appreciated. It is or should be all about encouraging participation, boosting confidence and having some fun whilst developing new musical skills. We look forward to seeing you there.'

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Boy racers spoiling it for everyone

Brodick Castle has seen off Viking invaders, the English and been at the centre of clan warfare during its turbulent 800-year history.

It is a sad day then when the castle, a revered island institution, has to consider shutting its gates to keep out boy racers. And, as is always the case, it is not just they who will suffer but the law abiding residents and visitors who drive into the castle grounds at night to walk their dog or stroll around the wonderful woodland walks.

Now, while pedestrian access will still be available, many, including the disabled and the infirm, will probably go elsewhere given the distance to the castle from the nearest public car parks at Cladach.

Boy racers have always been a menace but when they start spoiling it for everyone maybe it is time to act.

The trouble at the castle has already seen a gate damaged, signs broken and grass verges destroyed by tyres. Police on the island are investigating and have stepped up patrols, but they cannot be expected to be there all the time and the random nature of the incidents makes the perpetrators difficult to catch. And it is not just the public who are affected. Bosses admit that the cost of their defensive actions could have paid for another member of staff over the summer months. The fact the castle should even have to consider spending even more money on night vision CCTV is appalling considering the National Trust should be using every penny of its tight budget on the preservation and restoration of the castle and grounds for the benefit of generations to come. The latest trouble from boy racers comes just weeks after one 'mindless' driver tried to wreck the Brodick Christmas tree causing £600 worth of damage.

Perhaps when the perpetrators are caught they will not only face a driving charge and fine but also be ordered to pay for the damage caused.

Corrie seal needs to come home

The Corrie seal has been for an unexpected swim and given everyone a nasty start. When it was spotted missing from his rock off the village shore there was consternation as to where he had gone.

The fact that the oak driftwood carved seal of Marvin Elliot had lain there for 12 years proving a car stopping attraction meant it was needed back. Imagine the surprise therefore for Marvin when within 24 hours he was told it had been found safe and well on the beach at Turnberry.

Lets hope it can be returned to its rock before too long. Corrie is just not the same without it.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'God is a forgiving God, gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love.' (Nehemiah 9:17)

press policy

WE AT *The Arran Banner* do our utmost to make sure that all our reports are fair, accurate and balanced, but we accept that, on occasion, mistakes can occur in the hectic process of producing a local newspaper.

It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print. If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to The Editor, *The Arran Banner*, Brodick, Arran giving your day-time telephone number where possible.

This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

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your letters

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

Letters to the Editor

Ongoing road concerns

Sir,
As part of my recent public consultation on the proposed biomass plant at the Dyemill, I asked residents to contact me with any other issues of concern.

The condition of the roads and local bus services were by far the most frequently expressed throughout the survey.

I wrote to North Ayrshire Council in January raising these concerns and received a reply from the chief executive last week.

A £750,000 programme of improvements to the String Road will begin shortly, as well as the continuing investment

in the improvement budget for the entire road network on the island.

Potholes will be repaired by the Jetpatcher as they are reported, and islanders will be kept informed of any diversions or disruption that may occur.

I am advised that the council is in discussion with Strathclyde Partnership for Transport to review current bus services.

The council has asked that residents get in touch to provide details of the services they would like to see introduced or amended.

I would like to thank Elma Murray at North Ayrshire Council for her timely response.

I am always happy to act on

behalf of the people of Arran, and welcome any further enquiries on this or any other matter.

Yours,
Jackson Carlaw MSP
Deputy Leader
Scottish Conservatives
West Scotland.

Darts success

Sir,
Myself and my family would like to thank everyone who came to the annual mixed doubles darts on Saturday night.

Special thanks to Jimmy for putting up three boards.

Thanks to Lorna, Karen, Elizabeth and Wilma for marking and also to Susan for presenting the trophy and raffle prizes.

Thanks also to those who gave raffle donations and goodies for the hampers.

We must also thank Kilmory Hall for the comfortable surroundings, the Social Club for keeping everyone happy with a drink and to everyone who made sandwiches and filled rolls.

The grand total of £370 was raised and Kilmory Hall and the community bus received £185 each.

All being well next year will be the 27th year for us all, and without all my friends and family this would not take place so thank you.

Yours,
Margaret MacKenzie
Ferndean
Kilmory.

Unlock the best of British on travelling museum bus

A travelling museum of British inventions is coming to Arran on a single decker red bus.

Packed with 100 of the country's most important inventions, discoveries and social innovations it will be on Arran on Wednesday March 5 visiting Arran High School, Lamlash, and will later be open to the general public in Brodick.

The Travelling Museum, created by 'Sing London', a participatory arts organisation, aims to lift the public's spirit, arouse curiosity and shed new light on British innovation.

Inventions

The bus is filled with 100 exciting inventions to be discovered. From the steam engine to the NHS, telephone to radar, the museum features a roll call of British achievement.

To fit so much on a single decker bus has taken ingenuity. Inventions are packed into nine themed cabinets of wonder.

Visitors will find penicillin in the medicine cupboard, the rawplug in the toolbox and hawk-eye in the trophy cupboard.

Although there are 100

exhibits, visitors have to choose a themed 'bus route' and are given keys to unlock and explore 10 boxes. Each box contains a concise story using intriguing anecdotes, surprising artefacts and the odd jar of facts.

North Ayrshire Council cabinet member for education, attainment and achievement Councillor John Bruce said: 'This bus tour is a great way to attract large audiences to unlock some of Scotland's spectacular achievements - especially our major contributions to the advancement of medicine, science and the overall well-being of mankind.'

He added: 'I would encourage people of all ages to step on board the bus and explore this intriguing museum where they can discover how Scotland has helped shape the world in which we live today.'

Free

The exhibition, which is free and open to all ages, will be at Arran High School, Lamlash, from 11am till 1pm for school pupils only and from 2pm to 4pm at Shore Road, Brodick, which is open to the general public.



The Arran Banner on holiday

'The Banner on Holiday' continues to be one of the most popular features in the paper, and we continue to be absolutely overwhelmed by the number of fantastic photographs of our readers that have come through the doors.

This week we have a wee snap of John Hartley from Lochranza sitting reading his Banner in the grounds of West Point Military Academy in New York State with the

frozen Hudson River behind him.

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

Photographs

It could be from Cardiff or Cabo, it really doesn't matter; we would love to see your photographs.

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

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A day to remember sees Brodick pupils perform Tam o' Shanter

Youngsters learn a play in a day

Pupils at Brodick Primary School recently learned a play in a day.

A visiting theatre company was behind the project which saw senior pupils at the school learn and perform Robert Burns famous poem 'Tam o' Shanter' in a single school day.

They then performed the play to parents and the rest of the school.

Putting it together with the pupils were husband and wife David and Jackie Smith of the Stirling based Tapsalteerie Theatre company.

The couple take their plays and workshops all over Scotland, but it is only the second time they have visited Arran.

Because of the recent Burns Night, Tam o' Shanter was

chosen for the primary five, six and seven pupils to perform.

And they were split into two groups - Tam and the villagers and the witches and warlocks who all feature in the poem. Even Meg the horse made an appearance.

History

David gave the audience a brief history of Robert Burns before the pupils performed the poem which Jackie narrated.

Jackie said: 'All the pupils worked really hard all day and put on an excellent performance.'

The couple took the play to Corrie Primary the following day and also did a workshop at Pirmill school while they were on the island.



Tam, centre, with his long suffering wife Kate and villagers in The Doon Arms. 20_b08tam01



Soutar Jonnie waits for Tam with his cronies in The Doon Arms. 20_b08tam07



Above: The witches and warlocks strike a pose ahead of the school play. 20_b08tam02



Jackie narrates the poem describing Tam in the pub with his cronies. 20_b08tam03

Right: The witches and warlocks dance around the graves of the dead. 20_b08tam05



Left: The witches and warlocks work themselves into a frenzy as the audience looks on. 20_b08tam06



Tam ventures out into the night on his trusty horse Meg. 20_b08tam04



Celebrate your m

Whatever kind of wedding you are planning - small and intimate or large and grand - the Isle of Arran is the perfect location

Whether you are lucky enough to live on the beautiful Isle of Arran or simply enjoy spending time here, this island is one of the most beautiful places in the world to celebrate your marriage. All year round Arran's wonderful scenery provides the perfect backdrop to your special day and with a host of stunning venues to choose from, a wedding on Arran is sure to be one to remember. Choosing your wedding venue is the most important decision you will make when

planning your marriage especially if your marriage ceremony and reception are to be held in the same place. Nearly all of Arran's villages have charming churches that are ideal for a wedding ceremony. Each Arran minister and priest will be happy to meet with you and discuss the plans for your big day. For those that would prefer a civil marriage, the registry office in Lamlash is the perfect location.

Within the ancient walls of **Brodick Castle**, civil, religious and humanist ceremonies can be held in the magnificent drawing room, famed for its intricate plasterwork ceiling depicting the heraldic story of the Hamilton family. With wonderful views across Brodick Bay to the Ayrshire coast, the south facing drawing room is ideal for intimate celebrations. With three national

collections of rhododendron offering colour and fragrance throughout the year, the castle's romantic gardens are a picturesque setting for wedding photography, alfresco ceremonies and

“Arran has wonderful p your weddin

receptions. For larger gatherings a marquee can be erected on the south-facing lawn with the castle forming a spectacular backdrop. Arran has a wealth of wonderful places to hold your wedding reception after the ceremony.

The charming **Kinloch Hotel** in Blackwaterfoot is set in a stunning location with panoramic sea and mountain



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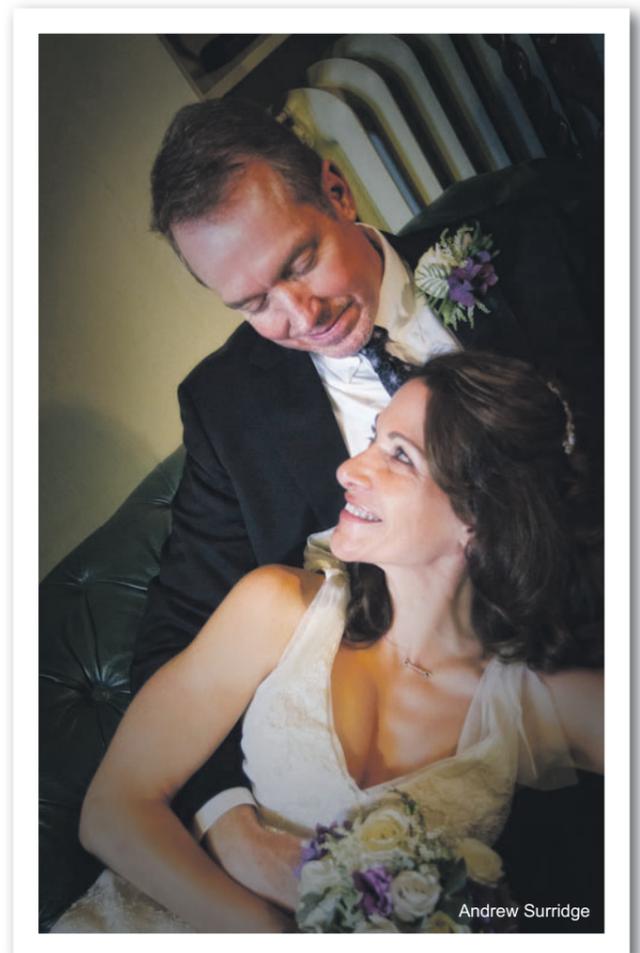
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Marriage on Arran

views on Arran's west coast. The hotel is the perfect setting for any wedding whether you plan to get married in the nearby church or the hotel itself.

At the Kinloch there is no

"a wealth of laces to hold reception"

standard wedding package. Their specialist team will help to tailor-make a wedding to suit you and your needs to ensure that every special day is unique and unforgettable. The ceremony can be held

in the beautiful grounds set against the backdrop of the sea.

With its large ballroom that looks across the Kilbrannan Sound, the Kinloch is a wonderful place to celebrate your marriage.

At **The Douglas Hotel** in Brodick you are immediately immersed in the luxurious surroundings and elegance of the recently restored building.

With panoramic views over Brodick Bay to Goatfell, the welcoming and relaxed environment of the hotel will ensure you have the perfect start to your new life together.

Their specialist team will help you create a memorable day,

while the skilled and friendly staff will take care of all your individual requirements as you unwind and take pleasure in knowing that your plans and wishes are underway for your special occasion.

They have created their special 'Elope Weddings', a collection of mid-week price led weddings for those on a budget but each of their weddings is bespoke and tailored to suit all couples' wishes. The Douglas is a wonderful place to tie the knot in style.

The Big Wooden House in Brodick is a unique large Arts and Crafts country house perfect for a wedding weekend.



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the Big Wooden House is a magical place to celebrate your wedding.

Lochranza Village Hall enjoys an enviable position in the centre of one of Arran's most beautiful villages. The picture-perfect location is perfect for wedding receptions with its spacious, clean and attractive hall and

up-to-date kitchen. The community garden belonging to the village hall offers a colourful and sheltered location for photographs. The spacious hall offers room for 120 guests and can be decorated to suit all styles of weddings. With room outside to also add a marquee, Lochranza Hall has quickly become one

of the island's most popular venues.

The same can be said for **Whiting Bay Village Hall** which has become a firm favourite for wedding receptions. Now also licensed for wedding ceremonies, it is the ideal setting for any big day. The hall can accommodate 150 people for dinner and then another 150 for dancing and can be decorated to suit any wedding decor. With views across the Clyde to the Ayrshire Coast there is also plenty of places suited to wedding photography as you record your day for posterity.

And 'Turning dreams into memories' is exactly what local photographer **Andy Surridge** believes his job is on your wedding day. Along with his talented and indispensable wife Nikki,

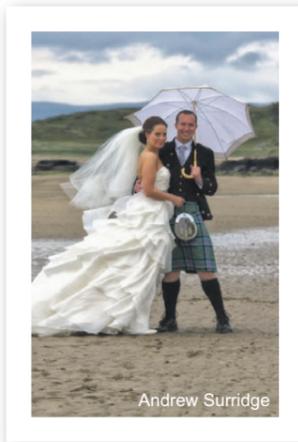
without whom Andy says his wedding photography wouldn't be the same. As well as helping with the hard graft of lugging equipment around and taking photographs, Nikki is always on hand to arrange the wedding dress or sort an errant strand of hair and add the creative woman's touch where needed. At one wedding she even ended up sewing the brides wedding dress after she'd ripped it on a door handle minutes before the ceremony! The couple believe that wedding photography is so much more than just taking photographs. By the end of every wedding day they shoot, Nikki and Andy feel they have gained new friends and often remain in touch afterwards. Andy said: 'We pride ourselves in offering a friendly personal service,

“romantic picturesque

being creative yet unobtrusive but above all crafting a lasting memento of their wedding day. 'We will give you a hand built album of beautiful images which can be enjoyed long after the wedding cake's been eaten and the suits have all been returned.'

A wedding list for gifts continues to be popular as many modern couples already live together before tying the knot.

There are some superb shops and boutiques on Arran which offer a gift service and **Friday's Child** at Home Farm, just outside Brodick, is now one of the island's most popular



Andrew Surridge



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scenery & venues....”

gift shops. With its unusual collection of gifts for the home as well as gorgeous presents for all ages from young children all the way up, there is something here for everyone. Distinctive picture frames for your wedding portraits, colourful homeware by Joseph and Joseph for your new home, and other interesting gifts for the home that you won't find anywhere else on Arran all make excellent wedding gifts.

One of the main events of your wedding day will be when you cut the cake in front of all your friends and family.

Adeles Wedding Cakes offers a bespoke

wedding cake and celebratory cake service on the Isle of Arran. Adele consults with the bride and groom to create their special wedding cake that they may have visualized months or in some cases years in advance. Delicious flavours, number of guests and theme of the wedding are all important considerations whether you decide upon a unique tiered wedding cake or a tower of cupcakes. You may wish also wish to have small wedding favors. The cakes contain many ingredients that are locally sourced in order to produce the highest quality confection. It is made especially for you and your guests to enjoy on your wedding day. Discussing your aspirations with Adele will enable you to have the perfect wedding cake for your special wedding day.

Many couples today now choose their engagement and wedding rings after popping the question.

What could be more magical than commissioning a ring designed and produced by **Katie Lees** from Corrie, a graduate of the Glasgow School of Art. Her beautiful bespoke rings are created in her new studio in Glasgow and she is happy to take on commissions - she now also has a fantastic online shop. Her necklaces, bracelets and earrings would also make beautiful gifts for bridesmaids or members of the wedding party.

Whatever kind of wedding you are planning - small and intimate or large and grand - the Isle of Arran is the perfect location. With its romantic scenery and picturesque venues, you will have a wedding to remember.



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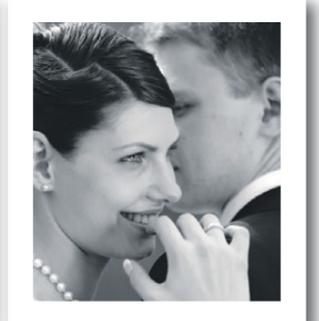
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Senior fitness club says a fond farewell to Dorothy



Dorothy, in pink top, says farewell to her fitness friends. 20_b08ft01

Homemade stick found

A homemade walking stick has been found at the end of Newton Shore in Lochranza. The stick has carved initials and if anyone thinks it is theirs they should call 830200 and give a description.

After 30 years on Arran, 86-year-old Dorothy Cross is leaving the island to live with her daughter in England.

But not before she said a fond farewell to all her friends at the senior exercise group which meets twice a week at the Auchrannie fitness suite.

Dorothy, who lives in Brodick, still regularly swims 30 lengths of the

swimming pool before attending the fitness class.

She was among the founder members of the group more than 15 years ago and has attended regularly since.

It started out as a recovery class for heart and lung conditions, but some of those attending just kept going.

Now between 12 and 18 senior citizens meet on

Mondays and Thursdays to be put through their paces by class instructor Fiona Rodriguez.

Group member Tony Wall said: 'Dorothy is remarkable for her age. The whole group is going to miss her, particularly my wife and I as Dorothy has been a friend for many years.'

She will leave the island early next month.

Eco Savvy's community shop to open in April

Waste not want not. Your eco community needs you.



A new community shop which will explore every possibility for reusing and recycling household goods on the island is going to be opening its doors in Whiting Bay.

This shop will be located in the centre of the village, and is using a premises which has been out of use for many years.

The shop will explore the reuse of anything - yes anything - which is clean and for domestic use before it becomes rubbish.

'Waste Not Want Not' will be a shop with a few differences.

As well as accepting donations it will act as a 'second chance' shop helping people to receive a share of the final selling price.

This will enable anyone to sell items in the shop and make back some money for themselves.

The shop will be stocked with second hand items in good clean working order and items which have been 'up-cycled'.

Also available will be items which have potential to be up-cycled.

This will offer people the chance to repair or improve items that would have been unusable and sell them to make a profit.

For large, unwanted items, Eco Savvy will help advertise them or match them to a database of wanted items.

Using donations of unwanted craft items Eco Savvy will search for creative solutions and suggestions to provide affordable options for a new use.

As a not-for-profit group with pending charitable status, all surplus funds raised will go towards Arran Eco Savvy projects to progress self-sufficiency and waste reduction on Arran for the benefit of the island community.

Eco Savvy recognises how important the island's

beautiful environment is to everyone who lives here and to those who visit the island.

To be a shop volunteer, up-cycler or find out more and get involved with the group, come along to a get-together on Tuesday 25 February at 2pm in Whiting Bay Hall or contact Eco Savvy at arran.ecosavvy@gmail.com with suggestions or for more information.

Telephone 700411 or 700398.

Please join in and help Arran become a greener cleaner island.

Schools appeal

The foundations are being built for an exciting project where children in local primary schools can help to create their own green houses.

This is part of the Eco Schools programme to help the schools on Arran get their green flag.

They need the support of all the community to reach their target of 1,500 bottles each.

Everyone is being asked to save all their two-litre plastic bottles, rinse them out and drop them into Brodick and Corrie primary schools.

Luke Nelson of Brodick Bay Primary School said: 'We would appreciate it if you could save these for us.'

'We are doing this to be environmentally friendly and it will help us to get our Eco-schools green flag!'

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THE ARRAN

BANNER

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Saturday 26 February, 1994

Village split

A number of Arran shopkeepers, unhappy at the proposal of a new Co-op superstore in Brodick, held a meeting to express their concern that it will harm their trade.

Businessman Bob Brass of Arran Estate Agents said: 'I am very concerned at the effect it is going to have on the heart of Brodick, and there will be a knock on effect on the small traders.'

Councillor Tom Knox said: 'I can appreciate the small traders' concern. But I have talked to our economic development people and their view is that it will probably only affect them for the first month only.'

Ticket row

Caledonian MacBrayne have now said that for the duration of the summer tickets can be bought on board the ferry.

It follows the introduction of shore ticketing which is proving very unpopular.

Brian Wilson MP gained the concession after he expressed his anxiety about the change.

But in a reply to Mr Wilson CalMac chief executive Colin Paterson defended the move. He said: 'It is really a logical move.'

'As far as trains are concerned anyone who travels has to be in possession of a ticket. Why not also on ships?'

New sergeant

A new, and permanent, police sergeant is expected to start work on the island in the coming week.

He will be joined a week or two after that by another permanent female constable.

These are the first steps to returning to a stable complement of police officers on the island following the upset of three out of five suddenly being moved to work elsewhere within U Division.

Gannet mystery

Mystery surrounded the finding of a dead gannet on Corrie shore. Initially it was thought its death was as a result of oiling but NTS ranger Duncan Stevenson said it probably died of hunger as there had been a lot of birds dying, particularly young ones, due to a lack of food. However, Mr Stevenson said he had reported it to Natural Heritage Scotland because of the presence of an oil slick around the Solway.



Hairdresser Alice Anderson is studying for an HNC in hairdressing and salon management at James Watt College in Greenock. As part of her course she gave a talk on scalp care and a long hair demonstration. Pictured are Alice and Helen Gatherer from the college (centre) with models Sheila Gilmore, Jacquie Andrew and Barbara Paterson. b08twe03



Above: Children from Brodick Primary School got an afternoon off to enjoy the snow. b08twe02

**Arran
Banner
newsdesk:
01770
302142**



The girl guides outside Shiskine Church with their flags on Thinking Day. b08twe04

Right: Pictured at the final dog trial of the season at Glenree are: Matthew McNeish and Sweep, centre, overall winner, Willie McConnell and Kia, right, second overall, and Jack Murchie and Mac, left, special award. b08twe01



Thinking Day

Last Sunday girl guides and brownies from around the island joined with cubs and scouts in a joint church service at Shiskine Church to mark Thinking Day.

The guides carried the flags

into the church and it was during the service that the Rev Elizabeth Watson, who is also the guide commissioner, presented Fiona Cook of Sliderry with her Queen's Guide badge.

**Send your old photographs to
editor@arranbanner.co.uk**

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Everyday

Trout Fly Fishing
Brodick Castle, Garden Open Daily
Arran Brewery
Arran Brewery tour

Loch Garbad, Bank fishing
9am-Dusk
Open Mon, Tue, Fri & Sat 12.30-5pm,
2pm

Saturday 22nd February

Army Cadets
Over 21s Disco
Karate
Family Games
Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
Junior Football
Live Music - Scott MacDonald
Coffee Morning
Brodick Nursery Table Top Sale

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1 pm.
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Arran High School, 10am
P4s and upwards, Arran High School, 11am-12.30pm
Public Bar, Douglas hotel, 9pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am- 12noon
Brodick Hall, 10am

Sunday 23rd February

Family Games
Fun in the pool
Cocaine Anonymous (& all other drugs)
AA Meeting
Mackerel Lottery
Ladies Pool Open

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
Ormidale sports pavilion, 2pm - 3.30pm
Brodick Church Hall, 4pm - 6pm
Kinloch Bar, 5pm
Drift Inn, 2.30pm

Monday 24th February

Quiz
Over 50s Badminton
Badminton
Citizens Advice
Senior Fitness
Table Tennis
Aerobics (low impact)
Badminton
Arran Junior Football Club
Yoga
Lunch club
Yoga - Arran
Shirley & Sarah fitness class
Scottish Country Dancing
Bridge Club
Metafit

Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm
Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30-1.30pm
Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
Shiskine Hall 6pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm
Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm
Corrie Village Hall, 11am - 12 noon
Lamlash sheltered Housing, 12 noon
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 25th February

Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Youth Club
Rotary club
Streetly Dance pre school
Streetly Dancing minis P1-3
Streetly Dancing Juniors P4-7
Streetly Dancing Seniors

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Kildonan Hall, 7pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.45-2.30pm
Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4-4.45pm
Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4.45-5.30pm
Auchrannie Gym Hall, 5.30-6.15pm

Junior Hockey Club
Healthy Outdoors
Winter bowls
SFA Early Touch Football
Metafit
Scottish Country Dancing
Arran Farmers Society AGM
Community Council meeting

Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6-7pm
10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre
Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm
P1-P4s, Arran High School, 6-7pm
Arran High School, 6pm - 6.30pm
Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Kinloch Hotel, 8pm
Ormidale Pavilion 7.30pm

Wednesday 26th February

Hockey
Tae Kwondo
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Yogalates
Aquafizz
Music Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service
RunArran mixed ability
Running Coaching
Yoga-Arran
Sports Club
Arran Golf Pass AGM
Elderly Forum Lunch
Unison Arran AGM

Auchrannie Games Hall, 6.30-7.30pm
Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm
Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am
10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30
Auchrannie car park, 5.30pm
Auchrannie car Park, 5pm
Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm
P4-S2s, Arran High School, 6-7.30pm
Brodick Golf Club, 7.30pm
Brodick Golf Club, 12.30pm
Council Office, Lamlash, 5pm

Thursday 27th February

Senior Fitness
General Knowledge Quiz
Lochranza Craft Club
Live music
Weight Watchers
Yoga
Shirley & Sarah fitness class
Brodick Embroidery Group
Winter bowls
Metafit
Bridge Club
QuiltArran
Garden Club

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Lochranza Hall, 2pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay 8.30-11.00pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 5.30pm
Corrie Village Hall, 6pm - 7pm
Lamlash High School, 6.30-7.30pm
Brodick Library, 7.30pm
Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm
Auchrannie sports hall, 6pm - 6.30pm
Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7pm
Fire Station, Lamlash, 2-4pm
Brodick Rangers Centre, 7.30pm

Friday 28th February

Aqua Fizz
Yogalates
Arran Youth Foundations
Lochranza Kids Badminton
Lochranza Adults Badminton
Arran Ceilidh Dancers
Coffee Morning

Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm
Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm
Lochranza Hall, 8pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 8-10pm
Corrie & Sannox Village Hall, 10am

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www.arranbrewery.com



Recruitment



Isle of Arran Distillers are looking to recruit the following positions within our fast paced, forward thinking and dynamic organisation.

Tour Guide/ General Assistant FT/PT Seasonal – applicants should offer excellent communication and organisational skills, experience of working within a shop environment, with a thirst for whisky knowledge.

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

Weekend work will be required.

Applicants should apply with CV to:

Faye Black, Visitor Centre Manager, Isle of Arran Distillers, Lochranza, Isle of Arran, KA278HJ

Tel: 01770 830 264

e-mail: visitorcentre@arranwhisky.com

Closing Date Monday 3rd March 2014

Lamlash Golf Club Has a vacancy for a full-time Bar Manager. Winter period part-time, full time summer season 40hrs.

The club would also like to offer the lease of the restaurant facility, which has a fully equipped kitchen and seating for sixty covers, on either an annual or seasonal basis (April-October) This is an ideal opportunity for someone to develop his or her own business.

The club would also consider an application to lease both bar and restaurant.

Applications in writing to the Secretary, Lamlash Golf club KA27 8JU together with CV and referees. Closing date 28th February 2014

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Public Notices

SCOTTISHPOWER RENEWABLES

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

ScottishPower Renewables hereby gives notice of a Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) to be undertaken in advance of the submission of a planning application to Argyll and Bute Council for a prospective development comprising 19 wind turbines at Beinn an Tuirc Windfarm Phase 3, north of Campbeltown on the Kintyre peninsula.

Further information in respect of the prospective development may be obtained by contacting ScottishPower Renewables:

Beinn an Tuirc Windfarm Phase 3 Project Team
ScottishPower Renewables
2nd Floor, Cathcart Business Park, Spean Street, Glasgow, G44 4BE

info@beinntuircwindfarmphase3.com
www.beinntuircwindfarmphase3.com

A public event which will include a presentation of the prospective development and an opportunity for public discussion with ScottishPower Renewables is to be held at:

Best Western Kinloch Hotel
Blackwaterfoot
Monday 3rd March
3.00pm until 7.00pm

Any persons wishing to submit comments should submit these to ScottishPower Renewables at the Public Information Day, or in writing up to 21 days after the event (24th March 2014).

Persons submitting comments in response to Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) are advised that comments submitted to the prospective applicant at this time are not representations to the planning authority; in the event that prospective applicant submits a formal application for planning permission then there would be an opportunity to submit representations to Argyll and Bute Council as the planning authority at that time.

**CIVIC GOVERNMENT (SCOTLAND) ACT 1982
TAXI FARE REVIEW**

Notice is hereby given that North Ayrshire Council, having consulted with taxi operators licensed by the authority, has fixed the scales of fares for taxis operating in its area. These scales will become effective from Monday 10 March 2014.

Tariff 1 (Day)
All journeys starting or ending in the period 7am to 12pm (midnight) (except where Tariff 3 applies):
Initial Charge - For a distance not exceeding 1,320 yards (¾ of a mile) (or waiting time not exceeding 10 minutes) - £2.60.
Additional Charge: Each additional 1/17 of a mile (about 104 yards) or additional waiting time of up to 25 seconds - 10p.

Tariff 2 (Nights, Sundays and across zones)
All journeys (except where Tariff 3 applies):
• starting or ending in the period 12pm (midnight) to 7am, or
• starting or ending at any time on Sundays, or
• from the zone for which the vehicle is licensed to another zone in North Ayrshire
Initial Charge: For a distance not exceeding 1,320 yards (¾ of a mile) (or waiting time not exceeding 10 minutes) - £3.00
Additional Charge: Each additional 1/18 of a mile (about 98 yards) or additional waiting time of up to 25 seconds - 10p.

Tariff 3 (Festive Periods)
All journeys starting or ending in the periods
• any time on 25 December until 7am on 26 December
• any time on 1 January until 7am on 2 January
Double Tariff 1 Charges (Initial and Additional).
Extra Charges
1. If the vehicle is carrying more than 4 passengers, the charge is 50% added to the Tariff.
2. Soiling Charge - £35.

Notes
1. The fare scale applies only to journeys which end within North Ayrshire. Fares for journeys beyond the Council area should be agreed between the passenger and the driver before the start of the journey.
2. Luggage shall be carried free if it is of a size which can reasonably be accommodated in the car.
3. The metered charge is the maximum which can be charged. The driver can always charge less.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

**Unison Arran
AGM
26 February 2014
Council Offices,
Lamlash
5pm
All welcome**

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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 and the Advertiser 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.

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- 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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- A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

**Arran Farmers' Society
A.G.M.
Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot
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All Welcome
Sec: Christine McBride, Tel: 820291**

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Clothes dryer £70, fridge/freezer upright £70, washing machine £70 Tel: 07910 394431

Static caravan 28x12f good condition £750 buyer must remove from site. Tel: 302164

Large quantity Traditional used slates. Offers. Mark 0788-755-1222

Used Utility Oil Boiler, Good condition. Offers. Mark 0788-755-1222

New Room sized carpets. Various colours. offers. Mark 0788-755-1222

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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(in full communion with the Church of England) St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday, 23rd February: Holy Communion, 11.00 (PLEASE NOTE NORMAL TIME RESTORED)
Mr John Roberts
Coffee and brief Annual Church Meeting after service.
ALL WELCOME.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Parishes of North Arran Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine
Independent but working together
Minister: Rev Angus Adamson, Parish assistant: Mrs Jean hunter
Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.

Sunday 23rd 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 Pirmill Churches, 10.15am, Morning Worship at Pirmill
Shiskine Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 23rd February
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30 am
Both Churches:
Mrs Sharon McLeod
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(Charity Number: SC014005)
Sunday 23rd February
Worship will be led by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am. Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service. All welcome.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Sunday morning masses 11am

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
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ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(continuing)
Sunday 23rd February
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge
Glen Estate Brodick
Evening Service 6-30 pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
Wednesday February 26th
Prayer Meeting 7pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 23rd February
Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)
Dr Graham Keith

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS
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

HALLYBURTON - Robert (Bob). Peacefully at Seabank Care Home, Saltcoats on Sunday, 16th February 2014. Bob, aged 85 years, of Lochranza, Isle of Arran, beloved husband of Lorna and father of Robert and John. Funeral service at Lochranza church on Monday, 24th February at 12 noon to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited. No flowers please, donations if desired to Alzheimer's Research UK.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

HARVIE - Margaret wishes to sincerely thank all her friends for the beautiful cards and messages of sympathy on Ian's recent death. Thanks go to Lamlash and Crosshouse Hospitals for the care and treatment during his last and previous illness. Also I must mention ArCaS drivers who ferried him faithfully to appointments. Thanks to David and Clair Hendry for excellent funeral arrangements and special thanks to Rev. Angus Adamson for a truly beautiful service and to Ian Macfadzean of the Brodick Bar for catering. To all the above once again my sincere and heartfelt thanks.

Three in a row for winner Niall

For the third year in a row Niall McMaster of Shannachie triumphed at the annual Donald Mackenzie memorial darts competition. Organised each February by Margaret MacKenzie in memory of her husband, this

was the 26th year of the competition. The mixed-doubles format sees names being drawn from a hat and eventual winner Niall McMaster was drawn to play with Alice McAllister. The duo beat Robert David-

son and Vicki Milne in the final and Niall also won the James Cup for highest check-out on the night with a 76. The big hamper was won by John Picken and the small hamper by Helen McCallum.

Margaret would like to thank all who helped to make it such an enjoyable evening. The grand total of £370 was raised on the night and Kilmory Hall and the community bus will receive £185 each.

Whiting Bay Golf Club
Sunday 16 February, 14 played in the third Winter Friendly between Whiting Bay and Lamlash, at Whiting Bay. The weather for a change was dry and sunny with hardly any wind - and a few players took full advantage!

In the team competition the honours were shared two matches each, thanks partly to a Jamie Macpherson win playing as a Lamlash player to even the numbers. (A stern letter is in the post from the committee Jamie!)

In the individual stableford there was a runaway winner by 7 points! 1 Adam Burke (13)46 points, 2 Gordon Provan (9)39 points, 3 Jamie Macpherson of Lamlash (5)37 points acb. Adam also won scratch with a score of 66 and there were magic twos from Gordon Provan, Alan Smith and Andy Smith. The overall score in the winter series is now Whiting Bay 7 Lamlash 7, so all to play for in the final match at Lamlash in March.

Fixtures: Sunday 23 February, sweep from Yellow tees, usual draw times.

Brodick Golf Club
Sunday 16 February, Gents Clochendichter. Knowe 11

v Village 5, Alma 6 v Street 10. League table after five matches Knowe 42 Village 27 Street 22 Alma 21. Final match on Sunday 23 February, Brandon and Winter Cup. Class draws at 9am and 12noon. Sunday 2 March, Sweep, open draws at 9am and 12noon.

Machrie Bay Golf Club
Tuesday 11 February, Winter Cup. 1 David Wilkinson 68, 2 Elizabeth Ross 70, 3 Brian Sherwood 73. Scratch Brian Sherwood 75.

Saturday 15 February, Lochranza Hotel Cup and Freebie Final. 1 David Price 32pts, 2 Brian Sherwood 28pts, 3 Campbell Laing 27pts. Winner of the Freebie Final was David Price.
Fixtures: Tuesday 23 February, Winter Cup tee off 12noon. Saturday 1 March, Lochranza Hotel Cup tee off 12noon.

Shiskine Golf Club
The Ryder Cup Foursomes was held on Sunday 16 February. A fine day out on the links and great to see 32 guys out there.
Nearest the Pins - each scooping over £15, at the 4th Colin Rutterford, at the 7th Hamish



Bannatyne, at the 10th Willie Kelso, and at the 12th Billy Paton.

Blackwaterfoot 3 Torbeg 1, Shiskine 3 Kilpatrick 1. 1/2 a point each as a bonus for Blackwaterfoot and Shiskine for holes won/lost (+6 holes).
After four games the table looks like this: Blackwaterfoot 11 1/2, Shiskine 11 1/2, Torbeg 8, Kilpatrick 5.
Friday 13 February, Ladies 12 Hole Medal, 10 played and managed to get round before the rain!

1 Liz Kerr 56-9=47 BIH, 2 Kema Genda 54-7=47. Scratch K Genda 54.
Fixtures: Sunday 23 February, Gents 12 Hole Medal and Winter Cup Gents. Thursday 6 March, Ladies 18 Hole Medal.

Lamlash Golf Club
Thursday 13 February, Yellow Medal 1 Adam Burke 76 - 13 = 63 [BIH], 2 Andy Smith 78 - 15 = 63.

Sunday 16 February, Winter Friendly v Whiting Bay at W/Bay. W/Bay 2 Lamlash 2. All square [7-7] going into last game at Lamlash on Sunday 16 March. Congratulations to Adam Burke on his great score - 66 scratch [46pts] to win the individual prize.
Fixtures: Sunday 23 February Winter Stableford [counting round] 09.30am and 12noon starts. Thursday 27 February Yellow Medal 11.00am ballot.

Arran Golfers Association
The final round of matches of the Winter League/Duncan Trophy 2013, 2014 will be played at Whiting Bay on Sunday 2 March with a shotgun start. Could all teams please be at the course for 9.30am as there will be a bit of a walk to get to some tees ready for 10am, Dougie will sound a claxon at 10am!
Draw: Whiting Bay v Corrie, Brodick v Machrie Bay, Shiskine v Lamlash.

WEDDING



Peter Mackay, son of Peter and Jeanette Mackay of Lamlash was married to Elloise Comber on Saturday 11th January at Napier, New Zealand. Pictured here with parents and Elloise's daughter Lauren. Family and friends enjoyed a wonderful day in beautiful weather and surroundings.

THANK YOU

Thank you
Nancy and Eddie Cannon
would like to thank everyone who inquired about Eddies health after the operation in the month of November at Ninewells, Dundee. Thanks to Edward for visits, David for phone calls, Billy Gibson and also all who sent cards, especially ladies of Lamlash Golf club and Aunt Edna at Kilmory.
Thanks to all who visited Eddie in hospital in Lamlash and at home. Also thanks to all Lamlash hospital staff who were all brilliant, district staff and Doctors Hoelzl, Dr Thomson, Dr Bloomfield and Dr Hamil and to Mike and Isla for pancakes mixed for delivering, Anna for looking after house and Ann Bennett for looking after Rosie.

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Tae Kwon-do student earns the island's first black belt



Catherine Divine presents Adrian Cannon of Brodick with his well-earned black belt. Also pictured are the two main instructors at the club, John Divine and Debbie McNally.

Arran's Tae Kwon-do Club was celebrating this week after one of its members became the first islander to receive black belt status.

Adrian Cannon of Brodick started as a beginner in 2010 and is the first person on Arran to achieve black belt status from beginner level.

On Sunday 25 students from the kids and adult classes were successfully graded and awarded with new belts to match their new status at Arran High School.

Catherine Divine, sixth dan and president of Elite Tae Kwon-do Scotland, presented the students with their new belts and commented on the success of the club since starting in 2010.

She said: 'This club keeps going from strength to strength and I am looking forward to the club's second competition in May when it will welcome competitors

from many different parts of Scotland.'

Congratulations to the following who achieved 'A' passes: Dariusz Gwizdowski, Patryk Gwizdowski, Aleena Rojan, Albin Robyn, Jaden Simpson and Lucinda Beardsley.

Local instructor John Divine, Catherine's brother, said: 'Tae Kwon-do is a sport and discipline for all ages.

'It can be started at any age as long as you have good general health.

'We have students aged from four to their 60s in our federation clubs so if you would like to try out a martial art (whatever your age), then please come along and give it a go.'

Arran Tae Kwon-do club train on a Wednesday evening at Arran High School - kids from 6.30pm to 7.30pm and adults 7.30pm to 8.30pm.



On Sunday 25 students from the kids and adult classes were successfully graded and awarded with new belts to match their new status at Arran High School.

Arran Bridge Club

The aggregate points for Monday 17 February were as follows: North/South

1 Tricia Martin and David Campbell, 2 Jan and John Beattie, 3 John Baraclough

and Jean Barclay.

East/West 1 Janie Macclure and Anne McKelvie, 2 Dougie and Margaret Bruce, 3 David Henderson and Fiona Crawford.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING



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The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.