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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 8 MARCH 2014

No 1951 60p

# Disgrace!

Harry Davidson and  
community council  
vice chairman Bill  
Calderwood inspect  
the damaged bags  
on the beach.

20\_b10beach01

## REPORT

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

Arran residents have branded Brodick Beach a disgrace and have demanded North Ayrshire Council (NAC) come clean about a solution.

And unless they get cast iron assurances they will go it alone and repair it themselves.

Brodick Improvements Committee, which raised the money and built the seafront walkway, say they will do it again to save the once iconic Brodick Beach.

At Arran Community Council last week the association challenged NAC to find a long-term solution.

They believe there are three options:

- \* The construction of a seawall and walkway from the beach shop to the first bridge over the Cloy Burn;

- \* The installation of gabion cages or a rockfill embankment, with access ramps to the beach;

- \* Groins which will stop the sand from migrating from south to north.

Or a combination of all three.

Chairman Harry Davidson said: 'We feel NAC has procrastinated for four years with this problem and it cannot continue for much longer. BIC will continue to keep the situation regarding the beach in the forefront until we are satisfied.'

'We have waited patiently for a final solution to no avail. The beach has gone and we are quite ashamed. What is left is like a bomb site.'

'The damage to the beach and coup first took place on 28 February, 2010. The sandbags were installed at a cost of, we believe, £145,000 solely to protect the landfill site which had become exposed and was leaching dangerous material.'

Mr Davidson said a quarter of the geotextile sandbags, which were supposed to have a 50-year lifespan, were badly damaged and were not going to last much longer.

'If NAC are not going to do anything further to save the beach from the forces of nature, other than what has already been done, why have they not said so and said so four years ago?'

In their submission to the community council, which has given its backing, the BIC state: 'Fisherman's Walk is the most used footpath on the whole of the island. We foresee if there is no protection work done to this path then in a fairly short time it will disappear.'

'Fisherman's Walk and Brodick Beach are both important tourist attractions, easily reached from Brodick pier and arrivals from the ferry to Arran. The loss of the beach and the strong possibility that Fisherman's Walk will not be available will damage the tourist attraction and consequently the tourist industry of this island.'

Many blame the removal of thousands of tons of sand over the years from the beach



owned by Arran Estates and extracted by businessman Bob Haddow for today's troubles.

BIC has asked the council: 'Has NAC any redress over those had responsibility for damage to the beach, i.e. sand extraction?'

'Brodick Improvements Committee and the residents of Brodick and no doubt the rest of the island, expect Councillor [John] Bruce, as the island representative

on North Ayrshire Council, to take the lead role in the campaign to repair Brodick beach.'

Mr Davidson said that the improvements committee had raised £650,000 for the seafront walkway with funding.

'If the council are going to do nothing we will use our fundraising skills to build our own sea defences.'

Councillor John Bruce stated that the council had 'no

plans to reinstate the beach'.

A second consultant's report by AECOM group is being prepared for the council but has yet to be made public.

BIC secretary Bryce Walker asked why second report was necessary and what it was costing. Councillor Bruce insisted it would be no more than £1,000.

Councillor Bruce stated: 'I am sorry to disappoint you but I don't see that NAC are

going to pick up the tab for a force of nature.'

'It is a question of public funds. We wouldn't be able to put public funds into something we don't own.'

A spokesman for North Ayrshire Council said: 'We have received the list of issues from Brodick Improvement Committee. A meeting has been arranged with the group and we will respond fully once we have considered the points raised.'

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# New biomass plant for Auchrannie

The Auchrannie is going green with the installation of a new biomass boiler.

Planning permission has been approved for the construction of a new plant room for the 800kw boiler which will have a 10m flue.

The site of the plant room is located on the north side of the Spa Resort complex adjacent to the sports hall building. Bosses are installing the new boiler as the existing oil fired boiler does not have the capacity to service the proposed future expansion.

The first phase of the extension of 20 bedrooms/apartments is scheduled for completion in time for the summer season and phase two will be see a further 27 en suite bedrooms/apartments.

Following the successful

installation of the biomass boiler to service the country house hotel and leisure facility, bosses propose to install the new biomass to service the spa resort. The existing boiler would be used as a standby.

North Ayrshire Council planning department in approving the boiler stated: 'The proposals represent a further stage in the development of the Auchrannie Hotel complex with the proposed biomass boiler replacing an existing oil fired boiler in line with the applicant's policy of promoting green technologies to reduce the carbon footprint of their operation.'

Environmental health had no objection to the proposal after receiving information of emissions and the poten-

tial effects on local air quality and noise. Arran Community Council supported the application stating in their submission: 'Some reservations have been noted with regards to the proliferation of biomass schemes on the island. It is noted from the environmental data provided that the proposal is within the current recommended limits.'

The West of Scotland Archaeology Service said that while the area was of 'some archaeological sensitivity' it believed the plant to be around 80m from a roundhouse and souterrain originally discovered in 2001 and excavated further late last year. It was the organisation's view that the development was 'unlikely to raise a substantive archaeological issue'.



RNLi crew member Brian Donlin with the spaniel that was rescued from Lamlash bay.

## Arran RNLi rescues dog

Arran Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLi) had a rather unusual task on its hands last Saturday when it was called out to rescue the beloved dog of a couple who were visiting the island for the day.

The couple and their spaniel were walking along Shore Road in Lamlash when the dog went for a swim.

Unfortunately the dog went too far and despite his owner braving the icy waters to swim to the dog, he was unable to reach the spaniel. The owner returned to shore suffering from hypothermia and called

the Coastguard. The Arran RNLi crew of senior helm Crawford Duncan, Mairi Inglis, Carol Johnson and Brian Donlin were sent to try and retrieve the adored pet.

The aging dog was spotted within the moorings in Lamlash Bay and the crew were able to lift him out of the water and return him to the safety of the lifeboat station.

The owner was taken to Arran War Memorial Hospital where he was treated for hypothermia and the spaniel was taken to be checked by vet Malcolm Wheeler in Brodick.

## 'Big fish' fined £330

A drunk tourist warned police he was a 'big fish' when they arrested him at Ardrossan Ferry Terminal, a court has heard.

Samuel Sabell swore at officers and insisted his backpack was full of drugs when he was approached on the morning of January 24.

The unemployed 40-year-old had met up with a friend in the area the night before, intending to travel to Arran the following day. After a night of heavy drinking, he made his way to the ferry terminal and purchased tickets, but was refused travel because of his intoxicated state.

Although it was not yet 11am, Mr Sabell already had a bottle of beer in his hand, and was told to put it away.

After being denied travel to the island, he continued to hang around the terminal, and eventually the police were called. When police approached him he became abusive, and then told them he was carrying 20kg of heroin in his backpack. Police detained him and carried out a search, but there was nothing to be found. He continued to be abusive and warned the officers: 'You're making a big mistake. You don't know what you're dealing with. I'm a big fish.'

He was arrested and held until he sobered up. Mr Sabell, of Thornhill Road, Falkirk, appeared at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court last week. He pled guilty to behaving in a threatening or abusive manner and he was fined £330.

## Thousands of free ferry tickets to increase visitors to Arran

Thousands of free ferry tickets are being given away to encourage more people to visit Scotland's islands - including Arran.

The Year of Homecoming will see 8,000 tickets given away and there will be free trips to places such as Orkney

and Shetland. Visitors will also be able to visit Lewis and Harris, which were named the top islands in Europe by travel website TripAdvisor.

The ferry tickets will be given away through online ballots during March.

Scottish islands secured six

of the places in TripAdvisor's list of top 10 isles around Britain, with Lewis and Harris in first place and Orkney's main island, Mull, Skye, Arran and Islay included in the selection. The free ticket scheme is a partnership between VisitScotland, Caledonian Mac-

Brayne and Serco NorthLink Ferries. CalMac managing director Martin Dorchester said: 'We received a lot of positive feedback from participants from last year's Big April Adventures and are delighted to team up with VisitScotland again for this ini-

ative. Scotland's islands offer something for everyone and we look forward to welcoming visitors on board.'

Entries to the ticket giveaway can be made through the VisitScotland website with weekly ballots being made over the next three weeks.

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### St Molio's phonline finally to be connected

Residents at St Molio's Park in Lamlash are still waiting to have their telephone lines connected - almost four months after they moved in.

So far BT have failed to connect the houses which have a number of young children living in them as well as one man trying to run a painting and decorating business.

But there could be a light at the end of the tunnel as a spokesman for BT said that after experiencing long delays it hopes to have the work completed soon.

He said: 'Hundreds of metres of cabling is required to give service to the new properties.'

'We initially expected this to be completed by the end of November, but this was always very tentative because of the location. Our engineers are dependent on the ferry to Arran and this is often dependent on weather conditions.'

He added: 'However, we have experienced long delays with our contractors who were carrying out the work for us. We experienced a high level of work in the area. This knocked back all work including the provisional work for this new site.'

'Eventually, when work did progress, multiple blockages were found in the existing ducting and this took a long time to clear.'

'It was eventually cleared at the beginning of this month and we now have around 150 metres of cabling left to do and this is programmed to start and complete next week. This has been a lengthy and complex job and we'd like to apologise for the time it's taken.'



Iain Clarke, right, the Young Musician of the Year with his music teacher Mr Lambert.

# Iain is Young Musician of the Year

Iain Clarke from Arran High School has won the prestigious title of 'North Ayrshire Young Musician of the Year 2014'.

The event organised by North Ayrshire Council's Music Service and supported by the Rhona Reid Charitable Trust was held in the Irvine Burns Club on Thursday 27 February.

Iain performed two outstanding pieces on the piano from composers Frederic Chopin and Beethoven which led to him winning the title.

The runners up were William McLaughlan from Irvine Royal Academy, who is also winner of the 2014 'Traditional Musician of the year' and Hayley Northorpe from Auchenhavie Academy.

The winner and runners up were presented with specially commissioned trophies and

all the finalists received a gift voucher for Biggars Music.

Iain attends the Junior Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS) for piano, taught by Professor Heather Slade-Lipkin, and saxophone, taught by John Miller.

#### Final

The talented youngster from Torbeg recently won the Moray Piano Competition in Elgin and the Beethoven Pi-

ano Competition in RCS, for which he is attending the final of in London in March.

Also in March, Iain is playing Liszt's First Piano Concerto with the Junior RCS symphony orchestra.

He is a member of North Ayrshire Schools Concert Band, West of Scotland Symphony Orchestra, and the National Youth Orchestra of Scotland on clarinet.

## Three international babies welcomed into the world

Arran welcomed three new babies into the world on Monday morning - from different corners of the globe!

The babies were all born to former Brodick girls, now living abroad, although each of their parents still live on the island.

Julie Duncan, the daughter of Russell and Jan Duncan, had a baby boy in Bowling Green, Ohio in America on Monday morning.

Ronan Duncan Lalor is the fourth child for Julie and her husband Pete Lalor - a tenth grandchild for Russell and Jan.

Meanwhile, at the other side of the globe two other international Arran babies

were also welcomed into the world.

Ann Small, whose parents Ian and Moira are the neighbours of Julie's mum and dad in Glen Rosa, gave birth to a baby girl that same morning.

Ann lives in Wellington the capital of New Zealand with her partner Te-ngaru.

And in Invercargill hospital in the very south of New Zealand, Alex Grout the daughter of Lynn and Angus Raeburn, had a baby girl also on March 3.

Alex and her husband Rick have called their little girl Isabelle but so far the other two additions are still awaiting names.

### Arran livestock sales

United Auctions in Stirling had forward 1,548 store cattle and cast cows, also 6,316 store, prime and breeding sheep this week.

Cattle - Limousin cross bullocks: £1290 (251p/kg) Craigview, £1140 (228p/kg) Kilpatrick.

Charloais cross bullocks: £1010 (261p/kg) Auchenhew.

Limousin cross heifers: £1220 (228p/kg) Craigview, £930 (235p/kg) Kilpatrick.

Charloais cross heifers: £920 (245p/kg) Auchenhew.

Sheep - Texel cross hoggats: £90 Craigdhu.

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It is the story of William Blake (Johnny Depp) as he travels to the extreme western frontiers of America in the 19th Century.

Lost and badly wounded, Blake encounters an odd out-cast Native American, named Nobody who believes Blake to be William Blake the poet.

Unfortunate circumstances find Blake and Nobody hunted as outlaws as he is forced to kill in order to survive.

Thrown into a strange world that is cruel and chaotic, Blake finds himself losing his sense of self and spirals out of control.

See this interesting film on Sunday 8 March in Corrie and Sannox Hall at 8pm. All welcome.

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# Major funding boost will see big improvements for coastal walk

A bid is to be made to turn the Arran Coastal Way into the finest coastal walk in Scotland after funding of £170,000 was secured for the project.

The money will also fund the appointment of a full-time footpath team leader and a three-strong team, including trainees.

The Government cash was announced today (Friday) by UK Treasury minister Danny Alexander from the Coastal Communities Fund.

It will allow the Arran Access Trust to substantially improve the 100km (63-mile) long distance walk around the island coast, which takes an average of six days to complete.

**Big difference**

Chairman of the trust Malcolm Whitmore said: 'This will make a big difference and is something we have been after for a long time. We decent funding we can make things happen - path improvements, fault repairs, better signage and better promotion.

'The way is for the benefit of the local communities and their economies and the more walkers we can encourage to use it the better for everyone.

'With sensitive management and improved promotion the access trust believe the Arran Coastal Way can fulfil its true potential as Scotland's finest circular coastal trail and is eagerly looking forward to the



Walkers make their way to the Kings Caves near Blackwaterfoot on the Coastal Way.

start of the project in May,' said Mr Whitmore.

The trust has already identified some stretches of the route for improvement. They include a new path from Corriegills into Brodick, after approval by Arran Estates, and a new inland path at the Fairy Dell, between the Fallen Rocks and Lochranza, avoiding the tricky stretch over the boulders at the shore.

Also a new path at Bannan

Head above the Black Cave, which is presently impassable at high tide and improvements to a boggy stretch of the path between Lochranza and Catacol.

**Contributions**

Along with the major cash award, the trust has received further valuable contributions from North Ayrshire Council, Visit Arran (Arran Trust) and the Forestry Commission, which is providing an office

for the project in Brodick.

It was back in the 1990s that two local men, Hugh McKerrell and Dick Sim, had a dream. It was of a walk around the entire coastline of Arran, linking the villages and taking in the stunning scenery and brilliant wildlife to be seen along the way.

Both Hugh and Dick have since sadly died but their legacy lives on in the form of the Coastal Way.

**Council ready to 'bypass' committee to get answers**

A series of questions submitted by Arran Community Council to the Isle of Mull Ferry Committee have still not been answered.

At its meeting in January the ferry representative Jim Henderson was asked to give the chairman of the ferry committee Robert Waine a list of questions following the serious disruption to ferry services at the end of last year.

This followed complaints the community council had had from local businesses expressing their concerns and reports that Caledonian MacBrayne management rather than the Masters were contributing to the problems.

However, when the community council met last week Mr Henderson reported that he had received no reply from the chairman.

After discussion the council agreed to give the ferry committee a week to reply to the questions. If it does not respond the council will 'bypass' it and take the questions directly to Caledonian MacBrayne and Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL).

The council would also like to see the ferry committee taking an overview of the Ardrossan to Brodick service with Transport Scotland being brought in for project planning for the future of the Arran route.

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## Council headquarters to get £1.3m facelift

The headquarters of North Ayrshire Council in Irvine is to get a £1.3 million facelift. The initial modernisation work at Cunninghame House will involve redesigning the dated entrance area and upgrading the ground floor. Work will start next month after the lowest tender for the six-month project from Stevenson-based James Frew Ltd was accepted by the council cabinet this week. This will be followed by separate improvement schemes on the upper floors. The new-look entrance area will include an information desk to direct people to specific departments around the building. Also on the ground floor will be new council chambers, complete with a public viewing gallery and private interview rooms. The full programme of modernisation work, which was first announced in 2010, is estimated to cost £4.7million over the next three years.

This will free up parts of the council's property estate to be sold, or leased to other parties, as the rationalisation plan progresses.

## Metafit classes are suspended

Metafit classes have been suspended in Shiskine for the duration of the closure of the String Road. The road will close next Monday (17 March) for 12 weeks for urgent roadworks. As a result Marion McNicol has cancelled Monday night's metafit classes in Shiskine Hall while the works are ongoing. The metafit classes in Lamlash on Tuesday and Brodick and Thursday will also be off next week, but will resume as normal thereafter.

# Charity funds boost thanks to Arran High School pupils

The Arran Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA) received a welcome boost to its finances on Friday - a cheque for £3,000.

But this was no ordinary donation.

The charity was chosen after pupils at Arran High School gave an impassioned appeal on its behalf.

### Local charity

This was part of a Youth and Philanthropy Initiative (YPI) which saw nine separate teams of S2 pupils presenting the case for a local charity. These included Arran Mountain Rescue Team, Arran Junior Sailing Club, Arran Cancer Support, Hospital Supporters League, Arran Community and Voluntary Service and eventual winners the RDA.

A team of judges - Lynn Raynal of YPI, Sergeant Allen Dodds, parent council member and local dentist Bruce Jenkins, Brodie Pearcey of North Ayrshire Council and acting headteacher Sharon Gregg - then had to decide which charity was deserving



The winning team presented their chosen charity - Arran Riding for the Disabled Association - with a welcome cheque for £3,000. 20\_b10yipi01

of the £3,000 prize based on the best presentation.

Lynn Raynal who is based in Falkirk, said: 'This scheme is a chance for the youngsters not only to make a difference within their community but also to help engage with local charities and increase awareness.

'Sometimes more awareness about what a charity actually does can be more important in the long run than money

and it's great to see these Arran youngsters learning all about the charities on their doorstep.'

## Housing associations to learn from Arran

The steps being taken to tackle the lack of affordable housing on Arran will be showcased to a group from the Rural and Islands Housing Associations Forum (RIHAF) later this year.

The study tour on Thursday 19 June will be hosted by Isle of Arran Homes.

Delegates will have the opportunity to visit developments on the island on a tour organised by Isle of Arran Homes staff.

### Policy

It will be preceded by a RIHAF Away Day on the afternoon of Wednesday 18 June, with particular consideration being given to the development of a national housing policy.

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'Arran has housing issues that many other rural and island communities can relate to.

'It also has first class facilities for the hosting of study tours and conferences which is why it has attracted an increasing number in recent years.

'Such events are a boon to the island's economy.'



The judges met with Janice Heaney from RDA to learn more about the charity. 20\_b10yipi02

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# Make Clyde history with the Commonwealth flotilla

'I think this is a fantastic opportunity for sailing clubs and sailors within North Ayrshire'

North Ayrshire Council is encouraging all water and boating enthusiasts to take part in the Commonwealth Flotilla as part of this year's Glasgow games celebrations.

The event on 25-27 July is set to provide participants with an unforgettable way to journey into the centre of Glasgow, plus make Clyde history on their travels.

This once-in-a-lifetime opportunity hosted by the Royal Yachting Association Scotland (RYA) has space for 250 boats and on formation will present the largest flotilla in history to have sailed the Clyde.

## Lively reception

The event will start with a lively reception at James Watt Dock in Greenock on Friday 25 July.

Boats will embark on the journey up the Clyde on the morning of Saturday 26 July, just as the tide begins to flood.

Upon arrival the boats will be warmly welcomed by spectators and photographers keen to capture the moment the flotilla makes Clyde history.

Boats will berth at Pacific Quay, right in the heart of Glasgow and central to all of the action with many of the sporting venues located a

short walk from the marina.

Participants will stay overnight to make the most of the myriad of live events and activities happening across the city, such as 'BBC at the Quay' - an open air broadcast and entertainment centre that will run throughout the day and into the evening - situated on the banks of the berthing site.

Places are limited, and those interested in taking part are recommended to register early to guarantee their space.

Depute leader of the council, Councillor Alan Hill, said: 'I think this is a fantastic opportunity for sailing clubs and sailors within North Ayrshire to be part of Glasgow Commonwealth Games celebrations and I would encourage them all to sign up and take part in this historic flotilla event.'

At this stage, the event can only cater for boats which travel under power, however RYA Scotland is working to develop ways for other types of boats to take part.

To join in this unique event, register your boat by downloading the entry form from the RYA Scotland website [www.ryascotland.org.uk](http://www.ryascotland.org.uk) or email [flotilla@ryascotland.org.uk](mailto:flotilla@ryascotland.org.uk)

## Jan comes back to the island to wed

Jan Murrie, a founding director of Arran Provisions and Arran Aromatics, is returning to the island to get married in Whiting Bay.

She played a major role in the early development and progress of both businesses in a career spanning more than 20 years from 1981 till 2002. Jan now lives in Perth where she is the owner of a successful new business consultancy.

As her mother, Jacqui Murrie still lives in Dippin and Jan has happy memories of her years on the island there was no other choice but Arran for her wedding.

Jan is marrying Ian Shirley, a business entrepreneur at a ceremony at the Church of Scotland in Whiting Bay on 30 May.

About 60 guests from far and wide will be helping Jan and Ian celebrate.

Jan said: 'Arran has great memories for me; it's a wonderful place and we wanted to show its qualities to all our friends and relatives,



Jan Murrie returning to marry.

many of whom have never before visited the island. 'It's a very special day and it's one we intend to make memorable for everyone,' she added.

## Arran gets priority in new tourism drive

Arran is to receive a boost in a new tourism drive by North Ayrshire Council.

The island has been identified as one of the three priorities, along with golf and sailing, aimed at boosting visitor numbers to the area.

The council cabinet agreed this week that concentrating on the area's key strengths would allow the council to assess the scope for the longer term promotion of other resources.

The total number of visitors to North Ayrshire - and the income generated - is already

above the national average.

However, the figures could be improved by concentrating on specific sectors and taking advantage of the potential spin-off, according to a report presented to the council's cabinet.

The three-pronged initiative has been established following a review of the local tourism economy which concluded that the greatest number of visitors came to North Ayrshire for the many attractions of Arran, the beautiful sailing waters of the Firth of Clyde and its 21 golf courses.

## Scottish minister acts on island delivery charges

Enterprise minister Fergus Ewing MSP has asked major retailers to ensure customers in rural areas are not penalised on delivery charges.

Businesses have signed up for a code of practice which should end 'disproportionate' fees.

It also commits them to provide the widest possible delivery coverage.

The minister said he was contacting companies to remind them of the importance of the service they provide to less populated areas.

The agreement on delivery charges came from a working group involving the watchdog Consumer Futures and the Scottish government.

Representatives of industry, trading standards and consumer groups have signed up for it.

Mr Ewing said: 'Although the principles are voluntary we believe they will help to support businesses and reduce the number of customers who abandon purchases at the last minute because they find out the cost of delivery.'

'It is not acceptable to hear reports of customers in the Highlands and Islands experiencing excessive charges, being refused delivery and being misled by the term 'free' delivery. We would encourage retailers to take on board these guidelines.'

Trisha McAuley, the Scottish director of Consumer Futures, added: 'Many of the problems consumers face could be avoided if retailers adopt the principles in their business practices.'

'Consumers in Scotland should be able to take heart that there are industry agreed principles out there, but retailers now need to demonstrate their commitment to customers and say how they plan to roll-out improvements in delivery services.'

## CHELTENHAM FESTIVAL



Tuesday 11th March - Friday 14th March  
First race starts each day at 1.30pm

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- A 'champion tipster' competition each day with a bottle of bubbly up for grabs!
- A special 20% discount for bar meals will be available for all attending the event.
- Charity raffle at 5pm on Friday 14th

The Kinloch Hotel will not be acting as a bookmaker. Sponsorship has been received from Forth Wines, Heineken and Wallaces



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# Arran leads the way for creative partnerships

'Being short-listed for the Creative Places Award was a real honour. Being present at the award ceremony was even more so'

As the old saying goes 'every cloud has a silver lining'. And it is certainly apt for the residents of Arran who narrowly missed out on a prestigious arts and culture award, but have made great strides towards an effective, creative partnership with North Ayrshire Council.

The joint submission from the Arran community and North Ayrshire Council narrowly missed out on the top prize at the Creative Places awards last month.

Now islanders are looking beyond their disappointment and have vowed to carry on their efforts to further develop arts on Arran.

Councillor Alan Hill, cabinet member for community and culture, said: 'Although the Arran bid didn't win, there is a real sense of pride and optimism that through innovative partnerships we can create a model for delivering a wide range of com-

munity and cultural services. 'Of course everyone will be disappointed. However, there are many positives to take from our partnership.

'Knowing the passion and determination of the community, I am confident that the plans can still be a reality.'

The Arran bid sought to engage professional art experts to work with individuals and groups on the island; improving access to the arts for everyone in the community, develop promotion and nurture the island's brightest talents.

#### Above expectations

For Heather Gough of Arran Theatre and Arts Trust simply reaching the final was above expectations.

She said: 'Being short-listed for the Creative Places Award was a real honour. Being present at the award ceremony was even more so.'

'It was also incredibly humbling being part of a celebration of the wonderful creativ-

ity happening in Scotland.

'Arran is determined to continue to strive towards being an important part of that Scottish creative community.'

Councillor Hill added: 'We only have to look back on the Irvine Harbourside Festival in 2012.

'This event was still a great success despite the area not winning a Creative Places award.

'Of course, this was down to the hard work and dedication of the local community and demonstrates that, while additional funding is always welcome, the community is the driving force.

'Given the positives of working so closely with the Arran community, I am sure that this approach will be repeated and that our relationship will become a great example of a modern partnership where the council and the community work hand in hand as equals.'

## Brewery sees soft launch of new venture

The latest venture by the Arran Brewery company has taken a major step forward.

The Loch Earn Brewery, Hotel and Visitor Centre has opened its doors for a soft launch of its brewery tap in St Fillans, Perthshire.

Brewery bosses purchased the Former Drummond Hotel on the shores of Loch Earn in November with the express purpose of building a second brewery and visitor centre along the lines of their Arran Brewery.

Arran Blonde is one of Scotland's best selling ales and it is hoped that the beers from Loch Earn will be just as successful.

So far six staff are employed full-time on the site including two brewers who are specifying equipment for the new beer and cider making facility.

Jeremy Osborne, general manager of the hotel part of the project, said: 'The main aim was to test systems and we were very happy with the support we received from local residents. There are still a few teething problems to iron out, one of which was almost running out of beer.'

'We are selling mainly Arran beers until the Loch Earn Brewery comes on line but have a range of more than 40 bottled beers from around

20 other Scottish breweries. The principle lagers and wheat beers are from Hofbrau in Munich.'

The second bar on site, the Loch View, will be opening for testing early next month, with the coffee shop and restaurants following on later in March.

The hotel is expected to open towards the end of April in time for Easter. Subject to planning consents the Loch Earn Brewery will open in July 2014.

Bookings are now being taken for the season and Jeremy reports plenty of rooms still being available for the Ryder Cup period.



Owners Russell Lee and Mark Currie, centre, with new chef Ronna Park, left and Sheila Scott and Lauren Bell, right. 20\_10cst03

## Coast prepares for another busy summer season

With an exciting new chef; fresh, innovative menu; and a group of fabulously friendly staff, the team at Coast bistro in Whiting Bay are thrilled to be preparing for another summer season on Arran.

Owners Russell Lee and Mark Currie may have put the much-loved restaurant on the market but that doesn't mean they have lost their enthusiasm for the business.

Talking excitedly about their team which includes Sheila Scott and sisters Rebecca and Lauren Bell, they are keen to get the summer season underway.

For this season they have also recruited Ronna Park, a talented chef who brings a huge amount of experience with her.

Mark explained: 'Born and brought up on Arran, Ronna previously worked at Browns in George Square, Glasgow and then she headed up the team at Carluccio's in Aberdeen so she has a wealth of experience.'

'She has been used to doing 500-600 covers so this has been a big change for her but we're really excited about the new ideas she's bringing to our menu so that we have some really lovely dishes available this year.'

With its stunning views of the Clyde, Coast offers delicious breakfasts, lunches and dinners, plus coffees, teas and fabulous home baking, oh, and did we mention they are fully licensed!

'We're really excited about another season on Arran - our fifth!', said Russell. 'We are proud of our menu which incorporates lots of fresh, local produce and Ronna has created some great new dishes for us which sit well alongside all our old favourites and tasty cakes.'

Coast's menu is constantly evolving and changing, so why not check out what it has to offer at its website [www.coastarran.co.uk](http://www.coastarran.co.uk), or better still - in person!



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# THE ARRAN BANNER

## Botched beach is eroding tourism

Whilst compiling this year's Holiday Arran magazine, a publication produced each year by The Banner for the tourists visiting the island, it was with a heavy heart that any mention of Brodick beach was removed.

The decision was made to remove the beach from the guide to the best places to swim because it is in such a terrible condition. It's not pollution or water quality that is the problem, it is the erosion of sand and the botched job to repair it that mean it is out of commission.

Instead the magazine points visitors in the direction of Cladach beach at the other side of Brodick bay and to other much-loved beaches such as the Silver Sands at Kildonan and Blackwaterfoot.

The once glorious beach in the centre of Brodick with its gaggle of bathing huts is no more.

After years of attempts to stop the erosion of the sand, this week the Brodick Improvements Committee has branded the beach a disgrace and has demanded North Ayrshire Council come clean about what it is going to do about it. And the committee is right to be concerned.

Last summer, even on the most beautiful of sunny days the beach at Glencloy was empty.

The iconic white sands of Brodick beach are fast disappearing and the committee is right to be angry.

The damage to the beach which revealed rubbish from the old coup first took place on 28 February 2010.

Sandbags were installed at a cost of around £145,000 solely to protect the landfill site which had become exposed and was leaching dangerous material.

Nearly a quarter of the geotextile sandbags, which were supposed to have a 50-year lifespan, are now badly damaged and won't last much longer.

There is a real fear that Brodick beach will once again be deemed unacceptable to visitors this summer if something isn't done soon.

Councillor John Bruce stated that NAC will not 'foot the bill for the force of nature' but the sorry state of the beach is not a great advert to tourists coming here this summer.

If Brodick Improvements Committee does decide to go it alone and try to fix this problem then the island needs to support it.

Arran can longer offer those visiting for the day a beautiful beach within walking distance of the pier.

It may seem like just a little erosion but the loss of those beautiful sands is slowly chipping away at the lifeline of this island - daytrippers.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Come to Me and listen to My words; hear Me and you will have life.' (Isaiah 55:3)

### press policy

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

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

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

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

### your letters

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

## Letters to the Editor



### Representing islanders?

*Below is a letter sent to the Isle of Arran Ferry Committee on behalf of the Lochranza and Catacol Community Association.*

Dear Mr Waine,  
I have been asked to write to you following the recent meeting of our committee.

Hardly a single person in our community has not been affected by the numerous disruptions to our ferry service this winter.

As evidenced in letters to The Banner, the island as a whole is extremely dissatisfied, not just with the service provided, but also by CalMac's response to our legitimate questions. Clearly we feel the present situation is entirely unacceptable. It is interesting to note on its website that when our ferry is not running, many others in more exposed waters are continuing to operate.

We recognise that your committee is trying its best to resolve these issues and have over the years represented the islands' interest in these matters.

You are however a self-elected body and there remains a feeling on the island that the travelling public are under represented given that they make up the vast bulk of the ferry users.

Everyone acknowledges that the problem remains one of a suitable alternative or permanent winter port which must take precedence over any other development.

We would contend that even with the vague promise of new custom built boats, swell in Ardrossan harbour will continue to make safe berthing impossible.

The proposed new twin berths at Brodick, to the cynical among us, merely serve to provide a hiding place when Ardrossan is inaccessible to both proposed new boats.

What is now required is an island-wide concerted effort to resolve this situation which is so damaging to our community, tourism and business interests.

With the best will in the

world your organisation does not have the democratic power to force this issue.

As an island we need to do more and perhaps consider petitioning the Scottish government, which after all, subsidises the company to provide a service that is fit for purpose.

Who would lead such an initiative would need to be resolved, but we are sure the requisite number of signatures would rapidly be forthcoming.

We would welcome the ferry committee's opinion on these matters and on how best they might be taken forward before everyone forgets until next winter.

Yours,  
**Chris Traill**  
Chairman  
Lochranza and Catacol  
Community Association

### What went wrong?

Sir,  
It was 5.30am on Thursday 27 February - the time/date is significant.

After a couple of weeks of really grotty weather with very little disruption to the ferry's schedules I go online to see on Ship AIS that the ferry was berthed in Brodick, why?

So I go to CalMac's site and see that it was because of overnight winds in excess of 50mph.

Well yes, it was a little bit gusty as I took myself off to bed that evening so I ask again of our ferry operator, 'If the forecasted winds are so high why leave a sheltered harbour to tie up on an exposed berth?'. They did an unscheduled sailing to achieve this by the way.

Do ship and shore management think we've gone away because there've been no critical letters in The Banner for a couple of weeks?

As for the 'forecasted winds of 50mph' my next internet visit was to XCWeather, you really should try this one CalMac, where they do give a brief history of the weather over the last few hours, results are tabulated below.

Prestwick Airport  
0250 wind s by e 15mph

0420 wind sw 13mph  
0450 wind sw 10 10mph  
Currently wsw 10  
Forecast  
0600 w 20 gust31  
0900 w by s 18 gust29  
1200 w by s 20 gust 30  
Glasgow Airport  
0350 wind s by e 15mph  
0420 wind wsw 8mph  
0450 wind wsw 12mph  
Currently wsw 12  
Forecast,  
0600 wsw 14 gust 31  
0900 wsw 14 gust 29  
1200 wsw 16 gust 29

So who are they trying to kid, none of these winds have proved to be disruptive this last few weeks so why now, why disrupt our lives by delays to post and newspapers and other island businesses by delaying the delivery of supplies?

Delivery drivers work long hours, why make their hours even longer? Often a late sailing entails some of them having to spend the night on the island as they can't get round to catch the last boat.

Think also of the ferry crews; some live locally and look forward to a few hours at home overnight rather than stuck in their cabins 'abroad in some foreign port'. I know I did.

Or do they prefer the exotic night spots of Brodick over those of Ardrossan or Saltcoats.

Are we going to get some sort of response from CalMac management or are they just going to bury their heads in the sand as they've done over the last couple of months.

Yours,  
**John Lawson**  
Catacol

### Never ending journey

Sir,  
It is tempting to comment on recent ferry-related correspondence from people in Troon, Northern Ireland and elsewhere and others whose agendas are that they just don't like the proposed Brodick building.

I shall resist the temptation other than to say none of the correspondents move the argument on one single bit to ensure a better, more reliable

service for the island.

The Brodick terminal looks as if it is considered necessary and will be built. If it is not built the money will not be spent on food banks.

Of more importance to be resolved remains the other end of the journey, whether it is Ardrossan or occasionally Gourock and in my opinion these matters need to be given a far higher priority at next week's ferry committee meeting.

I am advised by CMAL that the contract for use of Ardrossan is between CalMac and the Ardrossan owners Clydeport and it is believed that the two parties last met as long ago as October 2013.

If that is the case the Ardrossan problem, the major impediment to a reliable service to Arran, will never be resolved.

As a matter of some urgency when will CalMac meet with Clydeport about Ardrossan to discuss all options and have them fully costed and is the contract being adhered to by Clydeport?

An unquantified and frequently quoted guesstimate of 'tens of millions of pounds' for repair will not do in this vital matter?

Equally important CMAL which will be at the ferry committee meeting on 10 March should be required to bring a report to the meeting laying out its plans to improve the facilities for berthing at Gourock.

If that is not an option then Gourock is not a viable port of refuge in the most problematic wind conditions that affect Ardrossan and thus the most common reason for disruption and cancellation.

Yours,  
**Neil Arthur**  
Broombrae  
Kilpatrick

### Phone solutions

Sir,  
Your article on phone coverage stated that justification for a new base station is generally related to a minimum number of premises in the projected coverage area.

It would appear that it does

Continued on Page 9

# Arran Deliveries

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**Continued from Page 8**  
not take account of any increase in mobile use when tourists and holidaymakers stay in Lamlash.

I wonder how Brodick met the threshold, considering Three, Tmobile, O2 and Vodafone all have local sites providing coverage in this area.

I suspect the potential location mentioned is the existing Airwave site (used by the emergency services), on the hill near the Lamlash to Whiting Bay road.

Since this site exists, would it be possible to consider an approach presently being considered for the island of Coll (200 islanders) where the taxpayer is paying for the new site infrastructure and the community trust, the annual running costs (around £2,000).

If more 'premises' are required then a new site on the Holy Isle could be considered, covering both Lamlash and Whiting Bay, however the cost to establish it probably could not be justified (although Coll is being funded).

Regarding 'achieving good value for money for the taxpayer', I note the Brodick ferry terminal project is about to start.

Yours,  
**Robin Gardner**  
Milton of Campsie

**Gatepost culprit sought**

Sir,  
On Wednesday 26 February, some time after 1 pm, our fairly substantial gatepost was demolished.

One assumes that it was attacked by a large vehicle reversing into our driveway, having reversed down the lane to Blairbeg so as to face the right way for joining the main road.

We were away on the mainland at the time, and the driver 'forgot' to leave a note describing what happened, and we would be very happy to hear from them.

Yours,  
**Ian Watt**  
Lamlash

**THE ARRAN BANNER . . . on holiday**



Walter and Chris Brown from Kildonan took some time off from supporting their nephew Andrew Young from Huntly who was competing in his second Olympics for GB in the cross-country skiing events to find out all the news from home. Andrew managed a very admirable 37th in the 15Km event which is the best performance ever in that discipline by a British athlete.

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

This week we have a rather special offering of 'Banner on Holiday'.

We've been sent three fantastic pictures from Arran folk who were at the Winter Olympics in Sochi.

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

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

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



Team GB curling skip David Murdoch, left, took some time off after inspiring his team to a silver medal at Sochi 2014 to find out what's been going on in Arran with team mate Michael Goodfellow, who regularly holidays in Lamlash.

Scott Davidson from Stirling is the cousin of Anne McConnell from Whiting Bay and he took this great photo of Team GB curler Michael Goodfellow catching up on all the news from Arran with his girlfriend Gemma Milne. Michael regularly comes to the island for holidays with Scott and can often be seen playing golf at Lamlash.

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**ARRAN COMMUNITY RESILIENCE WORKSHOP**



**Assessment Prevention Preparation Response Recovery**

**Saturday 8th March 2014**  
**Arran Outdoor Centre, Lamlash, Isle of Arran**  
**9.30 - 13.00**

Start time 9:00 for 09:30 (networking - coffee and bacon rolls)

*The aim of the event is to identify and unlock the skills, knowledge and resources held by the entire community to enhance and strengthen Community Resilience on the Island of Arran - irrespective of the type of risk or threat*

The event is sponsored by members of Arran Resilience, Community Councils and North Ayrshire Council

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**Corrie and Sannox SWRI**

The February meeting of Corrie and Sannox SWRI took place in the hall and the ladies were joined by friends old and new for an open meeting.

The President Elma Stevenson welcomed everyone and after the business was completed, the meeting mostly took the form of a display of crafts which had been learnt by the members at Rural classes, and there was a very good display of all kinds. From blackwork, cross-stitch, jewellery, rugs, painting, crochet, knitting, through to calligraphy, and was finished by the treasurer Vicki Milne doing a beautiful flower arrangement with greenery, gypsophila and hyacinths which she split into individual flowers and wired - this made a wonderful arrangement at this time of year when flowers are in short supply.

A good afternoon tea was served by the committee and members are reminded of the next meeting and AGM which is on March 13 in Corrie and Sannox Village Hall when voting papers must be returned, and there will be a bring and buy sale for institute funds.

# Calum prepares for Grand American adventure

**'The Grand Canyon and the Colorado River are a real bench mark in any kayakers journey'**

Island adventurer Calum McNicol is preparing for another epic expedition that will see him kayaking across some of the most stunning areas of America later this month.

Calum will be joining world-class kayakers from North America, Australia and Central Europe as they navigate the Grand Canyon and Colorado River.

Last January Calum and eight other men rowed across the Atlantic in an attempt to break the world record and his newest challenge is proving to be just as exciting.

Calum said: 'The Grand Canyon and specifically the Colorado River are the Ever-

est of the kayaking world and it's been a lifetime ambition to take on the challenges this river has to offer.'

He added: 'The trip starts in Flagstaff Arizona, where we get onto the river and we paddle for 18 days, camping wild every night until we get off at Lees Ferry, some 350 miles down stream.'

**Explorer**  
Calum and the others will be following in the footsteps of the famous American explorer and adventurer John Wesley Powell.

This area of the USA wasn't mapped until late 19th century and early 20th century and is still to this day pristine



**Last year Calum was one of an eight-man crew that rowed across the Atlantic.**

wilderness.

The river is very tightly controlled and every person descending the river has to have a permit to do so.

'It takes around 10 years to get a permit,' said Calum. 'You can book onto a commercial trip but this costs a bomb so our trip is a self-guided trip and we had to wait until our names came to the top of the waiting list.'

'The grade of water we will be paddling down is up to

grade 5, 6 being the highest and we are likely to encounter rapids where we have to get out, examine and decide the best route down.

'There may also be the odd rapid or two where we decide to walk around!'

There will be no form of communication while they complete the kayak apart from a satellite phone for help or assistance. And the only realistic form of evacuation is by helicopter.

There are few camp sites on the route but those they have found offer plenty of space and comfort - except for scorpions, rattle snakes, and red ants!

The descent begins today (Saturday 8 March) and will take 18 days.



**Calum has been training for the descent all over the world.**

**This photo shows the equipment Calum will be carrying in his kayak for the descent.**



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**Council to commemorate the fallen**

Local servicemen and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the First World War are to be remembered in this centennial year by North Ayrshire Council.

Working with individuals and community groups throughout the area including the Royal British Legion, the council hopes to develop a programme of activities to commemorate the 100th anniversary of WW1 and the 75th anniversary of WW2.

Improvement works will also be carried out to maintain all war memorials and floral displays prior to Armed Forces Day on 28 June, to make certain they are of the highest standards during this commemorative year.

School pupils will also take part in a programme of educational activities using reference materials produced by the local authority for schools which will allow pupils to extend their knowledge and understanding of these significant events.

Pupils will also take part in a project called 'Adopt a Hero' where they will visit their local war memorials, research the life of a chosen serviceman or woman and produce a report based on their life and their community prior to conscription.

Council leader Willie Gibson said: 'I believe this centennial year will allow us all to reflect on the sacrifices our communities and our entire country had to make during that very traumatic time.'

'We have much to thank our grandparents and great grandparents for - not least their determination to protect our land, people and culture, meaning we can live in a country of freedom and opportunity.'

He added: 'Millions of people from all sides died in a war that was given the label 'the war to end all wars'. I am glad that we will have the opportunity to pay our respects in this series of fitting events for the lives that were lost.'



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Michael brush cleans the frame of the famous J F Herring painting of 1884 titled 'The Dirtiest Derby'. 20\_b10clean12



Clare brush cleans the frame of one of the set of six paintings on the staircase by James Pollard showing the St Albans Grand Steeplechase. 20\_b10clean06



Michael and Clare protect the Japanese elephants on the chimney in the drawing room. 20\_b10clean07



Francesca holds a glass currently not on display with a crest of the Hamilton family. 20\_b10clean13



Clare, Michael and Francesca painstakingly clean the Goodwo

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# The cleaning

## Housekeepers get everythin

It's March, the first signs of spring are showing. It must be time for that spring clean.

Spare a thought then for the hardworking housekeeping staff at Brodick Castle who have already been spring cleaning for two months.

In what must be the biggest single cleaning job on Arran everything in the castle has to be cleaned, dusted and vacuumed ready for the first visitors of the season on April 1.

And it's all down to castle collections officer Francesca Hollow and her small team to get the castle shipshape in time.

Every room in the castle is systematically cleaned from top to bottom leaving no object unturned.

This year the cleaning task has an added degree of difficulty as every single piece of silverware in the castle is being cleaned.

**Second best collection**

Brodick was recently said to have the second best collection of silverware in Scotland after the National Museum in Edinburgh.

Now, once every piece has been cleaned, it is to be photographed with a bid to promote the collection both at home and abroad.

One of the major pieces which is being cleaned is the magnificent Goodwood Trophy of 1882 won by the horse Friday. It is being painstakingly cleaned with a silver dip and deionised water.

Francesca admitted it is painstaking work: 'It is extremely time consuming as the trophy has to be cleaned from the bottom up and the silver dip cleaned off with water so as not to leave any residue on the silver.'

She said: 'We are brush cleaning all the silverware which will then be photographed so we can promote the collection and consider silver exhibitions both in the castle and elsewhere.'

'It also gives us the chance to have a closer look at each piece of the collection to determine its condition.'

'There is a lot of interest in the castle because of the signature project both at home and abroad.'

The project will see £9 million spent in the coming years on major works at the castle including a new visitor centre, more exhibition space, a new cafe, conference facilities and accommodation.

'It will be fantastic to get more of the collection on display,' Francesca said.

She is assisted in her duties by housekeepers and guides Michael Davidson and Clare Taylor, who are both relatively new to the castle.

Francesca, who is 23, only came to the castle last June. Born in Cornwall she previously worked for the National Trust at Tyntesfield near Bristol.

One of the main problems they have come



od Trophy of 1882 won by the horse Friday. 20\_b10clean01

# of the castle

## g shipshape for the visitors

across during their cleaning is a moth infestation of the dining room carpet.

This has led to a lengthy process to cleanse the carpet of the existing moths and protect it from future infection.

Cleaning begins at the castle in January and continues until the day before opening for the season.

### Ordered serenity

Certainly the castle rooms at present bear no resemblance to the ordered serenity of the Victorian hunting lodge presented to the public.

The furniture lies covered in sheets and dust covers to protect the objects which have not been removed for safe keeping elsewhere.

'A lot of people do not realise the amount of work that goes into keeping the castle and its collection in pristine condition. We systematically go from room to room literally cleaning from the top starting with the ceiling and working our way down to the floor.

'We clean every object and inside every drawer.'

While some items are cleaned regularly others are not and there is a strict cleaning schedule.

'Books are cleaned infrequently and only a small amount of ceramics are cleaned every year but the furniture is brush cleaned more regularly,' Francesca said.

Even the 87 stag heads in the entrance hall are

given a light brush, but not vigorously as it leads to them casting hairs.

'Conservation is time consuming. Doing a very small area does take a lot of time and that is one of the reasons we have the closed season, but work goes on all year.'

But help is at hand. Later this month volunteers will be at the castle helping with the spring clean.

'People volunteer every year and some of them have been doing so for 20 years. It will be great to hear of their experiences,' Francesca said.

While there will not be many changes made to the displays this year, the first visitors are to be given the chance to choose which dinner set is used for the magnificent dining table, which is changed every year.

### Fundraising

At the moment the collections team are fundraising for clock conservation. The Friends of Brodick Castle have already donated £500, but more funds are needed as there are around half a dozen long case clocks, dating back to the 17th century, in need of repair.

Even when the castle reopens next month, the housekeeping staff are in at 8am every morning to clean and dust before the visitors even come in.

'There is always something to be done,' Francesca said.



Michael cleans the chandelier in the stairwell leading from the main entrance hall where the walls are lined with stag heads. 20\_b10clean04



Michael and Clare get down to work on the dining room carpet to clear the moth infestation. 20\_b10clean14



Right: Francesca takes a well-earned rest in the drawing room where the valuables are covered with dust sheets. 20\_b10clean15

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Bethany Walsh from Arran High School, front row, second left, was named young traditional musician of the year. Fraser Blain, another Arran High School pupil, back row, fourth left, was one of eight finalists in the senior traditional musician of the year competition.

## Talented young musicians impress in regional competition

A talented young violinist from Whiting Bay has been named North Ayrshire's 'Young Traditional Musician of the Year' for 2014.

Bethany Walsh, a third-year pupil at Arran High School, won the title after playing 'Lament for the Death of Reverend Archie Beaton', 'Bannockburn Reel' and 'Spootiskerry' on the fiddle at Irvine Burns Club on February 20.

Runner up was Ben Cotter from Kilwinning Academy.

On the same night, the acclaimed title 'North Ayrshire Traditional Musician of the Year 2014' which sees pupils from fourth to sixth year compete, was awarded to Irvine

Royal Academy pupil William McLaughlin.

William, from Irvine, faced tough competition from seven other finalists.

The eight participating finalists were Fraser Blain from Arran High School; Jessica Thorpe and Scott Figgins from Greenwood Academy; Danielle Sloan and Gemma Stirling from Irvine Royal Academy; and Christopher Rimicans and Sarah Mooney from St Matthew's Academy.

Adjudicator Mike Vass congratulated all finalists on the standard of their performances and Provost Joan Sturgeon presented the winner and runner up from both competitions with a commissioned glass trophy.

# Hydration is the key as you prepare for Arran 10K

It is now week five in the lead up to the Ormidale 10K race which means there are now just seven weeks of training to go.

Those who have just started running and are following their own training programme, or following the one set out in The Banner should be really starting to feel the natural high gained from regular exercise.

As the physical training raises up another level again, along with this mental sense of achievement, your body should not only be feeling fantastic, but should be feeling eager, enthusiastic and ready for the next step.

To keep your body and mind moving in this forward direction they have got to be kept properly hydrated.

This can be achieved either with plain water or there are also many sports hydration drinks available on the market. These contain saline solutions which make the body ingest water slightly quicker than regular water.

As far as performance goes, research has only shown that this benefits the very top athletes pushing themselves to a maximum every day so it should really just come down to personal preference and is

far from a necessity at this level of programme.

To get the best out of your training session you should be well hydrated before heading out and during but do not make yourself full – you neither want to get a stitch, feel sickly or need to stop for the loo.

As your training progresses you will be sweating more fluid than before with each

how does this translate into adequate hydration?

For a 10 stone (140lb, 63.5kg) person, using the metric value we can easily calculate that 2 per cent would be  $(63.5/100)*2$  which equals 1.27 litres (2.23 pints).

You will not lose this in a 30 minute jogging session so a good rule of thumb is to remember you need about 1ml of water for every calorie you

WEIGHT(LB)	CALORIES BURNT
120	72
140	85
160	97
180	109
200	121

session so how much is the right amount?

Well, everybody is different. As muscle cells contain 70-75 per cent water and fat cells contain 10-15 per cent water, the more muscles you have, the higher percentage of your bodyweight will come from water with the average being at 60-70 per cent.

Research suggests that your performance can become impaired with as little as a 2 per cent loss in bodyweight because of dehydration, so

burn. And how many calories are being burned?

The table shown is from Runners World online magazine. It details how many calories are burned for different weighted people at a reasonable 12mph pace for a 10 minute running sessions.

Using the 10 stone example, this calculates at 255 calories, hence 255ml of water utilised. These are just guidelines of course, let others know how you manage your hydration, or pass on any training insight you may have using Twitter #Arran10K or check out the events page on the Arran Runners facebook page.

WEEK 5:

Day 1: Increase your run time to 15 minutes, have a two-minute active recovery (walking is fine) then another 15-minute run. Follow this with the obligatory rest day on day two then repeat this pattern for days three and four.

On day five, rather than monitor time, go for distance instead and try and manage a full two miles. For your own motivation track your progress and take a note of your time.

Day six is again for rest and on day seven persist with cross training to ensure only three running sessions per week. Stretch every day before and after your session and do these again on the rest days too.

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There will be gifts, toys and books on sale.

**ALL WELCOME**

# Birch helps Wullie to six of the best at sheepdog trials

Shepherd Wullie Stevenson all but swept the board during the Arran sheepdog trial season which has just come to a close.

He won six of the eight trophies handed out over the season with his trusty dog Birch at his side in all but one of the wins.

But it was John Murchie who took the final trophy of the season securing an overall win at the last event of the season at Lamdash.

John lifted the Drumadoon Trophy after taking both first place in the nursery trials, for dogs under two and a half years old at the start of the winter series, and the sweepstake for older dogs.

The event was held at Glenkiln and the judge for the day was Alec Miller.

After the trials the prizegiving of the Kildonan and District Sheepdog Association was held.

The trophies for the season were as follows: Glenrosa Cup, Wullie Stevenson with Wallace; Druid Cup, Geoff Brookes, Shona II; Hirsell Cup (nursery winner), Wullie Stevenson, Birch; J C Picken Cup (under 18 months), Wul-

lie Stevenson, Wallace; Cnoc Shield, Wullie Stevenson, Birch; Drumadoon Trophy, John Murchie, Midge; Alba Cup (winter league), Wullie Stevenson, Birch; Wilson

chie, Midge 81pts. Sweepstake, 1 W Stevenson, Birch 86pts, 2 G Tod Glen 82pts, J Murchie Midge 81pts.

Second event at Glenkiln in January. The Druid Cup was

Shona II 68pts. Sweepstake, 1 J Murchie, Midge 85pts, 2 W Stevenson, Birch 82pts, 3 G Brookes, Shona II 78pts.

Seven dogs took part in the fourth event at Bailemargaidh. The Glenrosa Cup was won by Wullie Stevenson with Wallace 92pts, 2 W Stevenson, Birch 85pts, 3 Geoff Brookes, Shona II 70pts, 4 W Stevenson Nell 67pts.

The fifth event nursery trial was won by Wullie Stevenson with Birch on 90pts, 2 J Murchie, Midge 80pts, W Stevenson, Wallace 69pts, 4 G Brookes, Shona II 62pts.

Sweepstake 1 W Stevenson, Wallace 92pts, 2 W Stevenson, Birch, 85pts, 3 Jack Murchie, Meg, 86pts.

The sixth event was held last Friday at Glenkiln with judge Alec Miller. The nursery class winner was John Murchie with Midge 75pts, 2 W Stevenson, Nell 71pts, Niall McMaster, Liz 69pts, W Stevenson, Birch 66pts. Sweepstake 1 J Murchie, Midge 75pts, 2 equal W Stevenson, Nell and Liz Robertson, Joe 71pts.



John Murchie with Midge and the Drumadoon Trophy. 20\_b09dog03

Trophy (summer season), Wullie Stevenson, Birch.

The full results were: The first event at Birchburn in December 2013. The nursery class was won by Wullie Stevenson with Birch on 86pts, 2 G Tod, Glen 82pts, 3 J Mur-

won by Geoff Brookes with Shona II 78pts, 2 W Stevenson, Birch 65pts, 3 J Murchie, Midge 64pts.

The third nursery event was won by John Murchie with Midge on 85pts, 2 W Stevenson, Birch 82pts, 3 G Brookes,



Wullie Stevenson with his trusty dog Birch and his haul of six trophies won over the season. 20\_b09dog04



Wullie Stevenson gets the sheep in the pen with the help of another of his dogs, Nell. 20\_b09dog02



Liz Robertson takes part in the trials with dog Joe. 20\_b09dog01



Judge Alec Miller, centre, with competitors at the final dog trial meeting of the season at Glenkiln. 20\_b09dog05

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Members and friends enjoy the surroundings of Brodick Golf Club. 20\_b10lunch02

## Community groups invited to join the celebrations

An invitation has gone out to all community groups to sign up for North Ayrshire's events programme which is being staged as part of Scotland's year of celebration.

The year 2014 presents some fantastic opportunities for Scotland with the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and other national celebrations like the Queen's Baton Relay, Homecoming and the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War.

North Ayrshire Council is keen to take part in the year of celebration and is holding a

series of meetings to encourage community organisations to join in with activities of their own.

Councillor Alan Hill said: 'We want to hear from any groups which are planning festivals, events, gala days, fairs, projects, performances, exhibitions or sporting activities.'

### Complement

'These smaller community events will complement the bigger national events, raising the profile of both and enabling us all to be able to join in the celebrations.'

'I am sure North Ayrshire will make a huge contribution to what is shaping up to be a very special year for Scotland.'

The council would like to work with groups to gather information on what's happening locally and to provide information on any possible options for financial support.

On Monday 24 March a meeting will be held in Brodick Hall at 7.30pm.

More information is available from Lesley Forsyth on 01294 324407 or by email on [lesleyforsyth@north-ayr-](mailto:lesleyforsyth@north-ayr-)

## Forum enjoys golf club lunch

The Isle of Arran Elderly Forum held a lunch for members and friends at the Brodick Golf Club last Wednesday.

The lunch was well attended and chairwoman Fiona Brown thanked all those who took places.



Chairwoman Fiona Brown welcomes members and friends to the elderly forum lunch. 20\_b10lunch01

# Successful year for Save the Children

The Arran branch of Save the Children reported another successful year at its AGM.

Carol Burge, chairman, welcomed all present at the Auchrannie Spa on Monday 24 February and expressed her thanks to the committee for its continuing support and commitment which enabled the branch to maintain its successful fundraising.

Carol thanked especially Margaret Shaw, secretary, and Myrna Boal, treasurer, for their meticulous work.

Two extra events, the Strabane Open Gardens, courtesy of Lady Jean Fforde, and the Shiskine Texas Scramble were deemed very worthwhile and would become regular fixtures on the calendar.

As a result, the total for the year was an incredible £9,550 which was a significant increase on last year's total.

### Income

Carol talked about the UK Save the Children's income. Between 2008 and 2012, Save the Children's total income nearly doubled, enabling it to reach more of the neediest children on earth than ever before, increasing by 38 per cent, from 7.25 million to 10 million children.

Save the Children responded to 53 emergencies in 2012.

This year, volunteers and supporters fundraising and running shops in the country are expected to raise more than £14.5 million for Save the Children.

This will be the result of the hard work and commitment of thousands of people.

From every £1 raised, 89p is spent to directly benefit children, 10p is spent to raise the next £1, and the other penny goes on governance and other costs.

Save the Children raised a total last year of £333,000,000, therefore £296,370,000 went directly to children.

### Quick resume

Margaret Shaw, secretary, gave a quick resume of the year's events.

For various reasons, four members of the committee, Aileen Wright, Jean Bowden, Dorothy McClelland and Barbara Leckey had, with reluctance, resigned.

Their contributions would be greatly missed.

Three new members were welcomed, Fiona Crawford and Maureen Cumming from Lochranza and Alison Page from Lamlash.

The office bearers for the coming year are as follows: chairman - Carol Burge, vice-chair - Margaret Wright, secretary - Margaret Shaw, treas-

urer - Myrna Boal, trading agent - Vivienne Haigh, collection agent - Kath Turner, press - Jean Robertson and schools - Claire Underdown, Irene Rollo and Alison Page.

Business concluded, the committee was shown a DVD of the Children's Emergency Fund which responds to situations where children are at great risk.

With £1.4 million, 480,000 children's lives have been saved in 22 countries.

The DVD highlighted the serious and distressing situation in Niger where children are dying of starvation because of drought and famine.

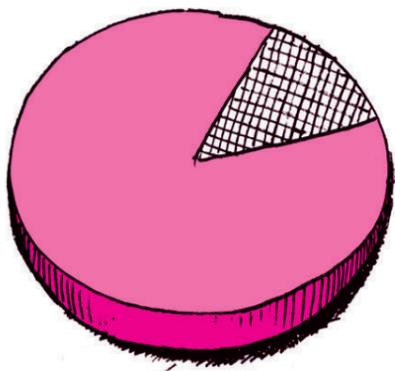
In their emergency centres and clinics, Save the Children have saved 87,000 children's lives in Niger.

Although disturbing to watch, the amazing success of the work thanks to the dedication of Save the Children staff in these areas emphasised the need for our continued support.

Carol then brought the meeting to a close with thanks to Auchrannie for its hospitality.

Please note:- In the recent branch's quiz, there is a mistake in clue no.29, instead of Frail OlgaIt should be Trail OlgaOur. The committee apologies for this error.

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# What's on

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## Everyday

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

## Saturday 8th March

Army Cadets  
 Over 21s Disco  
 Karate  
 Family Games  
 Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)  
 Junior Football  
 Live Music from Scott Macdonald  
 Arran Fairtrade Coffee Morning  
 Resilience workshop

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  
 Douglas Hotel Bar, 9pm  
 Brodick Hall, 10.30-12noon  
 Arran Outdoor Centre, Lamlash 9.30am -1pm

## Sunday 9th 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, Whiting Bay, 2pm-5pm

## Monday 10th 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  
 Brodick Highland Games AGM  
 Lochranza seawall public meeting

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  
 Ormidale Hotel, 8pm  
 Lochranza & Catacol Hall, 6pm-8pm

## Tuesday 11th March

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

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

Streetly Dancing Juniors P4-7  
 Streetly Dancing Seniors  
 Junior Hockey Club  
 Healthy Outdoors  
 Winter bowls  
 SFA Early Touch Football  
 Scottish Country Dancing  
 Cheltenham Festival

Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4.45-5.30pm  
 Auchrannie Gym Hall, 5.30-6.15pm  
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6-7pm  
 NTS Ranger Centre 10am-1pm  
 Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm  
 P1-P4s, Arran High School, 6-7pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm  
 Kinloch Bar from 1.30pm

## Wednesday 12th 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  
 Cheltenham Festival

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  
 Kinloch Bar from 1.30pm

## Thursday 13th March

Senior Fitness  
 General Knowledge Quiz  
 Lochranza Craft Club  
 Live music  
 Weight Watchers  
 Yoga  
 Shirley & Sarah fitness class  
 Brodick Embroidery Group  
 Winter bowls  
 Bridge Club  
 QuiltArran  
 Sannox cricket club (indoor practise)  
 Cheltenham Festival

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  
 Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7pm  
 Fire Station, Lamlash, 2-4pm  
 Auchrannie sports hall, 7-9pm  
 Kinloch Bar from 1.30pm

## Friday 14th March

Aqua Fizz  
 Yogalates  
 Arran Youth Foundations  
 Lochranza Kids Badminton  
 Lochranza Adults Badminton  
 Arran Ceilidh Dancers  
 Cheltenham Festival  
 Charity raffle

Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am  
 Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am  
 Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 8pm  
 Lamlash Church Hall, 8-10pm  
 Kinloch Bar from 1.30pm  
 Kinloch Bar, 5pm



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



# THE ARRAN BAN

## The Arran celebrates 40 Arran's weekly

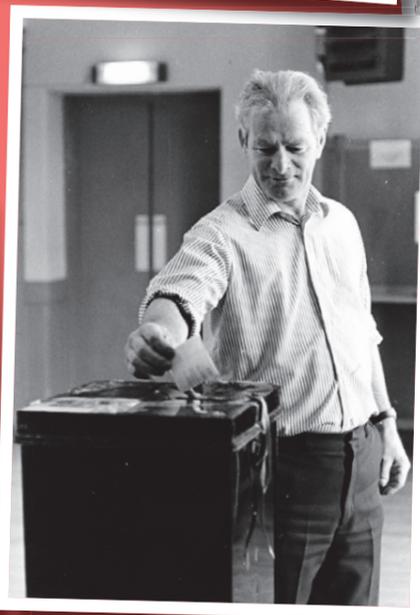
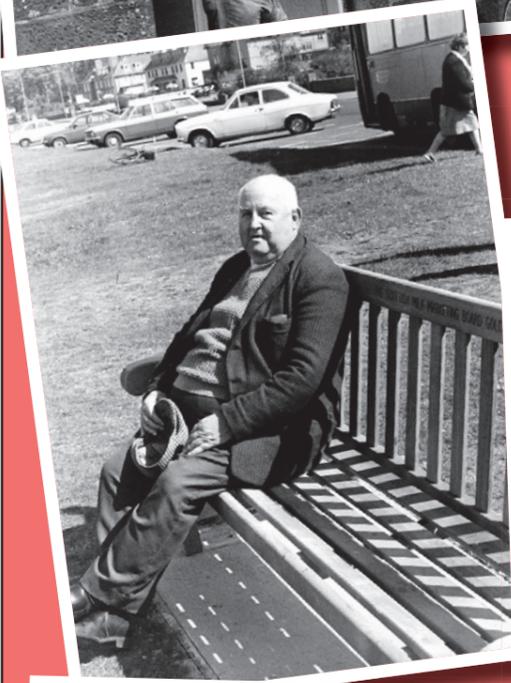
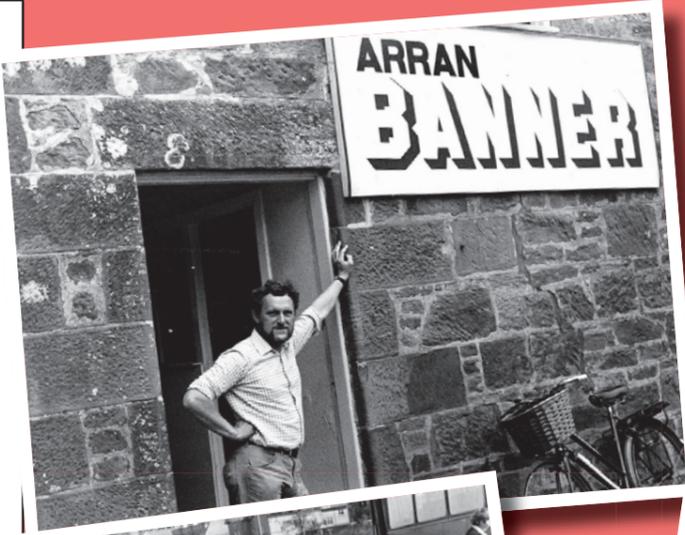
### Let's take a look making headlines

By 1984 The Arran Banner had been on the shelves for 10 years and had quickly become the island's much-loved community newspaper.

Ronnie Mann and his team created The Banner as the island knows and loves it and in 1981 John Millar and his wife Deanna took over the business and continued with this work for another 22 years.

Pictures were pretty thin in the early editions of The Banner and we only have complete records from the 1980s onwards.

But as John took to the helm and technology moved on a-pace, the newspaper started to feature more photographs - but remained black and



# NEWS

## Banner 40 years as a newspaper at the stories as 30 years ago

white until 2003 when The Oban Times took over, apart from a few special editions.

Initially coming out only monthly, by 1984 The Banner was a weekly newspaper that all islanders looked forward to buying on a Friday.

In the forty years since it started The Banner has seen many changes both in its own layout and staffing - as well as on the island as a whole.

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

Let's take a look at the stories which made headlines in 1984.

### Ferry anger

CalMac's proposed withdrawal of the 1350 and 1515 sailings during the summer aroused much anger at the Ferry Committee meeting on Monday night.

The reasoning behind the decision is that the new ferry the MV Isle of Arran has a greater capacity so CalMac feel a less frequent service is needed.

Especially upset are Arran Transport and Bannatynes who say that the cancellation of the 1515 sailing could cost them £20,000 per year.

### Fares please!

All fares on the Brodick to Ardrossan service will go up by five per cent at the beginning of March.

Multi-journey tickets however, used mostly by island residents, will rise by nearly 10 per cent.

CalMac were quick to point out that this is the first rise in prices since 1981 but it now means a standard single will go up from £2.25 to £2.35 and a car will cost £12.10, a rise from £11.50.

### Timber!

The ancient oak outside Brodick Primary School was felled on Monday after the tree showed itself to be dangerous during last Friday's high winds.

### Praying for rain

As the hot, dry weather continues Arran's water reserves are diminishing.

Whiting Bay, Slidery and Pirnmill are shortest said water engineer Jimmy McGill this week, and already Whiting Bay has had its supplies cut from 11.30pm to 6.30am two nights a week.

### Erosion concern

As previously reported, the erosion of Brodick beach due to sand removal is yet again causing concern.

Councillor Richard Wilkinson told us that, in addition to regular monitoring, a new survey has been carried out to see what can be done to stop it eroding further.

### Lucky escape

Three-year-old Gemma Gilmore of Brodick escaped with a broken leg after running onto the road and into a car last Tuesday morning.

The accident took place near the dentist's surgery.

### Evelyn's back

At a few minutes past midnight on Thursday Evelyn Sillars was returned to serve on Cunninghame District Council to represent Arran.

She defeated John Sillars by 1,100 votes to 363 votes.

### Forest fire

A serious forest fire was narrowly averted when heather caught fire above Oakbank Farm, Claulchlands and spread rapidly towards the trees.

Lamlash and Corriecravie fire brigades were called out and it took them four hours to extinguish the blaze.

### Boycott off

The boycott of the new ferry's VIP sailing next week by the ferry committee has been called off.

Scarcely getting off the ground after it was first suggested a few weeks ago, the committee decided unanimously not to go ahead with it.

John Forgie, chairman, said: 'It was never an actual proposal but I was absolutely prepared to boycott the VIP sailing of the MV Isle of Arran if it was the wish of the committee.'

### Holy Isle sold?

After being on the market for around 20 months it looks like Holy Isle could finally be sold.

It has been reported that a farmer from the Dumfries and Galloway region has visited several times recently and has made a firm offer.

### One way only

The new ferry, MV Isle of Arran, will be operated as a stern loader for the next few weeks until her damaged bow ramp has been repaired.

### So good so far

Traffic is still moving freely to Arran despite the National Dock Strike and in spite of members of the Transport and General Workers Union being on strike at Ardrossan Harbour.

### High winds

One casualty of yesterday's strong winds was the cancellation of the skiing trip to Aviemore organised by the Community Education Department.

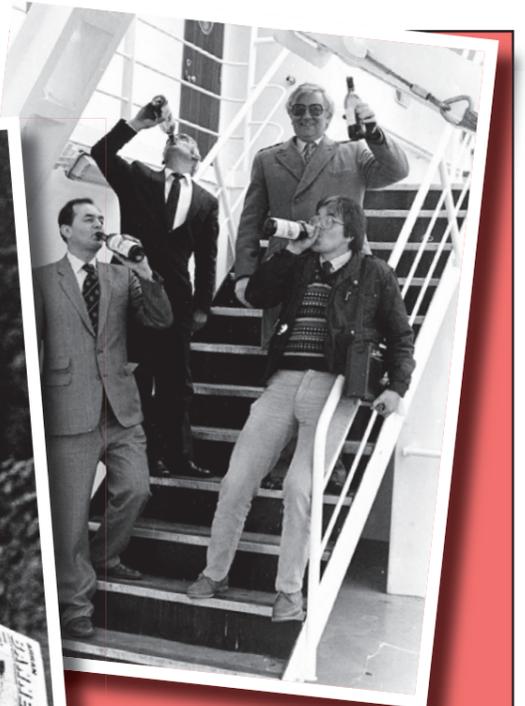
A dozen high school pupils had been looking forward to leaving yesterday - especially since the last trip was cancelled.

The Clansman left Ardrossan for the first sailing, could not get into Brodick, turned for Gourock, could not berth and at 2pm was still cruising.

### New ferry welcomed

The MV Isle of Arran completed her first scheduled sailing today (April 14) arriving in Brodick at 7.05pm.

But the day before there was a chance for a few Arran folk including 45 school children from all the island's schools to enjoy a sail from Gourock back to Brodick.



# Public Notices

## MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 BT PLC: Subsea Cable Installation

Notice is hereby given that BT PLC has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of subsea cable installations at:

Location	Latitude Co-ordinates	Longitude Co-ordinates
Jura to Kintyre (FKB/Z306)	55° 50.299'N	05° 56.999' W
	55° 50.538'N	05° 54.138' W
	55° 50.707'N	05° 51.317' W
	55° 52.796'N	05° 40.658' W
	55° 53.670'N	05° 37.165' W
Islay to Kintyre (FKB/Z308)	55° 38.016'N	06° 07.882' W
	55° 36.205'N	05° 48.144' W
	55° 36.798'N	06° 05.224' W
	55° 35.311'N	05° 41.534' W
Tiree to Mull (FKB/Z305)	56° 34.818'N	06° 16.814' W
	56° 34.155'N	06° 18.689' W
	56° 33.032'N	06° 23.834' W
	56° 31.252' N	06° 29.970' W
	56° 30.434' N	06° 41.021' W
Mull to Oban (FKB/Z303)	56° 26.878'N	05° 39.751' W
	56° 27.397'N	05° 38.299' W
	56° 26.497'N	05° 32.162' W
	56° 26.251'N	05° 28.167' W
	56° 27.412'N	05° 39.814' W
Ardmurchan to Mull (FKB/Z304)	56° 41.402'N	06° 05.753' W
	56° 37.514'N	06° 03.470' W
	56° 39.555'N	06° 05.019' W
	56° 37.278'N	06° 04.197' W

Location	Latitude Co-ordinates	Longitude Co-ordinates
Islay to Jura (FKB/Z307)	55° 50.875'N	06° 06.330' W
	55° 50.805'N	06° 05.466' W
	55° 50.857'N	06° 06.155' W
	55° 50.857'N	06° 06.155' W
Bute to Cumbrae (FKB/Z311)	55° 45.455'N	05° 01.933'W
	55° 44.732'N	05° 00.361'W
	55° 44.509'N	04° 59.179'W
	55° 44.337'N	04° 57.438'W
	55° 44.594'N	04° 57.201'W
Bute to Cowal (FKB/Z312)	55° 51.481'N	05° 03.731'W
	55° 51.671'N	05° 02.964'W
	55° 51.917'N	05° 02.176'W
	55° 52.134'N	05° 01.519'W
	55° 52.134'N	05° 01.519'W
Kintyre to Cowal (FKB/Z313)	56° 01.379'N	05° 21.858'W
	56° 01.016'N	05° 21.212'W
	56° 00.703'N	05° 19.524'W
	56° 00.503'N	05° 19.279'W
Kintyre to Arran (FKB/Z314)	55° 28.228'N	05° 32.507'W
	55° 28.478'N	05° 29.507'W
	55° 29.843'N	05° 21.490'W
	55° 30.244'N	05° 20.412'W

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at Oban Library, 77 Albany St, Oban PA34 4AL, Tarbert Library, Barmore Road, Tarbert PA29 6TW, Campbeltown Library, Kinloch Rd, Campbeltown PA28 6EG. Rosyth Library, Stuart St. Rosyth PA20 0BX, Lochgilphead Library, Manse Brae, Lochgilphead, PA31 8QZ

Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to: Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email: MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk, quoting reference:

- Mull to Oban – FKB/Z303
- Ardmurchan to Mull – FKB/Z304
- Tiree to Mull – FKB/Z305
- Jura to Kintyre – FKB/Z306
- Islay to Jura - FKB/Z307
- Islay to Kintyre – FKB/Z308
- Bute to Cumbrae-(FKB/Z311)
- Bute to Cowal (FKB/Z312)
- Kintyre to Cowal (FKB/Z313)
- Kintyre to Arran (FKB/Z314)
- BT PLC

Any general questions regarding the Superfast Broadband HIE project should be directed to [www.hie.co.uk/digital](http://www.hie.co.uk/digital)

## MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT 2010 BT PLC: Installation of subsea telecommunications cable

Notice is hereby given that BT PLC has applied to the Scottish Ministers of the Scottish Government, under Part 4 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, in respect of Installation of subsea telecommunications cable at:

Location	Latitude Co-ordinates	Longitude Co-ordinates
Downcraig, Cumbrae to Largs FKB/Z310	55° 46.937'N	04° 53.974'W
	55° 47.070'N	04° 53.359'W
	55° 47.346'N	04° 52.335'W
	55° 47.417'N	04° 52.168'W
Kilchattan Bay, Bute to Portachur Point, Cumbrae FKB/Z311	55° 45.455'N	05° 01.933'W
	55° 44.732'N	05° 00.361'W
	55° 44.509'N	04° 59.179'W
	55° 44.337'N	04° 57.438'W
	55° 44.594'N	04° 57.201'W
Ardencross, Kintyre to Blackwaterfoot, Arran FKB/Z314	55° 28.228'N	05° 32.507'W
	55° 28.478'N	05° 29.507'W
	55° 29.843'N	05° 21.490'W
	55° 30.244'N	05° 20.412'W
Corrie, Arran to Ardnail Bay, Mainland FKB/Z315	55° 38.249'N	05° 08.311'W
	55° 38.233'N	05° 08.117'W
	55° 40.509'N	04° 57.417'W
	55° 40.798'N	04° 56.053'W
	55° 40.944'N	04° 55.359'W
	55° 41.418'N	04° 54.081'W
55° 41.744'N	04° 53.521'W	
55° 41.775'N	04° 53.522'W	

(WGS84)

Plans showing the position of the works may be inspected at, Largs Library, 26 Allanpark, St. Largs, KA30 9G, Millport Library, Garrison House, The Garrison, Millport Isle of Cumbrae KA28 0DG, Arran Library, Brodrick, Isle of Arran KA27 8DL, West Killbride Library, Halfway St. West Kilbride, KA23 9EQ.

Objections relating to safety of navigation or environmental issues in respect of the application should be made in writing to:

Licensing Operations Team, Marine Scotland, Marine Laboratory, 375 Victoria Road, Aberdeen, AB11 9DB within 28 days of the date of this notice or by email: MS.MarineLicensing@scotland.gsi.gov.uk, quoting reference:

- FKB/Z310
- FKB/Z311
- FKB/Z314
- FKB/Z315
- BT PLC

Any general questions regarding the Superfast Broadband HIE project should be directed to - [www.hie.co.uk/digital](http://www.hie.co.uk/digital)

### CALEDONIAN MARITIME ASSETS LTD

#### LOCHRANZA SEAWALL REPLACEMENT PROJECT PUBLIC MEETING ALL WELCOME

Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd will hold a public meeting on:  
**Monday 10 March 2014**

Meeting will take place at:  
**Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall  
18:00 to 20:00**

Should you wish to know more about this meeting please contact the CMAL office on: 01475 749 920 or email [info@cmassets.co.uk](mailto:info@cmassets.co.uk)  
[www.cmassets.co.uk](http://www.cmassets.co.uk)

## BANNER BANNER PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES



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# Public Notices

**ARRAN MEDICAL GROUP  
LUNCHTIME CLOSING TIMES**

From Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> 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**



**Kenneth Gibson MSP**  
will hold advice surgeries at the following times and locations.

<b>Monday 10 March</b>	
Whiting Bay Village Hall	11.15-12.15
Kilmory Village Hall	13.00-14.00
Lamlash ACVS	15.00-16.00
<b>Monday 7 April</b>	
Pirnmill Village Hall	11.30-12.30
Corrie & Sannox Village Hall	13.15-14.15
Brodick Health Centre	15.00-16.00

**No appointment necessary**

To contact Kenneth outside these times, please contact his constituency office:  
15 Main Street, Dalry, KA24 5DL Tel: 01294 833 687  
Email: Kenneth.gibson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

**EVENT TO PUBLICISE?**

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www.arranbanner.co.uk



**KILDONAN HALL AND VILLAGE IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE**  
EXTRA ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING  
MONDAY 10 MARCH AT 7.30  
VILLAGE HALL  
OPEN TO ALL  
PLEASE TRY TO ATTEND

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**NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1992  
COUNCIL TAX**

As required by paragraph 96(1) of the above Act, North Ayrshire Council give notice of, in terms of paragraphs 70 (1) and 93 (1) of the same Act, the amounts of Council Tax payable in respect of chargeable dwellings in each valuation band for year 2014/15.

Valuation Band	Full Council Tax (£)	Council Tax discounted by 25% (£)
A	768.00	576.00
B	896.00	672.00
C	1,024.00	768.00
D	1,152.00	864.00
E	1,408.00	1,056.00
F	1,664.00	1,248.00
G	1,920.00	1,440.00
H	2,304.00	1,728.00

The above figures exclude water and wastewater charges. Scottish Water is responsible for setting its own charges for household water and wastewater services, which are subject to scrutiny by the Water Industry Commission for Scotland. North Ayrshire Council is required by law to include water and wastewater charges on its Council Tax bills and to collect the sums due on behalf of Scottish Water.

The level of discount on second homes and unoccupied properties is 10% in accordance with the Council Tax (Variation for Unoccupied Dwellings) (Scotland) Regulations 2013.

The 2014-15 annual Council Tax Notices will be issued in March 2014.

L Friel  
Chief Financial Officer

## Property

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for more information please get in touch:  
contact: Richard Small, General Manger  
email: rsmall@auchrannie.co.uk  
or phone: 01770 303 302

brodick isle of arran  
www.auchrannie.co.uk

**THE NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL  
(B880 THE STRING ROAD, ARRAN)  
(TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2014**

On the 26 February 2014 North Ayrshire Council made the above named Order under Section 14(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit to be driven any motor vehicle (with the exception of vehicles engaged on essential carriageway works) on the B880 The String Road, between A841 Brodick and Machrie Moor junctions, by reason of works proposed to be executed on or near that road.

Traffic will be permitted through the closure under escort at the following times each day: 7am-8am, 12:30pm-1pm, 7pm-8pm.

Order effective 8am 17/3/14 to 7pm 17/4/14 & 8am 22/4/14 to 7pm 21/5/14

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2 Bedroom cottage available for long let from April  
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**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997  
PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS)  
(SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

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

Written representations may be made to the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 28.03.14. Any representations received will be open to public view.

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

Format: Application No; Address; Proposed Development  
13/00728/PP; Site to the North West of 1 Glen Road, Brodick, Isle of Arran;  
Erection of holiday cottage.

**ROOMS TO LET**

within large house in Shiskine, shared kitchen, living room and bathroom, suitable for staff accommodation, £60pp per week plus electricity

Tel: 01770 840227/262  
e-mail: enquiries@oldbyre.co.uk

Elma Murray  
Chief Executive  
Cunningham House  
IRVINE KA12 8EE



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**CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS**

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

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

- Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.
- The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.
- The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
- An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertiser's order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.
- 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.



## Arran Ladies Golf Union

The Drumadon at Shiskine was held on Saturday 1 March and even a wildlife moment involving an otter at the Himalayas didn't put off the players in the penultimate of the Drumadoons for the season!

Re-scheduled from January due to appalling weather we were for the most part in the sunshine, but it was bitterly cold with a chilly

off shore wind and as such we were delighted upon returning to the clubhouse, to receive great warm soup made by Elizabeth Kelso (thank you) and baking and rolls provided by the committee.

As for the results, it was a closely contested competition with some great scores. Worth a special mention in 3rd place was Jenni Turnbull with a 74 (15) who stood out on her own with four people all at 75! 2nd and 1st place were identical with both players scoring 72! 1st place on a countback of just half a point went to Mary Tod (33) with Isobel MacDonald coming 2nd (16). Scratch also went to Isobel with a score of 88. Also worth a mention are three players who scored gross 89, Sheena Murchie, Jenni Turnbull and

Fiona Crawford. Well done to all - not just to the winners, but also to those who played their first 18 holes this year so far!

Fixtures: Final Drumadon, Brodick Saturday 22 March, from 10.30am. Please sign up in your clubhouse if you haven't already done so.

## Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday 2 March. The final round of the AGA Winter League was played at Whiting Bay with the home club completing a clean sweep by beating Corrie 4 games to 0. This result means that Whiting Bay have won all five of their matches and won the Duncan Trophy for only the second time and the

first time since 1995. Well done to all the players who played in any of the games.

Fixtures: Sunday 9 March, final round of the Winter Cup. All to play for with several players in with a real chance of winning the Cup with a good final round.

## Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday 26 February. Six played on a day that turned nasty. 1 D Robertson 78-14=64, a good score considering the conditions, and there was only one magic two managed by Douglas with a generous application of the rules.

Sunday 2 March sweep, nine played, non handicap counter. 1 J McKean [9] 41 pts, 2 T Rae-

side [8] 39 pts.

Fixtures: Sunday 9 March Brandon and Winter Cup. Class draws at 9am and 12noon. Sunday 16 March Winter Cup. Open draws at 9am and 12noon. Sunday 23 March Clochendichter Final Round.

## Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday 25 February Winter Cup. 1 Brian Sherwood 70 BIH, 2 Campbell Laing 70, 3 Alastair MacDonald 71. Scratch Brian Sherwood 73.

Saturday 1 March Lochranza Hotel Cup. 1 Brian Sherwood 29 pts BIH, 2 Campbell Laing 29 pts, 3 John Milesi 27 pts.

Fixtures: Tuesday 10 March Winter Cup tee off 12noon.

## Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday 20 February Yellow Medal [back 9 twice], 1 Ian Bremner 63 - 6 = 57.

Magic twos Ian Bremner x 2 @ 12th both times. Thursday 27 February Yellow Medal, 1st Billy O'Connor 80 - 17 = 63 [BIH over Alan Smith]. No magic twos

Sunday 2 March Winter League @ W/Bay. Result Lamlash 2 Shiskine 2. Well done to Whiting Bay on winning the Winter League having won every game.

Fixtures: Sunday 9 March Glenburn Cup 09.30am and 12noon starts. Thursday 13 March Yellow Medal 11.00am ballot.

## Trade Classified

### TREES

Tree & hedge cutting and clearing  
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## Recruitment

### 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

## Drive Times

### MAZDA 6 ZUGARA SPORT 04



Silver only 37,000 miles  
MOT December tax ends April  
Half Leather seats V.G.C

Tel: 01770 700597 after 6pm (Arran)

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Washing machine £80, clothes dryer £80 both excellent Tel: 07910 394431 Wbay

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Panasonic Lumix DMC FZ38 + case, lens hood, battery charger and 4 spare batteries. 18x zoom, 12 mega pixels. Versatile, excellent features. £50 Tel: 600348

Youths mountain bikes 10-13 years £35 Tel: 830637

Buffalo Double Heavy Duty Fryer - stainless steel 2 x 5 litre tanks - only light use. £100 Tel: 07771 783698

### UNDER £30

2x 3foot wide single mattresses - Good condition Tel: 07860 327278

Young hens all good layers free range £15 each & coops, Makita strimmer £30, under counter freezer 3 drawer £30. Tel: 600810 or 07979

416372

Large Bale bedding, chicken houses, feeders, drinkers, vermex wormer unopened, 80 litre bin/lid, cat carriers. Foldaway picnic table, yantra mat, princess/knights tents, child's pram/pushchair, £2.50 each Tel: 830610

Triton electric shower unit £30 Tel: 700742

Antique hand operated Singer sewing machine £20 Tel: 700742

Rotel Hi-Fi Amplifier RA-9708X Good working condition £25.00 Tel: 07771 783698

### FREE TO UPLIFT

Bagged Manure at Oakbank, Lamlash £1 per bag donation to Arran RDA Tel: 600752

Upright piano, in need of some attention that is free to uplift. Tel: 01770 820339 or 07889203128. Buyer to collect

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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

(in full communion with the Church of England)  
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.  
**Sunday 9th March**  
 Holy Communion, 11.00.  
 Mr John Roberts.  
 Coffee after service.  
**Wednesday 12th March**  
 Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.  
 ALL WELCOME.

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

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

**Sunday 9th 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 Pirmill Churches, 10.15am, Morning Worship at Pirmill Shiskine Church, 12noon, Morning Worship

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"  
**Sunday 9th March**  
 Kilmory 10am  
 Lamlash 11.30 am  
 Both Churches:  
 Rev Dr Ian Macleod  
 In Lamlash; Sacrament of Baptism  
 All welcome, including families; children's area  
 Scottish Charity SC015072

**WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(Charity Number: SC014005)  
**Sunday 9th 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.

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Sunday morning masses 11am

**SALVATION ARMY**

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

**BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
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**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**

Minister: Rev Jennings  
**Sunday 9th March**  
 11am 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**

(continuing)  
**Sunday 9th March**  
 Morning Service 11am  
 Trust Housing Lounge  
 Glen Estate, Brodick  
 Evening Service 6-30pm  
 5 Glen Road, Brodick  
**Wednesday 12th March**  
 Prayer Meeting 7pm  
 5 Glen Road, Brodick  
 All welcome

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

**Sunday 9th March**  
 Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)  
 Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)  
 Rev Marcus McCulloch

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS**

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

**DEATH**

**MACALISTER** - Margaret Cooper MacAlister (nee Aked), of Redhurst Cottage Lamlash, passed away peacefully in her sleep on Saturday 1 March, aged 84. Margaret is survived by her children, Anne and Angus and will be missed very much by all those who knew her.

The funeral service will be held at Daldowie Crematorium, Uddingston on Monday 10 March at 1pm - all friends and family are welcome to attend.

**THANK YOU**

**HALLYBURTON**  
 I sincerely wish to thank so many of my friends on Arran and especially in Lochranza. Firstly to Sandy and Jill in Lamlash Social Work, to Angus and Jean for the moving service and to Lorna and Ian Buchanan for playing and singing one of Bob's songs. Thanks to Clair and David Hendry for their funeral duties, and the Lochranza Hotel for the lunch they provided.

I was overwhelmed by all the cards, flowers, phone calls and even a fruit loaf and biscuits!  
 The Island has some wonderful caring people and in particular - Gail and Bill Scott who were with me all the way.  
 Thanks from the heart - Lorna.



**Whiting Bay in clean-sweep winter league cup victory**

Whiting Bay have been crowned the Arran Golfers Association winter league golf champions for the first time in 59 years.

The team were already assured of the Duncan Trophy going into the final round at Whiting Bay Golf Club on Sunday 2 March and finished the season with a five-game clean sweep.

It is only the second time they have won the trophy and the first time since 1955.

Conditions were wet underfoot but dry for most of the day although it started raining as the last couple of games



**The winning Whiting Bay team: Ronnie Mann, Tam Young, David Brookens, Jamie MacPherson, Nicol Auld, Dave Hackett, Sandy Pringle, Malcolm Pennycott, John Pennycott and Gus MacLeod. Not in picture are John Taylor and Graeme Crichton.**

were reaching their last few holes. All in all the competition has been lucky with the weather this year and all the games have been played at the first time of asking. Thanks to Whiting Bay for presenting the course in such good condition for the time of

year, also to John and Jamie for looking after everyone in the clubhouse afterwards.

The shotgun start got off to a slightly dodgy start as the claxon played up a bit but everyone just about managed to hear it and got their games under way.

First out were the champions against Corrie and some thought they might take their foot off the pedal a bit but not at all. A superb performance as they have done all year saw them take the tie by four games to none.

Next up were Lamlash against Shiskine and, with Corrie losing, a victory by either team would have been enough to clinch runners-up spot on game difference but such was the determination to beat each other the match ended up tied at two games each. A share of the points meant Corrie pipped them both to runners-up spot by one point, with a total of five.

The final match was the battle of the spoon - Brodick versus Machrie.

Before the game started Machrie were a point ahead but a fine performance from Brodick saw them take the tie by three-and-a-half to a half. With the two points they leapfrogged Machrie who slipped to last place and the dreaded wooden spoon. Association secretary Dougie Macfarlane said: 'Congratulations to Whiting Bay on their deserved win this year. The competition seems to get better every year and every match is eagerly anticipated by all the players.'

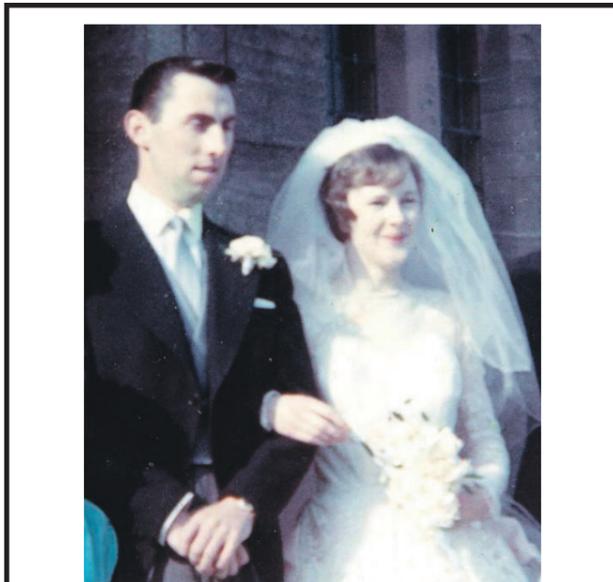
'I'm looking forward to next year already when the shotgun start will hopefully become part and parcel of the 18-hole course calendar.'

The final standings were: Whiting Bay 10 pts, Corrie 5 pts, Shiskine, Lamlash and Brodick 4 pts and Machrie 3 pts.



**AGA chairman Donald Logan presents the Duncan Cup to Whiting Bay team captain John Pennycott.**

**GOLDEN WEDDING**



**To mum and dad, congratulations on your Golden Wedding. Love from Tracey and Blair**

**Anyone for cricket?**

Following a winter break, Sannox Cricket Club will be holding an indoor practice session on Thursday 13 March from 7pm until 9pm at Auchrannie Sports Hall.

Club chairman Eric Dunn said that the club, as always, are looking for new players of all experience and ability.

The club will only be playing friendly matches this summer so any prospective

players previously put off by competitive league fixtures will be welcomed to The Sannox Oval with open arms.

**Season**

If you enjoyed taking part in the club's fun day then this could be your season. Equipment and funding for the indoor evening will be provided by the club.

For further information call Eric on 07786906992.

**THANK YOU**

**THANK YOU**

Lois would like to give her heartfelt thanks for the exceptional kindness and care given to me from all my friends and family (not to mention the food!) on the island and further afield. A big thank you to the medical staff on Arran and Crosshouse for taking care of me during this difficult time. Finally to my wonderful husband who has suffered as much as me!!

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# Sport

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# Game of two halves as Arran fall to Paisley



## Arran 12 Paisley 17

The island's rugby team were defeated 17-12 at the Ormidale Park on Saturday after a frustratingly close game against Paisley RFC.

Arran were put on the back foot for much of the first half as a fast and strong Paisley side powered down the field.

Brilliant hands from the opponents from a five-yard scrum gave them the first try of the game just 10 minutes in at the top corner, but they failed to convert.

Arran's number eight Jamie Picken was solid in defence, stopping the Paisley forwards in their tracks.

First-class tackles from brothers Stuart and Niall McMaster and Donald Bannatyne slowed the fast-ball from Paisley but the referee appeared to miss a knock-on and a forward pass that eventually resulted in a second try for the visitors.

Youngsters Sean Higgins and Frazer Thomson both

took advantage of some space after this with superb runs down field that included a great wee chip and run from Frazer.

Ben Tattersfield also tried to make use of a slow down in play but lack of support left him with nowhere to go so the game finished 12-0 at half time to Paisley.

As the second half progressed it was as if Arran had sent a different team on the pitch.

Persistent pressure on the line from Donald Murchie and the McMaster duo

looked promising but once again they were stopped in their tracks.

It wasn't until a Paisley knock-on led to a penalty that Arran had a real opportunity.

Quick ball from scrum-half Iain Keen saw Donald Bannatyne power his way across the line to score a fantastic five points for Arran, which Iain then slotted effortlessly through the posts to score a further two points.

At this point Paisley's lineout became a little scrappy and Arran took advan-

tage with a fast run down the wing by Ben Tattersfield to score a second try just minutes after the last to make the score 12-12.

With less than 10 minutes to go it looked as though a draw could be inevitable but the visitors somehow

managed one last push to leave the score 12-17 at the final whistle.

**A game of two halves: Arran were like a different team in the second half of the game.**

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