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Arran's Weekly Newspaper SATURDAY, 21 February 2015 No 2001 60p

Arran's Energy Saving Roadshow

3 page feature inside

Horror attack leaves prize sheep fighting for its life

Angry farmer tells dog owner 'you know who you are'

A farmer has hit out at an irresponsible dog owner after one of his pedigree sheep was left fighting for its life.

REPORT
by HUGH BOAG
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

about the size of an Alsatian. No human footprints were found.

Kenneth Bone says the owner must know the dog carried out the horrific attack as it would have returned covered in blood and wool.

Wullie found the injured animal and took it to a pen where it was given urgent medical attention.

'There is no way the owner does not know this happened. The dog would have returned covered in blood with wool in its mouth and all over its paws. My main concern is that it could come back. Dogs get a taste for this kind of thing.'

Police are investigating the incident which took place at Glenkiln Farm in Lamlash within sight of the farmhouse.

It is thought the dog was on its own when the attack took place but it left the sheep shocked and distressed after chasing it across two fields as it repeatedly attacked it.

As a result they plan to have someone 'on call' at the farmhouse all the time in case the dog returns.

The Blackface hog was found seriously injured cowering in the corner of a field following the attack. It had had much of its wool both torn and bitten from it.

Kenneth said: 'I was shocked by the amount of wool that had been torn and bitten off the sheep and there were tears to its flesh as well.'

'Most people that walk their dogs round the farm do so in a responsible manner.'

The sheep, worth many thousands of pounds, is one of the stud flock used for rearing and had been with the other sheep in the field used to host the annual Arran Show.

'If it had not been found and given immediate attention we would have lost it. It is now being treated with antibiotics and should recover, but it is in shock and will have to stay indoors given the extent of its injuries. I hope it brings home to people the amount of damage a dog can do.'

'We have notices up warning them that there is livestock in the fields. The irresponsible owners know who they are.'

The incident happened between 6pm on 11 February and 7.30am on 12 February.

Pawprints discovered near where the sheep was found show it is likely to have been a 'really big dog' probably

The injured sheep is one of a number at the farm which came from Dalchirla Farm in Crieff, one of Scotland's top Blackface breeders.

It was Kenneth's wife Eleanor who first noticed a lot of wool in the fields and went to investigate with shepherd Wullie Stevenson.

Police Scotland confirmed they are investigating and urged anyone with any information to contact Arran police on the 101 number.



Lori lifts Burns drawing prize

Young Lori Prescott of Whiting Bay Primary has won the inaugural Lamlash Burns Club drawing competition. Lori, 10, who is in primary six, received her prize, The Collected Works of Robert Burns, from club president Jock Kelso (right) as secretary Andy Martin looks on at the school assembly last Friday. For a full report and the winning drawings see page 12 and 13. 20_b08burns02



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Conservatives pick their election candidate

The Conservative candidate to fight the North Ayrshire and Arran seat in the forthcoming general election will be Jamie Greene.

He was chosen following a selection meeting held in West Kilbride last weekend.

Jamie, 34, was born and brought up in Greenock and went to school and college in the area. He worked locally at IBM for a spell before moving into the media industry where he was a TV producer for 10 years, working across the UK and overseas, including stints at the BBC. He subsequently worked in a number of small entrepreneurial media businesses and more recently as a senior executive for a large multinational broadcast network. His family still lives in the Greenock and Gourock area.

Jamie said: 'This general election is vital to the ongoing success of Scotland and Britain. We have less than three months to save Scotland from years of division, mismanagement and regression.'

'Looking at the choice facing the people of North Ayrshire and Arran – it's hard to tell the difference between the Labour and the SNP candidates as each scrambles to be more left wing than the other. Whilst they fight each other in North Ayrshire and Arran their party leaders plot coalition together in Westminster.'

'Remember, the SNP's sole aim is the break-up of the UK, a vote for either the SNP or Labour will be an inevitable catastrophe for Scotland. If you voted no in the referendum, then only a vote for the Conservatives will ensure the preservation of the union.'

'If, like me, you are pro-business, pro-employment and extremely concerned that the SNP or Labour parties will financially cripple us, then the Scottish Conservative Party is the only true and sensible centre right party on the ballot. The contrast in this election is stark and clear - it's a choice between a strong future for Scotland under the Conservatives, or chaos with anyone else.'



Jamie Greene is congratulated by Chris and Colin Siddle of Lochranza. Colin was elected North Ayrshire and Arran Conservative and Unionist Association vice chairman at the annual general meeting.

There is a light that never goes out

It may not quite be what Morrissey had in mind with he penned the words above, but his imagery has come true.

A light bulb that stays on during a power cut is being piloted by Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution (SSEPD) to help its vulnerable customers.

The bulb would have been invaluable during the first hours of the widespread power cuts during the Arran snowstorms of nearly two years ago.

SSEPD is the first electricity network operator to work with iViTi Lighting Ltd to trial its new bulb, which remains lit with the help of a small battery for three hours after the loss of mains electricity.

The electricity distribution company is trialling the bulb with 50 customers on its priority services register. The participants will receive a free 8W iViTi ON LED light bulb which gives the same amount of light as a standard 60W bulb

The bulbs are not currently available to buy but following a successful trial they will be made available.

Take your seats for weekend of exciting drama

Seven plays will be performed during this year's annual drama festival later this month.

The festival will be held on Friday 27 and Saturday 28 February at the Arran Community Theatre in the High School in Lamlash and there are four adult and three junior plays on the programme.

This year's adjudicator will be Alasdair Hawthorn from Glasgow. Tickets are available from Monday 23 February to Wednesday evening at the Book and Card Centre in Brodick and then at the door over the festival weekend. Tickets cost £6, with

doors opening at 6.30pm with the curtain up at 7pm. The plays on the programme are, on Friday night: Ragtime Mystery - a play by Gerald P Murphy, performed by Shiskine Junior Drama; Lashings of Ginger Ale - a satire by Stuart G Smith, performed by Lamlash Junior

Drama Club; Stalag 69 - a comedy by Michael Green, performed by Lamlash Drama Club; and Deckchairs - a comedy by Jean McConnell, performed by the Castaways. On Saturday night will be: Jump Off - a 'high' comedy, performed by Shiskine Junior Drama; Tracks - a play by

Geoff Craves, performed by Whiting Bay Club of Drama and Music; and Darlings You Were Wonderful - a comedy by Derek Lomas, performed by the Shiskine SWRI. During the break there will be coffees, teas, juices and, this year, new Arran Dairies ice cream.

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MP calls for probe into island fuel supply chain

An MP has stepped into the row over Arran's sky-high petrol prices.

Earlier this month, The Banner highlighted how the island was facing some of the highest fuel costs in Britain, with prices at some island garages more than 30p more expensive than on the mainland. Now, North Ayrshire and

Arran MP, Katy Clark, has called for the government to increase the island fuel rebate from its current 5p per litre, in a bid to help island motorists.

She said: 'In the longer term we need to be looking at the fuel supply chain and looking at what measures can be taken to ensure we do not see

such discrepancies between island and mainland prices in the future.'

Certas Energy UK is the sole supplier of petrol on Arran. The company blames the current high prices on the fact the petrol was supplied to the island last October just as prices began to fall. Ms Clark has tabled par-

liamentary questions asking Chancellor George Osborne when he last reviewed the level of the rebate, and if he will bring forward proposals to increase it.

The island fuel rebate was introduced in 2012 and allowed fuel retailers on islands to claim back 5p per litre fuel duty from the government on

fuel, and pass the saving on to customers. Ms Clark successfully lobbied for the Clyde Islands, including Arran, to be included in the scheme after they were initially left off the government's pilot.

While the scheme is set to be extended to certain mainland rural areas the government has given no indication whether it is prepared to increase the discount offered.

Ms Clark said: 'The government's island fuel rebate was a positive development for island motorists in Scotland. However, I am concerned that fuel prices on Arran remain unacceptably high. We need to be looking at what steps can be taken to ensure that prices are affordable. Arran residents should not face a financial penalty just for living on an island. Increasing the island fuel rebate is one simple step the government could take that would bring immediate relief to drivers on Arran and I very much hope this is something that they are willing to consider.'

See petrol price fury on letters page.

Appeal for help in search for lost necklace

A woman who has lost a sentimental necklace has appealed to Banner readers for help.

The necklace, with a silver chain and solitaire, was lost on Tuesday, 3 February, somewhere between the swing park at Brodick Castle and a walk from there to Home Farm where she went for lunch.

The lady said: 'It was my 30th birthday present from my husband so it very special to me.'

Anyone who can help should telephone The Banner on 302142.

• Do you have a story for The Arran Banner? Call our reporters on 01770 302142



Teachers from Arran primary schools gathered round a planter kit with project coordinator, Gail Ferguson (seated front right) and volunteer Sue Veitch (seated front left).

Free kits to get schools growing

A new initiative aims to take the farm into the classroom through an ambitious 'Get Ayrshire Growing' project.

The scheme, which will see free vegetable growing kits given to schools on Arran, was launched by the Ayrshire and Arran Countryside Initiative (AACI) at Whiting Bay Primary School.

Backed by the Royal Highland Education Trust, the kits, worth more than £60 each,

were distributed to teachers attending an introductory session on growing edible plants in schools. The session included practical activities on how to make the most of the free kits being handed out.

It is hoped that the project will promote awareness of where food comes from amongst the children and young people of Ayrshire and Arran.

'Get Ayrshire Growing' has been made possible by a generous award of £10,000 from the National Farmers' Union (NFU) Scotland Centenary Trust.

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Boost for beer production as all bottling moves to the mainland

All bottling of Arran beer will be transferred to the mainland later this year.

The move will free up capacity at the island brewery to significantly increase production, the company says.

The bottling work will be undertaken at the firm's new site in Dreghorn, which will also be Scotland's first sake brewery.

With more investment required at the Arran View Brewery, as it is to be known, there will be a second round of crowdfunding during the year, as reported in last week's Banner.

Shares will initially be offered to existing shareholders then to the wider public around Easter time.

Managing director Gerald Michaluk said: 'We are strategically well set to benefit from all this investment in the coming years especially once our own bottling line and

warehouse comes on stream later in 2015. We now own more than a five-acre site and significant infrastructure at Dreghorn and this will become the base for our move into the Sake business and allow us to bottle our beer in-house on the mainland.

Growth market

'The brewery continues to grow and expand its horizons in a super growth market both here in the UK and internationally. We now have the brewing staff trained and are therefore confident that we can move quickly into production when the new facilities are opened later in the year and significantly increase sales as well as reduce costs by moving from contract bottling on the mainland to in-house bottling at Dreghorn.

'The space created on the island by discontinuing our bottling there will be used to

increase significantly production capacity.

'We have strengthened our sales team both in the UK and now employ staff in the US and mainland Europe. Our plans have stretched our staff and we will be looking to recruit a finance director to the team, as well as fill a number of other posts in the coming months. This will be coupled with strengthening our board by appointing three additional non-executive directors, one of who will be elected from within our shareholder pool created from the first round of crowd funding.'

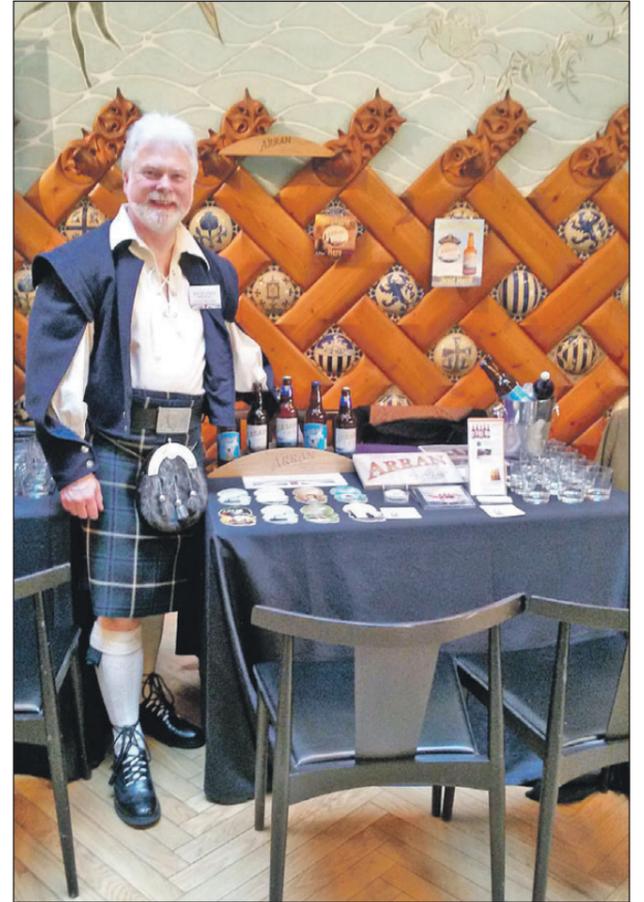
Meanwhile, the brewery continues to expand at a controllable rate with sales up 11 per cent on the same period in 2013/14. It will open fully its new Loch Earn Brewery,

hotel and visitor centre at St Fillans this year.

However, the brewery is carrying significant extra overhead while it staffs up for the new breweries. It had forecasted opening the brewery last year, but there were delays with getting building warrants and because of poor weather.

A conditional loan has been agreed with the Bank of Scotland for the remaining £300,000 required to complete phase two of the project.

Mr Michaluk added: 'The move in to the US and overseas markets has been substantially more costly and taken more time than was initially thought but significant progress has been made and the benefits should start to be felt in 2015/16.'



Gerald Michaluk on a recent marketing drive in Spain.

Pupils develop their own apps

Primary 6 and 7 pupils at Lamlash school have been designing their own computer apps.

At a recent school assembly they showed off what they have produced using the Apps For Good programme.

Pupil Ethan Willis explained:



Ethan Willis and Jessica Reid speak at the assembly.

'Apps for Good is a charity that lets schools make their own apps. We have researched lots of apps. We have also designed what our app pages are going to look like and we have talked to Jack, who is an industry expert, who gave us some ideas.'

Jessica Reid added: 'We had to decide if our apps were going to be native, web or hybrid. Native is where you could have the app on a tablet like an iPad or Nexus. Web is where your app only works on the computer and hybrid is when it works on both. There are lots of different apps that our groups are designing like fitness, art, animals, wildlife, flags, translating and sweets.'

Some of their apps were about fitness, some were about drawing and others were about animals. To start the assembly they invited

parents and friends to look at the apps on their computers.

They then filled out a survey about each app. After the parents left the primary 3, 4 and 5 came in to have a look at the apps. Then primary 1 and 2 came in to have a look as well. The last group of people to come over were some of the S2s from the Arran High School.

The teacher leading the project, Alison Henderson, was extremely proud of what the class had created so far and they are enjoying the topic very much.



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The importance of our hearing

A total of 865,500 people in Scotland have a hearing loss problem, which equates to 16 per cent of the population.

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Katie Webster and Martin Smith know a lot about ears, with over 35 years of experience between them. They run their own private hearing practice in Corstorphine, Edinburgh and are delighted to be providing a regular audiology service to the Isle of Arran. They have been visiting Arran for eight months now, seeing patients at the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick, and have also been all over the island providing home visits.

So why Arran? They appreciate how difficult it can be for islanders to access a reliable service and importantly after their first visit, like many before them, they fell in love with the island.

They said: 'It has been

fantastic meeting so many of the islanders. They have been really supportive and appreciate the service we are offering. Our main challenge has been the windy weather and the ferry! 'People tend to forget about getting their hearing checked. It's a poor third behind eyes and teeth. Hearing loss happens in our ears, but affects many different aspects of our lives, for instance statistics show that people with a hearing loss tend to retire earlier.

'There is also a lot of discussion around new evidence which shows that untreated hearing loss increases a person's likelihood to develop dementia.'

The Edinburgh Hearing Practice provides free, no-obligation hearing tests and where appropriate a free 30-day trial of any hearing aids, so that patients can try them out in the comfort of their own home. During the assessments the quietest sounds you can hear will be measured, but your hearing will also be tested using different words.

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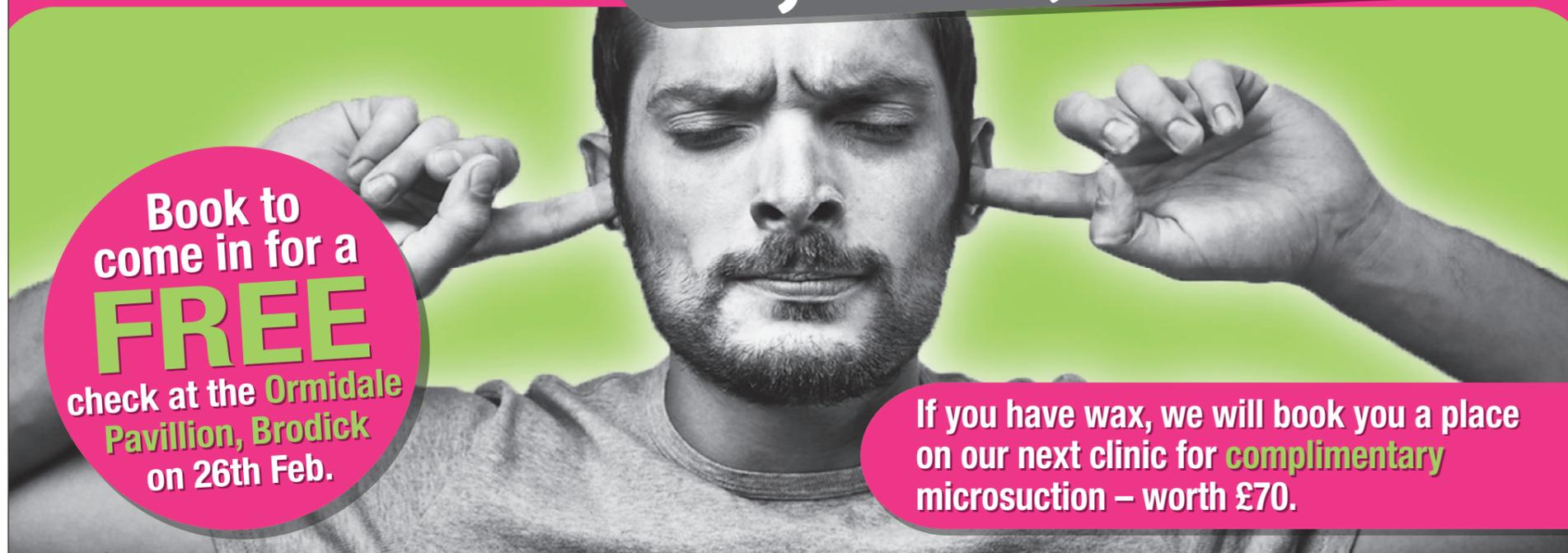
Katie and Martin are available to give you free and independent advice on the best technology available. You can rest assured that you will receive a five-star service.

A recent study by Which? revealed a huge variation in satisfaction of customers of large private hearing aid companies. However independent providers scored best for service, pricing, facilities and overall experience.

Martin also gives a number of educational talks to local groups and committees on the importance of our hearing and would be delighted to offer this service on Arran.

So, the moral of the story is - don't wait 10 years to get your ears checked!

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HEARING PRACTICE

Big rise in activity at leisure campus

There has been a big rise in the number of people using the KA Campus at Arran High School.

In the first six months of this year there is expected to be a 16 per cent increase compared to the corresponding period for last year.

In the first half of last year, 12,525 people used the facilities, but that is expected to rise to 14,474 in the months until June this year.

At the seven KA Campuses, operated by North Ayrshire Leisure Limited (NALL), activity levels rose by 19 per cent for the same period.

The projected use of the Lamlash gym, sports hall, fitness classes, along with events/admissions, is hoped to see numbers hit 28,750 by the end of the year - up from 26,183 last year.

A report to the North Ayrshire Council cabinet stated: 'Continued development of the KA Campus programme has led to all campuses, except Greenwood, performing above expectations.'

'Working with a number of local sports clubs has increased the number of

year-round bookings, rather than being heavily reliant on seasonal club bookings.'

Following a worrying drop in people using leisure facilities, KA Leisure presented a three-year business and service plan to the council in December 2011.

They requested progress reports on an annual basis.

As a result, the arms length organisation, which will also run the proposed new £18 million replacement for the Magnum Centre in Irvine, has seen a big increase in people using leisure facilities, and is now operating overall with its budgetary framework, with a probable surplus of £300,000 at the end of the financial year being predicted.

The report concluded: 'The progress report on the business/service plan presented by NALL continues to address key improvements.'

'This strategy will provide outcomes and actions to further enable the company to deliver quality facilities and services across the communities of North Ayrshire.'

Lochranza and Catacol 200 club

The winners of the January draw were as follows: 1st prize; Anita Ford and 2nd prize; Frances Alderson.



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The saxophone quartet are l to r: Iain Clarke, Rory Simons, Aidan Teplizky and Richard Scholfield.

Iain brings talented quartet back home

A talented saxophone quartet, which features Arran musician Iain Clarke, recently performed on the island.

Royal Conservatoire of Scotland saxophone quartet gave two performances at Brodick and Shiskine churches. Both recitals were well attended by an appreciative audience. The quartet entertained them with an impressive entrance to Ravel's Bolero and followed with a selection of pieces from Mozart, Gershwin and Mussorgsky, before delighting them with an arrangement of 'Looney Tunes' for an encore.

The quartet was formed in 2013 at the Saturday Junior Conservatoire in Glasgow where Richard, Rory and Aidan were studying saxophone as their first instrument. Iain is currently studying piano as his first instrument and saxophone as his second instrument to make up the quartet, which was tutored by Glasgow-based John Miller.

The first three are now studying full-time on the Bachelor of Music course at the senior Conservatoire and Iain has accepted the offer of an unconditional place on the same course starting in September this year.

The quartet has performed at the Conservatoire in a number of concerts and was invited to give a recital at the Leeds College of Music in October 2013. They have also performed at charity concerts in Glasgow.

These young men are vastly multi-talented - they each play several instruments to a high level - and in addition arrange and compose music both for those instruments and for the quartet. For those of you who missed out on two wonderful evenings, the good news is that they are hoping to return next year.

Arran poets perform at London gig

Diners at Copperwheats last Friday could have been forgiven if they thought they were attending an impromptu poetry reading.

They were surprised by three local poets suddenly standing and reading their poetry aloud in the restaurant. Thankfully, the owner was not surprised as this was an agreed run-through of a reading of the 'London gig' Arran poets, Cicely Gill, David Underdown and Tim Pomeroy will be performing

tonight (Friday). As timing for the event is quite critical, each poet had to run-through their poem list with all their planned introductions, to make sure they did not overrun their allotted 60 minutes.

The opening half of the evening will be performed by the local London poets led by Alex Josephy, who won last year's Mclellan Festival Poetry competition.

It was after this event that the Arran poets opened the

conversation about doing an exchange with the London poets. This is how the present event has come about and builds on the Arran Three's last outing to The Storey Auditorium in Lancaster in June last year.

The reading is being held in the Poetry Café in Covent Garden, a well-known poetry-reading venue.

And the timed read-through? 'We overran by 25 seconds so I think we should get away with that,' said Tim.

Lines Across The Water
four poets from London
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SIMON KIRWIN
STEVE BOORMAN
LYNDA HOW *meef*

three poets from the Isle of Arran
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CICELY GILL
DAVID UNDERDOWN

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Exhibition to showcase intimate landscapes of island of Arran

A major photographic exhibition showing intimate landscapes of Arran is to open next month.

The 15 images featured were captured by photographer Ann M Holmes on her first and only visit to Arran last year.

Now they are being displayed at a three-month exhibition at the Visitor Centre of the Isle of Arran Distillery in Lochranza from 2 March.

The photographs were all taken over a 10-day period at the beginning of January 2014, shortly after devastating storms had hit Arran and the Scottish coastline causing flooding, power cuts and severe ferry disruption.

Ann had visited Iceland a few months previously and been fascinated by the dynamic volcanic geology with its diversity in colour and abstract textural morphology.

When she discovered that

All the photographs taken during a 10-day storm

Arran had some similar and historically important geological features, she knew that she needed to also explore these photographically.

In the hope of capturing the moodiest and most evocative imagery, a winter visit was chosen with the increased likelihood of volatile weather - snow, stormy seas, skies and changing light.

Working in such conditions - particularly rain - inevitably poses challenges for the photographer, but only by embracing this does Ann feel that she can honestly portray a landscape born largely from volcanic action and glaciation; a rugged historic landscape that in itself can attract the most torrid of weathers.

Included in this collection

are two intimate abstracts featuring the fossilised sand dunes at Pirate's Cove, Corrie, which were taken at dawn with a low tide. Such early morning light burnishes the warm tones in this rock whilst casting shadows that accentuate the linear sea erosion.

One photograph capturing this, entitled 'Pirate's Grooves', has been highly commended with Ann being featured among the prize winners in 2014's Take-A-View Landscape Photographer of the Year. Its unusual subject matter also 'put Arran on the map' provoking surprise and delight in BBC Coast presenter Nicholas Crane in his discovery of such a novel geological feature in the British Isles.

Ann, who lives in picturesque Hebden Bridge, a mill town in the heart of the rugged Yorkshire Pennine Hills, says she is delighted with the support of the Arran Distillery to present the exhibition of very special vignettes and plans to explore the island in full when she returns to open the exhibition next month.

Arran: Intimate Landscapes will run from 2 March to 2 June at the distillery visitor centre from 10am to 5.30pm.



Glen Sannox will also feature in the exhibition.
Photo Ann M Holmes

Guesthouses urged to get right TV licence

With the holiday season fast approaching TV Licensing is appealing to hotels and guest houses across Arran to make sure they are correctly licensed.

With latest VisitScotland records showing that annual average bed occupancy rates for guest houses and B&Bs rose in seaside locations, owners of accommodation in Arran need to be prepared for a rise in visitors heading to the isle for a break.

Whether the establishment is a budget hotel, a boutique B&B, luxury spa resort or serviced apartments, a licence is needed if guests or staff are watching TV

programmes at the same time as they are shown on TV.

For many smaller hotels and guesthouses, the cost of a TV Licence is the same as for a private house - £145.50 a year.

This is the same for those using websites such as Airbnb to let out their property or spare room. Hotels with more than 15 rooms are covered by one licence for the first 15 rooms, but will need an additional licence for every five thereafter.

Claire Wotherspoon, spokesperson for TV Licensing, said: 'Industry stats show there's a growing demand for guests looking

to stay in tourist areas like Arran.

As well as stocking up and getting front of house ready for the big getaway, hotel managers can take the opportunity to speak to our friendly team of advisors and get their licence organised for the year ahead.'

Buying a licence is easy, and hoteliers can pay using BACS or electronic transfer.

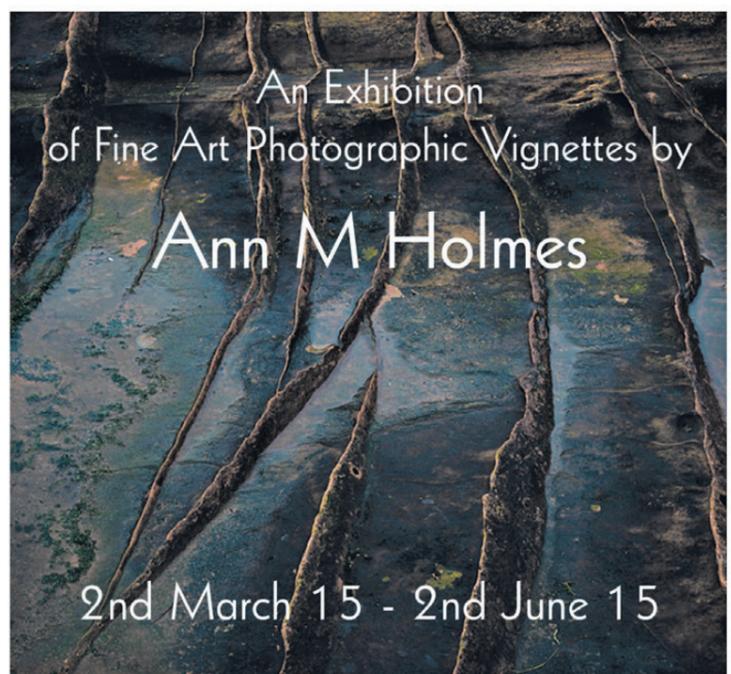
For more information about TV Licensing requirements for hotels and accommodation providers, call the TV Licensing businesses team on 0300 790 6124 or visit www.tvlicensing.co.uk/info



Ann with her photograph of Corrie sandstone textures which will be on show.

Photo Paul Mellor

Arran : Intimate Landscapes



Visitor's Centre, Arran Distillery, Lochranza, Isle of Arran, Scotland, KA27 8HJ

opening hours: 10:00-17:30



THE ARRAN BANNER

Get tough on dog owners

Another week, another sheep attack. Another irresponsible dog owner who has allowed their animal out on its own without thought of where it will go or of the damage it might do.

As the farmer who had his sheep attacked said this week 'you know who you are' and it can only be hoped that there may be others on the island who know too, and are public-spirited enough to contact the police.

But the other concern is what will the Scottish legal system do if they catch the perpetrator?

This week a dog owner was fined just £400 after his dogs mauled 70 sheep to death at a farm in West Lothian.

Despite losses of £20,000 the farmers did not receive any compensation leading the National Farmers Union Scotland to criticise the legal system.

The union rightly say that the Scottish Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS) have to 'treat incidents of sheep worrying with greater seriousness' and ensure that farmers and land owners, whose livelihoods depend on these animals, are properly recompensed for their losses.

The only recourse open to the family to secure compensation for losses is to consider a civil claim.

The incident – and the disappointing manner in which it has been treated by the Scottish legal system – will be a worrying development for Scottish sheep farmers as they prepare for lambing.

As spring approaches, and more people get out and about walking in the countryside, it is time to urge dog walkers to be responsible and to abide by the Scottish Outdoor Access code to help avoid distressing incidents like these.

By keeping dogs on leads, and away from fields, livestock worrying can be avoided.

Keeping Burns' work alive

Rabbie Burns never visited Arran or even mentioned it in any of his works and one might wonder why, since several of the places he lived had good views of the island.

He is rightly the national bard and how good it is to see youngsters on the island taking an interest in his work.

The recent drawing competition attracted a bumper entry and Lamash Burns Club is to be congratulated on reviving the poetry competition to be held next month, which will help keep his works alive for the next generation.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Jesus said: 'Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness and other things will be given to you as well.' (Matthew 6:33)

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



Wood removal will destroy tranquility

Sir,
I was really concerned to learn of the planned timber removal from Machrie forest. I have been holidaying on Arran for 35 years and many times stayed in the Machrie area.

It's peace and tranquility is something very special.

The forest walks are some of the best on the island and that will be lost for many years.

When I read of the planned work, I checked to see when it was going to start and realised that I could have one last peaceful holiday this summer in Machrie (I hope) but I will certainly not stay in that area again as the timber felling and the lorries transporting the timber will ruin the area and destroy everything for which we go to Machrie.

The residents of Machrie have my sympathy, at least I can choose to stay away, they have no choice.

I appreciate the help of the residents who advised me when the work was going to start, and the tourist board gave me some helpful contacts.

Yours,
Stuart Whiston
Crewe
Cheshire

Timber lorry woes

Sir,
Here in the Kilfinan district, Tighnabruaich and Kames areas we have had major issues with timber carrying lorries.

Our roads are akin to the Ross Road, narrow, twisting with passing places. Of late, Argyll and Bute Council, along with the timber companies, went 50/50 on the costs to make the roads in certain parts wider as well as laying extra tar.

The reason for this was that the legal tonnage weight for the roads were being broken by the timber lorries, the roads were being torn up, potholes the size of small cars appearing, parts of the roads even becoming non-existent due to the overall weight and wear from these timber

lorries. Among the current issues, and which has been ongoing since the day such lorries started, has been that of speed.

All the timber lorries are breaking the current speed limits and the police who get daily reports, community council reports, cannot deal with it as they have their own budgets and business to get on with.

The lorries go from Kames or Tighnabruaich to Sandbank to the pier to be transported away, that is 24.3 miles there and the same back.

Tourist coaches, public buses, work vans and normal day-to-day public are finding the situation difficult, sometimes it is breathtakingly sad, but we all manage (just), to keep on going and work our way through it.

The Machrie issue is compounded with even greater worries than our own in Tighnabruaich.

The Forestry Commission, North Ayrshire Council and the authorities to be have many questions to answer.

From the impact of public/community voices to that of the tourist trade, from the environmental impact (birds, animals, insects, plants) to the impact of water streams, burns, trees and other flora that are deemed on the red-list, to that of the impact of shore and coastal erosion, from the impact of road usage to that of planning applications and laws.

Personally, having experience of the FC and working knowledge of the systems used, I feel, and many others feel, that this is a money-making exercise with little thought; okay on paper, but not on a practical real-world sense, people behind desks with no idea of how the local areas are seen, especially as this is an island.

Ergo: This whole mess, and it is a mess, will end up like the mess of Brodick beach, all washed away with no one taking responsibility.

Time to take action and stop the sledgehammer and nut facade.

Yours,
Paul Paterson

Petrol price fury

Sir,
So, there it is, out in the open at last, and now we know how it is that Arran's petrol price is shockingly high and way out of line with other islands, let alone Asda at Ardrrossan, in the report 'Pump price fuels fury' in The Banner of 7 February.

I do wonder if Mr Brian Worrall is intending to run for parliament since his statements to Mr Gibson and the Arran Banner are just the evasions and half truths we have come to expect from many of those in public life.

First of all: 'Certas does not set the Arran petrol price' is half true but almost all the filling-stations on Arran, Islay, Mull, the Uists etc add the same 'retail margin', so what goes into the filling station, price wise, dictates what comes out price wise.

Let it be quite clear, Certas does control the petrol price. 'Certas fills the (extra large) storage tanks at Brodick to capacity' is also a half truth.

For the last 10 years crude oil has risen from \$30 a barrel to \$120 thus Certas has been storing petrol on a rising market.

At no time did Certas delay price increases until the Brodick tanks were empty.

'Certas has a duty of care'. What utter nonsense. If anyone has a duty of care for Arran motorists, fire brigade etc then it is a filling station, and anyway almost every emergency vehicle uses diesel fuel which is readily available from any one of half a dozen distributors.

Additionally, the duty of care is CalMac's problem, and we know that CalMac would, if necessary, easily organise extra runs at Lochranza.

'All petrol is delivered via Lochranza'.

Fine, so that is an even more reliable service specially tailored to suit a 44,000-litre road tanker, and how many tankers does Lochranza need to cater for? Well, Arran's annual consumption of petrol is less than one million litres per annum so by my reckon-

ing that is less than 24 truck loads per annum; less than two per month.

Our MSP Kenneth Gibson made considerable effort and succeeded in obtaining the 5p per litre price derogation to the island on the first week of January 2012. Sadly on the last week of December 2011 the wholesale price of petrol on Arran rose by 5p per litre. Was this a coincidence?

So, I welcome Mr Worrall's response to these comments and I do hope he will reply fully and in detail in next week's Banner as by then I hope to be in a position to take the matter to the next stage.

Yours,
Bob Haddow
Whiting Bay

Heinous crime

Sir,
So we can no longer park in the 'taxi ranks' opposite Curries in Brodick?

I would like to ask if anyone has ever seen a taxi at this 'taxi rank' since it was painted on what was a car park?

Has anyone seen anyone waiting for a taxi to appear at this rank since it was painted?

Who on the island was asked if we wanted more taxi spaces than we have taxis, opposite a much-used village shop?

This is, of course, yet another example of 'urbanisation' imposed on us by our Irvine overlords, who never cease to advertise their ignorance of life out-with the place the boat occasionally goes to in the winter. I have seen ranks near supermarkets on Scotland; we, if we need a run home, phone Gus.

Will we get a fixed-penalty fine for this heinous crime? I think not.

If the police were wanting to issue parking fines, I'm sure they would be starting with the selfish, badly and illegally parked cars opposite the junction at Gordon Brothers and the Aldersyde in Lamash – or the 'mind-bendingly' bizarre 'pavement parkers' in many of our villages.

Yours,
Nigel Walker
Dunan Croft, Brodick

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Where we will be:

Thursday 26th February, Shiskine Hall
Drop in Advice Session, 11am - 3.30pm

Friday 27th February, Whiting Bay Hall
Drop in advice session, 11am - 3.30pm

Saturday 28th February, Brodick Hall
Energy Showcase Exhibition, 11am - 3.30pm

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Energy Showcase Exhibition in Brodick Hall

Home Energy Scotland, funded by the Scottish Government and managed by the Energy Saving Trust will be visiting Shiskine Hall on Thursday 26 February and Whiting Bay Hall on Friday 27 February between 11am and 3.30pm. Specialist advisors will be on hand to answer your questions and give you tips and advice on all your energy needs.

On Saturday 28 February, an energy showcase exhibition will take place in Brodick Hall between 11am and 3.30pm. Home Energy Scotland advisors will be joined by a number of accredited installers who work in the local area, to allow residents to find out more about switching to greener sources of energy and to hear about the range of home renewables systems that could prove to be a realistic and more affordable source of heating.



Advisors can also arrange a free home visit to: talk through the renewables systems best suited to your property and circumstances; explain savings and discuss any technical or planning issues or arrange for you to find out directly about actual costs and savings by arranging a visit to one of the Green Homes Network properties.

Home Energy Scotland centre manager Simon Leslie said: 'We urge everyone who is interested in finding out more about energy efficiency or home renewables to come along and speak to our friendly advisors.'

If you are unable to attend and would like more information, call Home Energy Scotland on 0808 808 2282.



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Top 5 tips for home energy saving

1 Turn it down – Try turning your thermostat down by 1 degree. Every degree that you turn your heating down could save you around £65 a year.

2 Turn it off – Make sure you turn your lights, appliances and chargers off when you're not using them. You could save between £50 and £90.

3 Careful in the kitchen – Save £40 a year just by being careful how you use your appliances. Set your washing machine to wash at 30 degrees and only use your tumble dryer when necessary.

4 Get a head – An eco-shower head will cost around £27 and could save a family of four around £75 a year on water and heating if they have a shower that utilises their boiler or hot water tank (rather than an electric shower).

5 Be a draught excluder – Unless your home is very new, you're likely to be losing some heat through doors, windows, gaps around the floor and even chimneys. Depending on your house, materials could cost up to £160 but you could save up to £75 a year so they'll pay for themselves in around two years.

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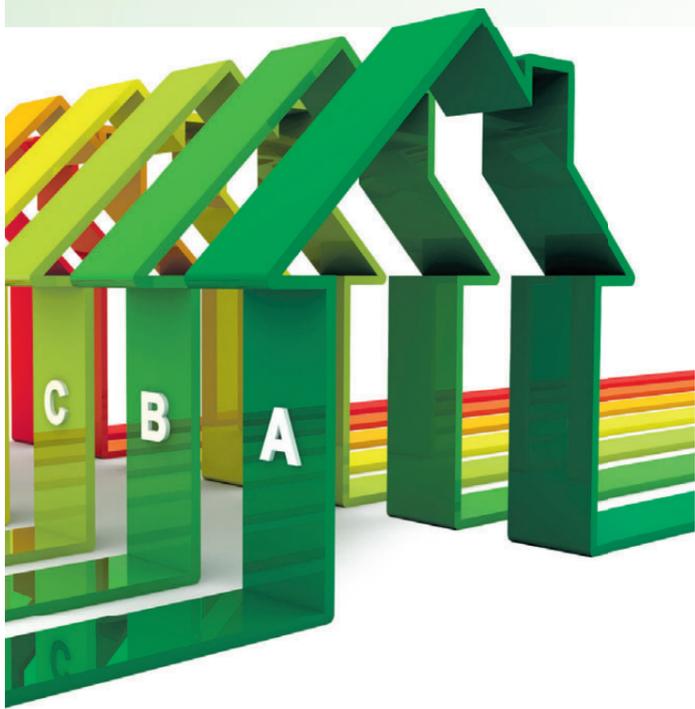
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Saving Roadshow

Thursday 26th - Saturday 28th February 2015



Resource Efficient Scotland

Resource Efficient Scotland, a Scottish Government funded free and impartial advice service, has been working with organisations on the Isle of Arran to help them to reduce energy bills. Switching to biomass heating can allow organisations to benefit from lower energy bills and a guaranteed 20 year income from the UK Government's Renewable Heat Incentive. Access to biomass installers to provide comparative quotes for work has been highlighted, by local organisations, as a barrier to implementing these changes. Resource Efficient Scotland would be interested to hear from businesses, village halls and other non-domestic properties who are interested in exploring the potential benefits of biomass. Resource Efficient Scotland's aim is to provide free and impartial advice and to act as a facilitator to connect local organisations with installers who are willing to travel to and work on the island. To find out more, please contact Abbe Cusack, abbe.cusack@resourceefficientscotland.com or call on 01292 525516.





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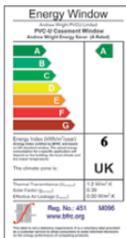


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Burns toothache inspires contest



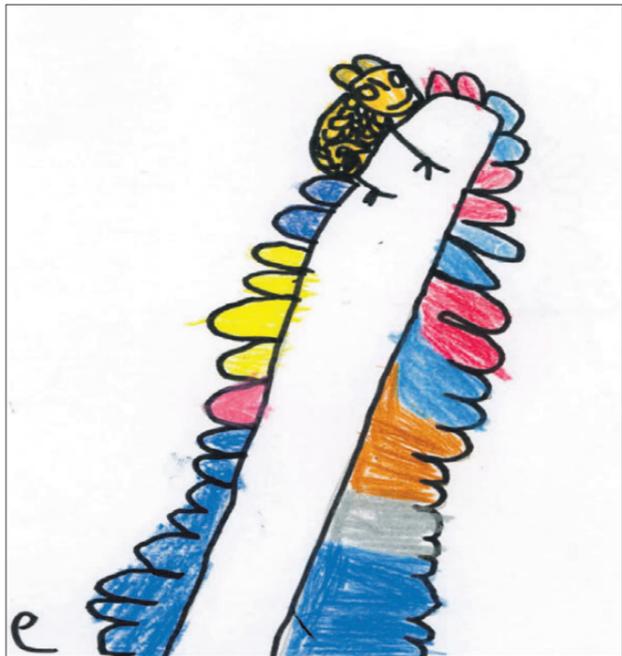
Hannah Kemp, P6 Whiting Bay PS.



Abi Traill, P7 Pirnmill PS.



Kirsty Hume, P2 Brodick PS.



Chloe Hemming, P2 Lamlash PS.

A Whiting Bay youngster has seen off all competition to win the inaugural Lamlash Burns Club drawing competition.

The drawing by Lori Prescott of the Burns poem 'Address to the Toothache' was judged the best from a short list of 10 chosen by judges of the competition which every primary school in the island took part in.

Lori, 10, who is in primary 6 received her prize, The Collected Works of Robert Burns, from club president Jock Kelso and secretary

Now it's the turn of young budding poets on Arran

Andy Martin at the school assembly last Friday.

Lori's drawing will now be used as an illustration as part of a new certificate which the club has designed

for the annual schools poetry competition which is being revived this year.

The club has been instrumental in assisting the island schools to resurrect the competition which was dropped from the education curriculum in 2012. The club has agreed to sponsor the event, which will be held in the community theatre at Arran High School on 4 March 2015.

VisitArran's Sheila Gilmore, a former senior education officer with North Ayrshire Council and a lifelong devotee of the life and works of Robert Burns, was instrumental for much of the success in the promotion of Burns works and poetry throughout the island's schools, and today is in great demand as a speaker at Burns Suppers both on and off the island.

Lamlash Burns Club is affiliated to the Robert Burns World Federation and its roll

number is 2,197.

To mark the return of the poetry competition within the island's primary schools the club will present a specially-made medal to each category winner together with a commemorative certificate presented to each entrant.

Senior members of the club will assist in judging the competition.

Secretary Andy Martin said: 'Sheila has been consulted by the club and is very enthusiastic in her support for the project. She has been invaluable in providing background knowledge and guidance to allowing the poetry competition to progress.

'With the support of such individuals, the school teachers and the club, it is hoped that the return of the poetry competition will be a great success.

'Similar to many other organisations and clubs throughout the island, interest and participation is on the decline.

'If, however, we can restart this interest in the schools it is hoped that in the years to follow clubs such as Lamlash Burns Club will benefit with a growth in members who have a desire to learn more about our national bard - Robert Burns, in his life, poetry and songs.'



Jamie Sillars, P3 Lamlash PS.

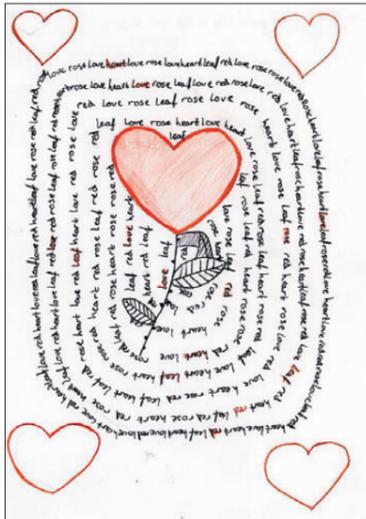


Jemima Currie, P6 Brodick PS.



Maggie Gaberhammednor, P6 Pirnmill PS.

address win



Charlotte McKillop, P7 Pirrmill PS.



Freya McNicol, P6 Brodick PS.



Lori Prescott's winning drawing of Burns poem 'Address to a Toothache'.



Andy Martin of Lamlash Burns Club tells the Whiting Bay pupils about the poetry contest. 20_b08burns01



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FRI 27TH FEB & SAT 28TH FEB

at

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ARRAN HIGH SCHOOL, LAMLASH
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ADJUDICATOR MR ALASDAIR HAWTHORN

FRIDAY 27TH

SATURDAY 28TH

'Ragtime Mystery'
Comedy by Gerald P. Murphy
Shiskine Junior Drama

'Lashings of Ginger Ale'
Satire by Stuart G. Smith
Lamlash Junior Drama Club

'Stalag 69'
Comedy by Michael Green
Lamlash Drama Club

'Deckchairs'
Comedy by Jean McConnell
The Castaways



'Jump Off'
Comedy by John Waterhouse
Shiskine Junior Drama

'Tracks'
Play by Geoff Graves
Whiting Bay Club of Drama and Music

'Darlings You Were Wonderful'
Comedy by Derek Lomas
Shiskine SWRI

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Distillery backs land project

Group has a month to raise £6,000

A community land project is celebrating after receiving a windfall cheque from Isle of Arran Distillers.

The award-winning whisky producer has pledged £2,000 to a crowdfunding campaign run by the group, looking to create a community land-based resource on disused farmland in Whiting Bay.

Arran Community Land Initiative received funding from the Scottish Land Fund to buy 80 acres of disused farmland at the end of last year. They are now using crowdfunding platform Indiegogo to raise £6,000 to transform the site.

The group plan to create a range of community projects including nature walks, camping pods and mountain bike trails, as well as community gardens. The land will also be used for delivering a variety of education courses including qualifications in land-based skills such as horticulture and as a space for

outdoor learning for Arran schoolchildren and visiting groups.

The group has until 23 March to raise the funds, and is urging members of the public to get involved and contribute to the campaign.

The donation from Isle of Arran Distillers puts the group well on track to meet its target and start putting its plans into action. ACLI treasurer Juliette Walsh said: 'This generous donation from Isle of Arran Distillers means that we are getting nearer to our crowdfunding target of £6,000, so the first year of the project is looking more secure.'

'The money will go towards creating a community garden, access points and basic visitor facilities. If the total is achieved we can complete these elements and progress to launching land-based skills qualifications in the autumn.'

Distillery production di-



The distillery cheque presentation, left to right: Ben Tattersfield, Gordon Bloy, James MacTaggart, Juliette Walsh, Brodie Pearcey, Graham Ormand and Nikki Harris.

rector James MacTaggart said: 'As a former director and chairman of the Islay Development Company, whose aims were very similar to this Arran initiative, I am delighted that Isle of Arran Distillers have decided to support this project. From my experience it is difficult to raise the initial funding for these projects, but it is certainly more difficult to maintain the funding

stream on an ongoing basis, and I hope this £2,000 kick starts the second phase and encourages other businesses to give their support.'

The distillery is just one of a number of local businesses supporting the campaign. The Altachorvie Hotel in Lamlash held a charity music night in November, successfully raising £350 for the campaign.

A number of other businesses have also offered a diverse range of goods and services for free or at cost for the group to use as 'perks' for contributors to the campaign.

These include the donation of a two-night stay at The Douglas Hotel in Brodick, places on activity courses donated by Arran Outdoor Education Centre, stunning art photo prints by local photographer Andrew Surridge, forest school family day sessions run by local forest school leaders, a bushcraft day out with local expert Mark Bunyan, printed ACLI t-shirts by Arran Graphics

and tree pledges. Local tree enthusiast and expert Henry Murdo has offered to plant the critically endangered Arran whitebeam tree on the land in return for contributions to the campaign. The Arran Community Land Initiative team are also donating their own time and skills to run nature walks and guided mountain bike runs.

Chairperson Nikki Harris says she is thrilled and thankful to have the support of local businesses.

She said: 'It feels like everyone is really pulling together to make this happen.'

The group's crowdfunding campaign is part of a pilot initiative by Highlands and Islands Enterprise which has contracted Scottish company Hot Tap Media Ltd to offer consultation and support to between three and four community groups in the region.

For more information visit: www.arranland.org and visit their campaign on Indiegogo: igg.me/at/arranland

Around the rurals

Lamlash SWRI quilt spotlight

MEMBERS of Lamlash SWRI were greeted by a beautiful display of quilted articles on arrival at the February meeting.

Some were entries in that evening's competition and the rest were smaller pieces of work by speaker for the evening, SWRI member, Alison Thompson.

After president Kathleen Sowden welcomed all members, conducted a short business meeting and distributed show schedules it was Alison's turn.

She started with the earliest example of quilting known, which was a small clay figure from Ancient Egypt in a quilted garment.

Then it was off to the Far East with warriors in heavy quilted armour, through the years of both functional and elaborate use, dependant on status, up to the present decorative craft that we know today.

Members heard how Alison had attended college in Canada and qualified to teach quilting.

The beautiful quilts she had brought along to illustrate her talk were superb, but the favourite must have been the stunning example of Baltimore work which is her particular passion.

Alison was thanked with a very well-deserved, hearty round of applause.

During a superb supper provided by Isobel and Vivienne, the raffle was drawn and the winner of both the competition and exhibition was judged by 'pennies for friendship' to be Vivienne Haigh.

Next month will be a talk by Jan McGregor on her visit to Africa.

There will be no competition and the exhibition will be something with an 'African connection'.

Members of the public are invited along to the exhibition. The SWRI would also like to publicly thank the Drift Inn for the cheque for £250 that they raised by a raffle and two quizzes.

This has been donated to the fund which helps Santa provide gifts for all the children at the annual village Christmas party.

Santa, the children and the SWRI want to say a big thank you for the public's generosity.

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with Eco Savvy
Sunday 22nd February
Whiting Bay Hall
10.30am - 4pm

FREE drop in EVENT
Something for everyone

Come along and try a new skill
Swap your surplus seeds
Learn new skills to join in with Woollen Woods

Spring Concert

With
The Arran Singers
Sunday 1st March 2015
at 2.30pm

Arran High School
Community Theatre

Tickets £8 Children £3
(including refreshments)
from choir members
and Book and Card Shop, Brodick
Charity Number SCO33990

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THE ARRAN

BANNER

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Saturday 25 February, 1994

Lamlash job cuts

Paterson Arran are to pay off six staff at the Lamlash plant. Volunteers are being sought but if there are insufficient people prepared to leave there will have to be compulsory redundancies.

The six jobs going will take the workforce, which in the past has approached 100, down from 28 to 22. It will also mean that only one production line is left working.

At the factory Iain MacDonald said: 'I've just been told it's a lack of sales. I think it is just the state of the market place.'

But shop steward Sam Thompson said: 'It looks like a scale down of the plant.'

He said he understood the difficulties the company was facing but felt that the staff had not been fairly treated.

He said the company had known this would come for about three months but only told staff this week.

Cheesed off

Still on industry, Torrylinn Creamery is to shut down for the month of March as part of a new practice which Arran dairy farmer Alex Reid says is as a direct result of milk deregulation.

The creamery has been under threat of closure on several occasions, but Scottish Pride,

which runs it, says there is no fear of permanent closure. It is merely introducing a periodic shutdowns to meet with commercial realities in a highly competitive market.

But Mr Reid is unhappy with the move. He said: 'We are being used as pawns.'

Creamery chief executive James Hosea said: 'We do recognise that this short closure of the cheese plants will involve short term additional costs for producers in transporting their milk to these areas.' The other two plants are at Campbeltown and Rothesay.

Carol in concert

At Brodick Hall tomorrow night Glasgow singer Carol Laula will be performing some new songs from her third album 'Happy girl sings sad songs'.

One of her now rare solo concerts, it will be her last before she flies back to Austin, Texas to record the album, which will initially be released in the US.

Carol has been living in Lochranza for the past few weeks, where she finds the quiet atmosphere to be ideally suited to her requirements as a songwriter.

A history of Curries

With Curries of Brodick reopening after a major facelift, partner Alastair Bilsland remains proud of the tradition of the shop.

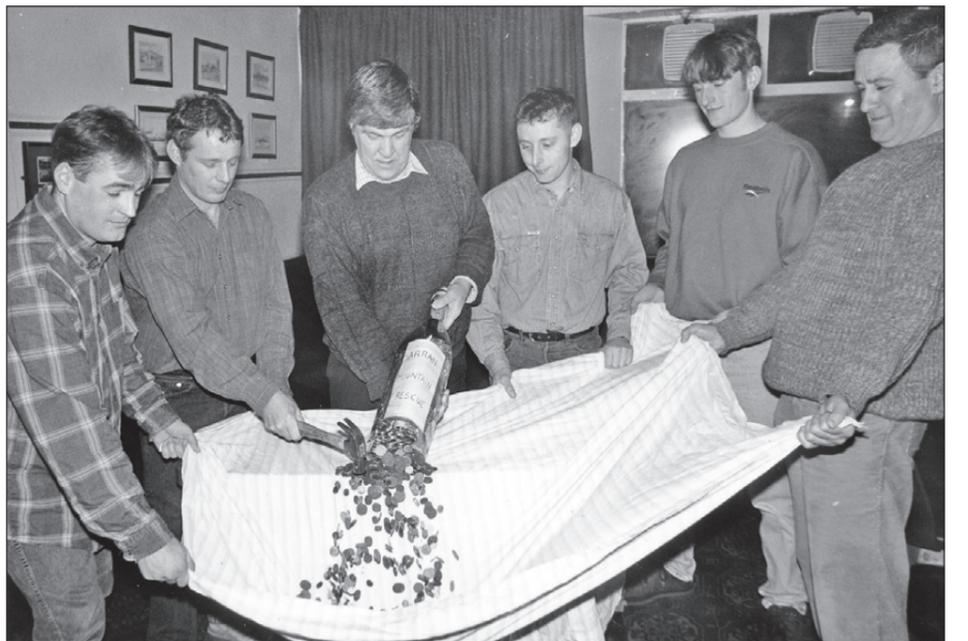
Founded in 1880 by the Misses Currie, it had very humble beginnings in a little shack on its current site. The present building, although it has a 1930s flavour, was actually built in 1950 and at that time had an upstairs then was a tea room.

It was in 1981 that the old counter service disappeared as it changed to self service.

The latest improvements have doubled the floorspace of the shop.



This year's Arran Golfers Association champion of champions was George McKechnie (second right) seen here with finalists Bobby McCrae, Stewart Black and Willie Kelso. b08twe05



The Arran Mountain Rescue Team breaks an enormous whisky bottle at the Heathfield Hotel in Brodick last Friday evening. The amount, which customers at the Heathfield have donated to the team, came to £291.91. b08twe04



Each February brings the Amateur One Act Play Festival. Held in Lamlash Community Centre it spanned four nights this year and 11 separate plays were performed. Pictured are Maureen Smith, Mary Crawford and Helen Macfarlane in Lamlash Drama's 'Cecily' (top left). Also Irene Reid, Sarah Gillies, Elizabeth Crawfordland and Rebecca Kennedy in Lamlash Junior Drama's 'Nathan the Nervous' (above). b08twe01 and b08twe02



Alastair Bilsland and his staff ready to serve customers at the new look Curries supermarket. b08twe03

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Everyday

Trout Fly Fishing
 Brodick Castle, Garden Open
 Arran Brewery
 Arran Brewery tour
 Lamlash Tennis Courts/Putting Green

Loch Garbad, bank fishing
 9am-Dusk
 Mon, Wed & Fri 12.30-5pm Sat 10-5pm
 2pm (limited spaces call for availability)
 Open all day

Saturday 21st February

Army Cadets
 Over 21s Disco
 Family Games
 Fun in the pool
 Live music
 Brodick Market
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game
 Bingo
 MacKenzie Darts
 Trio Ecosaise

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1 pm.
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa pool, 4-5pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick from 8pm
 Auchrannie Road, Brodick, 10-4.30pm
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.45pm
 Whiting Bay Golf Club, 7pm
 Kilmory Hall, 7.30pm
 Arran high school, Lamlash, 1.30pm

Sunday 22nd February

Family Games
 Fun in the pool
 AA Meeting
 Mackerel Lottery
 Open Session - All musicians & Singers welcome
 Skill Sharing

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
 Brodick church Hall, 5pm-6.30pm
 Kinloch Bar, 5pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick 2.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 10.30 - 4pm

Monday 23rd February

Over 50s Badminton
 Badminton
 Citizens Advice
 Morning Fitness
 Table Tennis
 Badminton
 Arran Junior Football Club
 Yoga
 Circuit Training
 Scottish Country Dancing
 10/10 Total Body workout
 Lunch Club

Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
 Ormidale Pavillon, 9.30-1.30pm
 Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
 Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm
 Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm
 Corrie Village Hall, 11am - 12 noon
 Auchrannie Gym, 6-7pm
 Beginners & Improvers, Corrie & Sannox Hall, 2 - 4pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 6.45pm
 Brodick Sheltered Housing, 12.30pm

Tuesday 24th February

Pop Quiz
 Auchrannie Winter Bowls
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Youth Club
 Rotary club
 Healthy Outdoors
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game
 RunArran
 Bridge for beginners
 Scottish Country Dancing
 Metafit

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Auchrannie 7pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
 Kildonan Hall, 7pm
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm
 10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.45pm
 Hospital Hill car park, Lamlash, 5.30pm
 Learning Centre, Lamlash 7-9pm
 All Stages, Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash 6pm

Wednesday 25th February

Rock & Pop Bingo
 Tae Kwondo
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Arran Brass Rehearsal
 Yogalates
 Aquafizz
 Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service
 RunArran
 Yoga-Arran
 Drift Inn Quiz
 Mixed Hockey
 Dog classes
 Arran Farmers Society AGM
 Coffee morning
 Arran Brass AGM

Ormidale Hotel 9.30pm
 Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm
 Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
 Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
 10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30
 Auchrannie car park, 5.30pm
 Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm
 Lamlash, 9pm
 Auchrannie Sports Hall 7.30-9pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 1pm
 Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot, 8pm
 Brodick Church, 10.30-12noon
 Brodick Church Hall, 7pm

Thursday 26th February

Morning Fitness
 General Knowledge Quiz
 Folk, Country, Bluesy Night with Cams & Friends
 Yoga
 Bridge Club
 Open Music session
 Ladies Hockey
 RunArran Beginners
 Pilates
 Country Park Volunteer Day
 Brodick Embroidery Group
 QuiltArran
 Auchrannie Winter Bowls
 Metafit
 Weighing in for Mary's Meals
 Weighing in for Mary's Meals
 Energy Saving drop in session

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 7.30pm
 Corrie Village Hall, 6pm - 7pm
 Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7pm
 Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9pm
 Ormidale Pavillon, 7.30-8.30pm
 Auchrannie Car Park, Brodick, 5.30pm
 Auchrannie gym, 6-7pm
 Brodick Castle, 10am - 4pm
 Brodick Library, 7.30-9.30pm
 Lamlash Fire Station, 2-4.30pm
 Auchrannie, 7pm
 Auchrannie, 6pm
 Lamlash church Hall, 4pm - 4.30pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 5.15pm - 5.45pm
 Shiskine Hall, 11am - 3.30pm

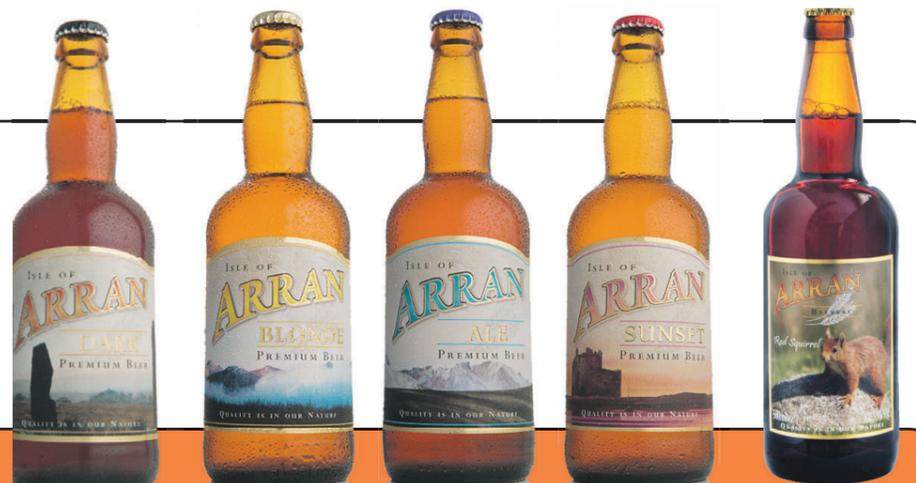
Friday 27th February

Aqua Fizz
 Yogalates
 Arran Youth Foundations
 Live music
 Lochranza Kids Badminton
 Lochranza Adults Badminton
 Family fun night
 Brodick Market
 AA Meeting
 Live music
 Tae Kwondo
 Isle of Arran Drama Festival
 Coffee morning
 Energy Saving drop in session

Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
 Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
 Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 8pm
 Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm
 Lochranza Hall, 8pm
 Brodick Golf Club 4.45pm
 Auchrannie Road, Brodick, 10-4.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7pm
 Fiddlers, Brodick, 8pm
 Arran high School, Lamlash Adults, 7pm - 8.30pm
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 6.30pm
 Corrie & Sannox Hall, 10.30am
 Whiting Bay Hall, 11am - 3.30pm



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Recruitment



CLYDE CARERS COMMUNITY SERVICES

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Housekeeping Attendants
We are looking for full time and part time positions to work across the resort. You will have team work experience and not shy of hard work!

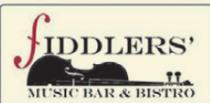
Kitchen Porter
Working between the 3 restaurants you will carry out thorough cleaning of all areas in the kitchen to support the chefs

Full descriptions can be found at www.auchranniejobs.co.uk or contact hr@auchrannie.co.uk

THE CLUBHOUSE AT SHISKINE UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT FROM END OF MARCH

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As a Chef your primary responsibility will be to provide delicious, first class meals for our guests and staff. All-round catering skills, staff management, organisation and communication skills are essential requirements for this role.

The role provides a great development opportunity for an aspirant Head Chef of the future.

For the full job description or to apply please email emma.hurrell@pgl.co.uk. Closing date: **6th March 2015**



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Public Notices

Arran Farmers' Society A.G.M.

Kinloch Hotel, Blackwaterfoot
Wednesday 25th February at 8pm
All Welcome

Sec: Christine McBride, Tel: 820291

Machrie Bay Golf Club

AGM

At Machrie Bay Hall
Thursday 19th March, 7.30pm
ALL WELCOME

Drive Times

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100 VVT 5door hatchback. 1.6 engine. Low mileage excellent condition.

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US Mail box - £20 each, Birds nest boxes - £12 each Tel: 07980 671267

For sale rotary outside clothes line(whirly gig) £9.99 Tel: 600217

Trouser press vgc £25, 3 mirrors £10 each, bathroom wall light with shaver point £10, ceiling lights set of 4 still in box £10, toilet and sink - blue colour £10 Tel: 302383

Double bed mattress £30 - Tel: 600280

12V car battery charger £6 Tel: 600238

OVER £30

Clothes dryer - Indesit excellent condition £90, Golf trolley - electric and charger excellent £90 Tel: 07980 671267

Brand new white shower bath "Carron" - Carronite: 1700x700x850mm new £525 now £225, Honda ride-on lawn mower model HTR 3009 £350, 3 wall hanging vanity bathroom units with mirror £40 for

set - can be sold separate £15 per unit, brand new 5 piece bath filler tap new £464 now £200, antique dressing table stool £45 Tel: 302383

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Scrap cars uplifted and we pay cash Tel: 07980 671267

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Cooker - preferably slim fit, fridge freezer, washing machine, tumble dryer, sofas Tel: 870291

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Red Rayburn Nouvelle Oil cooker, solid fuel to oil conversion, cooking, hot water, radiators, reasonable condition, can be seen working Tel: 830348

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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday, 22nd February
Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
Mr John Roberts.
Coffee after service.
Bible discussion instead of Sermon.
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 22nd February
Lochranza and Pirmill Churches. 10.15am Morning Worship in Pirmill Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship.
Brodick Church, 10.30am Morning Worship.
Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer Meeting, 12noon Morning Worship.
A Service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 22nd February
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30 am
Mrs Liz Clarke
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 22nd February
Morning Service, 11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
Prayer Meeting
Wednesday 24th February
at 7pm
5 Glen Road
All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 22nd February
Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)
Rev Ruairidh MacLean

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(Charity Number SC014005)
Sunday 22nd February 2015
Worship will be conducted by Rev Jeanette Whitecross of Kilwinning Abbey at 10.30am, as part of the Presbytery Local Church Review. All welcome. Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service and everyone is invited to stay and enjoy more fellowship afterwards

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday mass 11am

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 22nd February
1am Morning worship in the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick

Tea & Coffee after the service.
Wednesday at 7.30pm Home Fellowship Group for Bible Study and Prayer.
Contact phone no 600222
Everyone warmly invited

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

HART - Robbie, Mary and family would like to sincerely thank all friends who attended Agnes's funeral. Thank you to Dr Hoelzl and other medical staff, nurses at the hospital, carers and David and Clair for the funeral arrangements. Thanks also to Rev. Angus Adamson for a wonderful service and Brodick Golf Club for their catering. We as a family are deeply touched by all the kind messages of support.

PERSONAL NOTICES

THANK YOU
To all who organised my party and all who ventured to the deep south for a brilliant night.
Slats

Johann McHarg
Wishes to express her gratitude to all who are helping her recover from her recent illness. Doctors, medical and hospital staff, ambulance and Cal-Mac personnel, social services and carers. Family, friends and neighbours for their visits, cards and concern.
Thank you all.



Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday 11 February, eight played on a bitterly cold day which reflected on the scores apart from D Roxburgh who recorded a credible 39pts to win the Dorothy and Walter Bainbridge salver. 1 B Allison 83-17=66, 2 D Rudge 88-18=70. There was one magic two by D Roxburgh.
Sunday 15 February, Clochendicht. Knowe 4 Village 2, Alma 4 Street 2. League table: Knowe 15, Alma, 14, Village 11, Street 8. So its all to play for in the back to back games on 15 and 22 March.

Sunday 22 February, Winter Cup, open draws at 9am and 12noon. Sunday 1 March, AGA Winter League at Brodick. Sunday 8 March, Brandon and Winter Cup, open draws at 9am and 12noon.

Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday 12 February, Ladies 12 Hole Medal, CSS 44, 12 played. Silver 1 and Scratch L Kerr 53-9=44, 2 A Anderson 55-8=47. Bronze 1 F Scott 63-14=49, 2 L Murray 67-15=52.

Sunday 15 February, Sunday Stableford, 16 played. 1 Mike Hesp 24 pts, 2 Donald Logan 23 pts, 3 Willie Kelso 22 pts. There were magic twos for W Kelso and Gator (2). Nearest the pins Andy Gray at 4th and 10th
Fixture: Sunday 22 February, 12 hole medal and Winter Cup. Tee off 1pm.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Saturday 7 February, Lochranza Hotel Cup, stableford. 1 Phil Betley 37 pts, 2 Elizabeth Ross 33 pts, 3 Brian Sherwood 31 pts.
Tuesday 10 February, Winter Cup. 1 Campbell Laing net 64, 2 Sally Brookes net 65, 3 Elizabeth Ross net 69.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday 14 February, medal round, 12 played. 1 B Lewis 67-10=57, 2 A Napier 67-7=60, 3 J McConnachie 67-6=61. Best scratch J McConnachie 67(BIH). Magic twos B Lewis and J McConnachie.

Monday 16 February, yellow tees (Monday Club), seven played. 1 J Adams 63-7=56, 2 R Burke 65-5=60. Magic twos J Adams (2), B Lewis, D Crawford, R Burke, L Hartley, A Smith and J McGovern.

Fixtures: Saturday 21 February, medal at 8.30am and 12.30pm. Please note 12.30pm till end of March.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday 12 February, Yellow Medal. 1 Graeme Andrew 69-9=60, 2 John O'Sullivan 84-23=61. Magic two G Andrew @ 12th.

Sunday 15 February, Lamlash v Whiting Bay Stableford. 1 Neil Young 35pts, 2 Dave Hackett 34pts(better last 6), 3 Alan Smith 34(BIH), 4 Paul Jameson 34pts.

Best scratch to Stableford Neil Young 32pts. Magic twos D Crawford @ 5th, I Bremner @ 14th and 16th, N Young and D Hackett @ 16th, T Jameson and G Andrew @ 17th. Result of match - Lamlash 3 W/Bay 3. Overall score Lamlash 9

W/Bay 4.

Fixtures: Sunday 22 February, Winter Stableford 9.30am and 12noon starts
Thursday 26 February, Yellow Medal, 11am draw.

Arran Golfers Association

Winter League/Duncan Trophy 2014-2015. Final round at Brodick Golf Club Sunday 1 March. Draw: Brodick v Whiting Bay, Shiskine v Corrie, Lamlash v Machrie.

All matches start at 10am sharp, as there is so much distance between tees at Brodick there wont be an air horn so please tee off as close to 10am as possible providing fairway ahead is clear.



Brian Sherwood is the captain of the Blackwaterfoot team who recently won the 2014/15 Ryder Cup. Well done to him for masterminding his team to victory.

Memorial mixed darts challenge

The annual Donald and James Mackenzie memorial mixed doubles darts competition takes place tomorrow night (Saturday) in Kilmory Hall at 7.30pm.

Anyone wishing to take part should give their names to Margaret Mackenzie on 870309 by tonight (Friday), and 16-year-olds are eligible to play this year. All money raised will go to ArCaS and the Arran War Memorial Hospital Supporters League. The social club bar will be open and donations of raffle prizes would be appreciated.

Everyone is welcome and transport can be arranged.

Signs of snooker interest

A new community Facebook page has been launched to help snooker players on Arran.

Earlier this month The Banner ran a plea by Alan Murray looking for anyone interested in playing snooker.

As a result of a 'good level of interest' Alan has launched a new Facebook page. This will be updated with details of meetings regarding the winter league set up, a summer cup competition and allow players to arrange friendly matches around the island's venues. Anyone interested can visit the site at: www.facebook.com/arransnookerplayers

Arran take on league leaders

Arran Rugby Club travelled to Ayr on Saturday where they narrowly lost to Millbrae by 18-14.

However, this was a reasonable result as the team only had 14 players available.

Today (Saturday) Arran entertain league leaders Strathaven at Ormidale Park.

The kick off is at 2.15pm when they are hoping for a big crowd.

Bridge results

The latest results from Arran Bridge Club are as follows:

Thursday 12 February at Brodick. N/S 1 John Baraclough and Jennifer Wales, 2 John Dick and Margaret McGill, 3 Jean Barclay and Morag Gardner. E/W 1 Janie Maclure and Anne McKelvie, 2 Brenda Livingstone and Pat Adamson, 3. Douglas and Margaret Bruce.

Monday 16 February at Lamlash. N/S 1 Morag Gardner and Brenda Livingstone,

2 Margaret McGill and Elizabeth McKellar, 3 Janie Maclure and Anne McKelvie. E/W 1 Janette McBride and John Baraclough, 2 Vic and Michael Iutz, 3 Douglas and Margaret Bruce.

MEMORIAL

MEMORIAL SERVICE
for Vera Cline will be held at
Whiting Bay Church on
Tuesday 24th February at 11.30am
Stan and David would also like to thank all our friends for their cards of condolence.

THANK YOU

Thank you
We would like to thank, most sincerely, all those who came to our rescue after our car accident on 26th November last year. A big thank you to Brian and Jean for their care and reassuring words - still remembered and all others who attended the scene.
Our special thanks go to the ambulance crews and Doctor Hogg for keeping us safe, dry and as comfortable as possible for the journey to Lamlash. Also thanks to Arran War Memorial Hospital for all care before going to Crosshouse and all care when we came back. Thank you to Crosshouse also. Thanks to Anna and Susan for the 'big red trolley' and all their gifts.
We made it back to Arran War Memorial Hospital before the real bad weather started, and eventually home to a lovely welcome from friends and neighbours offering help and assistance. It's amazing how a rural community comes together to help us old folks!
We are making a good recovery and coping well, all down to the fantastic support we are getting from the medical and care professions, we are both so lucky to be here and at home on Arran, there really is no place like it. A huge final thanks to all and everyone we know.
We thank you all very much.
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Arran savour four-goal feast

But draw the next day at Hillhead

Arran 4 Ardrossan II 1
A four-goal feast from Lorraine Hewie gave Arran Ladies Hockey Team a well deserved home victory on Saturday against Ardrossan II in the West District Division Four.

The game was the first of a weekend double header with the team securing a tough draw during a trip to Glasgow the next day.

Arran had 15 players available for the game in Brodick and were 2-1 up at half time and scored twice in the second half to make the final score 4-1.

The Ardrossan goalkeeper was a giant of a player and scoring past her was pretty hard. She ran at the strikers and didn't bother if she knocked them down - as Lorraine found to her cost.



Four goal Lorraine Hewie advances on goal to be met by the big goalkeeper. 20_b08hockey03

She scored all four goals ably assisted by Helen Thomson, Judith Ross, Susie Murchie, Abbie McKelvie and captain Victoria McNicol and totally deserved her 'dame of the game' award.

One goal was set up by Juliette Walsh in the last 10 minutes with a great cross in from right wing.

Pauline Reid was only supposed to umpire half but kindly stayed on the whole game to umpire, which was much appreciated. Derek Shand also kindly umpired.

Hillhead 2 Arran 2

On Sunday, the team travelled as 16 to Hillhead Jordanhill.

The players were pretty tired but still determined.

The sweeper, Cat Galbraith,



Lorraine Hewie with another charge on goal. 20_b08hockey09

had travelled all the way from Inverness that morning.

Early in the game Arran were awarded a short corner.

Lorraine passed to Susie Murchie, who passed perfectly back to Lorraine to give the team their first goal within three minutes.

Arran got a long corner four minutes later and Victoria passed to Lorraine just outside the circle, which she passed to Judith Ross where she had a perfect hit into goal from the base line.

Hillhead were not happy at all and came back to score before half time, cutting the Arran lead to 2-1.

In the second half, Arran played on their triangular passing and had great possession, however, Hillhead were not for giving up either and they scored with 20 minutes to go making it 2-2.

Pauline Reid had a fabulous clearance off the back line to save another shot on target and goalkeeper Ali Hollingworth had a few amazing saves too.

Ellie Woods got dame of the

game.

Captain Victoria McNicol said: 'We knew they were going to be tough as they are third in the league but we managed to hold on to the draw which were were happy enough with, considering we had all played the day before and most of us are getting on a bit!

'So much appreciation to 'Auntie Sally Brookes' for coming away and umpiring for us.

'I think she secretly loves it! 'It was great to meet their umpire, Aileen, who has umpired at Commonwealth Games level.

'She was very complimentary about our play.'

As a result of the games Arran are still second in division four, behind Uddingston with six games to go and the top two teams will be promoted to division three.

Today (Saturday) the team are away to Dumfries. On Sunday they are at home to Uddingston II with the pass back at 2.15pm. All local support is most welcome.



Judith Ross rounds the keeper as Arran press on goal. 20_b08hockey04

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