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Arran's Weekly Newspaper SATURDAY, 1 MARCH 2014 No 1950 60p

Arran misses out on better mobile phone coverage

UK government do not see Lamlash site as viable

Arran is to miss out on improvements to its mobile phone service, the UK government has confirmed.

After months of waiting for a reply, the news the island was dreading was delivered this week.

Last autumn concerns were raised that poor mobile phone coverage could hinder the transfer of medical emergencies on the island.

However, despite the insistence by a consultant that Arran should be the absolute number one priority in Scotland, the government has ruled out any action.

In spite of a site near Lamlash being identified for a possible new radio mast it was ruled out as it did not meet the criteria for the number of premises served and a subsequent search for more premises is thought doomed to failure.

Improvements

Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson, who has been fighting for mobile phone improvements on the island for years, said: 'One can only hope that no tragedies ensue that could be averted were mobile communications of the standard

REPORT
by **HUGH BOAG**
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

many people on the mainland now take for granted.'

The government's Mobile Infrastructure Project (MIP) is aimed at improving mobile coverage in rural areas across the UK and MIP provider, Arqiva has undertaken UK-wide radio-planning which is currently being used to select which 'not-spots' can be put forward for coverage.

As reported in The Banner last October concerns were raised by Glasgow consultant Dr Andrew Inglis of the Emergency Medical Retrieval Service that the poor mobile phone coverage on Arran could hinder the transfer of medical emergencies on the island.

The matter, which is reserved to the UK parliament, was taken up by Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson, who raised it at First Minister's Questions and four days later Deputy First Minister Nicola Sturgeon wrote to UK communications minister Ed Vaizey.

Mr Gibson said: 'It has

taken five months to receive what is a deeply disappointing response from the UK Government.

'Whilst Mr Vaizey is right to suggest that not every 'not spot' in the UK can be connected, the point that Arran is THE 'not spot' for Scotland has clearly not been addressed.

'Sadly, it appears that in terms of 'achieving good value for money for the taxpayer' Arran does not rank highly with the UK government.'

Radio planning

The reply from Mr Vaizey to Ms Sturgeon states: 'With regards to the query from Kenneth Gibson MSP regarding coverage issues in his constituency, Arqiva has taken forward radio planning work in Arran, and specifically looked at the potential of a site in the vicinity of Lamlash.

'However, the potential site unfortunately did not provide sufficient coverage to meet the threshold for the number of premises set by the Mobile Network Operators, and as such was not taken forward.

'We have tasked Arqiva to look again at the radio plan-



First lambs herald the start of spring

The first lambs of the season have been born at Kilpatrick Farm - and the Henderson children are delighted at their arrival.

They have been watching the progress of the Texel lambs since they were born just a few days ago and are growing fast.

Six-year-old Emma, who is in first year at Shiskine primary, along with younger sisters Lisa, 4, and two-year-old Cara think they are just adorable.

It is a welcome start for Kilpatrick Farm

to the new lambing season after it lost a lot of sheep in the snow last year.

Best environment

'We just want to get them outside as quickly as possible as that is the best environment for them and hope the weather improves,' said dad David.

Already more than 20 lambs have been born but David said: 'Come back in a month and it will be pandemonium.'

20_b09lamb01

ning work, with the aim of bringing more premises into the plan, but we believe they will be unlikely to find a prospective site on Arran which

meets the threshold, and our expectation is that Arran will still not make the implementation plan.'

'I understand that this will

be a disappointment to Mr Gibson. You will however understand that it could never be within the scope of the project to address every sin-

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Man admits setting illegal rabbit traps

An Arran man has admitted illegally setting rabbit traps in a field.

Robin Gray, 51, from Whiting Bay, pled guilty by letter to five charges all relating to the period between July 9 and August 17 of last year.

Kilmarnock Sheriff Court was told last week that the accused set Fenn Springer Mark IV traps in a way calculated to cause bodily injury to wild animals.

Gray set the traps without the landowner's permission and without the traps being legal for rabbits.

Injury

He also admitted setting the traps in a field occupied by a horse, which could have caused injury to the animal, or to humans, cats and dogs.

The fourth charge was that the traps were illegal because they were not placed in an artificial or natural tunnel.

Finally, he admitted setting the traps for the purpose of killing or taking rabbits or hares.

Guidance

Gray's solicitor stated that he had set the traps to protect crops that were in the fields but did not do it in the correct manner or take proper guidance.

Sentence was deferred until March 18 for Gray to make a personal appearance.

Businesses adopt 'wait and see' approach to String roadworks

Twelve weeks of roadworks will start on the String Road this month causing major disruption to travel across the island.

But businesses in the Shiskine Valley have adopted a 'wait and see' approach to the potential loss of business the road closure may bring.

Everyone agrees that urgent repairs are needed on the road and the quickest and safest way to carry out the work is a complete road closure. The works will start on March 17, just a week later than originally planned.

However, following meetings with businesses on the west side of the island, North Ayrshire Council has agreed

Road to open for convoys three times a day

that the road will be opened three times a day to allow a convoy of vehicles through.

And work will be suspended over the Easter weekend to allow the road to be fully opened and be completed before the summer season.

The work will take place on the A841 between Brodick and Glenloig. The first phase of work will begin on March 17 until April 17 and will resume after the Easter weekend from April 22 to May 21.

The road will also be opened to traffic three times a day - at

7am-8am, 12.30pm-1pm and 7pm-8pm to cover travel for workers, businesses, schools and tie in to the ferry timetable.

Owner of the Harbour Shop in Blackwaterfoot Gillian Ingham said: 'I don't know how we will be effected, but there will be some affect.'

Trade

'The last time the road was closed four years ago I lost trade from Brodick but the locals used the shop more.'

'I think everyone appreciates the road is in a horren-

dous condition and needs to get fixed. At least we will have the three convoys a day which should help.'

She said she was pleased that the road was to be opened over Easter and that would help trade at a busy time.

At The Arran Butchers David McKinnon said one casualty of the road closure would be the Saturday mobile shop in Brodick which would have to be suspended for the duration of the roadworks.

'We have vans going round the north and the south of the island and will just have to make alternative arrangements to get round the roadworks,' he added.

At A and C Cameron sub-

postmaster Nicola Greig said: 'What is not in doubt is that the roadworks are absolutely essential and have to be done.'

'The council have tried to be flexible and held meetings and waited for a consensus.'

'Trade will be affected but I think we have to adopt and 'wait and see' approach to establish the affect and determine what actions we need to take.'

Ms Greig said she was confident that post would not be disrupted by the roadworks.

NAC island officer Gus McLeod told Arran Community Council that there would be exemptions for the emergency services through the roadworks.

He also admitted that high school pupils faced up to 20 minutes longer travelling time to and from school.

Councillor Tony Gurney, cabinet member for environment and infrastructure, said: 'We appreciate there are issues which arise when carrying out roadworks on Arran. This is why we have ensured that the community, particularly local businesses, have been heavily involved in planning the work on the String Road.'

'There is clearly a significant diversion required while the work takes place. However, we have worked hard to ensure that there are opportunities for vehicles to use the road throughout the day. We have also organised the work around the Easter weekend - a busy time for the island - and aim to complete the work ahead of the summer holidays.'

'We would advise anyone using the String Road to plan around the closure and give themselves enough time if they have to follow an alternative route.'



Bargains galore at table top sale

Brodick Hall was packed on Saturday as Brodick Nursery held a table top sale to raise much-needed funds.

Dozens of stalls were crammed into the hall selling everything from jewellery, to toys, clothes, home baking and all manner of bric-a-brac. Nursery leaders charged £10 a table with the rest of the profit going to the stall holders. The tea and coffee stall did a roaring trade. 20_b09sale01

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Funding reduction could see NAC lose £5m

North Ayrshire Council is facing a budget cut of more than £5 million next year in the next round of funding distribution to Scottish local authorities.

Council leader Willie Gibson is calling for a re-think by the key players at the Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA) after it failed to endorse budgets using deprivation indicators for those councils which deliver services to areas experiencing extreme hardship.

Councillor Gibson stated that a failure to apply this approach 'will have a significant detrimental impact on some of the most vulnerable communities across Scotland, as well as diverting resources to the largest local authorities in the country'.

Surprise

He added: 'The results of the updated indicators have taken many local authorities by surprise. Given the significant impact on the majority of local authorities, I am asking that the cash distribution for 2015/16 be reconsidered.'

Since 1983 COSLA has agreed to annual uprating of

needs-based indicators to ensure that the latest figures on population and deprivation are applied when deciding how resources are distributed to local authorities.

Areas like North Ayrshire with a growing need relative to other councils will lose out if the COSLA leaders' decision is confirmed.

Indeed, 20 of Scotland's 32 councils will suffer, including NAC.

Budget slashed

Arran's SNP MSP, Kenneth Gibson, said: 'This daft decision to ignore the most up-to-date figures on population change and deprivation means that next year North Ayrshire Council will have its budget slashed by a whopping £5.081 million, the third biggest cut in Scotland, whilst Glasgow gains £15.504 million and Edinburgh £13.316 million.'

'Ironically the biggest cut will be to Aberdeen's funding, the Labour-run council that pressed hardest for this change, obviously without fully considering the consequences.'

'Labour council leaders

need to think again; the funding formula delivered under Conservative, Labour and SNP administrations for more than three decades is flexible and by ensuring figures are up-to-date is fairer than a system that ignores changing need and population.'

'North Ayrshire's Labour councillors should demand their colleagues reverse this inept decision or else explain which jobs and services they propose should be cut to plug the £5.081 million funding gap that NAC will face from April next year.'



Alice Anderson from Shiskine SWRI was a little bit worse for wear last Thursday night! Starring in the rural ladies production of 'Party Time' at the Arran One Act Drama Festival, Alice and her fellow cast members had the audience in stitches with their antics. For the full report of the festival, see pages 9,10 and 11.

Three 'flu patients airlifted off the island

There have been reports circulating this week of three suspected cases of swine flu on Arran.

Two men in their 30s and one in his 40s have been airlifted off the island in the past two weeks with severe flu-like symptoms.

Cannot comment

However NHS Ayrshire and Arran said it could not confirm that the men are suffering from swine flu as they cannot comment on individual cases.

Dr Carol Davidson, director of public health for NHS Ayrshire and Arran,

said: 'There are currently low levels of influenza circulating in the community across Scotland, including influenza A (H1N1).'

'The H1N1 virus, sometimes called swine flu, is now one of the routine winter flu strains that circulates each winter.'

She added: 'As with any virus infection, good hygiene is the most effective way of preventing the spread of infection.'

'Frequent handwashing, keeping surfaces clean, and covering your nose and

mouth when coughing or sneezing, are fundamental steps we can all take to prevent any infection spreading.'

Self-limiting

Flu is usually a self-limiting illness which resolves within a week, but it can lead to serious complications, particularly in those people with certain underlying conditions.

If you do catch seasonal flu, you should stay away from school, work or childcare until you have recovered.

If medical advice is required, you could contact NHS 24 or your GP.

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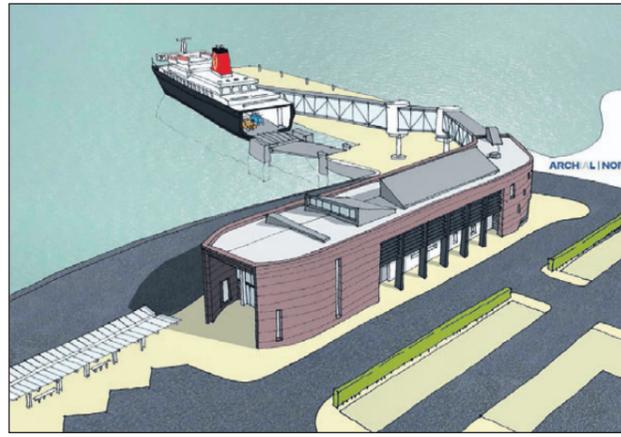
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Pier designs show terminal building taking shape



How the new terminal building may look.



An artist's impression of the new terminal building showing the covered passenger walkway to the ferry berth.

Design work on the new £18 million Brodick ferry terminal continues apace.

At the Isle of Arran Ferry Committee this month detailed design plans for the terminal building, passenger access system and surrounding stopping and parking areas were circulated for discussion.

The latest design stage drawings and sketches for the redevelopment, primarily focus on the terminal building.

They show for the first time details of the passenger walkway between the new two-storey terminal building and a ferry berth as well as parking

and drop-off points outside the new terminal.

The covered walkway will be accessed from the waiting area on the first floor of the terminal accessed by lift or stairs.

Design considerations

Ramsay Muirhead, Head of Civil Engineering at Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd, said: 'The drawings are current design considerations and not necessarily the final design. It is also worth noting that the sketches are merely artistic representations, especially such details as the vessel on the pier etc.'

Meanwhile, ground investi-

gation works have started on site. A barge has been spotted in Brodick Bay which is undertaking geophysical surveys of the seabed.

At present the main contractor for the ground work is still awaiting a forecast two-day weather window to get a barge across from Fairlie where it is presently berthed.

Work will begin before the end of the month and is expected to take about four weeks.

It will involve a number of marine boreholes undertaken from a jack up barge, as well as trial pits and probes on the foreshore.



The covered walkway seen emerging from the first floor of the new terminal building.

COAST help sought for Northern Irish marine conservation

Marine Conservation Northern Ireland (MCNI) is hoping to work with the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST) to create a greater awareness of marine laws across the province.

Recent funding received will be used to establish the recovery of valuable indigenous species, whose current decimated stock levels threaten their sustainability.

MCNI's primary concern is elasmobranchii, a subclass of fish which includes sharks, skates and rays, and the project aims to ensure that these species receive better protection under Northern Ireland marine laws.

The organisation does not set out to be 'all talk' as it will be running a tagging and monitoring programme in order to establish base line data.

While the focus will be on the distribution of the IUCN critically endangered common skate, the project will also involve the tagging of other elasmobranch species.

Zara Porter of MCNI explained: 'In order to determine a best practice model for tagging and returning the various species, MCNI's team will be heading to Arran to meet with COAST which has made incredible progress by gaining Scotland's first fully protected marine reserve in 2008.'

Bus service to benefit from increased SPT funding

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) has approved funding to improve the bus service on the island after a meeting to agree its capital programme and budget for 2014/15.

The partnership approved a £73 million investment, which will fund a total of 77 projects across the 12 local authority areas SPT serves.

North Ayrshire will benefit from almost £3 million of investment.

SPT will be working in partnership with the council to deliver six projects in the area. This includes developing the second phase of Park and Ride at Irvine station, walking and cycling improvements in Fairlie and working with the council and CMal to examine future enhancements to the bus interchange at Brodick Ferry Terminal.

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Happy home sought for two loveable cats

The Arran branch of the charity Cats Protection is desperately seeking a new home for two very special felines.

DJ and Rosie have become firm friends since being brought into the care of Linda Hartley and she wants to find them a new home together.

DJ is a little nervous soul who arrived as a stray some time ago but whereas Rosie is an outgoing little thing, she was an indoor kitten so she isn't very good at being outdoors among traffic.

Linda said: 'I know it may be harder to re-home two cats together but for DJ it would be ideal to help him settle and be less nervous over time if Rosie was with him.'

'Also for Rosie, DJ may help her to settle in a new environment where she would normally be at a loss to understand the outside world.'

She added: 'I have tried several times to find homes for these two and it may be that they will be taken from the island to homed in the city if I can't find somewhere soon. I am not trying to pull on the heartstrings but just trying to find them a home, but the right one.'

Contact Linda Hartley on 820611 or email linda@arran-cats.com

Arran livestock sales

United Auctions in Stirling had forward 1,092 store cattle, cast cows 7,256 prime, store, breeding and feeding sheep last week.

Suffolk Cross Hoggets: £74 Belview, £72 Drumaghinier, £69 Craigraineach.
Texel Cross Hoggets: £76.50 Drumaghinier, £70.50 Springfield, £67 Craigview.

Mule Hoggets: £70 Craigview, £69.50 Springfield, £68 Craigraineach, £62 SD Drumaghinier.

Blackface Hoggets: £68 Craigview, £60 Drumaghinier, £54 Glenree.

Cheviot ewes: £49.50 Cosyden.

Texel cross ewes: £71.50 Springfield.

Suffolk cross ewes: £70 Bellevue.

Mule ewes: £66.50 Hillhead.

Blackface ewes: £61.50 Hillhead.

Cross tups: £73.50 Glenkiln.

Blackface tups: £58.50 Craigview.



The pupils watch as the 'rain clouds' are switched on and the town begins to flood.

20_b09wat02

Primary pupils learn all about flooding

Flood prevention is still a hot topic in the headlines.

And last week Arran's primary school pupils were given an opportunity to learn all about flooding and how they can help to stop it happening here.

Linsey McLean, a PhD research student from Heriot Watt University specialising in natural flood management, came to Lamlash Primary School to talk to the children from all the island's schools about the risks associated with flooding and what can be done to prevent it.

'Flooding is very topical right now,' she told The Banner, 'but this visit was planned quite some time ago.'

'We think that by discussing flooding - its causes and solutions - with primary school children, we can help educate whole communities about the importance of flood prevention.' Linsey used film foot-

age and photographs of flooding from around the world to demonstrate just how destructive water can be.

When she asked the youngsters what they knew about flooding they were surprisingly well-informed - no doubt in part because of recent news reports.

Linsey's colleague, Aisling O'Loghlen, then used an interactive scale model of a town, complete with rain clouds, to show the children just how quickly water can rise.

She then gave them the opportunity to swap roof tiles for grass, introduce permeable surfaces where there was once concrete and build flood gates and other preventative measures to see how

they could help to eliminate flooding.

Laura MacVicar from Lamlash primary explained: 'The model was about the same size as a pool table and had six sprinklers on it.'

'It showed us how fast places get flooded without any flood defences. The model was then changed to include flood defences made out of sponges.'

'The sprinklers were then turned on to show if the flood defences could prevent major flooding and it did.'

She added: 'I think that flood defences should be put wherever there is a flood risk, it would be much cheaper than the cost of all the repairs after floods.'

Arran gets the chance to see new wind farm plans

The developers of a wind farm proposal which will be seen from Arran are holding a drop in event to show islanders their latest plans.

ScottishPower Renewables has almost halved the number of turbines it is now planning to build in Phase 3 of the Beinn an Tuirc Wind Farm on Kintyre.

At an earlier public meeting held by Arran Community Council in Lochranza it was revealed that the turbines will be visible from the west side of the island with the main impact on Blackwaterfoot and Machrie Bay. The wind farm is also expected to be visible from Shiskine.

Already the 45 turbines on the site can be seen from Arran and construction work is already underway on 20 more.

Up to 34 wind turbines had originally been planned for Phase 3, to the south of the present wind farm, but this has now been reduced to 19.

The company is to hold a drop-in event next week which will include a presentation of the prospective

development and an opportunity to discuss the plans with company representatives.

The event will be held in the Kinloch Hotel in Blackwaterfoot on Monday 3 March from 3pm till 7pm.

A ScottishPower Renewables spokesman said: 'We look forward to speaking with the community in Arran to discuss our plans from Beinn an Tuirc Phase 3. The Beinn an Tuirc Phase 2 project is now nearly completed, and we are keen to get feedback from communities on our further plans.'

Detailed studies

'An area has been identified to the south of the site for a further extension. Through our detailed studies so far, and feedback we have received, we have refined our initial proposals from 34 turbines to 19. We are keen to keep communities fully informed as the project progresses, and hope to speak to as many people as possible on Monday.'

The event will be held in the Kinloch Hotel in Blackwaterfoot on Monday 3 March from 3pm till 7pm.

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♥ Our best wishes to the happy couple ♥

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British Heart Foundation benefits from school fundraising

There were some 'hearty' fun and games to be enjoyed at Whiting Bay recently when pupils at the primary school organised various events to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation.

On Thursday 13 February the house captains held a disco in aid of the British Heart Foundation.

They made heart shaped cookies and sold them too.

The next day, Valentine's Day, they organised 'Ramp up the Red Day' which saw all pupils and staff paying £1 to wear red and they all jogged around the school. Altogether the impressive sum of £109.64 was raised for the British Heart Foundation.

Kilmory SWRI run a Burns evening

On Monday 10 February the ladies of Kilmory rural welcomed their friends from Shiskine and Kildonan SWRIs to join with them for a Burns evening in Kilmory Hall.

The Burns' fayre was prepared and served by the Kilmory rural members.

During the evening the ladies were well entertained by the guest artists.

Andrew Earle, Jim Fleming and Mhairi Thomas provided the musical entertainment.

Entertained

Allan Nicol, Erin Mulholland and Abbie Mulholland entertained with poems.

A big thank you was given to everyone involved in making the evening such a success.

The next meeting is on Monday 10 March in Kilmory Hall at 7.30pm and is a business meeting. The competition for the evening is a pot handle holder.

Pupils help campaign to make bananas fair

Children from primary schools across the island have been learning about Fairtrade Fortnight which started this week.

This year the Fairtrade Foundation has launched a new campaign to 'Make Bananas Fair'.

Arran Fairtrade asked the primary schools to help with this campaign by making banana posters and recipes for the display at the entrance to Brodick Co-op.

The children have also been learning about Fairtrade and the difference buying Fairtrade bananas makes to people's lives.

The Co-op has kindly donated a hamper of Fairtrade goods, which the children of Brodick Primary School chose on Monday, and which will be raffled on Friday 7 March.

Bananas are the fourth most important food in the world, and five billion of them are



The Fairtrade stand created by primary school pupils in the Co-op.

nana grower, is the face of the new campaign. He sells some of his bananas to Fairtrade buyers and some not.

The money he makes from the Fairtrade buyers allows him to feed and clothe his family and send the children to school. The price he gets for the non-Fairtrade buyers is not enough to support him and his family.

Fairtrade means that the farmer gets a guaranteed price for his produce and a Fairtrade premium as well.

This extra money can be used to pay for education or healthcare. All bananas in the Co-op and in Sainsbury's are fairly traded bananas, but that amounts to only 30 per cent of the bananas consumed in the UK.

On Saturday 8 March, there will be a Fairtrade coffee morning in Brodick Hall from 10.30am to 12noon where some of the banana recipes will be available.

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Pupils from Brodick primary with the Fairtrade goods they picked for the hamper which is to be raffled. 20_b09bro01

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Timber transfer station built as entire forest is to be felled

Fallen Rocks path upgraded to cope with lorries

Preparation works ahead of the clearing of an entire forest on Arran are progressing well.

In just six weeks major works have all but been completed on the North Sannox shore ahead of the felling work.

Over the next two years the Forestry Commission is to remove and replant the entire North Sannox Forest, completely transforming the shoreline landscape, as previously reported in The Banner.

Ahead of that a major upgrade of the Fallen Rocks path has been undertaken to allow heavy vehicles up to the new timber transfer station which has been created.

For the past week hundreds of lorries have brought rock and ballast to the site from the Tank Road quarry outside Brodick for the construction work.

When The Banner visited the site this week a turning circle for the steady stream of lorries arriving was being created to the north of the Fallen Rocks path car park.

The transfer station is 500 metres further along the path where a new road has been carved into the hillside.

The transfer station has been constructed where there is a suitable flat area of foreshore where a landing ramp is to be built for the barges which will take all the felled timber across the Firth of Clyde to the mainland.

Challenges

Arran's head forester Andy Walker said: 'Work is progressing well despite some of the challenges we have faced with the weather.'

'All the initial preparation works are nearing completion. Only the new coastal road to the transfer station is awaiting a top dressing of

smaller materials.'

The next job will be to build the landing ramp which will be used to transport the 40,000 tonnes of felled timber.

The forest is mainly sitka spruce and most of the trees are around 50 years old with some almost 100 metres tall.

They will be replanted almost entirely with broad-leaves, as is the plan for most of the island.

A new landing craft - double the size of the existing vessels which serve Arran - will be brought in to transport the timber to Troon.

Felling will start in the spring when the timber will be brought down from the forest to the transfer station to await transportation. That will continue until October and then resume in 2015.

Mr Walker accepted that there had already been some limited disruption on the Fallen Rocks path but said

that once preparation works were complete by the end of the month the path would be open most of the time and thanked walkers for their patience.

He said: 'It may have to be closed for some periods when the barges are being loaded, but we will try to keep this to an absolute minimum.'



A digger creates a turning circle for the timber lorries. 20_b08rock02

Head forester Andy Walker at the site works at North Sannox. 20_b08rock01



The lorry tips its load onto the turning circle. 20_b08rock04



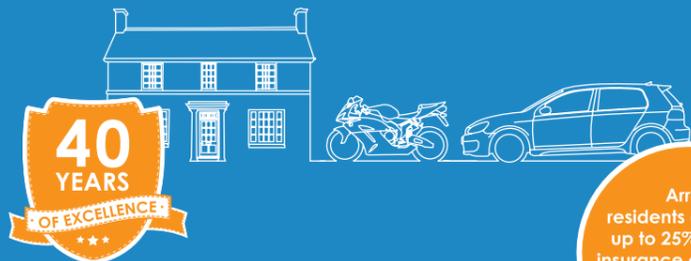
A lorry brings another load of ballast to the site. 20_b08rock03



The new road which has been built into the forest above the transfer station. 20_b08rock07

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Native forest to emerge from trees

The landscape of a small part of Arran is about to change forever.

In just two years, the entire North Sannox forest will have been felled of the thousands of sitka spruce trees which have flourished on the island for more than 50 years. It will create a whole new vista, particularly approaching the Sannox shore on the Boguille from Lochranza.

It will be replanted almost entirely with broadleaf trees in a bid to return the forest to its natural habitat. Broadleaves were first planted on Arran in 1750.

A broadleaf tree is any tree that has wide leaves, rather than slim, needle-like leaves as found in conifers like the sitka spruce. Most are deciduous and include native birch, elm, oak and maple.

But historically during the significant afforestation that occurred between 1950 and the end of the 1980s the principal species of choice in the planting of these unashamedly commercial crops was the sitka spruce, a native of the Pacific Northwest of North America. In Scotland it proved relatively easy to establish and showed rapid growth characteristics compared with native and other species.

As a result, the volume of conifer forests has almost quadrupled in 30 years with the sitka spruce comprising almost 60 per cent of the total.

What was not considered then was how the planting and growth of these 'foreign' trees would hinder the growth and development of native species.

Now, in our more enlightened days, the tide has well and truly turned on the sitka spruce, and while there is still a place for commercial conifer forestry, the common aim is for a more native woodland with the benefits it brings to local wildlife.

On Arran, the Forestry Commission has been hard at work drawing up plans across the island for the replanting of broadleaf trees. Scottish Natural Heritage, the National Trust for Scotland and the two estates on the island are also hard at work in their replanting efforts.

North Sannox is a major sign of the work being done but it is only the start. Work is already underway in Glen Rickard which will see the entire landscape between Brodick and Lamash change over the next 15 years and beyond, opening up views over The Clachland Hills not seen since the 1960s. It is a time of major change then for the forests and hillsides of Arran and the Forestry Commission and other organisations should be applauded for their dedicated work in making a native natural environment for us all.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Because Jesus has Himself passed through the test of suffering, He is able to help those who are in the midst of their test.' (Hebrews 2:18)

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Letters to the Editor



Missing oars

Sir,
There aren't many truly antique boats of any interest these days, the iron and steel steamers almost all but gone.

The larger, wooden sail craft have been smashed for firewood or left to rot and the older smaller boats even set alight in some bizarre vandalistic uphellya event rather than seek out a boat restorer, for a worthy project.

I think I'm lucky to keep a now very rare small sailboat.

It is a clinker built of larch and oak in Crinan, Argyll around 1900 and it now lives under a new boat cover in Pirnmill.

The last cover was ripped to bits from old age and the wind late last year and whilst torn someone must have spotted the original larch 'spoon end' oars from the same period, kept within.

Presumably they just couldn't resist borrowing them?

They have white curved blades and are made of dark larch.

They also have new leather bands where they are supported by the oar crutches.

These obviously belong to the boat and one day, I hope to pass it on to someone else, also interested in it - it would be really nice to pass it on complete.

So to whoever 'forgot' to return them, I should be glad to give them two pairs of strong modern oars, as those old ones are brittle with age.

I'm puzzled as to what the borrower intends to do with a pair of eight-foot oars over a century old?

They are going to look a bit out of place on their plastic or fibreglass boat.

Perhaps, if anyone comes across them, or the borrower, they could be so kind as to point this out to them?

Yours,
Simon J Horne
Pirnmill

Creative places

Sir,
May I through your columns say a heartfelt thank you to all the groups who collaborated with Arran Theatre and Arts

Trust in applying to the Creative Places Award.

Although we did not win we were very close and impressed the jury with the extent of arts activity on the island as well as the community ethos of the groups concerned.

In addition we have made very valuable contacts which will help everyone involved in the arts on Arran in the future.

Meanwhile, we would very much like to continue the positive and useful collaboration which was kick-started by the application and hope that we can continue to support each other and work together for the greater good of the community.

With thanks.

Yours,
Heather Gough
Arran Theatre and Arts Trust

Part of island life

Sir,
Having enjoyed our holidays over the past number of years on your beautiful island I enjoy reading a copy of *The Banner* each week.

But I am fed up with so much criticism of CalMac and non-sailings.

Arran is not the only place where sailings are cancelled in adverse weather conditions.

Over here in Northern Ireland the Larne-Troon, Larne-Cairnryan and Belfast-Cairnryan, Ballycastle-Rathlin ferries have all been affected, yet there is no whinging about it.

CalMac's priority must be the safety of the passengers, crew and the vessel.

From reading some of the letters you would seem to be happy for the vessel to sail in rough weather, with the possibility of her ending up on the sea bed with the loss of life.

Do you want a Princess Victoria type disaster on your hands?

Sorry but this is part of island life.

We are not in charge of the weather, a higher authority is.

Looking forward to returning to Arran.

Yours,
Henry Young
Newtonards
County Down

One more dance

Sir,
A big thank you to the good folk of Shiskine for the safe return of my dancing shoes which were left in the village hall by mistake at New Year.

We had such a good time at the Hogmanay ceilidh. However, when I changed into my hiking boots for the walk back to the lodge where we were staying, I forgot to take my dancing shoes with me!

I didn't realise they were missing until we returned home a few days later.

I've since been told by family and friends that my dancing shoes have been found and have been returned to my home in Fife.

I am currently escaping from the Scottish winter in Mauritius where sandals and beach

shoes are the only footwear required and we dance the 'Sega' barefoot on the sand.

But my dancing shoes will be at home waiting for me when I return to Scotland.

Thanks again for the fantastic new year ceilidh.

Yours,
Linda Boodhna
Trou-aux-Biches
Mauritius

Pier upgrade necessary?

Sir,
Would those who support the spending of £18 million plus upon the new ferry terminal care to explain why this is justified in view of the fact that Scotland now has 50 food banks, one of which, Glasgow City Mission, is now out of stock leaving the people depending on it destitute?

Yours,
Ian Ferguson
Corrie

Dig in and help plant trees with Roots of Arran

Roots of Arran Community Woodland is looking for people to join it at its tree planting event at Lag a Bheith, Brodick on Sunday 9 March at 11am.

The group has recently received a free tree pack from the Woodland Trust Scotland to help improve the local environment.

Mike Bailey, treasurer of Roots of Arran, said: 'We're planting these trees to add more variety of species to the community woodland.'

'We want people to take pride in their woodland and there's no better way to do that than get them to roll up their sleeves and get planting!'

This spring more than 200 groups across Scotland are planting trees thanks to the free packs, which have been supported by players of People's Postcode Lottery, to enhance their neighbourhood and enrich the local environ-

ment. The trees will form flourishing woodland in as little as 10 years.

Carol Evans, director of the Woodland Trust Scotland, said: 'It's fantastic that thanks to supporters, including players of People's Postcode Lottery, hundreds of groups across Scotland can improve their local environment. Planting trees is an activity that brings the whole community together.'

Come prepared
If you would like to plant a tree with the group, come prepared. A jacket, warm clothes, a pair of boots or wellies and possibly a flask of tea and packed lunch are recommended.

Spades will be provided. Children must be supervised by a responsible adult and dogs kept on leads.

They will meet at the view point car park between Brodick and Lamash at 11am.

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Arran One Act Drama Festival

Laughs and tears as Shiskine pick up top trophies

Shiskine almost swept the board at the 2014 One Act Drama Festival held in the Lamplash community theatre last week.

Audiences enjoyed two nights of top quality theatre with five plays performed by youths and adults from across the island, adjudicated by Ronnie Mackie.

Top prize of the festival, the

Archie Kerr Wooley Trophy went to Shiskine SWRI with their comedy Party Time.

And the Shiskine Junior Drama Club also picked up a clutch of trophies with their comedy A Dog's Life.

Quality

The festival may not be as large as it once was, but the quality of the productions was, as always, very high.



Jerry Arthur is presented with the overall winners trophy by association chairman Allan Nicol (left) and adjudicator Ronnie Mackie. 20_b09dra21



Lucy Crawford and Ross Dobson in Nathan the Nervous. 20_b09dra01

Nathan the Nervous

The festival opened with a fantastic version of this comedy by OB Rozell, superbly acted by the youngsters from Shiskine Junior Drama.

The powerful and domineering Queen Augustus the Anguished was brilliantly played by Lucy Crawford as she attempted to find a wife for her jumpy son Nathan (Keir Robertson) who had a habit of fainting at any noise

louder than the flutter of butterfly wings.

Young Nathan and his Minstrel (Cailean Robertson) picked up the Whiting Bay Club of Drama and Music Golden Anniversary Trophy, awarded for the best moment of theatre, after another rather hilarious fainting fit on stage.

The contrast of characters produced lots of chuckles from the audience and the young cast were commended by the adjudicator for carrying off the comedy with such aplomb.

Sherlock Meets the Phantom

There was only one man who could solve the bizarre goings-on in the second play of the evening, Mr Sherlock Holmes, and he was brilliantly played by Josh McDonald.

The cast from the Lamplash Junior Drama Club impressed the adjudicator with their comic timing and Ceile Swinton-Boyle was awarded The Jean Bannatyne Trophy for best supporting acting performance for her portrayal of Mrs Hudson.

The one-act takes place in the Virginia City Opera House which is on the verge of complete ruin after the sinister 'Phantom' terrifies
Continued on page 10.



From left to right: Rory Morrison, Cailean Robertson, Keir Robertson, Ellie Ewing and Alice Kinniburgh in Nathan the Nervous. 20_b09dra02

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Arran One Act Drama Festival

Continued from page 9

the performers by climbing the walls and swinging from the scenery.

Could the Phantom be the mysterious 'Chiquita Banana,' or could it be an irate composer who, after submitting 'I'll Take You Home Again, Kathleen, Cause The Avocado Dip Has Turned You Green' was fired from the theatre?

The shenanigans on-stage had the audience in stitches.

Party Time

The ladies from Shiskine SWRI never fail to impress and Party Time by Eileen Brandon proved to be another winner.

The top prize of the festival, the Archie Kerr Wooley Trophy went to the ladies for their impeccable comic timing and fantastic rendition of this simple play.

Sheila Gilmore played the domineering Mrs Field who

is determined to have her way as the six ladies plan a party for the grandpas in the village.

Her fantastic performance earned her The Monie Kelso Trophy for best acting performance in an adult play.

Alice Anderson stole the show with her drunken rowdiness as the alcoholic Mrs Green but the adjudicator praised all six of the ladies on stage for their flawless and very clever performance.

The producer Jerry Arthur was also commended for her work with the production.

A Dog's Life

A Dog's Life is set in an animal shelter and the simple set features four dogs hoping to find a new home.

These were excellently played by Finlay Murchie as Ben, a battered old mongrel, Struan Robertson as Fritz, a German Shepherd, Kirsty Crawford as Fifi, a poodle and Katie Murchie as Ginger the pup.

The dogs discuss their experience of their human masters and particularly hilarious are their views on babies and toddlers.

The only other performers

are the warden, played by John Stewart and a visitor looking for a dog played by Emily Devine.

The ending is both poignant and sad as Ben, who we learn has been on the road all his life with a homeless traveller, breathes his last.

Snowed Under

As Mr Mackie himself said the festival featured five very different plays and this could not have been more true for the second of Friday night's plays Snowed Under.

With a nod to the Arran snow last March the play featured just three actors who

had been trapped in a library for three weeks following a snow storm.

They were the manager Breda, played by Gill Gregory, her assistant Sue, played by Anne Luttrell and Mr Whitely, the single customer brilliantly played by Allan Nicol, who picked up the Mattie Gillies Trophy for the best supporting acting performance in an adult play.

Although it has a dark theme, there were some good comedy moments, but as the play progresses it becomes clear there is to be no happy ending leaving the audience to ponder the frailty of life.



Sherlock Holmes (Josh McDonald) tries to fight off the knife wielding phantom (Shannon Galbraith) as Mrs Hudson (Ceile Swinton-Boyle) watches on. 20_b09dra04



The four 'dogs' shared The Douglas Sillars Trophy. 20_b09dra15



Sheila Gilmore picks up the Monie Kelso Trophy for the best acting performance. 20_b09dra17



A Dog's Life producer Sheila Gilmore with the Millhill Players Trophy. 20_b09dra20



A handshake for Allan Nicol from Ronnie Mackie as he presents the Mattie Gillies Trophy. 20_b09dra16



The cast of Snowed Under perform their dark tale: Allan Nicol, Anne Luttrell and Gill Gregory. 20_b09dra12

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The cast of A Dog's Life lift the best youth team award. 20_b09dra18



Party Time in full swing. From left to right: Sheila Gilmore, Alice Anderson and Assja Baumgartner. 20_b09dra05



Keir Robertson and Cailean Robertson with the best moment of theatre trophy presented by Ronnie Mackie. 20_b09dra22



Adjudicator Ronnie Mackie presents Ceile Swinton Boyle with The Jean Bannatyne Trophy. 20_b09dra14



Party Time producer Jerry Arthur lifts the Jane McBride Brown Bowl for Shiskine SWRI. 20_b09dra19

Trophy winners

The Jean Bannatyne Trophy, for best supporting acting performance in a youth play: Ceile Swinton-Boyle, Sherlock Meets the Phantom.

The Douglas Sillars Trophy, for the best acting performance in a youth play: joint winners Finlay Murchie, Struan Robertson, Kirsty Crawford and Katie Murchie, A Dog's Life.

The Mattie Gillies Trophy, for best supporting acting performance in an adult play: Allan Nicol

The Monie Kelso Trophy, for best acting performance in an adult play: Sheila Gilmore.

The Whiting Bay Club of Drama and Music Golden Anniversary Trophy, awarded for the best moment of theatre: Keir Robertson and Cailean Robertson.

The Mary Stewart Orr Trophy, awarded to the best youth team: A Dog's Life, Shiskine Junior Drama Club.

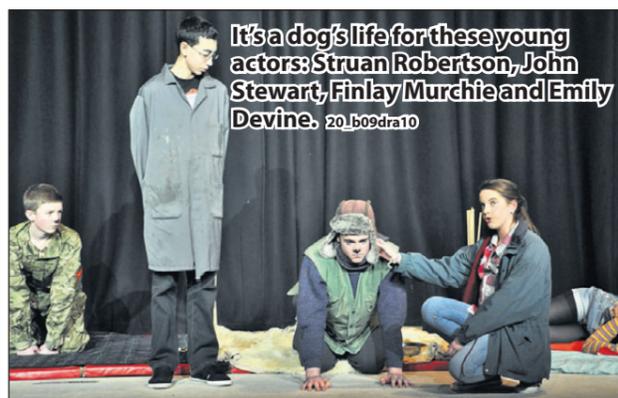
The Jane McBride Brown Bowl, awarded to the best play entered by a SWRI team: Shiskine SWRI

The Millhill Players Trophy, awarded to the team gaining the highest total of marks in a play of contrasting type to the overall winner: Shiskine Junior Drama Club, A Dog's Life.

The Archie Kerr Wooley Trophy, awarded to the team gaining the highest mark in the festival: Shiskine SWRI.



Where is Sherlock Holmes when you need him. From left to right: Fiona Bulger, Anna O'Donnelly, Eilidh Swandells, Briar Thorne, Eilidh Blair, Fiona Rennie and Gabrielle Alison in Sherlock Meets the Phantom. 20_b09dra03



It's a dog's life for these young actors: Struan Robertson, John Stewart, Finlay Murchie and Emily Devine. 20_b09dra10

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Danish visitors learn lessons from Arran's tourism team



The Danish delegation at The Douglas Hotel with marketing manager Elaine Campbell and Sheila Gilmore and Kenny Bone of VisitArran. 20_b09fanoe01

'They may come to learn from us, but it is a two-way street as we can also learn from them'

A delegation from the Danish island of Fanoe recently visited Arran to see what they could learn about tourism promotion.

Five delegates from the island were over checking out how VisitArran operates as a destination management organisation.

Fanoe has a tourism-based economy and was recommended to visit Arran to see how the organisation works with the different sectors within the industry.

The two islands were put together by mutual friend Professor Terry Stevens, the managing director of the Swansea-based multi-award winning international tourism consultancy Stevens and Associates who has worked both with Arran and Fanoe.

Poul Therkelsen, manager of the Fanoe Tourist Organisation said the island was 'going through a time of change' and it was keen learn from other parts of the world

in preparing a tourism strategy plan.

The delegation also consisted of Helle Andersen and Soren Luck Madsen from the Fanoe Municipality and Kristine Gregersen and Lars Olsen from the Danish Coastal Tourism Organisation.

Fanoe is an island in the North Sea off the coast of southwestern Denmark and is the very northernmost of the Danish Wadden Sea Islands.

Although smaller than Arran and closer to the mainland, with the ferry taking just 12 minutes, it also has many similarities with a population of 3,200.

While on the island the delegates visited the major attractions including the castle and the distillery, but also visited smaller concerns including the Rock Pool in Corrie.

Mr Therkelsen said he had found the standard of tourist services to be of a 'very high quality' and was particularly impressed with the visitor

staff at the distillery.

With a maritime tradition Fanoe depends on its vast beaches to attract visitors and a national park as well as great experiences in nature. For those looking for an active vacation - hiking, biking, kite-buggies, golf are all available.

Mr Therkelsen said: 'The one thing we have in common with Arran are lots and lots of seals.'

One major difference between Fanoe and Arran is that it is governed by its own municipality, something VisitArran was keen to learn more about.

Chairman Kenny Bone said: 'We are very proud that VisitArran is held up as a model for visiting delegations and we have welcomed friends from Norway, Denmark, Germany and Ireland.'

'They may come to learn from us, but it is a two-way street as we can also learn from them.'

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Obituary

Edwin Latona 1948 - 2014

The sudden death last month of former Clyde skipper Edwin (Fergie) Latona in Troon shocked his family and friends in the local fishing industry.

Born in Lamlash on 18 November 1948, Edwin Latona first went to sea when he was just 14 years old as a crewman on the newly updated Glenlight boats which took over from the renowned puffers, working on the Glenfyne and the Dawn Light.

Edwin Latona subsequently started fishing on Ayrshire boats, before joining his brother Gilbert Latona on Castletown and Arran Lass.

In the early 1970s, Edwin became skipper/owner of Marlaine, named after his wife Margaret and daughter Elaine.

Skipper Edwin Latona later replaced Marlaine with Tribute, which he fished in the Clyde for many years.

Despite selling the boat on his retirement, he regularly returned to fishing.

When finally persuaded to

stay ashore, he was frequently to be seen around Troon harbour, mending nets, offering advice and support and generally keeping an eye on things.

A member of the LAC of the local Fishermen's Mission, Edwin Latona was a source of knowledge about the industry.

Edwin Latona's two sons, Craig and Edwin, followed in their father's footsteps and now skipper the Troon prawn trawler Rebekah Jayne.



Edwin Latona, or Fergie as he was known to his friends, sadly died last month.

Successful Valentine's fundraiser for Malawi group

Love was in the air at Arran High School last Friday night as nine pupils hosted a rather special Valentine's dinner.

The Malawi 2015 Expedition Group held the extremely successful fundraising dinner, with teachers, family, pupils and other members of the public enjoying a superb evening which combined great food cooked by Alastair and Donna Gold, excellent entertainment in the form of musical performances from several talented pupils and an extremely informative talk about Malawi itself from Malcolm Whitmore.

More than £1,200 was taken on the night with a profit of at least £900 anticipated once costs have been deducted. The group would like to thank everyone who helped to make the night possible, either by attending, donating items or offering their services.

A 'well kent' substitute entertains Antiquarians

Fifty-eight members of Arran Antiquarians met to hear Duncan Lunan of Troon speak about 'The Stones and the Stars' last week but were surprised to find Stuart Gough was to recount the history of the Arran War Memorial Hospital (AWMH) instead. Duncan had been forced to cancel because of family illness, and with only three days' notice Stuart had stepped in to save the monthly meeting.

No-one was disappointed as Stuart is always welcome with his wonderful gift of entertaining and educating simultaneously.

AWMH is a building everyone is familiar with as in-patients, out-patients, casualties or simply visitors, but how much is known about its history?

A great source of information was the Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald.

In March 1917, it informed that the Marchioness of Graham would be starting up a hospital for the war wounded to convalesce.

This was to be situated in the Naval canteen in Lamlash and be known as the Arran Auxiliary Hospital.

This duly opened a month later with 10 patients and the Arran folk donated generously with cash, reading matter – and eggs.

The Marchioness of Graham was very involved with the Red Cross at Bellahouston in Glasgow, and in May 1917 she arranged for 37 of their patients to be transferred

to Lamlash. Donations continued to pour in, including a most welcome piano.

At the end of the Great War a committee was formed to decide how best to commemorate the men of Arran who had fallen in the conflict.

A war memorial hospital was decided upon and by 1921 £12,700 had been raised. The land was donated by the Grahams and the cost of the building was £7,000.

On 23 July 1921, the foundation stone was to be laid by the Marchioness of Graham on the half-completed hospital.

Parade

The occasion began with a rather splendid parade from the Arran Auxiliary Hospital, along the seafront and up to the present site.

Stuart showed pictures of the parade, with the Brodick Pipe Band leading the way and the parade included the Fairfield cadet corps, a Boys' Brigade Company, the Red Cross nurses and the Lamlash Freemasons.

The moving ceremony began with singing of the 'Old 100th' and the Marquis of Graham read the Roll of Honour.

The Marchioness laid the foundation stone, pipers played, 'The Flowers of the Forest', the Master of the Lamlash Lodge spoke and the address was given by General Sir FJ Davies.

In the hollowed out stone a bottle was placed which contained among other things a

copy of the Roll of Honour, coins of the Realm and copies of several newspapers of the day.

This stone was sealed by the Marchioness and a second stone was then placed upon it which bore the date.

Following tradition the stones were placed at the North-East corner of the building. Sadly, the ceremony on the site took place in heavy rain.

The Roll of Honour containing names of 89 men is currently displayed as a brass plaque in the entrance lobby of the hospital.

Annual reports collected by Dr Buchanan from 1922 until the hand over to the NHS are stored at the Arran Heritage Museum.

The first year recorded only five patients in two wards, one for each sex, with a staff of eight. Substantial donations continued to come in, including large sums donated by Lady Graham.

During subsequent years an x-ray department and a maternity unit opened, but in 1948 the hospital was handed over to the NHS together with funds of £17,700.

The extension of two more wards was opened in 1972, and just two years later the hospital was incorporated



Youngsters from Brodick Primary with their home made instruments.

Youngsters make sweet music

Youngsters at Brodick Primary School have completed a musical instrument home-work challenge.

Pupils in primary one and two had to design an instrument that made a sound by plucking, blowing, tapping or shaking.

The children successfully completed the challenge and their teacher Mrs Donaldson was delighted with the results.

The children have now formed an orchestra and have composed a piece of music to play at a forthcoming school assembly.



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The very pleased chairman of the Arran Antiquarians, Tom Macleod, with the welcome replacement speaker, Stuart Gough.

HOSPITAL SUPPORTERS LEAGUE
Charity No SCO17553

Postponed from December

COFFEE MORNING

Saturday March 1st
Whiting Bay Hall
10.15am - 12.15pm

Tombola and Quiz
Entry £2

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Grants Standfast	2.69
Haig	2.75
Bells	2.75
White Horse	2.75
Crawfords	2.75
J. Walker	2.75
J Walker Black Label	3.20
Haig Dimple	3.30
Crawfords 5 Star	3.30

MARTINI

Martini Sweet	1.25
Martini Dry	1.26
Martini Bianco	1.22

VODKA

Smirnoff	2.95
Romanoff	2.68

GIN

Gordons	2.78
---------	------

RUM

Mainbrace Black	2.86
Bacardi White	3.38

SHERRY

Bristol Cream	1.95
Club Ammtilado	1.45
Regency Cream	1.40
Regency Gold	1.40

BEERS

Jennants Lager (cans)	15p
Tartan	15p
Dale Ale	14p
Guinness	18p
Newcastle Brown	15p
Sweet Stout	15p
Carlsberg Special (n. ab)	17p

NO. 1 MARCH 1974
'Who governs' is still the unanswered question

CORRIE FOR ARRAN

Majority 6730 Percentage poll - 77%

The Tories are back in Bute and North Ayrshire! John Corrie held on to most of Sir Fitzroy McLean's 1970 seat to win the seat by a comfortable 6,730.

Labour dropped votes but held on to second place, the SNP almost doubled their total and the Liberals didn't fight in 1970 - same last.

Conservative organisers were delighted at the success of 39-year-old Kirkcubright farmer Mr. Corrie - particularly as the SNP snatched neighbouring Argyll, a former Tory stronghold, by more than 300 votes.

If the local result was the same certainly it cannot be said about the overall situation.

The Banner goes to the press, ironically 'who governs' is a more open question than it was at the start of the election. Conservatives must be disappointed that



JOHN CORRIE
a time of economic and industrial crisis when the Government was under severe pressure. The Liberals must have mixed feelings: Joy at the crucial position they find themselves in at Westminster; frustration at polling so many votes in England but getting so few seats.

YOU and the BANNER

The Arran Banner is YOURS. If you want it to succeed, it can. But if you don't support it, the paper will die.

The facts are simple. This paper - which is non-profit making - has no subsidies. It can cover its costs if it sells widely on the island and if it receives a reasonable amount of advertising. Therefore it is up to YOU.

The paper - which pays no contributor - a community paper.

Organisations on the island must provide their own news - it is beyond the Banner's resources to solicit and collect the information on a wide front.

It is up to the community - if it is a paper, it can do one. How good the Banner is depends wholly on the amount of support it gets.

CONGRATULATIONS - EVERY SUCCESS TO THE ARRAN BANNER!



Celebrates 40

The Arran Banner 40 years as Arran's weekly

In March 1974 a new publication appeared on the shelves of Arran's newsagents. The Arran Banner proclaimed on its front page to be 'yours' and that with 'no contributors to be paid, no subsidies, and no profit' it is, and always will be, 'a community newspaper'. Initially coming out only monthly, by the end of 1974 the paper was hitting the shelves every second week. Forty years later The Banner has seen many changes both in its own layout and staffing - as well as on the island as a whole.

work in progress

**Merry Christmas
Happy New Year**



BRODICK

Old People's Home. Now that the main roof structure is in place, progress continues even in the wet.

The project should be finished for the winter.

NEW ROAD WORKS

Bogged down by the winter rain and hampered by cash shortage the roadmen will have their work cut out for them finishing this phase before the "season" starts.

SEA DEFENCES

Emergency repairs to maintain the coast road are under way.

A complete survey of sea defences will be necessary.

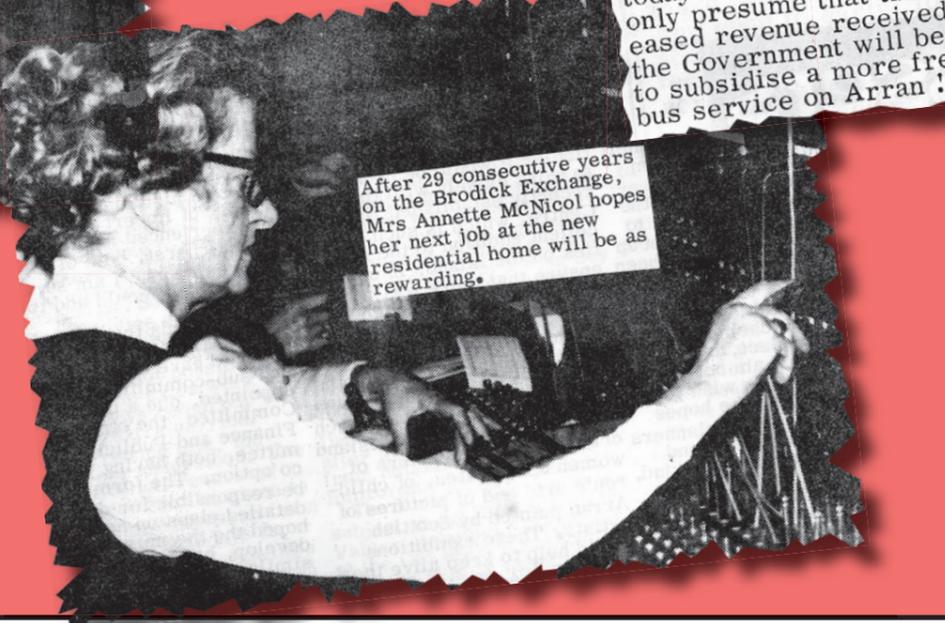
COOPER ANGUS LODGE

The new entrance is now built and blends beautifully with the existing wall. If, as promised, the rest of the development maintains this quality of retaining the best existing features of the site, it will be a model for similar projects.

Alexanders of Brodick
WISH EVERY SUCCESS TO
ARRAN BANNER
AND WILL BE PLEASED TO
SUPPLY YOU WITH A COPY

UP WE GO

Petrol stations will be charging 65p - 66p per gallon today for petrol. One can only presume that the increased revenue received by the Government will be used to subsidise a more frequent bus service on Arran!



After 29 consecutive years on the Brodick Exchange, Mrs Annette McNicol hopes her next job at the new residential home will be as rewarding.



40 years

**celebrates 40
weekly newspaper**

But in that time it has covered everything that has happened here in the community from the births, deaths and marriages of local folk to the farmers' demonstrations and ferry strikes.

Throughout March The Banner will be taking a look back at its history and this week we begin with a special 'Forty years ago' page instead of the usual 20.

Let's take a look at the stories which made headlines in 1974.

Up we go

Petrol stations will be charging 65p - 66p per gallon today for petrol.

One can only hope that the increased revenue received by the government will be used to subsidise a more frequent bus service on Arran.

Problematic transport costs

Farming is the biggest industry on Arran and it employs many people on the island, but transportation costs to and from the mainland are proving costly.

The figure of £60 a ton has been quoted for hay delivered from the mainland and cake costs too are increasing.

Milk cheques and calf prices next autumn will reflect under-feeding now.

Let's hope that the worst back-end for many years will be compensated with an early spring.

Brodick landmark dangerous

At least two of the five sycamores at the front of Brodick Post Office are to come down.

They are the two which lean decidedly towards Kames Cottage.

Straighten Corrie road?

Rumours are rife that the narrow bends through the village of Corrie are to be straightened out.

A summer bottleneck caused by ever increasing numbers of cars, as well as the growing size of motor vehicles, is being cited for the proposed changes.

Arran ferry Britain's dearest

An angry letter has been sent by the 59 organisations composing Arran's Council of Social Services to the Prime Minister Harold Wilson complaining about the high cost of Arran's ferry.

It explodes with indignation at the Scottish Transport Group's recent decision to raise its ferry links charges by 20 per cent.

One-way traffic success

The new 'one-way' traffic system around Currie's in Brodick is working like a dream, reports Ernie Ribbeck.

It seems inconceivable that without alleviation elsewhere the 'official' car park at the Boathouse Grill won't become a terrible farce this summer.

Memorial to be erected

A memorial is to be erected on the 'mound' on Lamlash Green by a committee of Canadians who are the descendants of Arran people who left the island at the time of the Clearances.

Market blues

Change in the weather notwithstanding, prices at Brodick Market have been nothing short of disastrous for the seller - although anyone wanting to pick up good quality stock at knockdown prices would have had a field day.

Quay solutions

A £100,000 development at Ardrossan harbour will enable bad weather winter berthing and create the possibility of a larger ferry coming into service on the Arran run.

Stuck up

The busy Whit weekend brought with it the drawback of Brodick Pier's automatic loading ramp.

Cars boarding at Ardrossan had to remain aboard while the Caledonian became just a passenger ferry until the tide was right for the jammed ramp.

Pay increase

Farm workers are to see their pay increased.

From 28 January a male general worker will now be paid £21.75 a week, stockmen will receive a weekly pay of £25.35 and shepherds and grieves will receive £25.95 a week.

Female general workers will be paid £18.30 for a week's work.

New hotel for Lamlash

The Turner Development site at Lamlash is now only building 36 houses instead of the planned 76.

The remaining area has now been set aside for a hotel development.

Helpee selfee

Customers will soon be able to glide in and out of Coopers in Brodick as the shop plans to install a cash desk.

As someone put it: 'The old way of going into Coopers and standing for an hour will be done away with.'

'Instead we can glide in, put stuff in our baskets and glide out.'

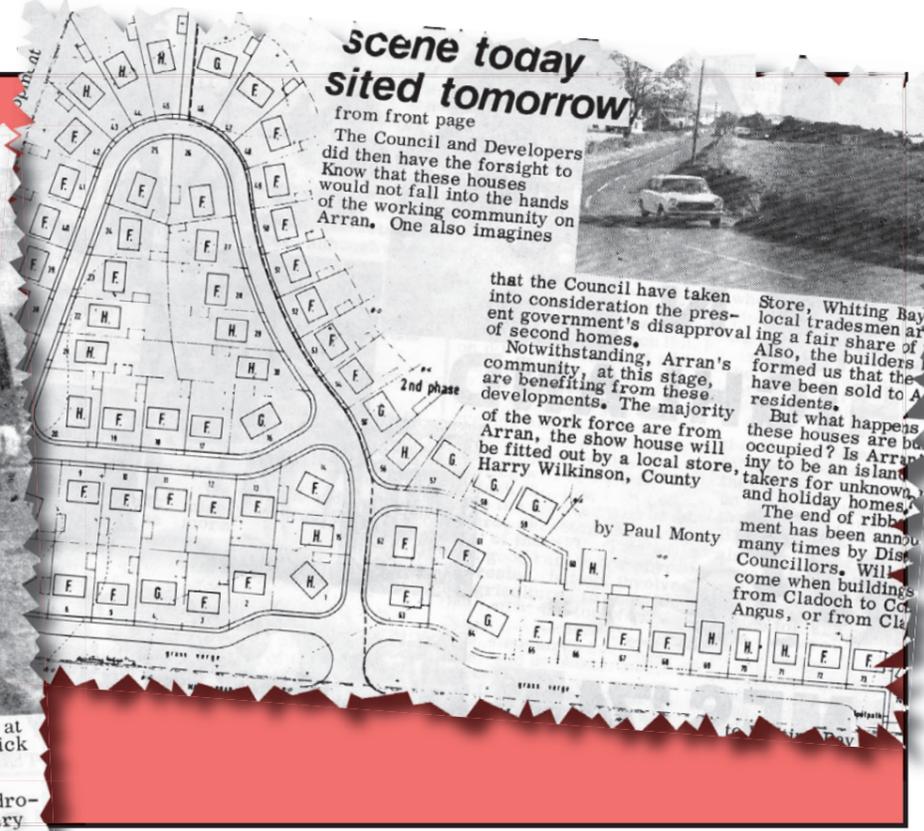
Currie's now remains the last traditional 'run and fetch' grocers in Brodick.

Hospital: end of an era

April 1 marks the end of an era in the history of the War Memorial Hospital in Lamlash.

On that date the board of management for Arran Hospitals, which has been responsible for the facility for 25 years, will cease to exist.

Its duties will be taken over by one of the newly formed area health boards.



What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Every day

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

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

Junior Hockey Club
 Healthy Outdoors
 Winter bowls
 SFA Early Touch Football
 Metafit
 Scottish Country Dancing

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

Saturday 1st March

Army Cadets
 Over 21s Disco
 Karate
 Family Games
 Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
 Junior Football
 DJ
 Coffee Morning

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
 Drift Inn, Lamlash from 9pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 10.15am-12.15pm

Wednesday 5th March

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
 Pub Quiz

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
 Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9pm

Sunday 2nd March

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

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
 Ormidale sports pavilion, 2pm - 3.30pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 4pm - 6pm
 Kinloch Bar, 5pm
 Eden Lodge, WBay, 2pm-5pm

Monday 3rd March

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

Thursday 6th March

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
 Lunchbox

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
 Ormidale Pavilion, 12.30-2.30pm

Tuesday 4th March

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

Friday 7th March

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

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
 Corrie Hall, 8-10pm

www.arranbrewery.com

Public Notices

ARRAN MEDICAL GROUP

The island GP surgeries will be

Closed for training from 1.00PM

on

Thurs 6 March 2014

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

NHS 24

On

08454 24 24 24

In an emergency please phone 999

Machrie Bay Golf Club AGM

Thursday March 20th at 7.30 pm

ARRAN MEDICAL GROUP LUNCHTIME CLOSING TIMES

From Monday 3rd March, each surgery will be closed for half an hour over lunchtime, at the following times

BRODICK Closed 12.45 to 13.15 (except Tuesdays 12.30 – 13.30 for team meeting)

SHISKINE Closed 13.15 to 13.45 (except Thursdays 13.00 – 14.00 for team meeting)

LAMLASH Closed 13.30 to 14.00 (except alternate Wednesdays & Fridays 13.00-14.00 for team meeting)

Throughout these staggered lunch closures, patients can always contact the Practice by phoning **01770 600516**

IN AN EMERGENCY YOU SHOULD PHONE 999

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Highland Games
AGM
Monday 10th March
Ormidale Hotel at 8pm
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EVENT TO PUBLICISE?

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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.

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Mobile: 07803 625248

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Call 01770 600 844 for details or email CV to hello@lamlashbayhotel.co.uk

Argyll College UHI

Argyll College UHI Ltd provides access to a range of further and higher education opportunities. We require the following post:

Financial Director

The post is part-time for a fixed term of 2 years. Salary and hours negotiable.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and experienced individual to assist the college in developing its role as the primary provider of tertiary education within Argyll and the Islands.

The primary purpose of the post is to develop sound financial strategies towards achieving our mission.

The successful applicant will be responsible for managing operational activity and the effective running of systems, procedures and staff to provide a customer focused service for internal and external users of our services. The post also encompasses responsibility for risk analysis, financial compliance and the role of Company Secretary. Liaison with the Scottish Funding Council and within the UHI partnership will be an integral part of this role.

The successful candidate will be subject to an application to join the Disclosure Scotland Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) scheme.

An application for this post can be downloaded from the vacancies section of our website at: www.argyllcollege.ac.uk

All applications must be made on the Argyll College application form.

Please send/e-mail to: Moira Gillespie, HR Admin Assistant, Argyll College UHI, Glenshellach Business Park, Oban PA34 4RY

E-mail to moira.gillespie@uhi.ac.uk

The closing date for applications is Friday 21st March.

BRODICK GOLF CLUB

SEASONAL GREEN-KEEPING STAFF REQUIRED

Two seasonal staff are required for this summer.

A knowledge of Green-keeping would be an advantage, but not essential as a full training will be given.

Applications in writing to the secretary: Brodick golf club, Brodick, Isle of Arran or email: anngartconner@yahoo.co.uk

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email: carolking69@btinternet.com



the National Trust for Scotland
a place for everyone

BRODICK CASTLE

We are looking for keen & enthusiastic people to join our Conservation Team in the Castle.

Flexibility and some weekend work would be required.

Please contact Francesca Hollow at the Castle for an application form.

Closing date 10th March 2014
brodickcastle@nts.org.uk tel: 0844 4932152

SITUATIONS WANTED

Help a 37 year old mum give her family a fresh start. I'm a qualified hairdresser also 20 years admin/retail experience, qualified law accountant/book-keeper, full of enthusiasm and looking for a permanent move to Arran.

Open to all job opportunities, contact fiona_allison@sky.com

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Visit our display area at Sorbie Road, Ardrossan, opposite Cemetery Gates or phone

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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(in full communion with the Church of England)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday 2nd March

Holy Communion, 11.15.
Rev Simon Mackenzie,
Priest-in-Charge.

Visit of Mrs Elaine Garman to continue Mission Possible programme.

Coffee and sandwich lunch after service.

PLEASE NOTE SLIGHTLY LATER TIME.

Wednesday 5th March

(ASH WEDNESDAY)

Holy Communion and

Imposition of Ashes,

12.00 noon

ALL WELCOME.

ARRAN CHURCHES

TOGETHER

There will be Taizé worship on Thursday 6th March

at 7.30 pm

in St Molios' Church, Shiskine.

All welcome

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

This year's World Day of Prayer 'Egypt: Streams in the Desert'

will be held at 2.00 pm on

Friday 7th March

in Corrie Church.

Preacher: Rev Vince Jennings.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran

Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza,

Pirnmill and Shiskine

Independent but working

together

Minister:

Rev Angus Adamson,

Parish assistant:

Mrs Jean Hunter

Worship will be conducted in

the above churches at the

following times to which

all are invited.

Sunday 2nd March

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 Pirnmill

Churches, 10.15am

Morning Worship at Lochranza.

Shiskine Church, 12noon,

Morning Worship

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellow-

ship to share"

Sunday 2nd March

Kilmory 10am

Lamlash 11.30 am

Both Churches:

Mrs Liz Clarke

All welcome, including fami-

lies; children's area

Scottish Charity SC015072

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(Charity Number: SC014005)

Sunday 2nd March

Worship will be conducted

by the minister, Rev Elizabeth

Watson, at 10.30am.

Tea and coffee will be served in

the transept after the service.

All most welcome.

There will be a service in

Cooriedoon at 2.30pm to which

all friends are warmly invited

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday morning masses 11am

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)

Sunday 2nd March

Morning Service 11am

Trust Housing Lounge

Glen Estate, Brodick

Evening Service 6.30 pm

5 Glen Road, Brodick

Wednesday 5th March

Prayer Meeting 7pm

5 Glen Road, Brodick

All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Shiskine 11am (Church on road

between Blackwaterfoot and

Machrie)

Brodick 7pm (Church behind

post office)

Rev Charles Douglas

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

WALLACE - Peacefully at home, Fernbank, High Askomil, Campbeltown, on February 26, 2014, Margaret May Murchie, in her 77th year, dearly beloved wife of Robert A Wallace, much loved mother of Lesley, Susan and David, mother-in-law of Tim, Rob and Linda and a loving and much loved grandma of Clare, Andrew and Findlay. Service in the Lorne and Lowland Parish Church, Campbeltown, on Saturday, March 1, 2014 at 1.00pm, funeral thereafter to Kilkerran Cemetery. Friends please accept this intimation and invitation. Family flowers only please. A retreat collection will be held in the church, in aid of the Marie Curie Nurses, Community Nurses and the Macmillan Nurses, Kintyre Locality.

Karen is ladies pool champion

Karen Copperwheat was crowned ladies' pool champion on Sunday night for the sixth time after beating Lorna Logan in the final.

The mum of two from Lamlash was beaten by Cathy Hamilton last year but had won the competition for the five years before that.

On Sunday night she beat Lorna from Lochranza 3-1 in a thrilling final match at The Drift Inn. Lorna defeated Becky Lacey 2-1 in the semi-final and Karen beat last year's champion Cathy 2-1 after she had an unfortunate blackball incident.

On other pool news PT1934 still top the league after they beat Drift Inn A 6-4 last Thursday night.

The Kilmory team now have 17 points, three points ahead of the Drift Inn A which are in second place.

The results from Thursday 20 February were: PT1934 (G) 6 Drift Inn A 4, Drift Inn B (G) 5 Mac's Bar 5, Whiting Bay Golf Club 5 Kildonan 5 (G).

The draw for the quarter finals of the doubles competition has been completed. All



Just five women took part in the ladies pool competition on Sunday. From left to right, finalist Lorna Logan, Becky Lacey, Jenni Logan, Cathy Hamilton and eventual winner Karen Copperwheat.

games should be played on or by Sunday 2 March.

I McDonald/R Buchan (Drift) v B Lacey/S Pearce (Kildonan) at Whiting Bay Golf Club, J Simmons/J Ainsworth (WBay) v D Smith/E Picken (1934) at Kildonan, J McKechnie/K Turner (WBay) v D Nicholson/R Hughes (Kildonan) at the Drift, R Davidson/S Mc-

Master (1934) v K Jackson/B Hamilton (WBay) at Kildonan.

The quarter finals of the singles competition should be played on or by Sunday 9 March.

The draw is as follows; S Tattersfield (Drift) v I McDonald or R Adams (Drift) at the Drift, J Ainsworth (WBay) v S Pearce (Kildonan) or I

Murchie (Drift) at Mac's Bar, R Hughes (Kildonan) v D Smith (1934) at the Drift, A Picken (1934) v S McMaster (1934) at PT1934.

The champion of champions competition will take place at Whiting Bay Golf Club on Sunday 16 March at 2.30pm.

Finals day will be held at Kilmory Hall on Sunday 23 March from 3pm.



Whiting Bay Golf Club

The sweep on Sunday 23 February was cancelled because of the weather - and the fact that nobody was foolish enough to try playing!

Fixtures: Saturday 1 March, Mixed Fours at 11am. Sunday 2 March, final round of the AGA Winter League at Whiting Bay for the Duncan Shield. Shotgun start at 10am so players need to be there earlier to allow time to get in place. Brodick vs Machrie Bay will start at holes 1,2,3 and 4, Whiting Bay vs Corrie at holes 5,6,8 and 9, and Shiskine v Lamlash at holes 15, 16, 17 and 18.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday 19 February, the Norman Peach Salver. Winner W Kroner 37 pts. 1 W Kroner 77-14=63, 2 S Rainey 76-12=64.

Sunday 23 February, Bran-

MEMORIAM

BURKE - In loving memory of our dear mother who passed away on the 29th Feb 2012. Sadly missed Ian, Raymond and family.

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
BANNER

don, 16 played, CSS Reduction only. 1 I Sillars (13)67 acb, 2 R McCrae (6)67 acb, 3 G Hendry (6)67 acb. Scratch R McCrae 73 acb. First class Brandon R McCrae, second class Brandon I Sillars.

Fixtures: Sunday 2 March, Duncan Trophy at Whiting Bay. Sweep at Brodick, open draws 9am and 12noon. Sunday 9 March Brandon and Winter Cup, class draws at 9am and 12noon.

Shiskine Golf Club

Sunday 23 February, 12 Hole Medal and Winter Cup, 17 played. First class: 1 W Paton 44-3=41, 2 B Sherwood 48-6=42 BIH, 3 D K Henderson 46-4=42. Second class: 1 D Price 53-8=45, 2 W Robertson 57-11=46 BIH, 3 M Hesp 58-12=46. Scratch W Paton 44. Magic two B Sherwood.

Fixtures: Sunday 16 March, Ryder Cup (double header). Sunday 23 March, 18 Hole Medal, 1pm. Sunday 30 March, Shiskine Shoot Out, 2pm.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday 18 February Lochranza Hotel Cup. 1 Hamish Bannatyne 38, 2 David Price 37, 3 Alastair MacDonald 35. Scratch Hamish Bannatyne 67. Fixtures: Saturday 1 March Lochranza Hotel Cup tee off 12.00noon. Tuesday 4 March Winter Cup tee off 12noon.

Arran Ladies Golf Union

Fourteen ladies took part in the February Drumadoon, held at Whiting Bay. Although chilly, they did have some sunshine to accompany most of them

for part of the way. The anticipated rain when it finally came, wasn't quite as bad as everyone thought and most got round without getting too wet. A welcoming hot winter vegetable soup awaited their return and was much appreciated - thanks John and Jamie!. Considering the amount of rain the island has had the course was in good condition and thanks go to Stuart and Donald.

As for play, there were many great scores, which was fantastic to see given the limited play many have had this winter. 1 Mary Jo Todd (also Shiskine) net 57 (32), 2 and Scratch Kema Genda (Shiskine) with a 67 (12).

Fixtures: Drumadoon, Shiskine 10.30am Saturday 1 March.

Arran Golfers Association

The final round of matches of the Winter League/Duncan Trophy 2013, 2014 will be played at Whiting Bay tomorrow (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.

Lamlash Golf Club

Sunday 23 February, Winter Stableford, CSS 64 (36pts to stableford). 1 Adam Burke 36pts, 2 Ian Bremner 35pts BIH over Alan Smith. Best Scratch Ian Bremner 29pts to stableford. Twos from Andy Smith at the 5th, Lee Dutton at the 4th. Fixtures: Sunday 2 March, Winter at W/Bay Lamlash v Shiskine (team game), 9.30am for 10am start. Thursday 6 March, Yellow Medal 11am ballot.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday 22 February, Winter Cup. 1 A Smith 70-10=60, 2 A Burke 75-13=62 BIH, 3 P Bremner 67-5=62. Magic twos J McConnachie (2), A Smith. Scratch P Bremner 65, CSS 61. Monday 24 February, 1 A Smith 66-5=61, 2 I McMillan 71-9=62, 3 D Crawford 80-15=65. Scratch A Smith 66. Magic twos J McGovern (2), J McConnachie. Fixtures: Saturday 1 March, Winter Cup. Tee times at 8.30am and 12noon. Monday 3 March, tee-off at 12noon.

Arran Bridge Club

The results of the Adam Morrison Cup played on Thursday 20 February were as follows: 1 Janie Maclure and Anne McKelvie, 2 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton, 3 John and Mary Dick.

The aggregate points from Monday 24 February were: North/South 1 John Baraclough and Jean Barclay, 2 John and Mary Dick, 3 Linda Trickett and Jennifer Wales.

East/West 1 Maureen Cumming and Fiona Crawford, 2 Janie Maclure and Anne McKelvie, 3 Brenda Livingstone and Morag Gardner.

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Family pride as Liusaidh is picked for Scotland

An Arran rugby player has become one of the youngest women to be picked for a Scotland team.

At just 17 Liusaidh McMaster has been selected for the Scotland Under 20s team.

But it should come as no real surprise as she comes from a family rich in rugby tradition with her brothers, father and grandfather all heavily involved in the game.

Liusaidh is in first year at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, now part of Edinburgh University, and plays for the school team.

She trains five nights a week and was spotted by a talent scout and invited to join an Under 20s training camp which led to her being picked for the squad last weekend for a game against the Army.

Born and brought up on the island, Liusaidh's parents Fiona and Richard still live at Shannochie, in the south end.

She attended Kilmory Primary School, where because she was so bright she was moved up a year, and then excelled at Arran High School before taking up her chosen career path to qualify as a vet.

Liusaidh has been interested in rugby from an early age and played at both primary and early secondary school, although she gave it up later in her schooling career.

Two of her three brothers Niall, 26, and Stuart 19, are both regulars in the Isle of Arran team, which their dad Richard also played for.

Her proud grandfather, Bill McLaughlin, is vice president of the club and when he was younger played for West in Milngavie and Glasgow University before a knee injury cut his career short. He went on to coach youngsters in Glasgow for many years and has maintained a lifelong



Proud granddad Bill McLaughlin beside a photograph of granddaughter Liusaidh. 20_b091u02

interest in game.

'Papa Bill', as he is affectionately known, has just turned 81.

He said: 'I am just so proud of Liusaidh. She is not the sort of girl to wait around for something to happen. If

she wants something she will go out and get it and if that involves training four times a week then she will give it her all. I hope it may be the start of a great career, but of course her vet studies come first,' he added.



Liusaidh in her Scotland strip greets a young fan at the training camp.

Healthy body stimulates a healthy mind as 10K training continues

There's now eight weeks to go until the Arran 10K race and if you have been following The Arran Banner's training plan your body should be adjusting to your new career as a jogger.

The benefits of regular exercise, its effects on weight loss, and the progression from fat to toned muscles are well known.

What is less well documented, is the spiritually uplifting feeling of well-being which is frequently evidenced after exercise.

This persuasive 'high' can be attributed to chemicals

called endorphins which exercise releases into the blood stream.

However they work, the consequent reductions in stress and boost to one's self-esteem are undeniably benefits to exercise.

It also seems easier to adjust to a better diet when the body is becoming fitter.

As your body adapts to a more active lifestyle, you will find your body starting to crave a healthier diet to support its growing needs.

Some people prefer to run indoors on a treadmill. Advantages are lack of weather

dependency and better shock absorption than tarmac.

The main disadvantage for most is the boredom which can be overcome with headphones or TV.

Before the race it is essential to try some outside running or at least set the treadmill on a slight incline to test the body.

Any queries call Tommy on 302246, or to see how others are progressing check them out on Twitter #Arran10K.

WEEK 4:

Day 1: Increase your runtime to three x 10-minute

sessions with two minutes recovery walking for an active break in between.

If you are a beginner runner then this is going to be something under 5mph. Repeat this for days three and five.

Remember, and this applies right through the training schedule up to the races, your rest days in between training are very important.

These allow your body to physically adjust and repair itself, so preventing injury.

Cross training on the rest day is good, but do not run two days in a row and remember to stretch every day.



The Arran Banner's circulation is independently audited by the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC Ltd) - www.abc.org.uk. The total average weekly net circulation for the 52 issues between 5th January 2013 and 28th December 2013 for combined print and digital editions was 3,180.

The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

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



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