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Arran's Weekly Newspaper **SATURDAY, 28 February 2015** No 2002 60p

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# Ready for a big adventure



An artists impression of the lookout deck which will have views over Brodick.

**REPORT**  
by **HUGH BOAG**  
[editor@arranbanner.co.uk](mailto:editor@arranbanner.co.uk)

Arran is to get a major new tourist attraction.

Final plans have been approved for an adventure park on the island which will be one of the biggest in Scotland.

Proposals for the family fun park, to be built in the grounds of Brodick Castle, have now cleared the final hurdles.

Tenders will now be sought for the construction of the country park with work likely to start in the autumn.

It is hoped to have the park completed and ready for opening by Easter 2016.

As first revealed in The Banner last October it should prove a major new tourist attraction for the island.

To be called The Wild Arran Adventure Park it will feature treetop walkways, bridges, chutes and lookout towers, all designed in wood to blend in with the natural surroundings. It will be built on a site of nearly two hectares around the current play area and will include an educational countryside centre and a cafe.

The National Trust for Scotland has now received full planning permission to create the adventure park from North Ayrshire Council.

The proposal has also been approved by the Brodick Country Park Joint Committee.

The project has been created by The Curious Adventure Play Company which has designed several adventure parks across the country including the multi award-winning BeWILDerwood Adventure Park in Norfolk.

Designers say the park will create an engaging and informative play space that has been specifically designed to be in keeping with and reflect the surroundings as well as educating visitors.

Extensive studies into the local wildlife and habitat have already been carried out to ensure that the adventure park is ecologically sound, including studies into red squirrels, birds and bats.

All construction works will have to take place outwith the bird breeding season from April to July to minimise the disturbance to breeding birds within the area.

Brodick Castle property manager David Cameron said: 'We are delighted the project has been passed and approved. We will now go forward with the procurement process and would hope work can start in October or November.'

\*For a first glimpse at how the park will look see pages 10 and 11.

## Certas acts in petrol price row

The sole petrol supplier to Arran is to meet local politicians following the recent row over sky high pump prices on the island.

The Banner can reveal that bosses from Certas Energy are to come to the island for a meeting - but not for another two months.

The energy giant based in Warrington, Cheshire showed that it had been closely following the recent debate in the pages in a statement to The Banner this week. It said: 'Certas Energy notes recent comments regarding the issue of petrol pricing on Arran. Whilst we recognise the contributions of others to this debate, we feel the most productive way forward is to discuss this with local political representatives, which we have arranged to do.'

The Banner reported that Arran could have the highest prices of petrol in Britain when the price was £1.36 for a litre of unleaded petrol at the island's five garages. That had dropped earlier this week to 129.9 pence a litre.

Certas earlier said that the reason for the price was that the petrol had been delivered to the island last October just as prices began to fall.

Cunninghame North MSP Kenneth Gibson confirmed he was due to meet with company representatives in April.



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# Teenagers join Conservative executive

With 10 weeks to go to the general election, the local Conservative Party is gearing up for the contest.

Local members held the annual meeting of the North Ayrshire and Arran Conservative and Unionist Association in West Kilbride last week and also a team of members attended the Scottish Conservative Party conference in Edinburgh on Friday 20 February.

During the AGM, an expanded executive council was elected with former councillor, Richard Wilkinson, once again elected as chairman.

In recognition of the in-

volvement of young people in the recent referendum, two young men aged 16 and 17 joined the executive.

The well attended meeting, including several delegates from Arran, heard from two local parliamentary candidates – Jamie Greene for North Ayrshire and Arran and Marc Hope for Central Ayrshire.

Mr Greene was also one of the speakers at the Scottish Conservative Party conference in the Edinburgh where, during a speech on Scotland's future, he referred to North Ayrshire as a great constituency with much to offer.



Party members who attended the Conservative AGM.

## Parties choose their election candidates

Two parties have this week named their candidates to contest the North Ayrshire and Arran seat in the general election in May.

UKIP have chosen Sharon McGonigal to take up the fight of the party led by Nigel Farage in the constituency.

It is the second time the party has contested the seat and it will be hoping to better the 382 votes they got in 2005.

Meanwhile, former Irvine East councillor Ruby Kirkwood will be contesting the seat for the Liberal Democrats.

Ms Kirkwood stood as a councillor for five years until 2012 and was the first Lib Dem elected to the council. She joined the party in 2004 and comes from a background in customer service and the care sector.



# Two horse race expected in fight for ferry routes

The Scottish Government has launched the controversial tendering process for the next Clyde and Hebrides Ferry Services (CHFS) contract, which it is feared could lead to the privatisation of the routes.

Up to £1bn of funding is being made available to support the enhancement and development of the lifeline services, including the two Arran ferry services, according to the government. This fund-

ing, they say, will also ensure the continued application of Road Equivalent Tariff to CHFS routes, bringing significantly reduced fares and helping to support the tourist industry on the islands.

The next contract will run from 1 October 2016 for a duration of up to eight years.

However, the move has been criticised both by Labour and the trade unions warning the privatisation of Caledonian MacBrayne's services threat-

ens to have a huge impact on many fragile communities.

The RMT union has already attacked the whole exercise as 'unnecessary, expensive, disruptive and pro-privatisation.'

Although opinion is divided as to whether tendering is the only way to satisfy European state aids regulations, the Scottish Government like the Labour/Lib Dem Scottish Executive before them, insist it is required. It is widely ex-

pected that the private sector giant Serco will be the only challenger to CalMac for the routes given that they are to be tendered in one bundle leaving no apparent room for cherry picking the routes with the greatest potential, such as the main Ardrossan to Brodick route.

The controversial multi-national company, which specialises in managing outsourced government contracts here and abroad already

won the £243 million six-year Northern Isles contract in 2012 providing services to Orkney and Shetland.

Announcing the contract tender, transport and islands minister Derek Mackay said: 'We are looking to award a contract that runs for a period up to eight years. This will make it more attractive to potential bidders by giving the operator more opportunity to deliver service improvements and efficiencies over the course of the contract.'

'I also remain clear that there will be no unbundling of services, and reiterate that the tender will be taken forward as a single contract. We are now focused on ensuring a fair and open competition that leads to getting the very best deal for all of the communities of the Clyde and Hebrides.'

North Ayrshire Council has welcomed the news saying

it will 'safeguard' the Arran routes.

Council leader Willie Gibson said: 'The tendering process will ensure the most competitive bid will be selected and hopefully this will have the knock-on effect of encouraging even more travellers to use this vital ferry service. I'm hopeful a modern purpose-built ferry will also create a reliable service with fewer cancellations.'

But North Ayrshire and Arran MP Katy Clark has voiced her opposition to the move.

She said 'The Scottish Government's decision to re-tender CHFS raises the very real possibility of services to and from Arran and Cumbrae being privatised next year. The STUC and CalMac trade unions have convincingly highlighted that there is no need for the Scottish Government to press ahead with this expensive and disruptive process but sadly Scottish Ministers have refused to listen.'

Serco are said to be 'currently evaluating the opportunity'.

Martin Dorchester, managing director of CalMac Ferries Ltd, said: 'We are not complacent and recognise that, with the support of our existing customers and stakeholders, we will have to fight hard to secure this contract.'

Got a story for The Banner? Call 01770 302142

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# Fun run bigger and better

## Entry now open for June Gate to Gate event

Runners are you ready for the Brodick Castle Gate to Gate 5km fun run which will be back bigger and better this year.

The event will take place on Saturday 20 June with a 12.30pm start.

The aim of organisers RunArran, which is again hosting the event in partnership with Brodick Castle, is to build on the success of last year's inaugural event and attract many more recreational runners to participate.

And it has been given a big boost after the event was accepted as part of the Jogscotland Challenge Series.

As a result JogScotty, the official Jogscotland mascot, will be in attendance but we hope that last year's Cyril the Squirrel will make an appearance too.

Last year a total of 79 runners took part from as far afield as the US, Wales and Northumberland, and included many from Glasgow and Ayrshire.

The route takes runners from



RunArran members are put through their paces ahead of last year's race. 20\_b09gate01

the visitor centre to the Corrie Road gate and back past the castle to the exit gate with an uphill return to the finish line at the visitor centre.

All the running is within the

castle grounds and well away from traffic.

Billy Mitchell head of jogscotland said: 'I am delighted that jogscotland has the opportunity to work with

RunArran and the NTS and look forward to encouraging our members to visit Arran to take part. Gate to Gate is part of a national series of events selected to challenge

our members and to give them something to focus on when attending their walking, jogging or running sessions. It's great to have such a super venue as Brodick on our list.'

Although runners have to be 17 years of age or older, the event is intended as a family fun day and there will be children's games and activities.

The Gate to Gate run will be one of jogscotland's 2015 Challenge Series, a total of ten fun, friendly events across Scotland guaranteed to be welcoming and achievable for first-timers, as well as offering an enjoyable event for more experienced runners.

Three of the other events are being held in Glasgow, with others in Pitlochry, Inverness and Edinburgh.

Registration is now open and the entry fee is £12. Anyone who would like more details about the race should contact Laura and Marion at RunArran or David Cameron property manager at Brodick Castle about the overall event.

### Shiskine auction

Shiskine Hall is planning to hold its annual fundraising auction on Saturday 21 March at 2pm.

The hall will be open on Friday afternoon/evening and Saturday morning to accept donated items.

Uplifts may be available in the Shiskine Valley in the week running up to the event.

See the forthcoming advertisement in The Banner for details and in meantime start that spring clean to see what you can find.



## A free mini film festival in Corrie

### Corrie Film Club

Spend a day in the dark celebrating film in Corrie and Sannox Village Hall today (Saturday) and it is all completely free!

The day begins at 10.30am with coffee and you are invited to come along and dip in and out from whatever you fancy - and all of it if you want to - from the varied programme beginning at 11am with four interesting Scottish shorts: Let's Go Swimming (19 mins) about a young woman from Glasgow who is fed up with the city; Polphail (10 mins), a local

interest documentary about an abandoned oil village in Argyll in the 1980s; Cailleach (13 mins) set in Harris with lovely Harris shots about an old woman who keeps sheep and Special People (6 mins) a tongue in cheek, amusing film about a family developing super powers.

This is followed at 12noon by an interesting documentary The Sea Harvesters about Scottish fishing in the 1930s. A lunch of soup, bread

and cheese will be provided free of charge around 1pm and then look forward to an interesting afternoon beginning at 1.30pm with Double Indemnity, the oscar winning film noir with Fred McMurray and Barbara Stanwyck followed at 3.15pm by On the Waterfront, Marlon Brando's iconic film about an ex prize fighter standing up to his corrupt bosses.

Taking a break for tea and cake, we will continue with

a charming comedy from Sweden at 5.30pm We are the Best before supper of filled baked potatoes and salad at around 7pm.

Our final film is an exciting and well made sci-fi with Tom Cruise Live, Die, Repeat which will kick off at 8pm.

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# Scallop population thriving in Lamlash marine reserve

Scallops are thriving in Lamlash Bay thanks to the No Take Zone set up by the Community of Arran Seabed Trust (COAST).

Scientists have discovered a much higher amount of commercially-important, juvenile scallops in the bay over a period of three years.

The size and reproductive capacity of adult scallops was also found to be much higher by the researchers from the University of York.

The No Take Zone was created in 2008, following a decade-long campaign by COAST, and remains Scotland's first and only community-led protected marine reserve.

The new study, published in the journal Marine Biology, reports on monitoring surveys conducted inside and outside the marine reserve by scientists in the environment



**Howard Wood of COAST is delighted.**

department at York from 2010 to 2013.

Over the course of this new study, the abundance of juvenile scallops was consistently higher within the reserve than outside.

These scallops were strongly associated with seaweeds and other marine life thriving on the seabed within the protected area.

Adult scallops showed benefits too. In particular, the size

and reproductive capacity of scallops was much higher inside the reserve by the end of the study.

The resultant high level of breeding within the reserve is likely to be seeding the surrounding fishing grounds.

Lead author of the study, Dr Leigh Howarth, who conducted the research as part of his PhD in the environment department at York, said: 'We found strong evidence that protecting Lamlash Bay from fishing has allowed seaweeds, hydroids and other organisms on the seafloor to recover.

'These animals act as a magnet for settling juvenile scallops which seek out these habitats for shelter, and to mature to adulthood.

'Our study shows that protecting some areas from fishing activity can benefit both conservation and fisheries.'



**Scallops are thriving in Lamlash Bay.**

The results of the study come as fisheries for king and queen scallops have become some of the most important in the UK, generating more than £60 million first sale every year.

Fisheries for scallops have grown dramatically over the

past decade, but scientists have raised concerns over the damage to the seabed caused by the dredges and trawls normally used to catch them.

Chairman of COAST, Howard Wood, said: 'I am delighted to see these positive results emerge from the protection of

Lamlash Bay.

'COAST now trusts that this evidence will be used to inform future government fisheries and marine environmental policy, as was promised by the now cabinet secretary for rural affairs and environment, when the reserve was being set up.'

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## Funding secured for cycle path route

Funding of more than £300,000 has been secured for the a new cycle path on Arran.

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) earmarked the money for the route when it approved its capital programme and budget for the next financial year last week.

The cash is a share of more than £1.7 million of investment for North Ayrshire Council for nine projects in the area - including the new cycle and multi-user route.

A total of £160,000 has been secured in 2015/16 and £150,000 in 2016/17 by SPT although this has still to be finally ratified.

A proportion of the route will also be constructed using the £700,000 allocated to the A841 Brodick to Lochranza Ferry Link upgrade in 2015/16.

Councillor John Bruce,

North Ayrshire's representative on the SPT committee, said: 'We are delighted that SPT has joined the council in recognising the upgrades that could made to our local transport network.

'This investment of £1.7m is significant and will help us to make real and lasting improvements to local transportation routes benefiting those who live, work and visit North Ayrshire.'

Last month, members of the Brodick Country Park Joint Committee approved plans for the creation of the path.

The new route, which will pass through the grounds of Brodick Country Park and form part of the National Cycle Network Route 73, is designed to give cyclists and walkers an alternative to using the busy A814.

The planned path has been

hit by a number of delays since it was first mooted, including the phytophthora outbreak in the castle grounds.

## Volunteers sought for art show

Brodick Castle's popular winter art exhibition will be back this year.

Castle bosses have confirmed that the annual celebration of local artists will be staged from 4 to 8 November 2015.

The exhibition was forced to be cancelled last year due to the considerable amount of work which was being carried out both inside and outside the castle over the winter months.

But property manager David Cameron said: 'It was always our intention that the exhibition would be re-launched so that we can build on the past successes of the show and again showcase the vast talent that the island has to offer.'

If anyone is interested in volunteering to assist, prior to, and during the event, please contact David Cameron at davidcameron@nts.org.uk or telephone 302202.

An open meeting is to be held in the castle cafe at 2pm on Wednesday 11 March and all those who are interested are welcome to attend.



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# TV auctioneer heads to Arran to help raise village hall funds

Bargain Hunt's Natasha Raskin and a top team of auctioneers from McTear's are heading to Arran next month in the search for a host of hidden treasures.

Members of the public with a piece of art, jewellery, unusual bottle of whisky or any other interesting items that they would like valued are being encouraged to bring the pieces along to the valuation event at the Lochranza Village Hall on Saturday 14 March.

For a small donation, the McTear's specialists will cast their expert eyes over each item, with all funds raised going towards the upkeep of the village hall.

With a wealth of experience gained valuing and cataloguing traditional and Scottish contemporary art at McTear's, and auction skills honed on TV's Bargain Hunt and Antiques Road Trip, pictures specialist Natasha Raskin is perfectly placed to value any paintings that may turn up on the 14th.

Commenting on the event, Natasha said: 'On previous valuation trips across Scotland, the team has uncovered everything from valuable

## 'Find out if that painting is an Old Master or an old monster'

paintings and jewellery to rare bottles of single malt, and I have no doubt our trip to Arran will be just as exciting.'

Joining Natasha in Lochranza will be Asian works of art specialist, Magda Ketterer. Chinese, Japanese, Middle Eastern and Indian works of art will all be on Magda's radar so anyone with a vase, sculpture or any other Asian antiquity should pop along for a chat and hopefully a surprise valuation.

'Who knows what you may find at the back of that cupboard or hidden away in the loft,' said Magda. 'At the valuation event we will be able to tell you if that old painting in the living room is an Old Master or potentially an old monster. Who knows, that old monster might just give you a pleasant surprise on the day.'

If whisky's your thing then look no further than Dominic

Hughes. Dominic has auctioned some of the world's most prestigious single malts and can tell at a glance if that dusty old bottle contains some rare amber nectar.

Dominic commented: 'We have seen prices for rare whiskies rocket over the past few years as collectors look to the spirit as a good investment opportunity. So before you crack open that old bottle of Macallan or Highland Park, you may want to nip along and see what it's worth first.'

Last but by no means least in the McTear's line-up is managing director, Brian Clements. As a specialist in paintings, works of art, furniture, jewellery and general antiquities - with years of experience leading the team at McTear's - Brian is perfectly placed to cast a very experienced eye over any tricky valuations that may materialise during the day.

'I am sure there are some very interesting items out there and I have a sneaking suspicion there will be a few surprises on the day,' said Brian. 'But regardless of the quality of the antiques, everyone bringing in an item for valuation should be happy that every donation is going to a good cause.'

If you have items too large or numerous to bring along, arrangements can be made for a home visit. To arrange this, or for more details on the event, contact Magda Ketterer on 0141 810 2880 or magda@mctears.co.uk.

The Arran valuation event will take place from 12noon to 5pm in Lochranza Village Hall on Saturday 14 March.



Natasha Raskin who has appeared on Bargain Hunt.



Magda Ketterer with an item from the McTear's Asian Art auction.

In aid of Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall

## Valuation Event

Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall  
Saturday 14 March, 12 noon until 5pm



Experts from McTear's Auctioneers will be on the Island of Arran on **Saturday 14 March**. A team of specialists, including Natasha Raskin of BBC's Bargain Hunt and Antiques Roadtrip, will be on hand to give valuation advice on antiques, whisky, jewellery and fine art. In return for a small donation to the Village Hall, you will receive an expert opinion and refreshments.

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AUCTIONEERS

Home visits are also available to those unable to attend the event, or if your items are too numerous. To make a home appointment please contact Magda Ketterer of McTear's on **0141 810 2880** or email [magda@mctears.co.uk](mailto:magda@mctears.co.uk)

# The mystery of 'Arranman'

A man of mystery appeared on Arran this week.

'Arranman' as he has been dubbed has appeared on a rock formation and as can be seen from the photograph he has very pronounced features.

The reader, who took the pictures, said: 'I wondered if this was just an illusion or indeed a genuine mystery.'

'He lives on one of the

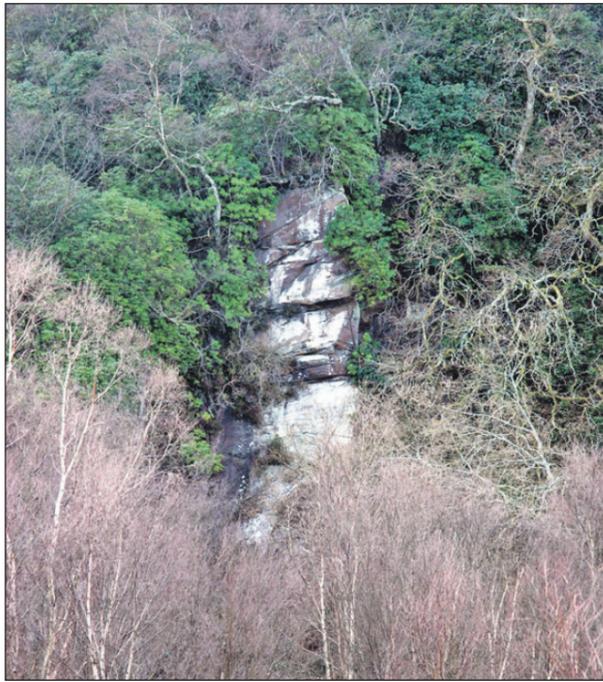
raised beaches and is only seen in the winter.

'I would be interested if anybody knows anything about him?'

And that's where readers can help.

'Share your sightings of 'Arranman' and help solve the mystery?'

The Banner will print details of his location when they come in.



A close up view appears to show a head and shoulders.

# Parkinson's support group is here to help

The Arran Parkinson's Support Group helps anyone affected by the life limiting condition.

The support group was started more than two years ago with help and advice from Parkinson's UK and is non profitmaking.

Funds raised by group activities and donations go into research.

Organisers said: 'A warm invitation to join the group is extended to anyone with the condition, not forgetting partners and carers.'

'The group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 2pm till 4pm in Lamlash fire station. It is very relaxed and informal. Come along and have a brew and some fabulous home baking.'

'There are usually guest speakers covering a variety of topics. Help with transport can easily be arranged.'

Anyone interested should contact Les MacLeod on 700599 or Donald McNiven on 700313.



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# Major shake-up means 'rural' will be dropped by women's institute

'The Rural', so long a mainstay of island life, is to undergo a major makeover as it faces the challenges of 21st century life.

Dropped from the name of the Scottish Women's Rural Institutes (SWRI) is the word rural.

The organisation will in future be known as the Scottish

Women's Institutes.

Under new plans aiming to show the organisation is for all there will be drive to attract a new generation of members.

The new SWI will introduce a pilot project adopting new-style flexible meetings at different times of the day and in different venues to fit in with

the lifestyles of prospective new members.

Meetings taking place in informal settings like coffee shops in the daytime or straight after work will be trialled.

It is hoped this will help the organisation become accessible to more women who work, have family commitments and busy lifestyles.

The aims of the SWI will remain as education and training in home skills, family welfare, citizenship and friendship it will promote the preservation and development of Scotland's traditions, rural heritage and culture.

However, there will be less formal minute taking and members will no longer be required to take on formal roles, with new institutes communicating by blogs and social media.

These pilots will run along-

side the network of traditional meetings held on Arran and all over Scotland by members since the organisation began in 1917.

A new logo has been de-

signed to replace the Luckenbooth logo first introduced in 1918 and the motto 'For Home and Country' will be replaced by the strapline 'Women Together.'

A new website is under construction and will make finding out how to join a local institute easier through a simple post-code search, and online payment option for the joining fee will also be introduced,

with a launch planned for next month.

Membership has fallen from 30,000 in the 1980s to under 18,500 today and it is seen as crucial that changes

decline similar to that which we have experienced in recent years.

'Our organisation may simply cease to exist.'

I am excited that we are pioneering new ways of reaching out to different generations of Scottish women.

While we retain our structure of traditional meetings which are so valued by many of our current members.'

She added: 'We celebrated our centenary in 2017 and we hope to reach this important milestone with an increased membership and a choice of meeting structures for institutes which will be enjoyed by members old and new.'

For more details of Arran institute, or advice on how to set up a group, visit www.srwi.org or go to its Facebook pages at https://www.facebook.com/ScottishWomensRuralInstitutes

*"We are the guardians of our organisation and it's our duty to leave a legacy for Scottish women of the future."*

SWI chairwoman Christine Hutton

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Some of the Save the Children Arran branch committee with three founder members pictured in the centre, left to right, Maureen Oakes, Anne Hollingworth and Millie Maule.

## Thirty years of fundraising, and still going strong

The Arran branch of Save the Children Fund is almost 30 years old and still going strong thanks to the commitment and foresight of its founders.

On Monday 16 February several members of the committee gathered to meet Millie Maule, Anne Hollingworth and Maureen Oakes, who were the founder members of the Arran branch in 1986.

They heard that it was at the instigation of Lady Jean Fforde that Mrs Maule set up the first committee. Their first fund raising event was expected to be a one off, but due to its success, it was only the beginning of

many more to come. Branch member Jean Robertson said: 'It was interesting to hear of their experiences and ideas for fundraising, which has included three very successful cookery books.'

Meanwhile, the annual Save the Children cheese, wine and buffet supper was held on Wednesday 11 February in Brodick golf clubhouse.

The amount raised, including raffles, was £1,054. The open raffle raised £260 and the whisky raffle raised £142.

The large buffet was enjoyed by all present and the organisers would like to thank all those who contributed and supported the event.



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## Wullie and Wallace clean up again as dog trial season ends

The final nursery sheepdog trial of the season was held at Birchburn by kind permission of the Currie family.

Nine dogs and their handlers competed. The judge was Willie McConnell and Margie Currie acted as clerk and timekeeper for the trial.

The winner once again was Wullie Stevenson with his dog Wallace on 87pts. 2nd was Matthew McNish with Pip on 79pts, 3rd Niall McMaster with Liz on 78pts and 4th Geoff Brookes with Shona II on 61pts.

Overall winner in the sweepstake, including older dogs, 1st Wullie Stevenson with Wallace 87pts, 2nd Geoff Brookes with 'old' Shona 86, 3rd Matthew McNish with Pip 79pts.

With the winter league now



Big winner Wullie Stevenson with Wallace.  
20\_b09dog01

over the trophies for the series were presented as follows: Alba Club (overall) Wullie Stevenson with Wallace. Hirsell Trophy (nursery dogs only) Wullie Stevenson with Wallace. J C Picken Cup

(dogs under 18 months) Matthew McNish with Pip. Cnoc Shield (outrun and lift) 1st equal Wullie Stevenson with Wallace and Glen.

The chairman Geoff Brookes thanked all who had assisted in the running of the six winter trials and especially those who had made the venues and the sheep available.

The Arran and Kintyre team of five dogs and their handlers will travel to Pinwherry in South Ayrshire next weekend to compete in the area final. They will be among the 45 competitors taking part from nine areas in Scotland.

The team will be led by John Casey with Ben and Kyle, Mike McNally with Jack, both from Kintyre, along with Wullie Stevenson with Wallace and Matthew

McNish with Pip from Arran. The reserve is Sandra MaCorkindale with Jim from Kintyre.

## Market report from Stirling

United Auctions in Stirling had forward 1,382 store cattle and cast cows, 6,326 store and prime sheep last week.

Lim x blks: £1,330 - 237p Craigview, £1,020 - 271p Auchenhew, £930 - 271p Kilpatrick, £920 - 247p Bellevue. Char x Blks: £890 - 251p Auchenhew. AA x blks: £990 - 226p Cloughlands, £890 - 270p Bellevue, £680 - 258p - Glenkiln. B & w blks: £935 - 181p - Cloughlands.

Lim x hfrs: £930 - 245p Auchenhew, £860 - 302p Kilpatrick. Char x hfrs: £920 - 265p Auchenhew, AA x

hfrs: £830 - 205p Hillhead, £600 - 226p Glenkiln, Saler blks: £460 - 272p. Lenamhor.

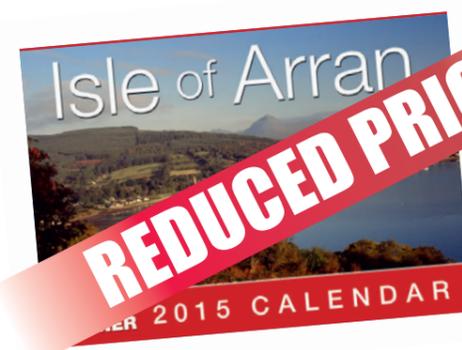
AA x cast cows: £785 - 126p Hawthorn, £705 - 169p Hillhead. B & w cast cows: £695 - 89p Cloughlands. Char cast bull: £1270 - 105p Hawthorn.

Tex x hogs: £91 Moor, £78 Craigdhu, £71.50 Kilpatrick, £64 - Springfield. Mule hogs: £64 Balgowan, £58.50 Springfield. BF: £73.50 Druhnaghina, £60 Springfield, £58.50 Balgowan. Easycare: £62.50 Ceither Gaoithe.

Tex x ewes: £111.50 Moor, £91.50 Springfield, £89.50 Craigdhu, £81.50 Kilpatrick. Suf x ewes: £122.50 Craigraineach. Mule ewes: £90.50 Craigraineach, £84.50 Craigdhu and Springfield. Blueface ewes: £94.50 Craigraineach, Chev ewes: £90 Moor, £79.50 Brandon. Char x ewes: £86.50 Sheddock, BF ewes: £66.50 Craigraineach, £64.50 Balgowan and Sheddock, £57.50 Springfield and Kilpatrick.

Cast rams: £118.50 Ceither Gaoithe, £72.50 Drumnaehinier.

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# THE ARRAN BANNER

## Brodict's big adventure could be the answer to wet days

To build year round tourism, which is Arran's aim, there must be attractions to bring visitors to the island.

The ambitious adventure park at Brodict Castle is just what the island needs.

Arran has many, many attractions but on wet and windy day there really isn't much for kids to do.

Of course, the Auchrannie and the Kinloch have their pool and leisure facilities, but not everyone is staying at these hotels.

There are also the off-road and on-water tourist facilities that many provide.

As well the good facilities that the island tennis courts and putting greens and, it has to be said rather tired looking, crazy golf are - there are only so many times you can hit a ball into a hole - a bit like golf!

Even the much maligned bouncy castle at the former McLaren Hotel has gone.

But the adventure park at the castle is in an entirely different league.

The images in The Banner this week only give a glimpse of what the park will look like.

It will stretch over two hectares and will be both educational and fun.

What's more, it is completely environmentally friendly and there is no doubt it will be an instant hit with parents and kids alike.

It also adds another dimension to the already hugely popular castle and country park.

If you can add a bit of family fun, to history and nature the National Trust for Scotland should be on to a winner.

It is an attraction that will appeal to all ages and if marketed right should be able to bring visitors over for the day just to go - and who will hopefully find other reasons to come back.

And the castle is not alone.

It is good to see that Balmichael, on the other side of the island - with its new Arran Family Fun Park including an ice rink, 15-metre drop pole, zip wires, high ropes and go-karts - will be open by Easter.

Let's hope the new attractions are a benefit to islanders and visitors alike.

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

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### your letters

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## Letters to the Editor



### Sensible idea

Sir,  
Since the editorial of 14 February, you have spurred debate about the issue of timber extraction.

I'm tempted out of letter retirement to say that I think that the proposal for a slipway etc. north of Machrie is an eminently sensible idea.

Felled timber has to reach the roads at some points to be shipped off the island so the shortest road distances make the most sense. Additionally avoiding the most populated villages, in terms of safety, underlines this case.

The slipway in itself is very unobtrusive. I visited the Sannox slipway before forming my opinion and, although not crucial to the case, I was struck by the pleasant pine aroma around the stacked timber. In the long term the addition of a slipway like this on the west coast could be a decided advantage.

It seemed odd to me that there should be objection from other businesses in Machrie. Normally increased activity in an area indicates the potential for more, not less, trade. Agriculture and forestry are indigenous rural industries on Arran and there is no evidence, anecdotal or otherwise, that their presence deters tourists or acts adversely upon the tourism industry.

There is always fear of anything new on Arran and debate and consultation are valuable, however, as long as I can remember (and that's nearly as long as Liz Robertson but not quite!) every medium or major development proposal from the distillery in the north to the fish farm in the south met with concerted and emotive objection. Fortunately, in nearly every case, this dissipated completely with time and the success of businesses.

The Machrie extraction point is not for ever. I hope that, as in other cases, common sense will eventually win.

Yours,  
**Margie Currie**  
Eastland  
Shiskine

### Totally irresponsible

Sir,  
I read with interest the recent letter regarding dogs being exercised minus their leads.

I am a dog lover, having had dogs throughout my life. Currently I have two dogs - a 13-year-old and a six-year-old.

Personally, I find it quite un-nerving when I go out with my dogs because so many owners insist on exercising their pets off the lead.

My younger dog (a border collie) has always been quite a nervous animal and is easily 'spooked'. If a dog comes bounding up to us he immediately goes on the defensive thus taking away the pleasure of our walk. He is NOT an aggressive animal, however, if another animal/animals bounce towards him or around him he becomes very nervous.

My older dog is now very arthritic and certainly cannot cope with boisterous animals jumping on and around him. I do not take my animals out without them wearing their leads as unpredictable situations can occur.

If any animal out in public is not on a lead, the owner has no definite control. No matter how obedient or well trained an animal is, no owner can be 100 per cent certain a mishap will not occur.

I fully understand the desire to allow their animal to run free, however where other animals, children, the general public and indeed traffic are around or nearby, it is an irresponsible decision to behalf of the owner to unclip the animal's lead.

Using an extending lead gives the animal ample freedom and also ensures their safety and responsibility.

Only last weekend I was with my grandchildren on Lamlash Green. A couple walking their small dog on the lead were anxious as a 'pack' of boisterous dogs kept surrounding and prod-

ding the small dog. The lady commented to me she wished the owner of the other dogs would put them on their leads as his dog was being 'stressed'.

The owner of the dog 'pack' was much further back along the green, oblivious to the upset his dogs were causing. I must add here the 'pack' of dogs was much younger and was only being playful, however, the couple and their wee dog were anxious and upset at the stress involved.

A secure, closed in area is the only safe place to allow animals free rein to run. You may well know your dog and its temperament, however, you do not know the temperament and circumstances of the animals or situations you may encounter on your journey.

Arran is a beautiful island and something for everyone of every age to enjoy. Please think of others before you let your animal loose as your actions could spoil someone else's enjoyment without you realising.

It is totally irresponsible and selfish to do otherwise.

Yours,  
**Linda Clark**

### End of the line

Sir,  
The end of the line for the railway carriage featured on *The Banner's* letter page over the past month was rather a sad one.

Shortly after the recent photographs were taken someone set fire to the old historic Glasgow subway coach. How sad that it survived all these years only to be destroyed on Arran.

The purpose of the coach I understand was to form part of a small transport museum by Bernie Mitchell-Luker but just imagine it being converted into an American diner or the tearoom at the Arran museum?

Enthusiasts world wide would have come just to sit in it. There were endless possibilities.

Perhaps someone knows the full story.

Yours,  
**Clive Mark**  
Milton of Campsie and Corrie

### We need answers?

Sir,  
I noted your article about the possible port of refuge for the ferry becoming Troon in last week's *Banner*.

If this is the only alternative to Gourock, then this has to be a good idea, but not if, as Kenneth Gibson says, it is no better than Ardrossan. No point in going there, especially if buses need to be laid on to carry passengers to the train station.

CalMac says that Gourock can be used only in certain wind conditions and then only at certain times owing to the demands of the Bute ferries, which anyway I thought used Wemyss Bay. Fairlie, the obvious sensible alternative, is dismissed by Mr Gibson with a derisory wave of the hand - why? Admittedly it would require a new linkspan (£3 million) and probably some dredging and harbour works, but that would be much less than 'hundreds of millions'.

What concerns me in all this interminable discussion is the attitude of Mr Gibson. He said last year that effective improvements to Ardrossan were 'not on the agenda', presumably because it would cost 'hundreds of millions'.

That is the same as admitting that it is not fit for purpose, which was Ken Thornburn's view when chairman of the ferry committee. So what does he suggest as an alternative? Or is he pinning his hopes for improvement upon the new vessel and on that alone?

Is there something political going on here in which the SNP, Clydeport, CMAL and CalMac are involved but which they are not telling us about?

Yours,  
**Ian Ferguson**  
High Corrie

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# Cold water islands come together as delegates heat up tourism debate

A major conference bringing together tourism delegates from cold water islands across Europe will be held on Arran next month.

It will be the first time they have got together under the umbrella Cold Water Island Tourism, a new initiative to promote, celebrate and help develop tourism on small cold water island destinations around the world.

They want to challenge the domination of warm water islands in the Pacific the Mediterranean or the Caribbean as the obvious places for visitors to find their island experience.

Already delegates from Scandinavia, Holland and Spain, as well as England, Wales and the Isle of Man have signed up with more coming on board each day.

It will be held over three days from Tuesday 17 March to Thursday 19 March with all conference events at the Community Theatre and smaller venues at Arran High School.

It is the brainchild of Taste of Arran's managing director Alastair Dobson, Lars Olsen of Denmark's Videncenter for Kystturisme and Terry Stevens of international tourism consultants Stevens and Associates. It is being held with the support of VisitArran and North Ayrshire Council.

It was developed following the visit of a group of delegates from the Danish island of Fanoe to Arran a year ago and a larger Danish delegation in September.

Chief executive Sheila

## First European conference held on Arran

Gilmore said it was the biggest conference ever staged by VisitArran on the island.

And she said she hoped it would encourage other conference business to the island.

She said: 'It is the first conference we have had in this scale and it is really exciting, although not without its challenges.'

'We want to make it a real Arran experience and a showcase for business tourism. I think in the past the lack of a conference venue and the price of ferry fares put people off.'

'But now we have an excellent conference facility with the Community Theatre and RET fares which should make a big difference.'

A small conference team has been set up to co-ordinate the conference and arrange accommodation for all the delegates, organisers and invited guests.

The event will have presentations and case studies from more than a dozen speakers from 10 countries and is aimed at policy makers, planners, tourism operators and marketers as well as politicians.

One of the highlights will be a gala dinner on the

Wednesday which Sheila says will be a real showcase of what the island has to offer from its foods and crafts to its leisure and tourism opportunities.

Alastair Dobson, a director of VisitArran, sees this event as being the kick-start to putting cold water islands on the political agenda at the European level.

He said: 'The Isle of Arran is gearing up to welcome conference delegates from across Europe. We will be turning the whole island into the conference venue to show how innovative we can be and how we can adapt to meet the needs of a conference market.'

'Importantly, this first ever conference on this subject will allow us to showcase the very best of cold water island tourism.'

Joint organiser, Lars Olsen, set out the ambitions for this conference, when he said: 'We need to create networks of interest, we need to exchange information, ideas and knowledge and, most importantly, we need to raise awareness of the wonderful tourism opportunities that exist on these islands.'

The conference is sponsored by North Ayrshire Council, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, VisitArran and



Sheila Gilmore (left) in discussion with the conference team: Deborah Hendrie, Hannah Dobson, Lois Griffin and Poppy Haggarty. 20\_b09cold01

Caledonian MacBrayne

\*Any VisitArran partner about the conference should together with a wide range of businesses which wish to contact Sheila Gilmore and partners from Denmark and participate in the gala dinner the conference team at: Wales. or wish further information info@visitarran.co.uk



Sheila Gilmore and her team have a brainstorming session. 20\_b09cold02

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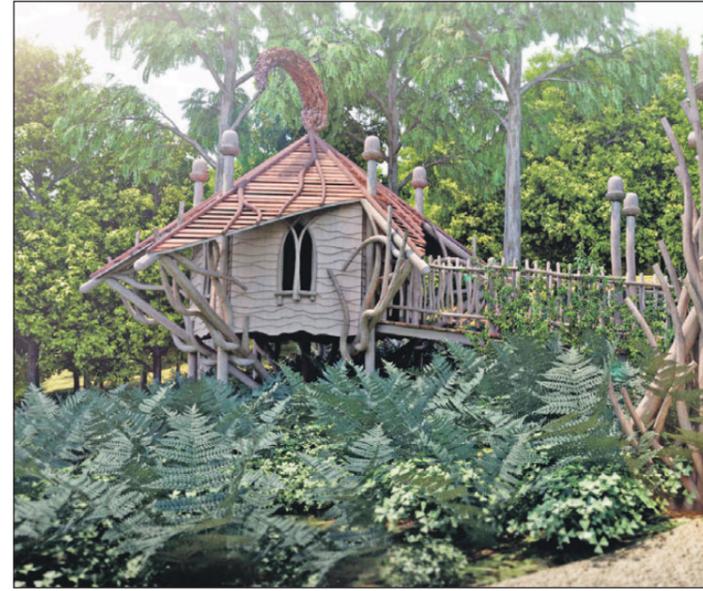
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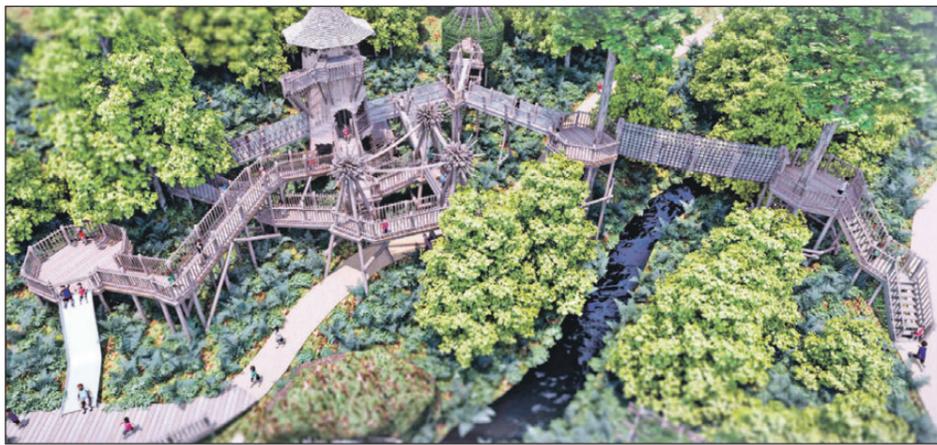




The toddler play area.



The Squirrel Den.

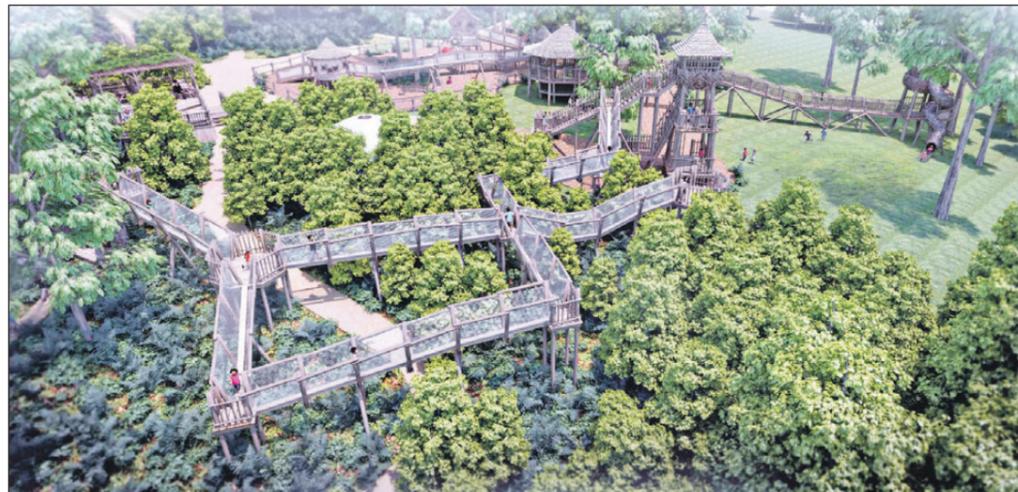
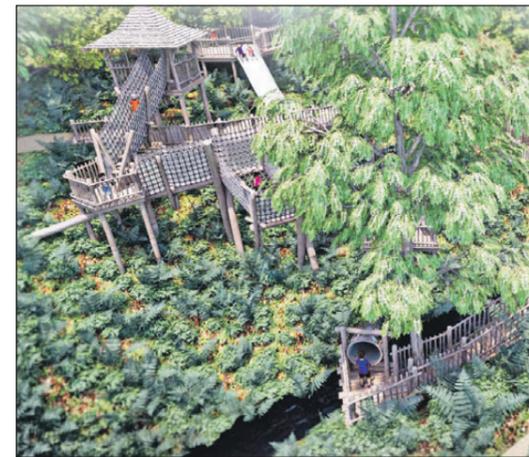


An overhead view of the squirrel play area.



The Eagle Play area is high in the trees.

A main tower will offer fantastic views of the site and down to Brodick Castle



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# Family fun on offer at wildlife-themed adventure park

## Bridges, treetop walkways and lookout towers to feature

The Wild Arran Adventure Park will be a major tourist attraction for the island providing a fun day out for all the family.

Computer generated images give a first glimpse of what the park at Brodick Castle and Country Park will look like when it is complete. It will feature treetop walkways, bridges, chutes and lookout towers, all designed in wood to blend in with the natural surroundings.

The project has been created by The Curious Adventure Play Company which has designed several adventure parks across the country including the multi award-winning BeWILDerwood Adventure Park in Norfolk.

The play space falls into distinct areas, including the 'big five' adventure play areas themed by native wildlife.

This will include a Squirrel Den: a high-level squirrel observation and education treehouse accessed via raised walkways, bridges and platforms from the Squirrel Play area. The area is a mix of walkways, jungle bridges, exits and ups and downs intended to replicate the scurrying, twisting and climbing of the indigenous squirrels. The equipment utilises the highest point of the site, with the tall squirrel tower as a centrepiece and the dramatic soaring walkway crossing the burn.

The Otter Play area drops down to focus on movement around and crossing the burn and includes a scramble net and an 'otter holt crawl tunnel'. The Red Deer Play is a hidden away, secretive play area with the only access via a magical doorway cut into the trunk of a hollow pine tree with access to the play equipment up a rope ladder within the hollowed trunk.

Play equipment comprises a covered platform with

a maze of walkways and low level bridges around a sprawling eucalyptus and two slides from a further hidden platform.

Possibly the most dramatic of the play zones is Eagle Play designed to give a sense of the freedom of the golden eagle. There will be a main central activity tower offering fantastic views not only of the site but down to Brodick Bay.

There will be extensive adventure play utilising the open nature of this part of the site for zipping, running, flying and climbing to height. Play equipment comprises the central activity tower, platforms and raised walkways, together with zip wires, a raised trampoline and recycled use of the other existing tube slide. The equipment will be positioned to minimise visual impact, particularly in relation to Brodick Castle and will include telescopes for viewing the 'big five' play equipment and spotting hidden sculptures.

The Eagle Play equipment will be designed in such a way that younger children can safely access appropriate sections but will be restricted to others, creating a multi-age/use development. There will also be a toddler play area exclusively for children under five years of age.

The development will directly create two full-time jobs that would be suited to young people on the island as well as indirect benefits from the construction and provision of the play equipment itself.

It is part of a wider set of projects from the National Trust on the Isle of Arran under its Signature Project master planning proposals to provide a sustainable business model and improve tourism to the island, in particular as a family orientated destination.



The shop and cafe.

Above: The Otter Play area crosses the burn.

Left: The Red Deer Play area is hidden away.

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## A time to celebrate Fairtrade

Fairtrade Fortnight is now upon us and will run through to 8 March.

The North Ayrshire group is going to use this period to build their links across the area with the hope of building on the use of Fairtrade and a wider understanding of what Fairtrade is and how it benefits local communities to help themselves rather than rely on foreign aid.

The local Fairtrade group on Arran will also be having its own events.

During Fairtrade Fortnight 2015 the North Ayrshire

Zone is getting in touch with all schools and churches, and faith groups to invite them to learn about Fairtrade and to work toward achieving Fairtrade status for their own schools and groups.

In July 2014 the North Ayrshire Fairtrade Zone Steering Group achieved Fairtrade Zone status for the area. Now the group is expected to continue promoting the growth of Fairtrade and this working with a wider network of groups will ensure the area retaining its status at renewal.

The Zone will also be celebrating its new Fairtrade Zone status by talking in a number of schools, information stalls and events during the fortnight.

Zone chairman Joe Broussard said: 'If your organisation has Fairtrade status or is working toward Fairtrade status or if you are planning any events for Fairtrade Fortnight 2015 or would like more information about promoting Fairtrade within your organisation please contact me at: joe@broussard.co.uk Tel: 01294 552284'

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## Auction success leads to more events this year

'If you have second chance items in the shop please call in, we may have money for you!'



After the great success of the auction last year, Eco Savvy will be holding two more auctions this year to try and move some of the larger unwanted items in the community shop.

The Whiting Bay shop also has a large quantity of second-hand clothes and the shop just isn't big enough to display it all.

The first auction will take place on Saturday 14 March in Whiting Bay Hall with an exciting addition of a pop up second chance clothes and accessories shop in the lesser hall.

Eco Savvy said: 'You can start gathering your unwanted large and small household items, those clothes and accessories you no longer wear but can't afford to give away to have them ready to bring along on Friday 13 March.'

Details will be available through the Banner

nearer the event.

Eco Savvy is excited to be working with other community groups and has great plans for 2015.

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The Arran riders with their trophies.



Murray Boal with his veterans prize.



Thomas, in the orange helmet at the back, waves to the crowd in Glasgow.



Tom Gilmore with sons, Thomas and Archie, and his veterans trophy.

# Arran riders pick up prizes in the Borders

More than 20 riders from Arran Motocross Club attended the Scottish Borders Youth Motocross Club annual presentation at Bilston Miners Club on Saturday 14 February.

Lewis Kennedy did amazingly well by finishing

first place overall in the Clubman, walking away with two shiny trophies for the cabinet.

Sam Rayner came in a very respectable fourth place overall in the Clubman.

Tom Gilmore Senior finished third and Murray Boal came fourth in the veterans. Thomas Gilmore came third overall in the 65s.

The club put on a brilliant evening and it was a huge success for the Arran boys, who were laden down with silverware for their journey back home.

Meanwhile, Thomas took part in round six of the Arenacross even in front of an 8,000-plus crowd in Glasgow on Saturday 7 February.

Thomas was called by invitation only at the last

minute on the Thursday before the race and the lad hadn't been on his bike for three months due to weather and his dad working away.

But he was very excited to be invited as the only Scottish rider in the 65s and although he never made the podium this time, he made the most of this amazing opportunity given that many riders don't get the chance in their lifetime.

He was greatly supported by many from the Arran motocross team, but his mum, dad, nana, and brothers were the proudest people there.

The Arran club will hold its AGM at the end of March and new members are always welcome. Details will be on the club's Facebook page, Arran Motocross Club.



Thomas Gilmore lifts his trophy.



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A robin, which was the only bird to be recorded in every garden this year. Photo Sue Archer



A woodpigeon, which made it into the top 10 for the first time. Photo Dennis Morrison

# The top ten garden birds of Arran

## Bird notes

by Jim Cassels

FEBRUARY



A photograph of a goldcrest, Europe's smallest bird, which was recorded for the first time during this annual survey. Photo Brian Couper

The last weekend in January was the weekend of the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch. A total of 23 households not only took part in this survey of garden birds but shared their results with me.

From the collation of these results, the top 10 birds in terms of the number of gardens in which they were seen is: robin, chaffinch,

blue tit, blackbird, great tit, dunnock, house sparrow, coal tit, collared dove and woodpigeon, the latter two birds replacing greenfinch and goldfinch in the top ten this year.

The previous four years the chaffinch had been recorded in the most gardens. This year it was just pipped by the robin which was recorded in all 23 gardens. Chaffinch was recorded in 22. Last year robin was recorded in only three quarters of the gardens.

This year there were 30 species of birds recorded, seven more than last year and more in line with the numbers recorded during the previous three years. Goldcrest and kestrel were recorded for the first time.

By far the largest total of birds seen was chaffinch with 227 but this is a big reduction

from the 448 recorded in 2014.

There were some other marked changes from last year including greenfinch down to 11 from 55, goldfinch down to 12 from 36, and coal tit down to 44 from 105. On the other hand collared dove increased from 15 to 39.

While the information is interesting, too much should not be read into these small samples from five years.

If you would like a copy of the complete collated data for Arran for the RSPB Big Garden Bird Watch, please get in touch.

This survey was over one weekend in the year. There is a garden bird watch that you can join that encourages people to record their garden

bird sightings throughout the year, the British Trust for Ornithology Garden BirdWatch (GBW). To find out more about the BTO Garden BirdWatch visit the website <http://www.bto.org/volunteer-surveys/gbw> Enjoy your birding.

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or email me at [james.cassels@virgin.net](mailto:james.cassels@virgin.net)

I look forward to hearing from you.

For more information on birding on Arran purchase the 'Arran Bird Atlas 2007-2012' as well as the 'Arran Bird Report 2013' and visit this website [www.arranbirding.co.uk](http://www.arranbirding.co.uk)

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## Friends learn the history of women fighting in war

The Friends of Brodick Castle were treated to a very informative and interesting talk by Valerie Reilly of Paisley Museum on Women at War.

Women have always followed the troops providing food, laundry, nursing and other services on an unofficial basis and it wasn't until the formation of the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps, Women's Royal Air Force and Women's Royal Naval Service in the early 20th century that this was formalised.

Occasionally, a woman would join the fighting troops disguised as a man, the

first known being Christian Cavanagh, who died in 1739 as a Chelsea Pensioner, having been outed as a woman and then accepted as such in the fighting line.

Dr James Barry, a long serving and valued medical man in the 19th century army, was found to be a woman on taking ill, but these examples are noted for their rarity.

During the Crimean War of course, Florence Nightingale and her nurses, all civilians, are familiar but who has heard of Mary Seacole, a Creole nurse who opened with her own money, a 'hotel' near the front line for officers which was really a hospital.

The advent of official acceptance of women in war zones led to a change in fashion and dress as practical garments were more useful than lots of frills and whalebone. Valerie illustrated her talk with many interesting photos showing all these changes and more.

The next meeting is on Wednesday 18 March when Jan MacGregor will be talking about Fairtrade.

There are still places on the 15 May trip to House for an Art Lover and on 29 September for the three-night holiday to Peebles.

Contact Ann Hollingworth on 840270 for more details.

THE ARRAN

BANNER

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Saturday 4 March, 1995



Fiona Tinto of Lamlash cuts the ribbon at the official opening of the new Co-op store in Brodick assisted by store manager Claire Hyndman and Co-op general manager Martin Weir. b09twe01

New supermarket opens

Arran's first purpose built supermarket opened its doors this week.

The Co-operative store has been under construction since June of last year on the site of the former Island Hotel.

Fiona Tinto of Lamlash cut the ribbon to officially open the store and 1,031 customers were counted though the doors on the first day.

It may be a new era but the Co-op, then known as the Scottish Co-operative Wholesale Society, has been trading on the island since 1938. It opened its first shop in Lamlash two months after the Duke of Montrose refused to sell a site in Brodick. It was to be 1956 before it opened a shop in Brodick.

Following the closure of Coopers in Brodick in 1986 the Co-op planned an expansion at Cora Lynn but did not get the go ahead for this. In 1990 the Island Hotel (previously St Denys), which had been standing empty for some time, was bought by Celia Urquhart who, following a fire, in 1993 sold it to the Co-op for its new store.



Manager Claire Hyndman and her staff outside the new store. b09twe02



Right: The way we were. The Island Hotel which was demolished to make way for the new Co-op store. b09twe03

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Advice on drugs

A doctor on the island has urged parents to talk to their children after she revealed that pupils at Arran High School are taking drugs.

Speaking at the community council this week Dr Liz Guthrie, who deals with pupils at the high school, said: 'A lot of fourth, fifth and sixth years have tried various drugs that are readily available on the island.'

'They're all very aware of the risks that they are taking,

but they enjoy the buzz of taking that risk.' She said there were many signs of drug use in teenagers, but all were almost indistinguishable from the rapid behavioural changes which take place during adolescence.

'The real answer is to know your children, to speak to them, to know who their friends are and discuss such matters without necessarily condemning,' Dr Guthrie said.

Housing opposition

The cost of the controversial Charters Towers project in Brodick has emerged as £1.5 million.

The development, which would see the building of 50 houses is opposed by Cunninghame North MP Brian Wilson who in a letter of objection to planning officials at Cunninghame District Council stated: 'The scale of the proposed development appears to me to be excessive

and inappropriate for a key village centre site.

'I also question whether the demand exists for this kind of accommodation on the scale envisaged or whether it would attract residents from outwith the island with potential implications for the council's other services.'

'It would be inappropriate in a rural village setting to have such a density of accommodation,' he added.

Machrie sea defence row

There has been a complaint about the removal of boulders from the beach at Machrie.

Community councillor Tom Campbell, who represents Pirmill, said he had seen lorry loads of boulders being taken away at a point where the first green at the Machrie Bay Golf Course often flooded.

Mr Campbell said: 'It seems ludicrous when we hear so much about environmental protection that anyone can take away part of the sea defences.'

Councillor Tom Knox said that if the landowner can prove that minerals have been extracted since before 1947 then removal may carry on, but otherwise the planning authority had the power to stop it.



Another week, another bottle breaking with the proceeds again going to the Arran Mountain Rescue Team. This week the venue was the Lochranza Hotel and the magnum whisky bottle contained £333.99. b09twe04

# What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

[www.arranbrewery.com](http://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

Scottish Country Dancing  
 Metafit  
 Lamlash Church Guild  
 Arran Community Land Initiative Meeting

All Stages, Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm  
 Arran High School, Lamlash 6pm  
 Trust housing, Lamlash, 2pm  
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7.45pm

## Saturday 28th February

Army Cadets  
 Over 21s Disco  
 Family Games  
 Fun in the pool  
 Live music  
 Brodick Market  
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game  
 Bingo  
 Energy showcase exhibition  
 Drama Festival

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  
 Brodick Hall, 11am - 3.30pm  
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 6.30pm

## Wednesday 4th March

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  
 Lamlash SWRI  
 Parkinson's support group

Ormidale Hotel 9.30pm  
 Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm  
 Lamlash Fire Station, 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  
 Lamlash fire station, 7.30pm  
 Lamlash fire station, 2 -4pm

## Sunday 1st March

Family Games  
 Fun in the pool  
 AA Meeting  
 Mackerel Lottery  
 Open Session - All musicians & Singers welcome  
 Spring Concert - The Arran Singers

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm  
 Brodick church Hall, 5pm-6.30pm  
 Kinloch Bar, 5pm  
 Fiddlers, Brodick 2.30pm  
 Arran High School, Lamlash, 2.30pm

## Thursday 5th March

Morning Fitness  
 General Knowledge Quiz  
 Folky, 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  
 Brodick Highland Games AGM

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  
 Ormidale Hotel, Brodick, 8pm

## Monday 2nd March

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  
 Kildonan Village Hall AGM

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  
 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  
 Village hall, Kildonan, 7.30pm

## Friday 6th March

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

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

## Tuesday 3rd March

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

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



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Tel: 01294 605040  
Email: clarkk@parliament.uk  
Web: www.katyclark.org.uk

## ARRAN MEDICAL GROUP

The island GP surgeries will be Closed for training from 1.00PM on Wednesday 4th March

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

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**111**

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## KILDONAN VILLAGE HALL

**Annual General Meeting**  
Village Hall 7.30 pm  
Monday 2 March 2015  
Everyone Welcome

## Brodick Highland Games

**AGM**  
Thursday 5th March  
Ormidale Hotel, 8pm

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- Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.
- The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.
- The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.
- Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.
- The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.
- Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
- Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
- A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

# Classifieds

## WANTED

Hi-fi separates, vintage or new  
Tel: Tom 07504739952

Barbell, weights and bench.  
Tel: 700229

## UNDER £30

New in box 2 Homebase Globe Wall Lights - £8 each, New in box 3 Eglo pendants (turquoise glass) - £10 each, New in box Homebase Square Downlights Glass/Chrome 10.5cm - 3 pack - £20, New in box Homebase Shower Downlight Chrome effect 8.7cm - £10, New in box Twyfords Inca taps - Single hole mixer - gold lustre - offers when seen Tel: 600238

MFI Black Ash bookcases 3 at £10 each Tel: 860222

Vito/Vario van, rear three passenger bench seat. Removable with seatbelts etc. From 2004 Vito, £30. Tel: 850516

Selection of skateboarding videos/dvds - offers Tel: 07792452814

Gas coal/log effect fire, needs corgi Reg fitting, 3 in 1 pram, Large brown leather sofa - seat worn Tel: 465022- all can be seen at Footprints and donation to footprints

Cot and good mattress £25, childs bike new tyres good condition £10, Oven & Hob PAT £30, Lovely NEW italian suede gents jacket 3 off £15 & 25, single white wardrobe £12, 2x white top boxes/cupboards, Old metal bread bin raised 'bread' lettering £15, dining table & chairs in mahogany - good condition £20, new fleeces £5 -£12, 6" x 6" white tiles 2 boxes £6, coving £4 Tel: footprints 465022

Modern light wood fire surround and white marble backing £30 can be sold separately Tel: 600982

## OVER £30

Twin fan 'Searle' chiller/freezer unit. Details and price Tel: 870307

Registration Plate K800 AUD, transfer fee included in sale. £450 o.n.o Tel: 600716 or Mob: 07733029306

Three piece suite, pink Draylon, good condition - offers Tel: 600372

2001 transit van mot until end of April - £400 ono Tel: 600167

## FREE TO UPLIFT

Garden Pond - Tel: 600280

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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion) St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
**Sunday, 1st March**  
 Holy Communion, 11.00 am. Mr John Roberts. Coffee after service. Bible discussion instead of Sermon.  
**Wednesday, 4th March**  
 Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.  
 ALL WELCOME

**ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER**

There will be Taizé worship on **Thursday, 5th March** at 7.30 pm, in St Molios' Church, Shiskine.  
 ALL WELCOME  
**World Day of Prayer**  
 This year's World Day of Prayer (The Bahamas) will be held at 2.00 pm on **Friday, 6th March** in Lochranza Church.

**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 1st March**

Lochranza and Pirmill Churches. 10.15am Morning Worship in Lochranza Shiskine Church, 12noon Morning Worship. Brodick Church, 10.30am Morning Worship Corrie Church, 11.30am Prayer Meeting, 12noon Morning Worship

There will also be a Service of Worship in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

**Friday 6th March**

2pm World Day of Prayer Service in Lochranza Church.

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"  
**Sunday 1st March**  
 Kilmory 10am  
 Lamlash 11.30 am  
 Rev Dr Ian Mcleod  
 All welcome, including families; children's area  
 Scottish Charity SC015072

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(continuing)  
**Sunday 1st March**  
 Morning Service, 11am  
 Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick  
 Evening Service 6-30pm  
 5 Glen Road, Brodick  
 Prayer Meeting  
**Wednesday 4th March**  
 7pm

**WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(Charity Number SC014005)  
**Sunday, 1st March 2015**  
 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 mass 11am

**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings  
**Sunday 1st March**  
 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

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

**Sunday 1st March**  
 Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)  
 Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)  
 Mr Alan Shearer

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS**

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

**DEATHS**

**HAMILTON** - Christina died peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital on Tuesday 24th February. Wife of the late Tony Hamilton, much loved mother of Roderick and the late Katie, mother-in-law of Nina, gran to David and Louise, great gran to Lauren, Scott, Rory and Ross. Funeral on Monday 2nd March, Lamlash Parish Church at 11.30am. No flowers please.

**KERR** - Elizabeth (Betty). Suddenly on Wednesday, 25th February 2015, Betty, aged 91 years, beloved wife of the late James and dear mother of John, mother-in-law and gran of the family. Funeral service in Corrie church on Tuesday, 3rd March at 11.30am and thereafter to Sannox cemetery to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please, retiring collection for ArCaS.

# Bethany in the wars as Arran ladies suffer second defeat

## Dumfries 3 Arran 1

Arran player Bethany Tetlow was in the wars when the ladies hockey team travelled to Dumfries at the weekend.

She was struck on the head with the ball during the game and had to be rushed by ambulance to Dumfries Royal Infirmary where she was treated for minor concussion.

A team of 13 ladies travelled to Dumfries for the game and came up against a hard, strong team.

Lorraine Hewie scored Arran's only goal within 15 minutes from a short cor-

ner. Dumfries were a fast, strong team and by half time Arran were 2-1 down, with Dumfries scoring a third in the second half.

**dame of the game**

Arran's goalie Ali Hollingworth was named a deserving dame of the game.

After Bethany was taken to hospital the wind was taken out of the Arran's sails and the team just wanted the game to be over.

Kirstie Barton stayed with her and kindly drove her home to Glasgow.

Captain Victoria McNi-



Arran on the attack during the game.



Dame of the game Ali Hollingworth.

## Arran Bridge Club results

The latest results from the Arran Bridge Club are as follows: Thursday 19 February, Adam Morrison Cup held in Brodick. 1 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton, 2 Margaret McGill and Jessmay Peacock, 3 John Dick and Morag Gardner.

Monday 23 February, Lamlash competition. N/S 1 Tricia Martin and David Campbell, 2 Pat Adamson and Linda Trickett, 3 Elizabeth McKellar and Margaret McGill. E/W 1 Janie Macclure and Anne McKelvie, 2 Janette McBride and John Baraclough, 3 Ellie and Mel Jones.

**MEMORIAM**

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

# BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS



**Shiskine Golf Club**

Sunday 22 February, 12 hole Medal and Winter Cup. 1 W Kelso 50-5=45, 2 D Logan 54-5=49, 3 B Sherwood 57-6=51. Scratch W Kelso 50.  
 Fixture: Thursday 5 March, 18 hole Medal(ladies).

**Brodick Golf Club**

Wednesday 18 February, five played and got round dry. 1 C O'Neill 81-18=63. There were no magic twos.  
 Sunday 22 February, the Winter Cup was again the victim of the appalling weather.

Fixtures: Sunday 1 March, AGA Duncan Trophy at Brodick. Sunday 8 March, Brandon and Winter Cup, open draws at 9am and 12noon. Sunday 15 March, Clochendichter (four ball better ball).

**Corrie Golf Club**

Saturday 21 February, medal round, non counter for handicap, seven played. 1 J McConnachie 345+36=70-5=65 (BIH), 2 A Smith 36+39=75-10=65. Best scratch J McConnachie 70. Magic two S Beardsley @ 7th.  
 Fixtures: Saturday 28

February, Winter Cup round 8.30am and 12.30pm. Sunday 1 March, Winter League at Brodick, final game. Monday 2 March, Monday Cup, 12noon.

**Machrie Bay Golf Club**

Tuesday 17 February, Lochranza Hotel Cup, stableford. 1 Phil Betley 42pts, 2 Campbell Laing 38pts, 3 Viv Parks 36pts.  
 Tuesday 24 February, Winter Cup held on a wild and windy day dodging the hailstones: 1 Campbell Laing 87-13 net 74, 2 Sally Brookes 101-26, net 75(BIH), 3 Brian Sherwood 82-7, net 75.

**Lamlash Golf Club**

Thursday 19 February, Yellow Medal. 1 Jim Young 64-13=51, 2 Alan Winship

73-12=61. Magic twos Jim Young @ 9th, Ian Bremner @ 17th.

Fixtures: Sunday 1 March, Winter League (team game) at Brodick, Lamlash v Machrie. Thursay 5 March, Yellow Medal, 11am draw.

**Arran Golfers Association**

Sunday 1 March, Winter League/Duncan Trophy 2014-2015, final round at Brodick Golf Club. 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 won't be an air horn so please tee off as close to 10am as possible providing fairway ahead is clear.



2014/15 Murray Cup winners at Shiskine Golf Club were Tom Mitchell and George McKechnie, beating David Jeffrey and Hamish Bannatyne in the final.

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# Sport

Arran's Weekly Newspaper

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# Arran inflict heavy defeat on runaway league leaders

Gregor Adamson on the charge for Arran.  
20\_b09rugby01



**Victory cuts lead to seven points**

**Arran 22 Strathaven 0**

On a day more fit for a hot drink and a blazing fire, with the wind chill guaranteeing it would be freezing on the field, Arran played some of their best rugby of the season so far.

The Arran forwards and backs played a storming game against Strathaven with the forwards commanding ruck and maul and, in a largely uneventful first

half distinguished mainly by the Arran tackling, Iain Keen kicked three penalties and the whistle went with Arran leading 9-0.

The wind was behind Arran in the second half and Lachie Jones at fly half was in imperious mood.

His kicking from hand was pinpoint accurate and bounced a couple of feet in-field before continuing into

touch. His use of the wind was precise and was gaining up to 50 yards at a time.

This ensured that the game was played where Arran wanted it – in the Strathaven half.

Thus encouraged, the forwards redoubled their efforts and the McMaster brothers contributed a try apiece, the first by Niall and the second by Stuart. Nei-

ther was converted but Iain Keen kicked another penalty goal to give the side a further 13-point haul.

Strathaven, who sit on 44 points at the top of the BT West Division 3 league to Arran's second placed 33 points, were just not on form.

**Penalties**

The home side had expected a close game, however, the visitors eschewed kicks at goal from four first-half penalties and kicked for position instead when it was clear that they were not going to be allowed to benefit

from this tactic.

As to Strathaven's general play, it may be that the side were short of some of their best players.

There were a number of injuries towards the end for the home side and Arran coach Chris Marriott gallantly took

the field for the last quarter.

All in all it was a great display from Arran and three well-earned points.

The next game is on Saturday 7 March when Millbrae from Ayr will be the opponents at Arran's Ormidale Park.

**NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING**



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