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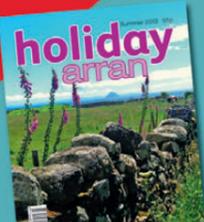
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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 30 MARCH 2013

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Arran's snow heroes

Heroic efforts of local volunteers and mainland emergency responders extolled by islanders



A cavalcade of snow ploughs and SSE teams finally made their way to the northend of Arran on Sunday afternoon – three days after the residents became stranded by the snowstorms.

01_b18cat01

REPORT

by JENNIFER LYON and HOWARD DRIVER
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

As the crow flies, Arran is little more than three miles from the Scottish mainland at its closest point - but for the residents and visitors still caught up in the aftermath of the most severe blizzards in living memory, it may as well be planted in deepest and darkest Siberia.

Many now admit that if it hadn't been for the heroic efforts of local volunteers and mainland emergency responders, the island's situation could have been far worse.

Caring folks have taken food and hot water to neighbours; others have opened up village halls to frozen residents while Arran's contractors and emergency teams have battled through snow drifts up to 12 feet high to open roads to stranded communities.

Brian Smith, Angus Raeburn and Andrew Perrie, Arran's very own Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) team have been working non-stop since the power went out to lead mainland energy teams to the worst hit areas.

A team of nearly 400 men from SSE are now on the island fighting to bring electricity to even the remotest parts of Arran.

The Arran Mountain Rescue Team and John Thomson Construction Ltd laboured for days to literally claw their way through snowdrifts on the String Road.

Hotels and village halls have opened their doors to stricken residents looking for somewhere warm to pass anxious hours in darkness. Ian Small from Brodick spent his Sunday loading truck

Continued on Page 3

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The day the lights went out on Arran

At 6.45am last Friday the lights flickered a few times, then went out altogether.

Six days later, as The Banner went to press, there was still no mains power on Arran.

This power cut heralded the start of a massive island-wide operation involving all the emergency services.

Such was the scale of the blizzard that almost 100 electricity poles toppled under the weight of heavily iced cables.

Engineers from Scottish and Southern Energy (SSE) were immediately shipped to the island from all over Britain. By Tuesday 150 engineers and six helicopters were deployed all over the west side of the island and working under the most difficult and hazardous conditions.

As the emergency operation swung into action, an Incident Command Centre was established at Auchrannie Spa in Brodick involving all emergency services.

On Tuesday the Command Centre moved to Lamlash Outdoor Centre.

But the main players have been the squads of SSE engineers still battling through the deep snow and freezing conditions.

Villages on the west coast were completely cut off for days.

Arran Mountain Rescue Team and John Thomson Construction Ltd battled for three days to break through the String Road to house-

holders in Blackwaterfoot and over the Boguille to Lochranza.

In windows on the String signs could be seen pleading 'Help - no food, no power!'

By Tuesday, the Southend road, the String and the Boguille were passable, single track, for emergency services only, and with massive walls of snow each side.

By Wednesday, these three roads were open to the public, but with 30mph speed limits.

Seven large catering vans were set up in village centres, and all the food and hot drinks were free. Lamlash fire station and many hotels were offering free use of showers as some generator power came on.

Around 50 large generators are now connected to sub-stations in the main villages and most of the island has limited generator power, but oil companies are struggling to cope with their massive usage of diesel.

Parts of Whiting Bay came on at midnight on Tuesday, but went off again at 1pm Wednesday.

Stop press: SSE told The Banner at 4pm Wednesday that they hope to have mains power reconnected to the island by some time Saturday or Sunday. Stuart Hoggarth, Director of Distribution, said: 'Residents will experience a power cut of about one hour from the generators before the proper mains supply comes on. Check the SSE social media for updates.'



An ambulance attending an incident on the String Road near Balmichael Water Treatment Works. b13snow18

Snowdrifts higher than the front door

'I don't even know where my car is, the snowdrifts are so deep out there'

An Arran woman whose cottage was cut off by snowdrifts 'higher than the front door' said she feared it could have taken weeks for rescuers to reach her.

And Louise Lewis told how she battled in vain to save the lives of deer and sheep that had been buried in the field next door. She also begged would-be helpers not to attempt to reach them because it would be too dangerous.

Louise and her family live in a tiny farming hamlet of The Craw with a narrow track leading to the road between Lochranza and Pirnmill on the west coast of Arran.

And after days without power and more Arctic conditions forecast, she admitted that at one stage she couldn't imagine getting out for the foreseeable future.

Louise, who runs a popular sandwich and snack bar in Lochranza, said: 'I don't even know where my car is; the snowdrifts are so deep out there.'

'I parked it beside the house - but it has been completely engulfed.'

'The track down to the road was under eight feet of snow and some trees came down on top of it just for good measure!'

She added: 'We were OK

for food but the immediate worry was a shortage of coal or logs.'

'On Saturday morning, the snow was actually banked up above the front door of the cottage.'

'All the sheep in the field next door were completely buried too.'

'I managed to get into the field and found some sheep and deer - there was nothing I could do for them. It was a horrible situation.'

'It will take weeks to get the track properly cleared.'

In addition to Louise, husband Brian and their two teenage children, residents of the hamlet include a family who have a newly adopted baby and two foster children.

She added: 'My neighbour is a builder and has dumpers and diggers, but even they can't make any impact because the snow just keeps on blowing around.'

Happy ending for snow hit wedding

Despite the extreme weather that hit Arran last weekend there has been a happy ending for a couple whose wedding plans were thrown into chaos because of the heavy snow.

Kirsten Millar and Jamie Picken from Lenamhor Farm, Kilmory were due to marry in the village church on Saturday before a reception at the Auchrannie Hotel, but the snow had threatened to ruin their big day.

Kirsten told The Banner: 'We knew on Friday that our church wedding might not happen as the roads were getting worse with snow.'

'By Saturday morning Jamie and his brothers went out to check what the main road was like - this is when we began to realise the extent of the weather.'

She added: 'Iain Hamilton at Auchrannie was most helpful in supporting us through this situation. We were lucky enough to have him coordinate the wedding on the day.' The groom and his family spent most of the Big Day clearing the snow and thanks to Oliver Glistler and his plough, the wedding party was able to reach the main road.

'But when we tried to leave, even though John had cleared the track, it was covered in snow again,' said Kirsten. 'We got stuck and had to be pulled out by tractor by Murray and Alan Picken.'

Kirsten and Jamie would like to thank the huge number of people that helped to make their day so special.

Kirsten said: 'We are eternally grateful and feel privileged to have the community spirit behind us.'

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Arran's snow heroes celebrated

Continued from Page 1

after truck with essential supplies bound for the particularly stricken north end of Arran.

He said: 'This is a remarkable situation, the likes of which I have never seen here.'

'I remember a particularly harsh winter at the start of 1963, and my parents have told me about 1940 when they could walk on the frozen and snow-covered hedge tops - but this is something else.'

'Some of the roads, such as the one leading from the south into Lochranza, are going to take a long, long time to clear. The drifts are so high.'

'And as for the power situation? It looks pretty awful to me.'

With so many households now being entirely reliant on electricity, a huge number of residents quickly found themselves in difficulty.

Houses very soon became chilled, and many had no means of heating or cooking.

At McKelvie Road Sheltered Housing in Lamlash the 22 residents were huddled in the lounge around mobile gas heaters.

One 84-year-old lady told the Banner: 'Our flats were freezing, but Mary and John Adams, the caretakers, rallied round. They kept us all warm and fed. John was even taking flasks of hot water to other houses in McKelvie Road. I slept in my chair with socks, slippers, gloves and woolly hat on.'

At Cooriedoon in Whiting Bay proprietor Sandra But-

ler reported: 'We are coping really well. When the power went off on Friday we got out the mobile gas heaters, but the fire alarm and emergency lighting began to fade.'

'I phoned the Hydro on Saturday morning and two hours later we had electricity. They connected us to the emergency generator brought to the village.'

'I'm really grateful to them and my amazing staff. We have even been able to take in one patient from the hospital and four vulnerable elderly people from the community. Our cook Jackie has even been barbecuing food outside to conserve energy!'

Catering units

By Saturday afternoon, the first of seven large mobile catering units was installed outside Lamlash Fire Station offering a range of good food, 24 hours a day, and again all free.

Pirnmill had double trouble. The local water pumping station needs power, so they had no water or power for four days. Richard Wright spoke of his lucky escape after he, his wife Aileen and their two young grandchildren were plucked to safety by mountain rescue squads after getting stuck on the Boguille.

Mr Wright, who had been attempting to reach his home in Lochranza en route from the Brodick ferry terminal, added: 'Things could have been very, very serious.'

'It was a bit of a fluke that the mountain rescue guys spotted us. They were actu-

ally out searching for another van and its driver which had been reported missing.'

Former mountain rescue team member Peter McKinnon, of Corrie, said: 'The drifting on that stretch of the road between Sannox and Lochranza is unbelievable.'

'It is quite conceivable that vehicles have been buried completely and not spotted. I just pray that everyone has been accounted for.'

Sadly there are also reports that many of the island's livestock have perished in the snowstorms.



Volunteers battled through huge snow drifts for three days to clear a path across the String Road. b13mar02

'Incredible' Kinloch comes to the rescue

Elderly and vulnerable people in the Shiskine area have heaped praise on the Kinloch Hotel for their 'incredible' efforts during the recent crisis.

Murdina Currie who lives at Kinloch Court sheltered housing told The Banner that many of the older, helpless people in the village could have been in much greater difficulty if it hadn't been for the Blackwaterfoot hotel.

She said: 'I really cannot say enough about the staff and volunteers that have rallied around us all during the recent power cuts.'

'They've been bringing us three good meals a day - porridge in the morning, buttered toast and tea and coffee and hot meals at night - it has been wonderful.'

'I really do not know what we would have done without them.'

Barbara Crawford, who owns the Kinloch Hotel, said: 'We were completely shut off, with the roads to get here impassable, but we got a helicopter delivery of blankets, flasks and torches to the hotel. We've opened our shower facilities for people to use and the mountain rescue team who have been co-ordinating from here.'

'We've also had a team of doctors and care workers here and people have had to come to the hotel to see them.'

'The hotel has been in the family for 58 years and neither me nor my husband Robbie have ever seen anything like this.'

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Arran's reputation enhanced by response to crisis

'This should not have happened and cannot happen again'

Transport Minister Keith Brown visited the island on Monday morning to assess



A grateful Jo Earle receiving fuel, animal feed and chocolate from Willie McNish after being stranded at the remote steading of Lecamor for three days. b13snow17

the power crisis that has hit Arran so badly.

Mr Brown said: 'We have all been very impressed at the resilience and patience of the Arran people - it would not have been the case in many other places.'

'This crisis has been widely publicised and Arran's reputation has been enhanced nationally.'

'The response from the emergency services has been tremendous.'

'We have even issued derogation licences to driving hours in some cases.'

Mr Brown was accompanied by Kenneth Gibson MSP, Victor Stirling of SSE and Bobby Ronnie, Scottish Government Head of Critical Infrastructure Resilience.

Victor Stirling said: 'We



Ice clad telephone lines hang heavy with the weight of snow in Catacol. Hundreds of telephone lines across the west side of Arran have snapped. 01_b13cat01

have over 150 engineers on the island from as far away as Aberdeen.

'They are fighting through 14-foot snowdrifts to get to a large number of incidents. So far we have found 40 poles brought down by the weight of snow and ice.'

'In 35 years I have never seen anything like it before.'

'We have installed 30 large

generators in villages and around 30 percent of islanders have some form of supply. But we would urge folk to only use electricity for essential supplies.'

'When this is over, we will be upgrading the whole infrastructure.'

Kenneth Gibson added: 'The emergency services are trying to get food, water and blankets to outlying areas. No expense will be spared.'

'Following the restoration of power and full communications, a review of how an island of the size and population of Arran could be cut off without power in the 21st century for so long is essential.'

'This should not have happened and cannot happen again.'

'But would you believe that the police even had to turn back people yesterday who wanted to climb Goatfell!'



Victor Stirling SSE Head of Performance for Transmission, Bobby Ronnie, Head of Critical Infrastructure Resilience, Kenneth Gibson MSP and Transport Minister Keith Brown at the Banner office on Monday. 02_b13keith01

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Arran's electricity supply is all over the place at the moment so now is the perfect time to be looking at greener energy supplies that offer a better return for your money. Barr Renewables is operated by Alistair Barr from Biggar

who lived on Arran for 15 years whilst bringing up his two children who still live here.



Green energy is supplied directly from the sun to allow you to generate your own electricity and be paid to export your excess back to the grid. Above is an example of a 50kw system fitted by us.

His company offers green renewable energy in the form of solar panels and biomass boilers for the domestic and commercial business markets. When working on the island he uses local tradesmen to do all roofs and electrical work.

Green energy is supplied directly from the sun to allow you to generate your own electricity and be paid to export your excess back to the grid.

The solar panels are a very cost effective way of supplying electricity to your home during the day and in five and a half to six years the panels will have paid for themselves.

One very satisfied island customer said: 'We chose Barr Renewables to supply the solar panels for a few reasons.'

'Alistair is an Arran lad so we could find him if things did not go as promised and he kept appointments.'

'We were given a clear understanding of what was involved and a full projection breakdown of costs and in-



Bridge Cottage at Shiskine recently had solar panels installed by us.

come for 20 years. One company we talked to only gave the headline figures of cost and income.'

He added: 'The installation was carried out in two days and Alistair has been back two or three times to check that we are happy with the system and that it is functioning correctly.'

'It is working as described to us, electricity has been produced at a greater rate than we use it since installation at the beginning of March. It is great to see the electric meter going backwards.'

The biomass pellet boilers are a clean and safe renewable

technology for commercial companies on Arran.

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Alistair Barr offers green renewable energy in the form of solar panels for domestic homes and biomass boilers for commercial businesses.

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Allan Reid playing the Last Post during the Dasher service at Brodick pier on Saturday. 02_b13das01

Dasher disaster remembered at Brodick memorial service

The 70th anniversary of the sinking of HMS Dasher was marked last Saturday with a memorial service at Brodick pier.

Relatives of the dead and some sea cadets from TS Gannet travelled across to Arran on the 9.45am sailing from Ardrossan.

MV Caledonian Isles made a slight diversion on the crossing for a wreath to be cast

overboard at the site of the war grave.

At Brodick pier, a short service was held, followed by local bugler Allan Reid sounding the Last Post and Reveille.

The Dasher sank in the waters between Arran and Ardrossan in March 1943 with the loss of 379 lives in one of the worst British naval disasters of the Second World War.

Season ticket price slashed for bus users

Regular bus commuters on Arran will be celebrating at the beginning of the month as the

price of a weekly Megarider season ticket is slashed by £10 from £29 to £19.

While Stagecoach passengers on the island face a five percent increase in the price of standard single and return fares, the cost of the weekly season has been reduced by more than 33 percent.

Rising costs

Stagecoach said today that continued rising costs, including labour, energy, fuel and insurance costs, and reduced public sector investment in

bus services has resulted in the operator having no choice but to increase some fares.

Edward Hodgson, Managing Director of Stagecoach West Scotland, said: 'We have worked hard to keep fares down for those who rely on the bus the most.'

'As the cost of motoring continues to rise, our bus services continue to offer a greener, smarter and better value way to travel and we are committed to re-investing income from fares in further improvements for passengers.'

The five percent rise com-

pares with a 14 percent rise in the annual cost of motoring reported by the RAC in November 2011.

Average

'It now costs an average of £6,689, or 55.7pence per mile each year to own and run a car in the UK.'

Stagecoach also recently announced the launch of the country's first long-term nationwide discounted bus travel scheme for jobseekers, whereby holders of a Jobcentreplus Travel Discount Card will qualify for half-price single and return tickets on Stagecoach's 6,500 buses in the UK.

Arran beer to be brewed elsewhere

Following the rejection of a grant application to expand the Arran Brewery, managing director Gerald Michaluk is now embarking on a 'Gypsy Strategy' to satisfy demand for the beer.

The brewery will now make its beer in other breweries around the world rather than

simply exporting its beer from Scotland.

Managing director Gerald Michaluk said: 'The entire production from Arran will only be enough to satisfy demand in Scotland for our beers, where Arran Blonde is the best selling craft beer and the tenth best selling ale.'

'Without the grant funds to expand on Arran we will take Arran to other markets by becoming 'Gypsy Brewers' and making and distributing our beer in the country we would have been exporting to.'

'It is a strategy not without risk but it is greener than simply exporting beer.'

The company claim they can make an Arran Ale that tastes very similar to the original bottling by adding natural salts to local waters to impersonate the island's water as well as using the same whole hops, types of equipment, yeast and an Arran Brewer. However, if tasted side by side with Arran made beer the differences may be noticeable.

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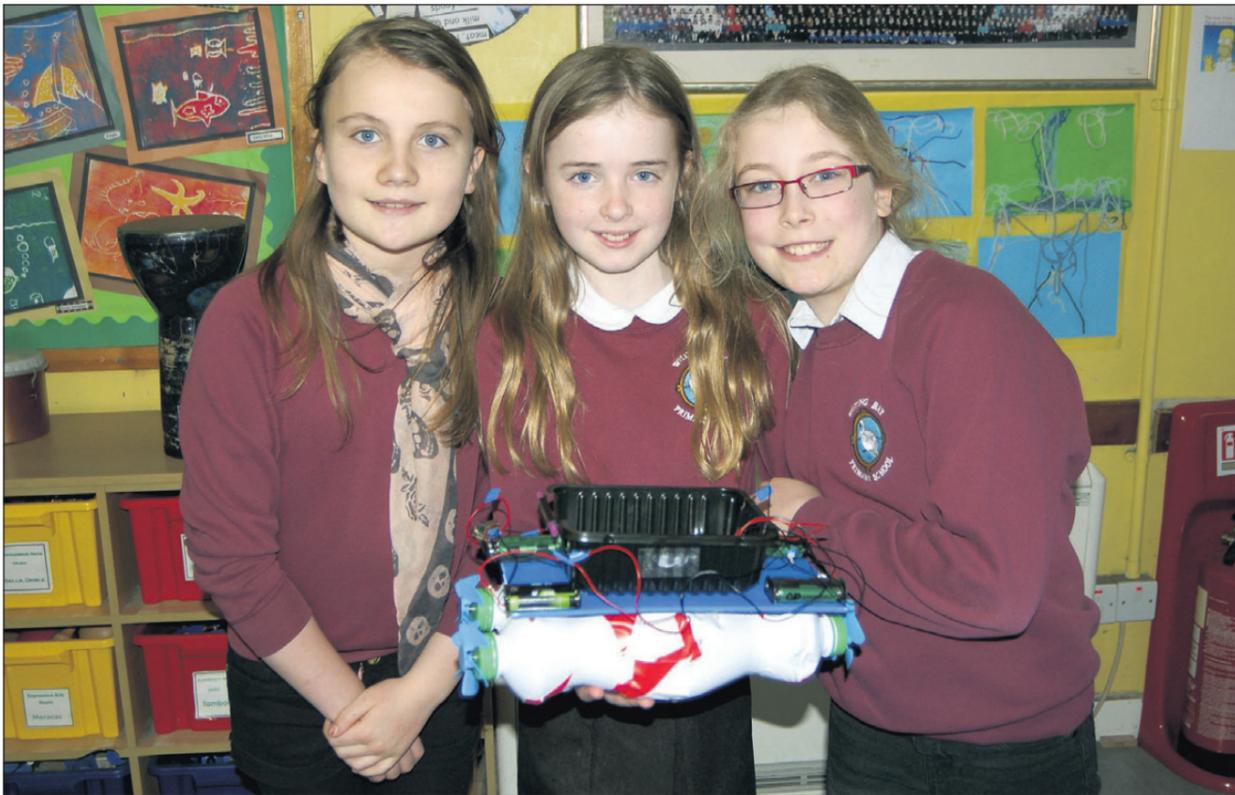
Help identify vulnerable local people

Following the major power and roads issues on the island, NHS Ayrshire and Arran is asking locals to help to identify members of the community who may be vulnerable, and who need additional care.

For general welfare concerns, respite or food van locations, please call North Ayrshire Council Contact Centre on 0845 603 0590 during office hours.

For social service queries only please call 01770 600 742 during office hours, or 0800 328 7758 out-of-hours.

For non-emergency medical care, please call NHS24 on 08454 24 24 24.



Eilidh MacPherson, Ellie Bonner and Aimee Prescott have built their very own turbine powered boat. 01_b13bay02



Nastassja Alberti and Emily Armitage with their sticky-gooey experiment. 01_b13bay01

Eureka! Whiting Bay kids go mad for science

The children enjoyed a day of experiments at the school

The pupils at Whiting Bay Primary School have gone science mad after a trip to the National Science Museum recently.

The youngsters enjoyed a day of experiments at the school last week as they put into practice all they had learnt on their trip the following week.

As The Banner wandered around taking pictures in all the classrooms, the children enthusiastically talked us through all of their experiments.

Every single one of them was clearly excited by science in action and many said they were keen to do more experiments.

Headteacher Annette Treble said the school were keen to encourage an interest in science from as young an age as possible.

Right: Experimenting with different expansive gases were Finlay Ahearn and Shaun Clark. 01_b13bay05



Aitken Adam with his underwater exploration vehicle. 01_b13bay04



Kirsty Kerr and Lucy Walsh experiment with wind and sound energy. 01_b13bay03

THE ARRAN BANNER

Snowmageddon!

This has been one of the most frightening, confusing, anxious and demanding weeks I think many of us have ever experienced on Arran.

When I woke to a blizzard and three inches of snow in Catacol on Friday morning I knew there was no point in even attempting to go to work.

But even then I must admit I still believed I would get to Brodick at some point later on that day – four days later I was still in Catacol.

The power went off at about 6am and despite a flicker of the lights at 11am, they remained almost resolutely off until late on Tuesday night.

Sadly, as I write this on Wednesday, I know there are many on our island that still do not have the warmth and luxury of electricity.

With no power and no mobile signal from Friday morning we had no way of knowing what was happening and it was a little bit worrying by Sunday that there was still no sign of the snow ploughs.

It is hard to put in to words just how isolating it was to have no connection to the outside world.

We really had no idea what was happening in other parts of the island and we certainly had no comprehension of the mammoth rescue operation that was underway to reach the stranded communities.

Finally, after days of fretful waiting, at 2pm on Sunday a grand procession of snow ploughs, diggers and SSE vans appeared on the horizon from Pirnmill like Hannibal crossing the Alps on his elephants and it felt as though at last we were saved.

When I spoke to the first men from SSE they told me they wanted to cry as they had no idea where to even begin their mammoth task of reconnecting the northend.

A lot has already been said about Arran's incredible community spirit and I am going to add more.

I don't think any of us on Arran will ever be able to express how grateful we are to every single person that has worked tirelessly to help keep our communities together.

Neighbours that took hot water and food to older people, hotels that opened their doors to keep people warm; the staff manning food stations around the island; local emergency volunteers and the men from SSE – every single one of them are heroes.

Thank you!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.' (1 Peter 1:3)

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



Arran fortitude praised

Sir,
In 1942, at the height of the Second World War the people of the island of Malta were awarded the George Cross for their fortitude.

The same spirit which pulled people together in the face of adversity has surely been well displayed by those on the island of Arran much nearer to home.

It has been heart warming to read of the way in which the islanders have faced up to the very difficult weather conditions which have left so many without heat or light.

Many professionals, volunteers and simply good neighbours have gone out of their way to ensure that those most at risk have been supported as best they could.

Special mention must surely go to those power workers who struggle in high winds and freezing temperatures to restore power as quickly as possible.

We sometimes read of the 'Dunkirk spirit'. Well-done Arranites for showing that the 'Malta spirit' still exists.

I look forward to revisiting one of my favourite islands, but hope that I will be forgiven if I wait just a little until the temperature rises above freezing.

Perhaps the cold weather will have given some of the midges a fright.

Yours,
Malcolm Allan
Via e-mail

Huge thank you

Sir,
A huge thank you to the Whiting Bay Village Hall committee and other helpers for their amazing hospitality during the recent power cuts – community spirit is not dead.

How heart warming (as well as body warming) to be able to go somewhere where hot food, tea and coffee and smiling faces were on free offer to all – up to 24 hours!

And yes – the amazing Chamber Philharmonic Europe Orchestra were given much-needed hot food, tea

and coffee before performing their wonderful concert in the hall on Sunday.

The committee have even made national television and press.

So thank you so much once again and well done.

Yours,
Janice Christison
Whiting Bay

Arran's mills sought

Sir,
I am presently carrying out a survey of water-powered mills on Arran as part of my survey of mills in North Ayrshire.

To date I have recorded over 100 mills on mainland North Ayrshire and Cumbrae.

On Arran I have identified at least 22 possible mill sites based on my study of the first edition O.S. maps.

Most mills on the mainland/Cumbrae have been farm ones where the water power was used most often for threshing with perhaps some use being made to crush root crops and cattle cake.

One farm had the milking machines powered by water and now in these days of high energy costs the farmer is wishing he had kept his water wheel working.

My survey is mainly a photographic one but I do fill in a survey sheet on my return home.

I do not take measurements as it is difficult on your own and with limited equipment but where relevant I use my own 'measurement' system, i.e. my hand or my ruck sac as a ruler.

At the end of my survey I will endeavour to write up as much of the history of each mill as I can research the ultimate aim being to produce a gazetteer of all the mills.

I have started my survey on the island and have visited Glenree, Benecarrigan, Little mill, Kildonan and Lamlash corn mill, albeit the site is now occupied by new housing. I have already received some good information from Grace Small of the Heritage Museum.

Can I ask your readers if

they can supply me with information on mill sites, history of the mills, old photographs.

I can be contacted at weir601@btinternet.com or at 01294 551257.

Yours,
Alastair Weir
Kilwinning

Thoughtful argument

Sir,
Aha! So the Banner has decided to support the 'no' campaign, but on a fatuous comparison of Arran and the Falkland Islands.

People who live in Argentina are called Argentinians. 'Argentines' are visitors from the mainland who have stayed in a certain guest-house in Whiting Bay.

It is quite likely that the people living on Arran would vote 99.8 per cent to stay British were there the threat of the Scandinavians arriving in strength again in Lamlash Bay, declaring that 1263 was unfinished business.

Surely there must be more thoughtful arguments for voting no (or yes) in our coming referendum?

Yours,
Jim Arnold
Whiting Bay

Voicing opinions

Sir
I enjoyed your mainly good-natured piece on the Falklands.

It was spoiled, though, by the sour notes of the last two paragraphs.

Scotland won't be 'torn from the Union' but will move towards independence only if a majority of us vote 'Yes' in 2014.

The phrase 'under Alex Salmond's Saltire' is hostile but also dishonest.

The Yes Campaign deserves credit for having built a style of civic nationalism, which is benign, inclusive and progressive.

Alex Salmond is Scotland's first minister because we chose the party he leads in fair elections in 2011 for a fixed term. If you have any better ideas for representative de-

mocracy, tell us what they are! Some British institutions are popular, for example the NHS. There is a developing consensus, however, that we don't wish to live in a country where billions are squandered on Trident while child poverty grows and we continue to have the lowest life expectancy in Western Europe.

We don't want a massive nuclear dump on our doorstep. Do we need the House of Lords, with its 26 unelected bishops, making our laws? Come to think of it, do we need lords?

Should we have prosecuted some bankers rather than reward them with million-pound bonuses? The referendum debate is about what kind of society we wish to live in. Why not engage in this historic debate? Tell us what's good about the Union rather than carping.

Unionists own all the newspapers and control the BBC, so you are not going to be 'drowned out'.

Yours,
Malcolm Kerr
Brodick

Bulb show postponed

Sir,
Please can you let Arran's gardeners know that we have had to postpone the Spring Bulb show until April 13?

Apart from a few daffodils, everything is very far behind.

Yours,
John Sillars
Arran Horticultural Society



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your clocks
forward one hour
this weekend

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Childrens Activities 11am - 3pm • Egg Trail £1 • Entrance FREE
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Cadbury Easter Egg Trails

The National Trust for Scotland has teamed up with Cadbury again to bring Easter Trails to 45 places across Scotland from Good Friday to Easter Monday!

Follow the trail, collect the clues, solve the puzzle and win a Cadbury Egghead! There'll be extra fun at some trails with children's entertainers too!



Each of the trails is different – a great excuse to try your hand at more than one!

Brodick Castle, Garden & Country Park Sun 31 Mar, 11-3pm

For dates, times and info on each trail visit
www.nts.org.uk/Easter



the National Trust
for Scotland
a place for easter

Information Centre to 'welcome the world'

Brodick's VisitScotland Information Centre has opened for the season following a refurbishment.

Approximately £40,000 has been invested in the refurbishment of the Tourist Information Centre at Brodick Pier, including a contribution of £10,000 from North Ayrshire Council.

The new layout includes increased racking for literature, large-scale wall graphics and local and national wall maps to help visitors plan their journey.

VisitScotland has also worked with local charity, COAST, to upgrade some of the internal graphics. Annique Armstrong, regional

director for VisitScotland, said: 'This is fantastic news for Arran and we are delighted to work closely with North Ayrshire Council to be able to deliver what will continue to be a top quality service for both locals and visitors.'

'The Information Centre refurbishment comes at a vital time for the tourism industry with Easter fast approaching. As our local, national and international campaigns are well underway for the Year of Natural Scotland this year, and indeed Homecoming Scotland 2014, visitors and locals on the island will now be able to take full advantage of the range of services on offer.'

Open garden for 'Smile Train'

Spring flowers are blooming and the 'Flying Scotsman' and other trains will be running in a garden in Lamlash this Easter weekend.

Weather permitting, as well as the model trains at 47 Murray Crescent, there will be a new sculpture by wood carver Marvin Elliott on display.

All proceeds are for the charity Smile Train that provides a 45-minute operation, costing just £150, which enables a child with a cleft-palate or hare-lip to be able to eat and breath normally and smile.

The garden will be open from 10am to 5pm tomorrow (Saturday) and from 1pm to 5pm on Sunday.

Tea and coffee will be available.



Work goes ahead at Sannox Christian Centre.

Sannox Christian Centre bell will ring this Easter

Once again, this Easter Sunday the church bell will ring at Sannox.

It is hard to believe that almost a year has passed since the bell was rung at Sannox Church last Easter Sunday to celebrate the commencement of the restoration project. Work has been progressing at Sannox Christian Centre slowly but surely and the first small building to be used as a meeting room with office facilities will be largely completed by the end of the month.

Cleared

The site has also been cleared of the accumulated debris of many years, including the rampaging bramble bushes.

Full Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent for the entire project has been obtained thanks to the support of the neighbours, the community council, the politicians and the planners.

Over the next few weeks it is anticipated that work will commence on the renovation of Dundarroch and the restoration of the church.

With some modernisation this will create a multi-func-

tional space which will be useful for meetings, classes, community events and church services.

The progress of the work is dependent on grant funding, donations and skilled volunteer labour. Those able to offer practical assistance or donations of time, expertise and finances would be most welcome to get in touch.

There is an open invitation to anyone interested in the project to call in and speak

to Stuart Carr who is generally on site during the week. He will be happy to show you around and explain the project to you but you might want to call him on 810201 to make sure he will be there to see you when you visit.

Easter Sunday

Once again this Easter Sunday the bell will ring at Sannox.

A service will be held in the church at 2pm and will be open to all who wish to at-

tend. A bell tent will be set up on the site of the future Beehive Chapel which will provide shelter and warmth for those wishing to pray quietly for the future success of the project and the wellbeing of the local community.

For ongoing news and ways in which you can support this project visit www.sannox.org. You can also view a fly-through of the design at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ix9D48XyRuQ>

DONALD COULDN'T WAIT FOR 5PM SO HE COULD GET HOME AND READ THE LATEST SCOTTISH FIELD!



APRIL ISSUE OUT NOW

Inside:

ARDNAMURCHAN - Fergie Macdonald on an unspoilt paradise

PLUS..

THE BEAUTIFUL GARDENS AT ARDMADDY CASTLE

Perthshire in photographs

10 OF THE BEST FRAUDSTERS AND HOAXERS

Scotland's classical musical

festivals take off

SHOULD SCOTLAND HAVE MORE NATIONAL PARKS?

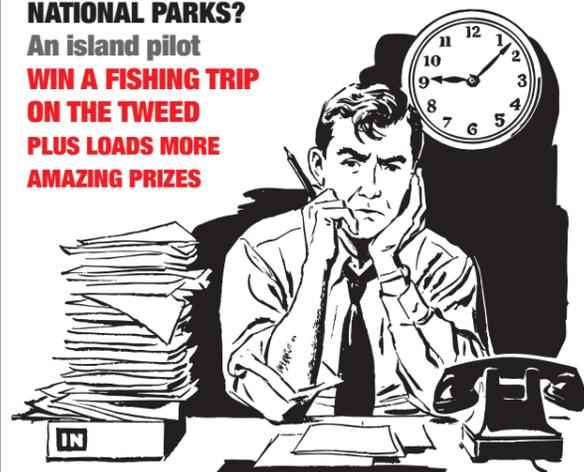
An island pilot

WIN A FISHING TRIP

ON THE TWEED

PLUS LOADS MORE

AMAZING PRIZES



Trust to hold gala dinner

The Arran Trust is holding a fundraising gala dinner next month at Brambles Bistro at the Auchrannie to raise funds for the charity.

Arran's visitor gifting scheme has generated over £45,000 that has been used for projects that preserve and conserve the island.

These projects include path building, access, species reintroduction, conservational awareness, and heritage.

The gala dinner will take place on Saturday 20 April and local celebrity Ali Hume has kindly agreed to speak at the dinner, which will also include raffles and a charity auction.

Ali is a 'weel kent' face on Arran, through his involvement with the Arran Mountain Rescue Team and Arran Pipe Band and no one is probably as well qualified as he to talk about the importance of preserving the island, whilst still allowing it to develop.

Dinner

Tickets for the Dinner are £35 and are available from the Arran Trust office, by phoning 302043 or by email info@arran-trust.org.

They will also be available from the Book and Card Centre, Brodick.

For more information about the Arran Trust check our their website www.arran-trust.org



The first of the new houses being built in St Molio Park.

Lamlash pupils prepare time capsule for St Molio Park

As reported in last week's Banner, the development of 56 new properties at Benlister has been given the name St Molio Park.

Pupils at Lamlash Primary School are now busy working with Irvine Housing Association on a time capsule project, to be buried on the site of this new affordable housing development in Lamlash.

Items to be sealed in the capsule include a school sweater signed by all the pupils, a group photograph, a panoramic image of the school,

drawings of local landmarks, weather predictions and a record of current events, gadgets and pop stars.

Gillian Craig, Marketing and Communications Officer and Leanne Lynch, Development Officer at Irvine visited the school on Monday 18 March to see the work in progress and give the pupils the opportunity to ask questions about the new homes and the time capsule project.

Gillian was impressed with the variety of projects the pupils are working on.

She said: 'It's great to see the whole school work together and getting involved in the project. Head teacher Douglas Auld and depute head Sharon Gregg gave us a tour of the classrooms where the pupils showed off their work.'

'It will be exciting to see the finalised work go into the capsule.'

'We had lots of good suggestions from the pupils like laminating work to preserve it and including a signed sweatshirt. One of the pupils



A plan of the development of 56 properties at Benlister.

even asked if he could go in the capsule.'

The time capsule will be buried within the development before the school breaks for the summer holidays.

The 56-home development at Benlister is a mixture of rented and shared equity homes. The first 16 homes (eight rented and eight shared equity) in the development are on track to be completed this summer.

The remaining 40 houses will be completed by summer 2014.

The development is a mixture of one and two bedroom flats, and two and three bedroom houses.

The Shared Equity scheme helps people move on to the home-ownership housing ladder.

If you are interested in renting or buying a home in the development, Irvine Housing Association will be holding an open day in Lamlash on Thursday 18 April.

Details of the event will be published in the Banner in the coming weeks.



Head teacher Douglas Auld with staff and pupils, preparing the time capsule.

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Rowan Singers prepare for the sounds of spring

Arran High School Community Theatre will host the concert



John Harrington will be performing on his viola.

One of Arran's most celebrated choirs, the Rowan Singers, is inviting islanders to come and enjoy some music at their spring concert next month.

On Friday 12 April in the Arran High School Community Theatre a programme of music that includes sacred songs, folk songs, traditional songs and songs from the shows will be performed.

Welcome return

Making a welcome return to Arran is Kerrie Calder, a gifted flautist who will perform at the concert as well as singing with the choir.

Those who have attended previous Rowan Singers' or

Lochranza Choir concerts will have heard Kerrie's hauntingly beautiful renditions on the flute.

A spokesman for the Rowan Singers said: 'We are delighted to welcome John Harrington back to Arran to join us in concert.'

'Everyone who attended the McLellan festival concert in 2012 will know what a splendid viola player he is and the warmth of tone he gets from his viola. He played the famous Meditation from Thaïs by Massenet, usually played on the violin and it was a real treat to hear it played by him on the viola.'

Learning

John began learning piano at the age of six and violin at eleven.

He studied at the Royal



The Rowan Singers' spring concert has an exciting line up of local and internationally renowned musicians.

Academy of Music in London, joined the BBC Northern Symphony Orchestra as violinist and then gained valuable experience in Chamber Music, joining the 'Ad Solem Ensemble' which was affiliated to Manchester University.

John left Manchester in 1973 to become Principal Second violin with the SNO under Sir Alexander Gibson. In 1977 he became Principal Viola, and continued to hold that position until his retirement last year.

What better way to celebrate the beginning of spring than with what promises to be a most enjoyable evening - come and sample the Rowan Singers' Springtime Selection. There's something for everyone!

Arran Comedy Fest
 Whiting Bay Hall, Friday 5th April
 8:00pm Prompt (doors open 7pm)
 Licensed Bar. Strictly over 18s.
 Tickets: £10 from www.arranevents.com or Brodick & Whiting Bay Post Offices.

Bruce Morton ('The Godfather of Scottish Stand-up' - The Scotsman)
Philip Diffey ('Comedy Genius' - Daily Record)
John Gavin ('effortless likeability and unaffected charm' - Chortle)
 Plus **Scott Agnew** (compere for the evening)

Isle of Arran RFC Sevens

30th March 2013
 Ormidale Park
 7.30pm
 Refreshments - Bar

CANCELLED

Isle of Arran Pipe Band
 Followed by
SEVENS DANCE
 Brodick Hall 9pm
 Live Band
 Bar - Tickets £5
 Buses back to Lamash, Shiskine & Corrie

THE ROWAN SINGERS
 Charity number Sco33994

SPRING CONCERT
 'Springtime Selection'

Guest artists:
 John Harrington on the cello
 And Kerrie Calder on the flute

Friday 12th April
 7.30pm Arran High School

Tickets £8 for adults and £3 for children - Tickets include a programme and refreshments.
 Tickets available from members of the choir and the Book and Card Centre

Proceeds to Marie Curie Cancer Care

The World Famous Lochranza Daffodil Tea
 Saturday 30th March
Postponed until Saturday 6th April
 Lochranza Hall

Lots of Children's activities - Name the Chick
 Home Baking, Egg Hunt
 Plants, Tombola, Bric a Brac, Raffle
 Jewellery, Cards, Woollens, Essential Oils
 And the incredibly delicious Lochranza tea!

ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM
 SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER SC002089

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Got a story for
The Arran Banner?
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Luke elected to Scottish Youth Parliament

An Arran High School pupil has been elected by his peers to represent their views and concerns at the Scottish Youth Parliament over the next two years.

Thousands of young people cast their votes in the elections on Thursday 14 March and 16-year-old Luke Cannon of Lamash was chosen to represent Cunninghame North.

As one seat remains vacant in Cunninghame North, a by-

election will be required in the near future. The Scottish Youth Parliament gives young people the chance to have a say on the issues which matter to them and their peers and each of the candidates spoke about the areas the hope to campaign in.

Pledged

New Cunninghame North MSYP, Luke Cannon pledged to work to help young people across his constituency, particularly issues facing young

Arran residents including transport

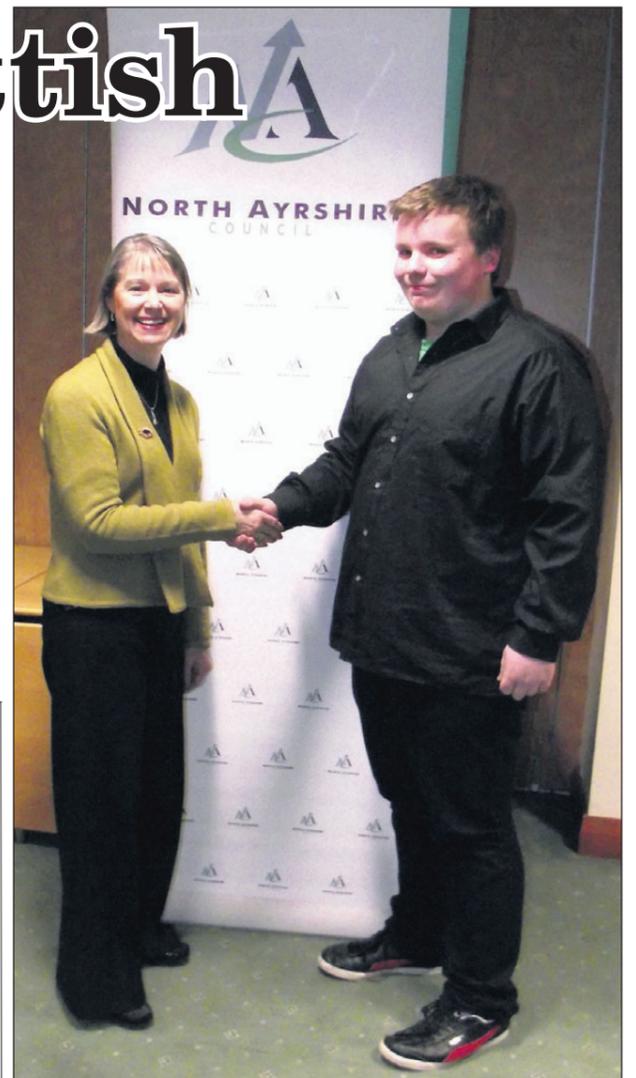
North Ayrshire's youth champion, Councillor Ruth Maguire welcomed the new MSYPs.

High profile

She said: 'Congratulations to Luke on his election. Members of the Scottish Youth Parliament led several high profile campaigns in their last term, and I know they will work really hard for the people they represent.'

'The turnout for these elections was impressive and is a great reflection of how engaged young people are in North Ayrshire. Praise is due to the Youth workers who organised the election, provided support and encouraged participation - well done to all involved.'

This year's election marked the first e-voting ballot and encouraged young people across North Ayrshire to use virtual polling booths.



Luke Cannon, right, Cunninghame North's new MSYP with North Ayrshire Council's chief executive Elma Murray.

Schools future outlined by council

North Ayrshire Council's vision for the future of education in the region was discussed last week as councillors look to shape schooling for years to come.

According to the council, education is one of their highest priorities and one that can ensure young people have the right skills and attitude to enjoy a successful future.

North Ayrshire's schools aim to develop young peo-

ple in the round, improving attitudes and well-being to improve their chances of employment.

The key tenets of the council's vision were developed by the Education Policy Board and will help to ensure young people have:

- A good start in life
- Are healthy both physically and emotionally

The best chance to be successful learners, confident

individuals and responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to their community

Councillor Tony Gurney, cabinet member for education, attainment and achievement said: 'It is very important that we have a real vision for our schools. Only by setting out clear goals and aspirations can we ensure we are heading in the right direction. This vision outlines where

our focus lies and what our aims and aspirations are for the future.'

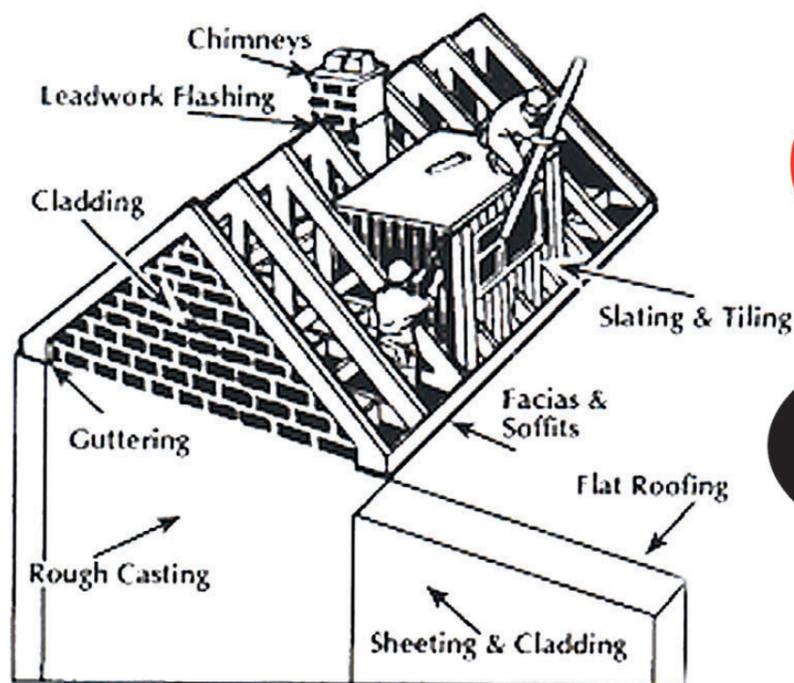
He added: 'Of course, many of these areas are already being addressed - for example high quality early years provision, our commitment to Curriculum for Excellence, ensuring pupils have the skills necessary for employment, support for children to involve parents and others involved in education.'



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Out & About on A

Corrie Cabs

Corrie Cabs offer a great taxi service that will take you literally anywhere on the island.

With their luxury people carrier you can see the island in style without worrying about how to get from one part of the island to another.

Arran Active

The Arran Active Outdoor Shop is situated within the Cladach Visitor Centre at the start of Goatfell path in Brodick. Its perfect for all the things you might need to enjoy the outdoors this Easter – especially if Arran's legendary weather strikes with a vengeance.

Easter on Arran

Easter is always one of Arran's busiest and most exciting times and with so much to do on the island it is sometimes hard to know where to start so let us help you with some inspiring ideas. There are lots of exciting events this weekend to keep both adults and children thoroughly entertained.

Arran Mountain Festival

The fun begins for this year's Arran Mountain Festival on Saturday 6 April with a family ceilidh in Brodick Church Hall from 7.30pm until 11pm.

Everyone is welcome to join in the fun and dancing with music from the wonderful Arranach Ceilidh Band. If you're new to ceilidh dancing there's no need to worry as a caller will guide you through the routines and there will be an optional Easter bonnet competition with prizes for the best adult and child entries.

When you have worked up an appetite, traditional stovies will be available for a small donation and feel free to bring your own alcoholic refreshments.

The evening has been organised to raise funds for the Mountain Festival which is organised by volunteers and to which walk leaders give their time and expertise for free.

Friday's Child

For unique souvenirs of your Easter on Arran, Friday's Child at Home Farm just outside Brodick is one of Arran's coolest gift shops and it is piled high with quirky and interesting gifts.

Flying Fever

If you're keen to make the most of Arran's beautiful scenery then Flying Fever's British Hang Gliding and Paragliding registered school is perfect. With over 30 flying sites taking all wind directions ranging from low coastal soaring sites to high mountain flights, it is an ideal place to learn to fly. The paraglider fits in a rucksack; you walk up a hill and lay out the equipment. You have no engine but in the right conditions and with experience you can climb up to the clouds in thermals and stay up soaring in ridge lift like a bird. A tandem flight with an instructor allows you to fly high, relax and look down on the world.

www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk



Easter Family Ceilidh

17 - 20 May 2013

Brodict Church Hall
Saturday 6 April - 7.30-11pm

Easter Bonnet Competition
BYOB * Stovies (donation)

adult £5 ~ under 16s £3 ~ family* £15

*max 2 adults, all children must be related to at least one adult

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...this Easter Arran



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Golf Academy with Bill Lockie

For those looking to spend a little time improving their swing this Easter the Golf Academy on April 10 and 11 at Whiting Bay Golf Club is ideal. Whiting Bay is proud to be associated with Bill Lockie, an accomplished past coach to both the men's and women's Scottish National teams. The program is aimed at golfers of all ages and abilities and is open to members of Whiting Bay and non-members alike. Over a full two days, you will enjoy a combination of traditional coaching and practical advice from Bill during rounds of golf. The focus on Wednesday will be on the golf swing; driving and iron play, and on Thursday the emphasis will be on improving your game around the green; pitching, chipping and putting. Lunches are included on both days and for those attending the whole programme there will be a buffet supper on Wednesday evening, featuring a talk from Bill on 'golf's mental game'.

The Back Garden

This weekend there are some fantastic deals going on at The Back Garden. Why not go along for a browse and snap up a bargain with special offers on bedding plants, fresh flowers, compost, bark and much more.

Brodick Castle

Easter at Brodick Castle is always exciting and this year is no exception so why not join in the family fun on Easter Sunday between 11am and 3pm! Follow the trail, collect the clues, solve the puzzle and win a Cadbury treat in their Cadbury Easter Egg Trail! As well as the trail, there will be face painting, games and more and why not make a day of it.

Golf Academy with former National Coach Bill Lockie

Wednesday & Thursday 10th - 11th April
Just £70 for two days, including lunches & buffet supper with talk by Bill

Swing technique • Short game clinic • Mental game

Call 01770 700487 or visit whitingbaygolf.com

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Sunday 31st March at 3pm

Grand Spring Ball
Saturday 27th April from 8pm - Music by Charles Currie
Prizes for best dressed Beau & Belle
Tickets £10 - book in advance

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Sunday 12-5

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Drimlabarra Herb Farm

Nestled into the landscape of Kildonan, Drimlabarra Herb Farm is a World Centre for all things Herbal. It is run by Medical Herbalists, Maureen & Keith Robertson who offer: guided herb walks, a series of 5 main weekend workshops running over the summer that can be taken as a series or individually, Herbal Apprenticeships and individual Health Consultations and Therapeutic Massage.

The first workshop is on the popular topic of Wild Food Foraging and Making Your own Medicines from Herbs on the last weekend of April. Other workshops will be on Food as Medicine in May; Immune Health & Make Your Own Herbal First Aid Kit in June, Maintaining Energy & Stamina and Aromatic Medicine in July and the Con-templative Approach to Self & Herbs in August. Maureen & Keith established the Scottish School of Herbal Medicine in 1992 which continues to offer a one year home help Correspondence Course as well as Herbal Apprenticeships. This year they have students coming from as far afield as Alaska as Apprentices for their 12 week programme. Their annual Open Day at the end of August offers tasting of food grown from the vegan organic garden and herb teas.

The Whins

A little walk up a hill in Lochranza is another hidden gem – The Whins craft shop on the Newton Shore is the home of the famous Arran Stone-men.

For more than 30 years Reg Morgan has been creating these wonderful gifts by hand and his workshop is open to the public seven days a week.

Machrie Bay

Machrie Bay is under new management and is now open! Serving delicious homebaking, teas, coffee and snacks throughout the day. A great spot for a tasty breakfast or lunch.

Heritage Museum and Cafe

If learning about the island's history interests you then you must visit the Isle of Arran Heritage Museum this Easter.

The exhibits reflect the social history of Arran as well as the archaeology and genealogy that has fascinated tourists for generations and during Easter there is always something interesting to see.

Café Rosaburn situated at the Museum is one of Arran's most popular tearooms and is perfect for a spot of lunch while sightseeing.

Beach Scavenger Hunt

Its perfect for all the things you might need to enjoy the outdoors this Easter – especially if Arran's legendary weather strikes with a vengeance. The Community of Arran Seabed Trust or COAST is running a beach scavenger hunt on Easter Saturday in Lamlash Bay. Go along at 12pm or 2pm and learn more about the amazing marine life on Arran's shores and meet their new mascot Curly the octopus and have the chance to win lots of Easter prizes.

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Auchrannie Resort

The Auchrannie resort is now open for the season, and is really worth paying a visit. All three restaurants at the resort have brand new menus and the island's first destination spa is opening soon, which will offer day spa and overnight packages. Auchrannie is also host to Arran Adventures and The Playbarn.

Arran Aromatics

Arran Aromatics at Home Farm near Brodick are running two guided factory tours during the Easter Holidays on April 4 and April 11 from 6pm until 8pm.

No booking is necessary and the tours take 15-20 minutes each giving people a chance to sample the Arran Cheese with Wooleys Arran oatcakes. The evening is free of charge and there will be a discount on the night for shopping as well as a competition on the tour nights for the younger family members to count the Easter Bunnies on there way round the factory.

Whatever you choose to do during the Easter holidays this year - do it on Arran!



CAFÉ ROSABURN TEAROOM
At the heritage Museum
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WITH LEADING UK HERBALISTS MAUREEN & KEITH ROBERTSON



COAST Beach Scavenger Hunt

Sat 30th March
Events start at 12 & 2 pm
Lamlash beach, opposite the Lamlash Bay Hotel
Lots of Easter prizes to give away!



COAST will be running a beach scavenger hunt on Easter Saturday in Lamlash Bay. Come along at 12 or 2pm and learn more about the amazing marine life on our shores! Meet our new mascot Curly the octopus and have the chance to win lots of Easter prizes.

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Special Easter Soaps
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Charli McKillop, Iona Summer and Kirstie Kerr, Arran Fiddle Club Trio, with the Festival Cup for Class 62, Traditional Fiddle under 18, duet or trio. 02_b13fes06



Brodick Nursery performing We Will Stomp You. 02_b13fes02

84th Arran Music Festival cut short by heavy snow and power cuts

The 84th Arran Music Festival was cut short last week by the heavy snow and power cuts that have disrupted the island this week.

As normal

The first two days of the Festival went ahead as normal with Scottish Country Dancing and verse speaking on Wednesday and traditional

musical instruments and piano on Thursday. The Banner was there on both on days to capture the winners of the trophies so here are all the photographs we managed to take.

Organisers will speak to the adjudicators in the coming weeks to see if Friday's classes can be held at a later date.



The girls of Shiskine Primary School were awarded the MacDonal Memorial Shield for the best Scottish Country Dancing team in the Festival. 01_b13mus04



The Shiskine Guides won the John Thomson Cup for Scottish Country Dancing in a non-school group for under 18s. 01_b13mus03



Alfie Gilmore and Ruby Winchip with Brodick Nursery group leader Vicki Yuill and the Nancy Cooper Memorial Trophy which the group won for Class 6, Action Songs for Nurseries. 02_b13fes03



Brodick Primary School's youngest pupils won the Corrie SCD Club Cup for their Scottish Country Dancing. 01_b13mus01



The Association's Shield for Scottish Country Dancing in P3-P5 went to Whiting Bay Primary School's A team.



Brodick Primary School's P3-P5 dancing team were chosen by the adjudicator to receive the Margaret Hart Trophy. 01_b13mus05

84th Arran Music Festival in focus

Organisers will speak to the adjudicators in the coming weeks to see if Friday's classes can be held at a later date.



Mackenzie Campbell and Gavin Bodie collected the Meynell Cup for Primary School group Action Songs on behalf of Lamlash P3/5 from adjudicator Russel Cowieson. 02_b13fes01



James McCarthy won the K Wilson Trophy for verse speaking. 01_b13mus06



Abbie Mulholland 01_b13mus07



Mhairi Thomas won Class 61a, Traditional Fiddle under 18, elementary. 02_b13fes04



Iona Summer performed the Arran Boat Song and Miss McLeod of Raasay to win Class 61b, Traditional Fiddle under 18, intermediate. 02_b13fes05



Maili Beatan 01_b13mus08



Fireun Simsek Hunter won the George D McArthur Cup for best junior verse. 01_b13mus09

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NORTH AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL

THE ARRAN

BANNER



Saturday 3 March, 1993



Arran High School Choir won the JK Morrison Cup for the best choir at the island's Music Festival this week.

Face to face

Percy Hutton, a death row prisoner in Ohio State Penitentiary, looks forward every week to getting his Arran Banner.

Percy has never been to the UK, let alone Arran but over the past year he has got to know a lot about the island by corresponding with Fiona Simpson of Lamlash.

Last week she returned home after her first trip to the states to meet Percy.

It turned out to be a visit full of anxiety, surprises, warmth and ultimately rather uplifting.

'There was something about Dougie (her brother) at the golf in The Banner so I started sending it then,' said Fiona. 'He wrote back and said he

enjoyed it and now he reads it literally cover to cover each week.'

Shiskine pupils ditched

The bus taking Shiskine school pupils home on Monday afternoon got stuck in the ditch when two buses were passing and it remained there for two hours before being pulled out.

Nobody was hurt but we understand the driver, Dan Swindale, on realising he was stuck, turned around to address the pupils by saying: 'Well I suppose The Banner will be here in a minute, so you'd better get you hair brushed girls.'

Who's first?

Alastair Gold of the Arran Gas

Company received a consignment of bottled gas this morning, the first for two weeks.

It was a fortnight ago that he was refused his booked place on the ferry because there were too many passengers.

Refused again on Sunday, it was not until the following Wednesday that he got a load over.

By that time two of his main clients had to cease operations as well as Alastair himself.

Train delay anger

A train full of passengers arrived one hour and 20 minutes late for the 6pm ferry from Ardrossan on Tuesday, much to the anger of the people on board.

British Rail said that a fault on the line delayed the train and they were unable to ask CalMac to hold the last ferry.

When the train did arrive at Ardrossan, CalMac personnel were called by police to reopen the terminal building.

After numerous phone calls British Rail accepted responsibility and found accommodation for all those who required it.

Food for Thought

The Home Farm Kitchen and the Island Cheese Co have published a rather unusual recipe book.

The Cheese and Yoghurt Recipe Book contains a host

of ideas for delicious and inexpensive dishes.

Although vegetarian based, the sweet and savoury recipes will appeal to all palates.

New manager

The Royal Bank of Scotland in Brodick has a new manager.

He is Mr Alan Cuthbert who comes from a farming family in Dumfries and has been with the bank all his working life, most recently at a branch in Aberdeen.

With a son and a daughter at university, he and his wife will live in the flat above the bank.

Nags win pool league

On Sunday night the members of the Nags I team celebrated winning the 1993 Arran Pool League.

The team from Whiting Bay beat the Drift Inn in the final week to top division one of the league. Champions in Division two were the Aldersyde and runners-up were the Breadalbane.

The singles was won this year by Arthur Duncan with Craw Duncan as runner-up.

Alan Campbell and Bobby Sloss beat George Tod and Howard Driver to take home the doubles trophy.



Winners of the Youth Club four-a-side football tournament last week were Brodick who beat Kilmory 'A' 2-1 in the final. They are, from left to right, Brian Craig, Jamie Paton, Robin Odlum and Barry Wilson. b13twe01



The local police have a new means of transport to replace their Land Rover – an all purpose Renault van. Constable Peter McMullen was the first officer to take it for a test drive. b13twe03



Arthur (Toosh) Duncan, Arran Pool League's singles champion for 1993 with Bobby Sloss and Alan Campbell the doubles champions. b13twe02

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

The binding thread of Paisley's history at March meeting

Harry Davidson gives a report of the Arran Antiquarians meeting on Paisley textiles

The March meeting of Arran Antiquarians saw 65 members entertained by Valerie Reilly, the curator of the shawl collection at Paisley Museum.

Valerie gave us a very comprehensive history of the Coats and Clark families of Paisley. These dynasties were very successful industrialists in the textile field and great philanthropists to their workers and the communities they lived in.

Valerie was educated at Pontefract & District Girls' High School before going to Leicester University to read for a combined degree in history, geography and archaeology.

After further time doing museum studies she became Keeper of Textiles at Paisley Museum. She enjoys gardening, travel, embroidery and crime fiction!

She told us the first Clarks were brothers Peter and James. James Clark junior was an entrepreneur who sold his father's cotton, not in the usual hank but on wooden bobbins which on return when empty yielded a payment - much easier to collect than empty juice bottles.

The Clarks tended to be canny businessmen who sold their businesses to their sons.

The first mill was opened in 1819, Mile End Mill, over the years to be joined by Linside Mill, Burnside Mill and Anchor Mill. By 1880 the turnover was £320,000 per year, production was 15 tons of thread per day and 135 tons of coal was consumed per day to power the machinery.

In 1802 James Coats, a weaver of shawl manufacturers, retired and rented his company to sons James,

Robert and Thomas. Three-quarters of his production was exported to the USA, where another brother, Andrew, dealt with the export goods. The Coats owned Ferguslie Mills, 1 to 7.

By the 1880-90s Clark and Coats had become large concerns. They went public with £5.75 million in assets and in 1896 Clark and Coats amalgamated under Coats' name. The mills expanded and the smaller mills were sold.

In 1924 Ferguslie Mill power station was constructed and a gradual conversion to electrically driven machinery was implemented.

Production

During the war thread was produced on a massive scale for uniforms, principally khaki. The postwar years saw Old Mill demolished, wooden spools replaced by plastic, the introduction of computerised production and clerical work. In the 1980s Ferguslie Mill closed followed by Anchor in 1990s and production move elsewhere in Britain or abroad. Between 1912 and 1927 seven members of the families died, all of them millionaires.

Conditions for workers were better than most other similar mills, and the owners provided fair working hours, hostels, canteens, medical centres, sports clubs, swimming pools, vaccinations, pensions and a welfare department.

Out of hours activities were also sponsored and encouraged, including a pipe band, brass band, choir, amateur drama, Scouts, Guides, football, cricket and tennis to name just some.

Mill owners were generous



Speaker Valerie Reilly with chairman Tom Macleod and vice president Stewart Lambie. b13anti01no

on a grand scale too, donating Paisley Town Hall, Paisley Museum, Library and Art Galleries, bursaries for Glasgow University, land and endowment for a technical college, Sunday schools, donations to the Royal Alexandria Infirmary, a YMCA building and the financing of the building of Largs Church and Largs Hospital.

Valerie concluded by showing us some of the grand mansions lived in by the Clarks and Coats families. A fascinating study of two industrial dynasties joined by a thread.

Our next meeting will be on Monday 15 April, when Carl Reavey from Islay will speak, the title of his talk being, 'Eating the Wildlife, Islay in the Mesolithic'.

Arran livestock sales

United Auctions had forward 2,202 store cattle and cast cows at their Stirling Agricultural Centre last Wednesday.

Arran prices: Store cattle: Kilpatrick (Limousin bullocks) £900, 248p, Kilpatrick (Limousin heifers) £800, 245p.

Cast cows: Kilpatrick £1,130, 168p.

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What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Everyday

Trout Fly Fishing
Brodict Castle, Garden Open
Arran Heritage Museum

Loch Garbad, Bank fishing
Daily 9am-Dusk
10.30am – 4.30pm

Scottish Country Dancing
Arran Abs Runners – beginners
AVA Art Exhibition
AVA Family Art & Craft Session

Brodict Church Hall, 7.30-9.30pm
Lamlash high school car park, 5.30pm
Arran High School 10.30 – 5pm
Arran High School 2pm – 4pm

Saturday 30th March

Army Cadets
Over 21s Disco
Karate
Family Games
Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
AVA Art Exhibition
Open Garden – Model Train
Matt Johnston live in the bar
COAST Beach Scavenger Hunt

Auchrannie Road 11am – 1 pm.
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Arran High School, 10am
Arran High School 10.30 – 5pm
47 Murray Crescent, Lamlash 10am – 5pm
The Douglas Hotel, Brodict 9pm
Lamlash beach 12noon – 2pm

Wednesday 3rd April

Hockey
Tae Kwondo
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Senior Badminton
Yogalates
Aquafizz
Music Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service
Arran Abs Runners – beginners
Arran Abs Runners - advanced
Northend Football Training
Outside Boot Camp
Elderly Persons Forum
Friends of Brodict Castle
AVA Art Exhibition
AVA Family Art & Craft Session
Coffee Morning

Auchrannie Games Hall, 6.30-7.30pm
Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7.15pm
Arran High School, 8-9pm
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 Spa Car Park, 5.30pm
Auchrannie Spa Car Park, 6pm
Lochranza, 7pm
Whiting Bay Park, 6am
Ormidale Pavilion 11am
Castle Tearoom 2.30pm
Arran High School 10.30 – 5pm
Arran High School 2pm – 4pm
Lamlash Church Hall 10.15am – 12noon

Sunday 31st March

Alcoholics Anonymous
New AI-Anon Meeting
Family Games
Fun in the pool
Folk Music Session
Folk night
Cocaine Anonymous (& all other drugs)
Cadbury Easter Egg Trails
AVA Art Exhibition
Open Garden – Model Train
Kidz Club Duck Derby

Church Hall, Brodict, 4.30pm
Call 601206 for details
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 2pm
Ormidale Hotel, 8.30pm
Ormidale sports pavilion, 2pm – 3.30pm
Brodict Castle, 12noon – 4pm
Arran High School 10.30 – 5pm
47 Murray Crescent, Lamlash 1pm – 5pm
Lagg Burn 3pm

Thursday 4th April

Morning Fitness
General Knowledge Quiz
Lochranza Craft Club
Youth Club
Live Country/Folk music
Brodict Embroidery Group
Brodict Bridge Club
Auchrannie Winter Bowls
Ladies Netball
Arran Abs Runners – beginners
Lunchbox
Weight Watchers
AVA Art Exhibition

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Lochranza Hall, 2pm
Youth Cabin, Lamlash, 7-9pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay 8.30-10.30pm
Brodict Library 7.30 p.m. – 9.30 pm
Brodict Golf Club, 7 pm for 7.15 pm
Auchrannie, 7pm-9pm
High School sports hall – seniors, 7.30-9pm
Kinloch Car Park, 5.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 12.30-2.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 5.30pm
Arran High School 10.30 – 4pm

Monday 1st April

Quiz
Outside Boot Camp
Over 50s Badminton
Badminton
Citizens Advice
Morning Fitness
Breathe Walk Class
Table Tennis
Badminton
Lamlash Bridge Club
Volleyball Club
Arran Junior Football Club
Scottish Country Dancing
AVA Art Exhibition

Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm
Whiting Bay Park 6am
Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30-1.30pm
Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
Kinneil, Lamlash, 5.15pm
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm
Lamlash Golf Club, 7pm for 7.15pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 7-8pm
Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm
Beginners & improvers, Corrie & Sannox Hall, 2-4pm
Arran High School 10.30 – 5pm

Friday 5th April

Aqua Fizz
Yogalates
Arran Youth Foundations
Lochranza Kids Badminton
Lochranza Adults Badminton
Disco
Outside Boot Camp
Coffee morning
Arran Comedy Festival

Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
Church Hall, Brodict 7pm-9pm
Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm
Lochranza Hall, 8pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Whiting Bay Park 6am
Corrie Hall 10.15am
Whiting Bay Hall 8pm prompt

Tuesday 2nd April

Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Youth Club
Rotary club
Streetly Dance pre school
Streetly Dancing Classes P1-S7
Youth Club
Weight Watchers
Junior Hockey Club
Auchrannie Winter Bowls
Healthy Outdoors
Cricket Practise

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodict Church Hall, 2pm
Kildonan Hall, 7pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.45-2.30pm
Auchrannie Gym Hall, 3.45pm – 6pm
Brodict Hall, 6.30 – 8pm
St Molios Church Hall, 6.30-7.30pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6-7pm
Auchrannie, 7pm-9pm
10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7pm-9pm

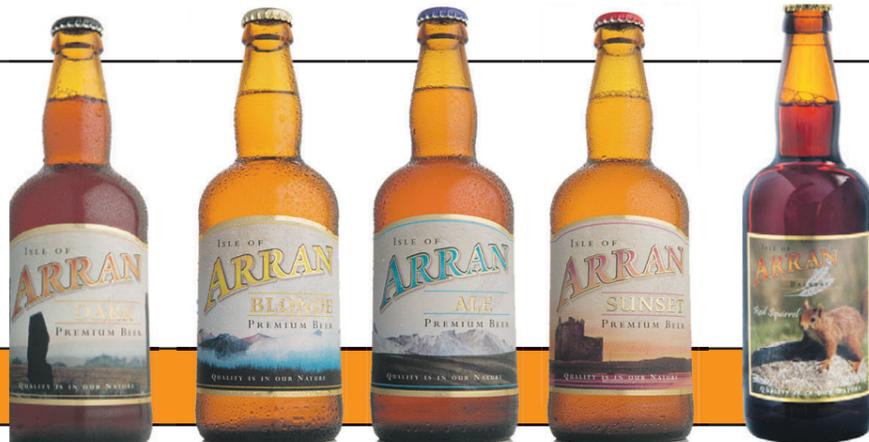
Saturday 6th April

Army Cadets
Over 21s Disco
Karate
Family Games
Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
Daffodil Tea
Easter Family Ceilidh

Auchrannie Road 11am – 1 pm.
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Arran High School, 10am
Lochranza Hall 2pm – 4pm
Brodict Church Hall 7.30pm - 11pm

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Property

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AVOCA WHITING BAY GUIDE PRICE £210,000

Traditional, semi detached villa in a central roadside location within the village of Whiting Bay. Avoca benefits from direct sea views over the bay and the Firth of Clyde beyond. Accommodation comprises entrance hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen and on the upper floor two double bedrooms and shower room. This family home has full double glazing, electric central heating, a well maintained garden and is within easy reach of all the village facilities.



1 HILLSIDE TERRACE LAMLASH GUIDE PRICE £192,500

Very attractive end terraced villa which has been extended and upgraded to a high standard and now comprises entrance vestibule and hallway, lounge, large dining kitchen, utility room and on the upper floor 3 bedrooms and bathroom. Appended double garage workshop, beautifully landscaped gardens. Very attractive family home in quiet location, close to amenities.



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LONG LET

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Lochranza

Long Let from 6th May

4-bedroom house, unfurnished
£620 pcm + Council tax
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Recruitment

carewatch
supporting independence

*We put the care in
career*

We are looking for enthusiastic and dedicated people to join our growing care and support team delivering care and support services to people in their own homes on the Isle of Arran.

£8 per hour during week & £9 at weekends plus mileage
Fixed hour and part time contracts available.

Our company ethos is recognised as personal, caring and supportive. Our staff make a real difference to the lives of people we support. We strive to work with people who have spirit, passion and desire to put individuals at the heart of everything we do

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0845 337 6701

or email jobs@inacs.co.uk
www.carewatch.co.uk/jobs



HOUSEKEEPER REQ

Experienced housekeeper to carry out change over cleaning on Saturday for a holiday cottage in Southend of Island. Good hourly rate offered. Own transport an advantage.

Reference required

Tel 07875 233419

HOUSEKEEPER Machrie/Pirnmill area

For Holiday House Changeovers
Sundays 4-6 hours, own transport
Good Hourly rate. Check property, clean, organise laundry, make-up beds etc. Call 07703 570 696

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Fully Modernised Cottage

2 Bedrooms - Part furnished
No DSS, No Smoking, No Pets

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BANNER**

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Fax: (01770) 302021



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OVER £30

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£50 Tel:870 255

FREE TO UPLIFT

Sofa with changeable covers and 2 separate armchairs. Free if uplifted Tel:870 255

UNDER £30

Two wheel 5'x3' car trailer, carries up to 300 kilos, spare wheel, vinyl cover. £30. Phone Tony 07774 804673.

For sale 2 fluffy yellow Easter chicks two weeks old - £5 each or £9 a pair Tel: Elisa 830 610

FREE TO UPLIFT

1 large bale of hay & kiddies pushchair, both free to uplift Tel: 700371

Bagged Manure at Oakbank, Lamlash. £1 per bag donation to Arran RDA. Tel 01770 600752

**BANNER
CLASSIFIEDS
BANNER
CLASSIFIEDS**

GARAGE SALE

1 Hillside Terrace Lamlash
Saturday 30th and Sunday 31st March
12noon - 4pm

Assortment of tools, Air Tools, white goods, electrical items and much more
Come along and grab a bargain

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TO SELL?**

THE ARRAN
BANNER

Tel: 01770 302142
www.arranbanner.co.uk



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**TURN YOUR UNWANTED
ITEMS INTO CASH!**

**UNDER
£30
FREE!**



**Simply complete the
form and return to the
Arran Banner office**

PLEASE NOTE: DEADLINE TUESDAY 4.00pm
NO MORE THAN 25 WORDS PLEASE

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DESCRIPTION.....

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Public Notices

ARRAN MEDICAL GROUP

Easter 2013

The island GP surgeries
will be closed on
Friday 29 March
& **Monday 1 April**

If you need to contact a doctor
urgently when the surgeries are
closed please phone NHS 24 on
08454 24 24 24

In an emergency
please phone 999

Please ensure you have enough
medication for this period.

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, Cunninghame 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 19.04.13. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1)

Format: Application No; Address; Proposed Development

13/00138/PP; Fellfoot, Corrie, Brodick, Isle Of Arran; Formation of dormer extensions to front and rear, demolition of existing garage and erection of new detached garage.

13/00142/PP; Dunira, Lochranza, Brodick, Isle Of Arran; Erection of two storey extension to rear of detached dwelling house.

13/00105/PP; Water Depot, Corriegills Road, Corriegills, Brodick; Erection of staff accommodation consisting of office, mess and staff facilities associated with Corriegills Service Reservoir.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



CORRIE GOLF CLUB

Annual General Meeting
At Corrie Golf Club Tearoom
Wednesday 10th April 7pm

Please note
Discussion on new lease
A good turn out would be appreciated

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Drive Times

SEAT IBIZA REFERENCE SPORT 1.2



49,000 miles. Full service history and M.O.T for a full year as of this month. Great condition, 07 plate. Zenith grey colour.

Contact Ryan at Arran Deliveries on
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2005 Sport version 2 litre petrol. 47,000 miles,
Excellent condition, MOT to Nov taxed April.

Call 01770 302843

£5750

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

Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited 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.

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- 3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
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- 5 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.
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- 12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

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

01294 461554

CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(in full communion with the Church of England)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Easter Sunday, 31st March
Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
Coffee after service.
ALL WELCOME

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER

GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF WITNESS
Friday 29th March
Meet at Holy Cross Catholic Church, Brodick, at 2pm
Walk ends with service at Brodick Church of Scotland, 2-45pm - 3.00pm
ALL WELCOME TO JOIN WHOLE OR ANY PART OF EVENT

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 31st March
Brodick Church, 10.30am, Morning Worship.
Corrie Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.
Lochransa and Pirmill Churches, 10.15am
Morning Worship at Lochranza Shiskine Church, 12noon.
A Service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 31st March
Kilmory 10 am Mrs Mairi Duff
Lamlash 11.30 am Mr Tony Butcher
In both churches:
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Good Friday Witness Walk at 2pm
Good Friday Evening Luiturgy 7pm
Holy Saturday Polish Blessing of Food 11am
Easter Vigil 9pm
Easter Sunday Morning Mass 11am

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(Charity Number: SC014005).

Sunday 31st March
Easter Sunday:
There will be a sunrise service at the Viking Fort, Kingscross at 6.40am for an expected sunrise at 6.50am, then breakfast in the Church Hall immediately afterwards.

All most welcome to this short service to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ early on that first Easter morning.

Family Worship for Easter Sunday 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 to celebrate this most wonderful of days. There will be a service in the Arran War Memorial Hospital at 1.30pm, and a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm. All welcome.

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday 31st March
Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick
11am Morning worship
Tea/Coffee after the service
Home Fellowship Group meets on Wednesday at 7.30pm
For details telephone 860 232
Everyone very welcome.

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Services as follows
Shiskine 11.00am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)
Rev Marcus McCullough
All welcome

ARRAN FRE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

(continuing)
Sunday 31st March
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
Prayer Meeting
Wednesday 31st March
at 7pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
All welcome

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS

Quakers meet every Sunday at 11am.
For meeting venue ring - 830622, 820223 or 302779.

SALVATION ARMY

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

Naiads feature film on schedule

Work to bring the shooting of a new feature length film to Arran in the autumn has been continuing at a fast pace.

Seven members of the production crew outlined the details of the film at a meeting in Auchrannie at the beginning of February.

Called 'The Naiads', it will be 'a fantastic tale, exploring the depths of human desires, the sheer destructive force, and the extent we will go to in order to make our innermost dream come true'.

Ryan Martin, the film's co-producer said: 'We were extremely happy to get such a great response from the island back in February and really appreciated all of you taking the time to come to the Auchrannie Hotel.

'We thought we would give you a brief follow-up on the progress of our film 'The Naiads'.

'Our producer Lili Sandelin has toured the country pitching the film to several funding institutions and private investors. We will keep you posted on the developments. 'Behind the scenes we have



The production crew for The Naiads at Auchrannie; writer Craig Guild, host David Barbour, producer Lili Sandelin, post production supervisor Steve Johnston, co-producer Ryan Martin, director Tom van den Hurk, publicist Brian Baglow. 02_b05film01

been working on the production design. On a recent trip to Paris, director Tom van den Hurk met an experienced set designer who has worked with Louis Vuitton and the Paris catwalk shows and she will be a great addition to our Naiads family!' He added: 'We are still scheduled for pre-production in September/October 2013 and production (the actual shoot-

ing of the film) in November 2013.'

A production team of 50 will stay on the island for up to two months, and they will be looking for extras and helpers from the local community.

Ryan said: 'We are looking

to cast extra roles on the island in late summer/early autumn and will then organise workshops to prep people for the shoot. This is a great opportunity to learn more about acting and being an extra but also about film production.'

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

SILLARS
The family of Eric Sillars would like to express their sincere thanks to family and friends for their kind expressions of sympathy, cards and flowers. Special thanks to the staff of Arran War Memorial Hospital, Brodick Medical Centre, the district nurses, carers and staff at Glen Estate for taking such wonderful care of Eric. We would like to thank Rev Adamson for a beautiful service and pastoral support. Thanks to David and Clair Hendry for all funeral arrangements. Thank you also to Iain and Jane McFadzean and their staff at the Brodick Bar for refreshments. The retiring offering raised the sum of £500 for the Hospital Supporters League.

DEATH

JARVILL -DEREK
Peacefully at home on Wednesday 20th March 2013. Derek, dearest husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend. Funeral service in St.Molios Church, Shiskine on Wednesday 3rd April at 11:30am. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to ArCaS.

IN MEMORY

BUNYAN
Remembering the family man - Jack Bunyan
Fae Ma and all his kin



day Cup at 12 noon, yellow tees, if weather permits.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Due to the weather (too much) and the power (not enough), the Hunter Buidael was postponed on Sunday 24 March. Fixtures: Sunday 31 March (hopefully!) Easter Medal. Draws at 9am and 10.30am.

Lamlash Golf Club

No play on the course this week. Fixtures: Saturday 30 March Glenisle Mixed Fours - make up own fours and see starter for times.

Sunday 31 March, Mixed Texas Scramble, 12 noon draw. Thomson Cup Match Play entry sheet is on locker room noticeboard. Names to be entered by Saturday 6 April.

Brodick Golf Club

Results: Sunday 24 March Winter Cup, eight played. Non-counter, 1 R McCrae 38 pts, 2 I MacDonald 31 pts. Fixtures: Sunday 31 March, final round of Winter Cup. Open draws at 8.30am and 1pm. Note change of times. Sunday 7 April Brandon Class, draws at 8.30am and 1pm.

Corrie Golf Club

Fixtures: Saturday 30 March Medal Sweep 8.30am and 12 noon. Monday 1 April Mon-

THANK YOU

Thank you for the lovely cards, presents and company from family and friends celebrating my 80th. A birthday to remember!
Margaret Shaw

A huge 'thank you' to Mr Len Hartley, Brodick for hot supplies delivered to homes regularly throughout our 'siege' time.
From your neighbours

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 Tel: 01586 554975 Email: staff@krispprint.co.uk
 www.krispprint.co.uk



Snowwhere to go!



As you can imagine the terrible weather has left us with no sport to report this week. So we've brought you more pictures of the snow and the resulting chaos on the island.

Above: Huge snowdrifts at Slidery on Monday morning where the ploughs had carved an access road from the Southend. 01_b13cat01

Left: Roads were closed all over the island as snow made it almost impossible to reach parts of Arran. 02_b13snow03

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING



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



Published by Wyvex Media, Brodick, Isle of Arran
 Tel: 01770 302142 - Fax 01770 302021
 E-mail: editor@arranbanner.co.uk



The Arran Banner's circulation is independently audited by the Audit Bureau of Circulations (ABC Ltd) - www.abc.org.uk. The total average weekly net circulation for the 52 issues between 2nd January 2012 and 30th December 2012 for combined print and digital editions was 3,307.

The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.