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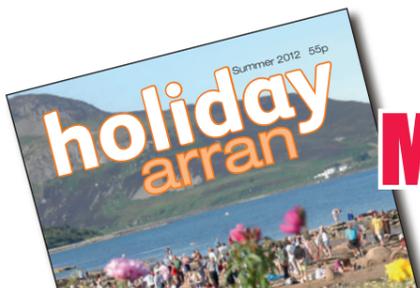
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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 7 APRIL, 2012

No 1853 57p



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'Share Arran roads safely' and help to save lives

'Action is needed after 20 cycle-related casualties last year and two fatalities in recent years'

Cycling on Arran could and should be a safe, relaxed and enjoyable experience, according to two local road safety campaigners.

But with over 20 cycle-related casualties attending Arran War Memorial Hospital last year and with two fatalities in recent years, local ambulance staff Shirley Anderson and Neil Gillies feel something has to be done to reduce this type of accident by encouraging all road-users to share Arran's roads safely.

After consulting with island groups, agencies and statutory bodies, and with the assistance of Joyce Beasley whose son, Sam, tragically died while cycling home - funds have been raised which have enabled a campaign to be started.

The pair officially launched the Share Arran's Roads Safely campaign this morning (Friday 6 April).

REPORT
by **JENNIFER LYON**
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Neil said: 'At Arran War Memorial Hospital we see countless people during the year - mainly cyclists - that have injured themselves while using Arran's roads.'

'In one case it took a nurse two hours just to clean one relatively minor graze that could have been avoided altogether.'

'Arran's roads are unique. Narrow winding country roads, challenging hills, changeable road surfaces and steep descents all make for a different road-using experience.'

'All road users can enjoy using Arran's roads safely simply by following the Arran Road Code - it's that simple.'

Road safety leaflets have now been placed on ferries, at

the tourist information centre and at bike hire establishments, and are available free to accommodation providers for their welcome packs.

The leaflets give safety advice and information and encourage all road-users to act safely and responsibly.

Inside the leaflet there is a detailed map of the island, which includes mileages, steep hills, and the location of visitor attractions.

Car stickers are also available to encourage everyone to 'Share Arran's Roads Safely!'

CalMac have agreed to place large information signs - which are essentially much larger versions of the leaflets - at Ardrossan, Brodick and Claonaig.

They have also agreed to a Cyclist Gathering Point at Brodick pier where cyclists will be encouraged to wait for



Local ambulance staff Shirley Anderson and Neil Gillies have launched a road safety campaign to try and reduce fatalities on Arran's roads. b14road01NO

a few moments for the ferry traffic to clear before commencing their bike ride.

Shirley said: 'Many thanks to those who attended or supported any of the fund-raisers or who have contributed in any way.'

'Special thanks to CalMac, Stagecoach and Strathclyde Police for all their help and

support and to Graham at Arran Graphics for his assistance with the design of all the information products, and Arran Trust, and NAC for financial assistance.'

" Arran's road are unique. Narrow winding country roads, challenging hills, changeable road surfaces and steep descents all make for a different road-using experience "

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Arran Banner Photo Competition 2012

This year sees the 32nd annual Arran Banner Photographic Competition.

Once again, the winners will receive a super hamper of island goodies, kindly donated by Gordon Kinniburgh of the Isle of Arran Cheese Shop at Home Farm.

Last year's winners from a bumper entry of over 500 photos were Jane Brown of Linlithgow and Ian Small of Brodick.

Once again, the two categories will be views and people or animals.

The only rule is that the photo must have been taken on or around Arran from last September to the present day. Closing date is Friday 14 September after which we will publish a selection of commended entries followed by the winners in early October.

Roads in the spotlight for Community Council

A special sub-committee has been set up to address the problems with Arran's roads.

The Isle of Arran Community Council has been pursuing road defects with the local authority for many years, and at its last meeting established a small roads sub-committee to prepare a detailed portfolio.

Members of the sub-committee will be Bill Calderwood, Ian Small, Steph Hill, John Inglis and Jim Henderson.

Chairman John Inglis said:

'This portfolio should consist of a survey of Arran's roads. We need to set our sights on making a special case to Keith Brown (Transport Minister) and draw attention in Edinburgh to our plight here. **Limit**

'There's a limit to what we can do, but we can go right to the top and make our point.'

The meeting heard that mainland North Ayrshire has 43 percent of its roads in red or amber condition while Arran has 62 percent of the roads in red or amber condition.

Stranded Arran Jetskier rescued from Clyde

Clyde Coastguard received a 999 call last Sunday 1 April from a man whose Jetski had broken down between Arran and Ardrossan.

A Coastguard radio call to vessels in the area located the casualty and the motor vessel Avalon was able to take the man aboard and tow the Jetski safely back to Brodick where they were met by Arran Coastguard team.



The Flying Scotsman locomotive in Lamlash. 02_b14fy01

Scotsman will be 'flying' into Lamlash Station this weekend

The Flying Scotsman will be steaming into Lamlash this weekend.

That most famous of all steam expresses will be running in Alan Thompson's front garden from 10am to 5pm on Saturday and 1pm to 5pm on Sunday.

Impressive

Alan established an impressive model railway at 47 Murray Crescent 16 years ago and he and his wife Ruth have opened their gardens for vari-

ous charities several times a year ever since.

Ruth bought the splendid Flying Scotsman for Alan as a special birthday gift to add to his collection of rolling stock.

The original locomotive hauled the London and North Eastern Railway's first King's Cross to Edinburgh non-stop express in 1928 and broke the 100mph barrier in 1934. The famous engine was finally taken out of service in 1963.

This year, the couple are raising funds for Smile Train, an international charity treating cleft lip and cleft palate cases in young children.

Enjoy

Ruth explained: 'Surgery just takes 45 minutes and costs £150; it can give a child a new life.'

Visitors can expect to enjoy teas, coffees and cakes while watching red squirrels, Harriet the heron, and of course, Alan's trains.

New Executive Director for VisitArran

Sheila Gilmore of Shiskine has accepted the new role of Executive Director for VisitArran.

She will have responsibility for implementing VisitArran strategy focussed on sustainable tourism development for the island. This will also encompass the role of Development Manager for The Arran Trust.

Since The Arran Trust began in March 2011, visitors have gifted cash at many island outlets resulting in over £15,000 being distributed to community groups for maintaining and developing environmental projects.

Thanks to support from LEADER, NAC and VisitScotland, it is anticipated that Sheila will have full-time support personnel.



Sheila Gilmore, new Executive Director for VisitArran. 02_b14she01

Kilmory wind turbine planned

A request has been lodged with North Ayrshire Council planning department for a screening opinion for the erection of a wind turbine at Clachaig Farm, Kilmory.

The turbine is shown as to be sited in a field north of the C147 coast road and having a maximum hub height of 38.52 metres and a maximum blade diameter of 16.5 metres.

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Lucky thirteenth for island drama

Friday the thirteenth may be unlucky for some, but for Arran residents it will be a very lucky opportunity to see some of the best of contemporary local drama.

Shiskine Hall will be the venue for three one-act plays on Friday 13 April, all of which were performed to great acclaim at the 2012 annual drama festival at Lamlash Community Theatre in February.

Shiskine Drama Club will present 'Each Evening sees its Close', Shiskine SWRI are giving 'The Real Problem' and The Castaways will again be giving 'Last Tango in Little Grimley'.

Curtain up is at 7pm and the entrance price includes tea and buns.

Police Files: Drugs

An 18-year-old Brodick man was arrested on Market Road on March 30 after being found to be in possession of drugs.

He was reported to the Procurator Fiscal and arrested on an outstanding warrant.

Breaching bail

On April 2 a 28-year-old man from Edinburgh was arrested on Shore Road in Brodick for breaching his bail conditions.

Monitoring events

Local police are advising that they will be attending all events over the Easter weekend in anticipation of a high number of visitors.

Sergeant Bob MacKay said that he and his officers will be monitoring all events in a bid to educate the public about being responsible when drinking alcohol and recognising the impact their actions can have on the local community.

Miss Scotland contender serves behind the Kinloch bar

A stunning young barmaid from the Kinloch Hotel has just missed out on becoming Miss Scotland 2012.

Amy Johnstone, aged 19, is the niece of hotel owner Barbara Crawford and is spending the season working at the Blackwaterfoot hotel.

The youngster who is originally from Dumfries was spotted in the St Enoch Centre in Glasgow last month and told she had what it takes to become the next Miss Scotland.

'I was a bit embarrassed,' said Amy, who was shopping with her mum and sister at the time. 'I didn't really think that I would be good enough but I decided to give it a go.'

Despite missing out on becoming the next Miss Scotland, Amy made it to the top 30 and said she really enjoyed taking part.

However, with no previous experience in modelling Amy said she found it quite difficult to compete with the other girls.

She said: 'They all knew exactly what the judges were looking for. I was asked a lot of questions about my views on different things and in many ways it was quite overwhelming.'

'But it was fun and it's great to be able to say I was asked to take part.'



Amy Johnstone was in the running for this year's Miss Scotland title. 01_b14amy01

Fire risk on Arran's hills

Islanders and holidaymakers are being warned about the danger of hill fires.

The recent pleasant spell of dry weather has left Arran's hillsides in a highly combustible state.

Head forester Andy Walker warned: 'The hills are tinder-dry now. I would remind all campers and folk walking on the hills to be extra careful not to start a fire.'

Brodick Castle ranger Corinna Goeckeritz said: 'This is a high fire risk time on the hills. We have put warning signs in Glen Rosa and above High Corrie advising people not to light open fires and to put out cigarettes carefully.'

'Campers should not have open fires anywhere.'

Andy added that there have already been two controlled heather burns by local farmers, but 15 April is the cut-off time for heather burning because ground nesting birds will be breeding by then.

Stags reopens for business

After the terrible storm damage earlier this year that forced Stags Pavilion in Lochranza to close for three months, the restaurant held a grand reopening on Monday night. Around 60 people attended the opening night and villagers in Lochranza said they were again delighted to see it open again.

Castle confirmed as 'Signature Project'

This is a very exciting year for Brodick Castle

The National Trust for Scotland has confirmed that Brodick Estate - which includes Brodick Castle, the Country Park and Goatfell - is to be the site of the charity's first 'Signature Project'.

The news was announced on Monday as the property prepares for the peak visitor season once again.

Property manager Ken Thorburn said: 'This is a very exciting year for Brodick Castle - we are pleased to be trailblazing on behalf of the Trust and Scottish heritage as a signature project.'

'And we are getting ready for a busy summer season. The castle is spick and span and the gardens are already looking great, the wildlife is becoming more active again - spring is on its way.'

Published

As part of the National Trust for Scotland's Five Year Strategy, published in August 2011, it pledged to carry out a series of top-level projects.

These will be used as examples for the entire organisation, showing how to look at the potential of properties and plan for their successful

future in a whole new way.

Brodick Estate is leading the way with this work and will be followed by Inverewe Garden in Wester Ross towards the end of 2012.

The project team will be lead by heritage specialist Jonathan Bryant.

Described

NTS chief executive Kate Mavor said: 'Brodick Estate is often described as Scotland in miniature, and in fact it can be viewed as the Trust in miniature too.'

'It was the obvious choice as our first 'Signature Project'

as it encompasses everything that the Trust cares for on a national scale from fine art collections to mountains, all on one island.'

She added: 'This place is a real treasure and is of enormous significance in terms of Scottish heritage to the Trust and to the local area.'

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MSP calls for a cut in VAT on housing repairs and maintenance

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson has added his support to the campaign to cut VAT on housing repair, maintenance and improvement work.

He feels that this would support Scottish employment, tackle rogue traders and protect our built heritage.

Research by Experian, commissioned in December 2011 by the Federation of Master Builders (FMB), found that a reduction in VAT to 5 percent on all home improvement work would create 2,103 new Scottish construction jobs in 2012 alone, through encouraging home owners to repair and improve their properties.

A lower rate of VAT would also encourage improvements to the energy efficiency of our housing stock, reduce the financial advantage of rogue traders and remove the incentive to demolish older properties rather than bring them back into use.

However, the UK Govern-

ment decided to remove the zero VAT rate for approved alterations to listed buildings in the Budget. This means that from 1 October 2012 the standard rate of VAT will apply to the alteration of listed buildings, which is 20 percent more than the current rate. The impact will be significant in Scotland where there are around 47,600 listed buildings.

Crucial

Kenneth Gibson said: 'Small and medium sized companies are crucial to the economy and would benefit from a VAT reduction.'

'The cut in VAT would also boost the campaign against rogue traders, poor quality housing and reduce the number of empty properties. The decision makes no sense and will actually cost the UK Government revenue as similar policies have shown in Europe and is a body blow to the construction industry.'

Blooms impress at Fabulous floral wins put spring



Visitors flocked into Brodick Hall to see the spring bulb exhibits. 01_b14bul01

Spring arrived very early to Arran this year and the evidence for this could be seen at the 27th annual Spring Bulb Show in Brodick last Saturday.

After the small number of entries last year due to the severe winter it was a delight to see the village hall once again awash with colour.

Donald Wilson, head of ground maintenance for North Ayrshire Council was judging this year's show.

'It's a real pleasure to come to Arran and see such a magnificent display of spring bulbs.'

'Every single one of the entries deserved merit but there were some that really stood out.'

At recent shows entries have tended to diminish, mostly as a result of poor spring weather, and this time North Ayrshire Council has made a gesture of support.

The Grounds Department donated 1,500 bulbs to all the island's primary schools, along with pots and bedding compost to encourage the youngsters to learn about gardening and growing plants.

Mr Wilson added: 'It was fantastic to see so many entries this year from the local primary schools and we will continue to support them in their ongoing eco-schools projects.'

The adults' display of daffodils was truly breathtaking this year and Tod Frost's incredible Jersey Roundabouts caused many gasps of delight when individuals spotted them.

It wasn't surprising then that Mr Frost won the Royal

Bank of Scotland Trophy for the best exhibit in the show for his stunning five 'Pink Silk' daffodils.

The RW McKelvie Cup for the best exhibit in section one was given to Carol Vella-Boyle for her beautifully fragile grape hyacinth.

Result of the prizewinners: Bulbs Class 1 daffodils/narcissi: Tod Frost, Class 2 crocus: Jan Murray, Class 3 tulips: Malcolm Wheeler, Class 4 hyacinths: Carol Vella-Boyle, Class 6 amaryllis: A Raeburn, Class 8 miscellaneous: Carol Vella-Boyle.

Cut blooms Class 9a trumpet daffodils: Tod Frost, Class 9b large cup daffodils: Tod Frost, Class 9c small cup daffodils: Tod Frost, Class 9d double daffodils: Tod Frost, Class 9e multi-headed daffodils: Tod Frost, Class 10 any other flowering bulb: Tod Frost, Class 11 one named bloom of narcissi: Tod Frost.

Floral art Class 12 own choice: unknown, Class 13 floral art theme 'Arran Spirit': Cathie Steed, Class 14 one vase foliage: Mhari Thompson.

Miscellaneous Class 17 flowering pot plant: Jim Jack, Class 19 patio pot: John Sillars, Class 20 cut flowering shrub in vase: Mhari Thompson.

Children Class 21 garden in a tray: Jenna Totty, Class 22 painted egg, floral theme: Andrew McKelvie, Class 23 bowl of bulbs: Jemma Totty, Class 24 scarecrow: Isla, Annie and Andrew McKelvie, Class 25 coloured picture: Brodick Nursery, Class 26 Neil McLean Trophy: Brodick Primary School.

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Spring Bulb Show

in Arran's gardeners step



Jemma Totty won first prize for her 'garden in a tray'. 01_b14bul06



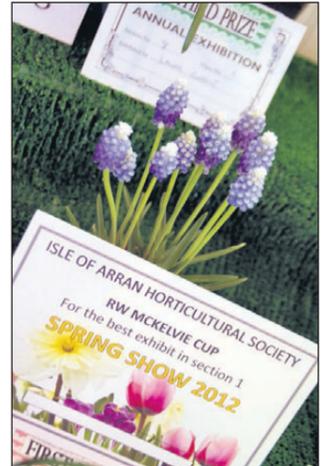
The Royal Bank of Scotland Trophy for the best exhibit in the show went to Tod Frost for his stunning five 'Pink Silk' daffodils. 01_b14bul04



Tod Frost's magnificent Jersey Roundabouts created many gasps of delight when individuals spotted them. 01_b14bul03



The Neil McLean Cup for the best exhibit entered by a school was won by Brodick Primary. 01_b14bul05



Carol Vella-Boyle won the RW McKelvie Cup for her beautiful grape hyacinth. 01_b14bul02

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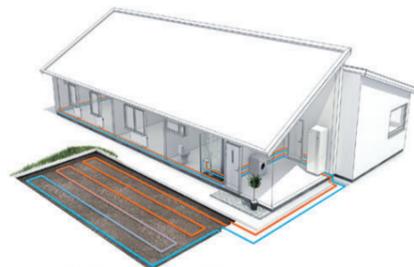
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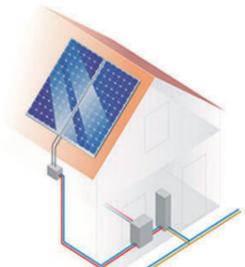


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Nags party night for thirty-somethings

The 30th anniversary Nags party in Whiting Bay Hall last Saturday night was a great success.

Marc Head gives an appreciation of the milestone event: 'Thanks to those who, though not directly involved with the old pub, did an amazing job. Marie on the door (not directly involved, but does live in the place) sold a ridiculous amount of raffle tickets; Cil behind the bar, proving that beauty, talent and hard work are not mutually exclusive, and she even has a strong charitable streak; Robin and Andy for the technical stuff; Arran Events and Book and Card Centre for ticket sales, and Chris Marriott for emergency supplies.

'As for the music, you can keep your Fatboy Slim, Afrojack and Guetta – there is simply no comparison to the superlative spinner, The Shannochie Soundmeister, the talent to which all young

vinylmen should aspire, re-inventing himself once again, ladies and gentlemen, I give you Tallman Bald, the synonym for sound and the guy had more people dancing in Whiting Bay Hall than we've seen for a very long time. Thank you very much, John McBride.

Fantastic time

'Thanks also to the guests – about 300 slightly older folk who had a fantastic time and with no hassle. The committees who run the independent halls around the island will fully appreciate what a contribution of around £2,800 means to us. Sorry you missed it Charles; get well soon.

'At I am a young man from the Clachlands area was on the edge of the dance floor looking impatient and embarrassed. When asked: 'Can I help you, Grant? He replied: 'I'm trying to get my parents off the dance floor and into the car!' Perfect.'



Derelict Sannox Congregational Church. 02_b14san02

Sannox bell will ring on Easter Sunday

The bell will be struck at 2pm

As reported in last week's Banner, the derelict Sannox Congregational Church is coming back to life.

The historic building has been bought by Sannox Christian Centre which aims to have the church, manse and adjoining Dundarroch Cottage restored to once again become a functioning part of the community.

The Centre is a registered charity with three trustees who will oversee the restoration and rebuilding of the foundations. They are supported by a network of Friends of Sannox throughout the UK and abroad.

A spokesman said: 'As a group we have been constrained by being unable to share this journey fully with the local community. But we are now able to work closely with interested people and groups as the plans unfold.

'We have developed an exciting and sensitive design for the centre gathered around the restored church, manse, and Dundarroch.



The Sannox bell will ring again on Sunday. 02_b14san03

'We aim to centre our activities in prayer and worship along the lines of the Celtic

Christian rhythm of prayer as developed and practiced in similar retreat centres and throughout the ages.

'There will also be a creative arts section using a range of media including painting, pottery, crafts, music, storytelling and drama.'

Rev Leslie Morrison of the National Synod of the United Reformed Church said: 'Christians have worshipped at Sannox since 1822 and the synod is delighted that a secure future has been found for this beautiful building.

'We thank the community of Sannox for its patience in what has been a lengthy period of searching for a way forward.'

The Sannox bell will be struck at 2pm on Easter Sunday heralding a new future – the first time it has been sounded since the change of the Millennium.

White deer spotted near Glenloig

Arran's white deer was sighted near the String Road last Sunday night by a Whiting Bay lady and her son.

She said: 'It was just after Glenloig when the car's headlights picked out a group above the road, and one of them was white.'

This deer was born last June, but has only rarely been spotted, usually south of the String, between Glenloig and Tarnacraig.

Down the centuries, Arran's white deer has been revered by the ancient Celts as a messenger from the afterlife, and a sighting of it was said to be a portent of doom for the Hamilton Clan.

Garden seeds winners

The first two Banner readers to correctly answer the question: 'What type of plant is called Alicante?' in last week's Banner (the answer was a tomato) were Ruth Thompson of Lamlash and Tom McNeish of Sandbraes, Whiting Bay.

They each won a selection of Mr Fothergill's flower and vegetable seeds, donated by Bob McCaw of Erskine Hospital Garden Centre.

Kildonan Craft Market

Kildonan Craft Market will be held in the village hall on Friday 6 April, Good Friday, from 11am to 3.30pm.



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Fresh Arran milk from local family farms

REPORT

by **HOWARD DRIVER**
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Fresh Arran milk comes from cows on just three family farms.

At Clauchlands in Lamlass, father and son team Alex and Stuart Reid milk 225 Holsteins. At The Knowe on the Heights, Alastair Mackenzie and son Colin milk 45 cows and at Tigheanfraoch in Blackwaterfoot, John Murchie and son Finlay are currently milking 60 Holstein Friesians. Between them, these three farms produce all the liquid Arran milk and cream and all the milk to make Arran cheese.

For more than 30 years, milk from these farms has been pasteurised and bottled by Arran Dairies in Brodick.

For a long time it was sold

in one-pint plastic bags, but now comes in one-pint and one-litre cartons and two-litre plastic bottles.

Arran Dairies owner Alastair Dobson said: 'We only use milk produced locally at Arran's three remaining dairy farms.'

'We like to keep our milk as natural as possible; nothing added, nothing taken away. This is why we sell unhomogenised milk.'

'With Arran milk, you will notice that the cream floats to the top, just like it used to - all you have to do is give it a shake.'

'Homogenisation breaks up the fat particles in the cream so that they are dispersed throughout the milk. This makes the milk taste milder and can make it last for slightly longer, but crucially it means that the fat is ab-



Dairyman Rojan in the milking parlour at Clauchlands. 02_b14cow01

sorbed much more easily into the body and hence it isn't good for you.

'Also, unlike highly processed milk, the fat content in Arran milk is not standardised to 3.5percent, but varies according to the season, ranging from 3.9percent in winter to 4.3percent in summer.'

So when you are buying your fresh milk, spare a thought for Arran's dairy farmers up at the crack of dawn, or even earlier in winter, to bring fresh, healthy pasteurised milk to your table.

Alastair Dobson is asking Arran children aged 12 or under to help design a new label for the two-litre bottles. He said: 'We're searching for the picture that best shows why locally produced Arran milk is good for you, good for the island and good for the environment.' Closing date is Saturday 14 April, and the winner will receive their height in delicious Arran Dairies Ice Cream and have their winning entry on milk bottles from May.



Alastair Mackenzie milking at The Knowe. 02_b14cow03



John Murchie attaching a cluster to one of his cows at Tigheanfraoch. 02_b14cow05

Auchrannie recognised as top hotel for families

Staff at Auchrannie Resort were over the moon this week after receiving news that Tripadvisor had awarded Auchrannie Spa Resort a prestigious 'Travellers Choice Award', recognising the hotel as one of the top destinations for families in the UK.

Tripadvisor, the online travel review site - allows visitors to hotels, restaurants and other tourist facilities to leave reviews and ratings about their experiences for other users to read.

The news comes just a few weeks after Auchrannie House Hotel also picked up a 'Travellers Choice Award' for being one of the best hotels for relaxation in the UK.

The annual 'Tripadvisor Travellers Choice award' winners are chosen based on real feedback from real guests left at every hotel the length and breadth of the country and are awarded to less than 0.5percent of hotels worldwide.

Vital funds raised for Vanessa

On Saturday 10 March a disco was held in Brodick Hall in aid of The Vanessa Riddle Appeal.

Organisers are happy to report that they have raised a fabulous total of £1,875.

Sophie Marriott said: 'Thanks to everyone that came and especially to all those who helped on the night.'

'This was a great night for a truly great cause.'

Win your height in Arran Ice Cream!



If you're 12 or under, we'd like you to help us design a new label for our Arran Dairies 2ltr milk bottles. We're looking for designs which best capture why **Locally produced Arran milk** is good for you, good for the island, and good for the environment!

The winner will receive their height in delicious Arran Dairies Ice Cream and will have their design on our milk bottles from the end of May.

Closing date is Saturday 14th April!

Get full details and terms and conditions at www.taste-of-arran.co.uk

Send your entries to Arran Dairies, Market Road, Brodick, KA27 8AU.



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THE ARRAN BANNER

Just gets in the way of a good story

It would seem that one reader of The Banner has been going through our newspaper with a fine toothcomb and uncovering the odd grammatical error.

As with any publication we are working against the clock, week in, week out, to ensure we pack The Banner full with interesting stories that people want to read.

And we have to confess that occasionally, but only very occasionally, we do make the odd grammatical error and slip up with punctuation but it doesn't happen very often.

With just two of us here writing The Banner and editing every single page as it comes through – we have to say that we are very proud of producing such a great paper every week and fortunately, people seem to want to buy it.

For those cursed with an old-fashioned pedantry it is fair to admit that bad grammar is like a red rag to a bull – or a red biro to a teacher!

It seems that the humble apostrophe has all but vanished because marketing agencies have decreed that companies can drop the messy looking little typographic tadpole because it detracts from the design aesthetic.

It's really not that hard and perhaps it's silly to get in a tizz over such a small thing but punctuation really is very important.

In this digital age we probably write more than we ever would have before. But it's quick-fire e-mails and texts that most of us are writing and we rarely stop to check if things are spelt correctly let alone make sure that the grammar is correct.

Yes some pedants do let their love for rules get in the way of free-flowing language – take The Banner for example: there is no reason why we shouldn't start a sentence with a conjunction or split an infinitive if the sentence sounds smoother that way.

But there is every reason for using correct punctuation. Punctuation is not, as its enemies would have it, a device for complicating language and flummoxing those who don't understand it.

It is quite the opposite: like signposts on a motorway, punctuation makes it easier to plot your way through the highways and byways of the English language.

But there are times, especially when writing a newspaper that punctuation marks – which include apostrophes, brackets, colons, commas, dashes, ipsis, exclamation marks, full stops, hyphens, question marks, quotation marks, semicolons and solidus – really can just get in the way of a good story!

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



Definite scope for cycle path

Sir,
Following on from Colin Guthrie's letter of 17 March and Councillor Currie's response of 24 March, I should make it clear that the situation has moved on considerably.

Mr Guthrie had appended correspondence (which was partially quoted) I had sent him at the end of last year that described matters, as we understood them at the time.

Cllr Currie has rightly taken us to task for using this letter as the template for more recent correspondence.

We should have been more assiduous in confirming the current status of contact with the council and we are sorry for any confusion this has caused.

From being presented with a single option for a cycle path through the grounds of Brodick Castle, Garden and Country Park, which would have been difficult for us because of our obligations of ownership, there is definite scope for practical alternatives.

To be clear, we actively encourage use of the park by cyclists and others so long as there is no conflict with these obligations, and mountain biking trails exist there now. We look forward to future engagement with the council and a resulting positive outcome.

Indeed, there may be interim measures we could discuss pending a longer-term solution, such as the council applying a temporary traffic order on a section of the A841 to reduce the speed limit to 30 mph.

There is an additional factor in the announcement that Brodick is to be the Trust's very first 'signature project'.

This will make the property a proving ground for a thorough review of everything we do – from visitor interpretation to catering, from conservation to energy and income generation.

We expect this process to further enhance Brodick's status as a major visitor attraction and attract more people to Arran.

Through it we will rededicate ourselves to working in partnership for the benefit of the island and all who live on it.

Yours,
Terry Levinthal
Director of Conservation Services and Projects
The National Trust for Scotland
Edinburgh

Arran Music Festival for Whiting Bay

Sir,
I write in support of Bev Hodgkinson's letter in the last edition.

I speak as one who participated in the Festival several years ago and still have the treasured certificates for singing and elocution in the days when the strength of the Festival was such that top adjudicators from far and wide attended.

My late father also sang at the Festival and gave me my gift to do likewise.

The allure, acoustics and overall ambience were second to none and as Bev writes, if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Bring it back to Whiting Bay - just do it!

Yours,
Tommy Robison
Linlithgow
Coupar Angus
(formerly of the old Police House (now Prospect House), Whiting Bay)

Backpack challenge

Sir,
This past year, the Machrie Craft Group decided to try and raise funds for the Backpack Challenge on behalf of the charity Mary's Meals.

The main event was a coffee morning in St Molio's Church Hall, back in November. Further sale of handmade cards and generous donations from individuals enabled us to raise a total of £521.79p.

We are thrilled to be able to report that the generosity of so many companies, schools and individuals on the island have made it possible for us

to forward 30 filled backpacks containing basic materials, giving children living in impoverished regions of the world the chance to make the most of their time in school, where they will also receive a daily meal and for many this will be their only meal.

We were also in the position to include a further two large boxes of extra items, as well as a cheque for £375 which we hope will prove useful for the good work this charity carries out around the world.

There are too many names to mention individually but each and every one of you concerned will have helped to make all the difference in the world to the lives of these children.

Our warmest thanks to everyone.

Yours,
Barbara Black
Machrie Craft Group

Milestone appreciation

Sir,
Whilst cycling between Brodick and Kildonan last week I noticed that all the milestones had been 'tarted up'.

Has this been done throughout the island and who is responsible?

I always look out for the Arran milestones on my travels – they're a great way to judge distance travelled/still to travel – so well done to whomever it was who gave them a facelift!

Yours,
Gerry Callan
Dunfermline

Happy birthday Nags!

Sir,
On behalf of Whiting Bay Hall Committee I would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who made Saturday such a night to remember.

The whole evening was fantastic and it was great seeing so many old faces (some older than others!).

What a great atmosphere, enjoyed by all. So to everyone who came along, but especially to Ronnie and Denise, Marc and

Janette, Christine, Marie, and the one and only DJ John McBride who all worked so hard to make it happen, the hugest of thanks. Here's to the next one...? Yours,

Andy McCallum
Whiting Bay Hall

Appreciation for Margie

Sir
As Councillor Margie Currie steps down after nine years service to her island on North Ayrshire Council, please let me pen a few words of appreciation from my perspective.

I first came to know Margie in the Eighties when I was the Island's Regional Councillor and she was active in agricultural and other aspects of island life.

We worked together on the Community Council for many years. Then in 2003, I asked Margie if she would like to stand in the North Ayrshire Council elections that year and, happily, she agreed.

At the 2007 election, I stood down and Margie stood as an Independent for principled reasons about which she wrote to me.

She has been a doughty fighter for Arran over all those years and also contributed to the running of the Council through regular attendance and participation.

I would like to wish Margie a happy retirement from Council politics and time to enjoy the way of life on the island.

Somehow, however, I do not see her sitting in a rocking chair on the veranda with a book for a long time to come. Here's to the next chapter, Margie.

Best wishes.
Yours,
Richard Wilkinson

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Arran Music Festival 2012 trophy winners

Last week we featured many of the winners and participants at the successful 83rd annual Arran Music Festival.

Now we have caught up with the remaining major trophy winners around the island.

Whiting Bay Primary School Choir won the Ormisdale Cup for Best Primary School Choir and the J K Cameron Morrison Cup for Overall Best Choir.

Shiskine Primary School P4 to P7 pupils won the Elsie Wood Award for Highly Commended Children's Singing Group.

Maili Beatan of Pirnmill won the George McArthur Cup for Best Verse and Olivia Barker of Whiting Bay won the Margaret Laidler Trophy for Best Vocal Solo.

Iain Clarke and Finlay Murchie, both of Shiskine, respectively won the Dorothy Lees Cup for Best Piano Solo and the Joan Topley Trophy for Highly Commended Solo Piano.

Other results:
Vocal solo under 8 Cameron McNeish, 8/9 Iona Summer, 10/11 Oisean Gold, 12/13 Saskia Thorburn-Eaddy, 14/15 Olivia Barker. Boys Oisean Gold, Gaelic Maili



Maili Beatan with the George McArthur Cup for Best Verse. 02_b14mus02

Beatan, Show Song, primary Oisean Gold, secondary Olivia Barker, duet, junior Lucy Wallace and Emily Armitage; Vocal Trio, open, Senior Moments.

Choirs: Junior, Whiting Bay Primary School. Vocal group, open, Vivace.

Piano, under one year Harvey Kemp, primary over one year Finlay Elliott, under 14 Saskia Thorburn-Eaddy, under 16 Finlay Murchie, under 18 Iona Flewitt, open Iain Clarke.

Fiddle: elementary, Charli McKillop, intermediate,

Kirstie Kerr, advanced, Fraser Blain, group, Arran Fiddle Club.

Woodwind: elementary Maili Beatan, intermediate Lucy Walsh, advanced Iain Clarke. Whistles: solo Maili Beatan, duet, Alison Provan and Lucy Walsh, group Shiskine Primary School. Brass solos: elementary David Copperwheat/Harvey Anderson, intermediate Gabrielle Allison, advanced Christian Pomeroy, duet Joley Allison and Olivia Bunyan, groups Brodick Primary School. Group Music: Whiting Bay Primary School, action songs: Lamlash Primary School, action songs non-school Shiskine Rainbows, nurseries Pirnmill Nursery.

Scottish Country Dancing P1/P3 Shiskine, P3/P5 Shiskine, primary mixed Brodick, primary girls Whiting Bay.

Verse speaking: P1 Beth McCarthy, P2 Erin McNiven, P3 James McCarthy, P4 John McNeish, P5 Fireun Simsek, P6 Stella Riddell, P7 Maili Beatan. Secondary Finlay Murchie and Struan Robertson (joint). Burns Oisean Gold, reading at sight Maili Beatan, choric speaking Brodick Primary School.



Shiskine Primary School P4 to P7 pupils with the Elsie Wood Award. 02_b14mus01



Finlay Murchie with the Joan Topley Trophy, Olivia Barker with the Margaret Laidler Trophy and Iain Clarke with the Dorothy Lees Cup.

01_b14mus03



Whiting Bay Primary School choir. They are: Jessica Miller, Eilidh Macpherson, Lucy Walsh, Katy Lammin, Ellie Bonner, Emily Armitage, Lizanne Dixon, Danielle Mutch, Iona Summer, Aimee Prescott, Naomi Provan, Nastasja Alberti, Carly Miller, Amelia Kemp and Jasmine Scorey. 02_b14whb01

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Community Sports Forum established

The development of Arran community sports hub took a step forward following the latest meeting at Ormidale Pavilion on Tuesday 20 March.

Thirteen individuals were in attendance representing 10 different clubs including, running, golf, rugby, football, bowling, motor sport, motocross, cricket, dancing

and hockey. The decision to put the talking behind and take some action was made. A number of individuals volunteered their services to develop the hub and begin what may be exciting times for sport on Arran.

This was the third in a string of meetings aimed at establishing a community sports hub which among other things, can unite sports clubs on Arran in a way where common issues such as coaching support, funding and disclosure checks can be dealt with under one banner. Arran Community Sports Forum will be established around the following principles:

To act as the collective

voice for and to represent the views of the voluntary community sport sector on Arran; to act as an influencer in local policy-making regarding the development and support of voluntary community sports organisations on Arran; to provide leadership and vision for the development of community sports clubs on Arran; to lobby for investment in and greater recognition of community sports clubs; to advocate the role and importance of volunteers in community sport and the community clubs they support.

For those clubs who missed out on the last meeting the next one will be held at Ormidale on April 17 at 7pm.



The winning Arran team at the first Arran Rugby Sevens in 1983. b13rug01

The annual Arran Rugby Sevens tournament will be held next Saturday 7 April.

We are taking this opportunity to publish a photo of the Arran team that won the first ever sevens tournament, held in Lamlash in 1983.

The photo shows Jim McKelvie of the Arran Society of Glasgow presenting the Society's cup to the team: Alastair Dobson, Jimmy Morrison, Dougie Stuart, Robbie Crawford, Ian MacDonald, Ewan McNee, Rob Logan and Angus Admanson.

Well done Dylan!

Nine-year-old Dylan Smith of Lamlash did his own bit for Sport Relief last weekend.

He was moved by the television coverage of children with no clean drinking water who were dying from diarrhoea so he asked if he could do something to help raise

money to buy them the medicines which could keep them alive. So on Sunday 25 March he cycled five miles to raise money for Sport Relief.

The idea for this was all his own and with some adult assistance he organised the sponsor sheets and got a tee shirt printed with the Sport Relief logo in readiness for the event.

He was sponsored by some very generous people and also collected quite a few pounds along the way. The total raised to date is £160.65 so his target of £100 was well and truly exceeded.



Dylan Smith after his Sport Relief cycle ride. b14dy01



A tractor ploughing for spring barley in the Lighthouse fields at Glenkiln last week, raising dust and attracting hungry seagulls. 02_b14dust01

A peck of March dust is welcomed by Arran farmers

'A peck of March dust is worth a King's ransom', is an old proverb that has particular relevance to the farming community.

Around Arran, tractors have been seen ploughing, harrowing and seeding while raising clouds of dust.

This is a sure sign that the ground is dry enough for farmers to crack on with spring cultivations.

March is traditionally a wet and changeable month, but a spell of dry weather is heaven-sent for farmers, and the long spell of recent dry

weather here on Arran has gone some way to making up for the record-breaking wet winter.

It has meant that farmers have been able to get out on the land with machinery without sinking into mud.

Busy

All over the island tractors have been busy spreading the winter muck from housed animals onto dry fields.

And those who grow cereals or re-seed grassland have been able to plough the fields and scatter the good seed on the land.

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OUT AND ABOUT ON ARRAN THIS EASTER



Easter is always one of Arran's busiest and most exciting times.

There is so much to do on the island at Easter 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 the adults and children thoroughly entertained.

The Isle of Arran Rugby Sevens takes place every year on Easter Saturday at the Ormidale Park in Brodick.

Running since 1980, this tournament has become a firm favourite for local rugby fans and tourists alike.

Sixteen teams are attending this year's event and it has all the makings of one of the best Sevens tournaments yet.

With a bar and barbeque at the field during the day there is plenty to keep you occupied while watching the rugby.

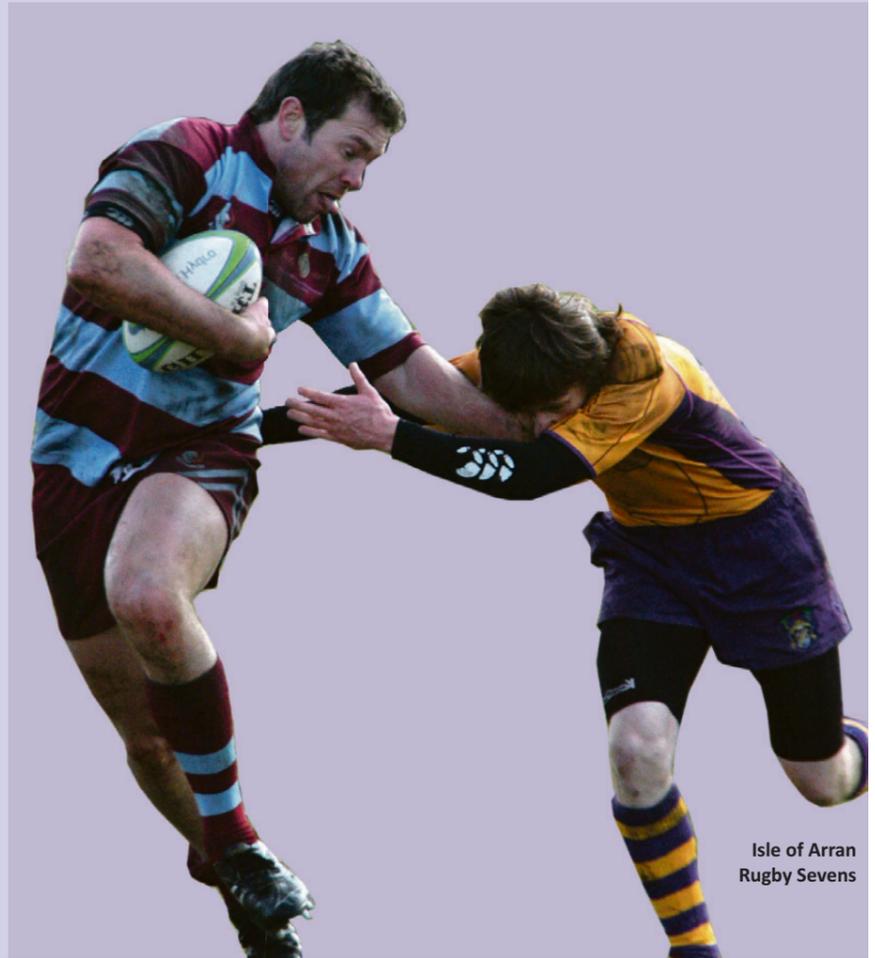
And at night why not come along to Brodick Hall for the Sevens Dance where local band The Queeves will be playing into the early hours.

Easter at Brodick Castle is always exciting and this year is no exception.

On Sunday there will be egg decorating, children's Cadburys Easter egg hunt, wacky races and the duck derby as

well as the now famous Easter bonnet competition.

The fun begins at 1pm and there is something for all the family at this day not to be missed.



Isle of Arran Rugby Sevens

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Throughout Easter week there are also walks and workshops led by the National Trust Rangers.

On Thursday why not go on the early morning Easter Bunny Hare Walk or on Wednesday drop in to the Ranger Centre and make your own Bird Box.

For the more adventurous, on Thursday there is a walk up Arran's highest peak Goatfell where visitors can learn all about the wildlife and geology on the way.

For those looking for something a little bit different to do on Arran over Easter why not try the exciting new 'Crafternoons' in Sannox.

Devised by Claire Kelso who owns Darven Cottage B&B with her husband David, the idea is to allow people the opportunity to get 'crafty' in a relaxed and idyllic location.

Claire offers three-hour sessions for up to four people at a time in her heavenly garden shed overlooking Sannox Beach.

Groups will have the opportunity to make an item from scratch and can choose from the fabrics provided or bring their own.

For keen golfers and their families, Lamlash Golf Club has a bonanza of fun events on during Easter weekend including golf, barbecues, music and dancing.

On Saturday why not take part in the mixed foursomes Glenisle Cup followed by the Easter dance in the clubhouse with DJ Allan Little at night.

On Sunday there is a fun family Texas Scramble and a fun afternoon with junior golf competition, egg and spoon race, egg painting, mum's and tot's putting as well as a grand prize draw and kids' lucky dip.

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

Situated at the foot of the Rosaburn it was originally the site of a small farm and the present museum is designed to let you wander through the old farm buildings while taking in the island's history.

The exhibits reflect the social history, archaeology and geology of the island and during Easter there is always something special to see and do here.

The Ormidale Hotel bar meals are legendary in Brodick and new hosts Laura and Trevor will be on hand to serve up good food to accompany a fine pint of beer.

The discos in the Victorian conservatory have become a bit of an institution with both visitors and the people who live here and are usually packed out at weekends.



Easter Fun at the Castle



the National Trust for Scotland Brodick Castle, Garden & Country Park
a place for everyone

Brodick Castle open daily from 1st April – 31st Oct.

Castle open 11am – 4pm

Reception/Shop/Plant sales open 10am – 5pm

Tearoom open 11am – 5pm



Easter at the Castle Sunday 8th April 1pm – 4pm

Egg Decorating, Childrens Cadbury's Easter Egg Hunt, Wacky Races, Duck Derby, 50/50 Raffle

Easter Bonnet Competition Children and Adult classes
Tel 01770 302202 for details.

Ranger Walks & Workshops

Thur 5th April Easter Bunny Hare Walk 6 – 7.30am

Experience the Spring Dawn – suitable for all ages, but not for pushchairs

Booking required 0844 493 2154 (select option 1) £2.00

Wed 11th April Bird Box Making 2-4pm

Drop in to Ranger Centre and build your own bird box
All materials provided, suitable for all ages.

£2.00/box with normal entry to Country Park

Thur 12th April Walk up Goatfell 10am – 5pm

Join the mountain Rangers for this walk, find out about the wildlife and geology on the way.

Adult £25, under 16's £12.50

Booking essential 0844 493 2154 (select option 1)



EDEN LODGE
HOTEL

Whiting Bay 700 357

OPEN DAILY 12noon – 1am

Home cooked bar meals served 12noon – 9pm

- Every Monday Quiz – 8.30pm
- Every Thursday live country/folk music 8.30pm – 10.30pm
- Every Sunday Open Mic session 2pm – 5pm

ALL WELCOME

ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER SC002089

Rosaburn, Brodick, Open daily 10.30am to 4.30pm

Come along and wander down 'Memory Lane'

A constantly changing collection of Archaeology, Geology, Arran at War, Children's Quiz and play House, Clearances and Emigration, Farm Implements, 19th Century Cottage, 1940's Schoolroom, Original Blacksmith's Forge, Villages Then and Now, and Gift Shop with unique presents for all the family.

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Isle of Arran RFC Sevens



Easter Saturday 7th April 2012

Ormidale Park Brodick

Starts 10am

16 Competing Teams

Barbeque - Bar

Isle of Arran Pipe Band
Followed by

SEVENS DANCE

Brodick Hall 9pm

Live band - Queeves

Bar – Tickets £5

Buses back to Lamlash, Shiskine & Corrie

The music ranges from 1960s classics to more up-to-date music releases and there is always a great atmosphere during the Easter holidays.

The Eden Lodge Hotel in Whiting Bay is open daily throughout Easter serving delicious home cooked bar meals in the restaurant looking out across the sea.

There is a Quiz every Monday night that is not to be missed as well as live Country/Folk music on a Thursday night and an Open Mic session every Sunday.

One of the greatest things about Arran is the multitude of exciting gift shops and boutiques scattered all across the island.

The newly refurbished Byre at Brodick sells an exciting range of modern sheepskin products including tartan rugs and cosy knits, as well as leather and suede handbags in a rainbow of beautiful colours.

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 Arran Stonemen. For 30 years Reg Morgan has been creating these wonderful gifts by hand and his workshop is open to the public seven days a week. From here you can see him making his stonemen using pebbles from the beach whilst also enjoying the scenic views of Lochranza bay from his home.

Buntys in Brodick offers a great selection of home accessories ranging from delightful ornaments and quirky knick-knacks to hand painted furniture that would look amazing in any home.

Why not pop in this Easter weekend and see what gorgeous pieces Lynn has on display – you won't be disappointed.

The brand new Arran Active Outdoor Shop recently opened in the old courthouse building still within the Cladach Visitor Centre on the start of the Goatfell path, Brodick.

It's perfect for all your outdoor shopping needs this Easter as it sells everything a keen walker could need.

Also at the foot of Goatfell is the Claddach Pottery one of Arran's most visited workshops.

From here you can pick up unique pieces of pottery created here on the island that will make a wonderful memento of this Easter on Arran.

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

With it's unusual collection of knick-knacks for the home as well as gorgeous gifts for all ages from young children all the way up, this is a wonderful shop to visit.

Whatever you choose to do during the Easter holidays – do it on Arran!



Easter Bonnet Parade at Brodick Castle



Last years Arran Rugby Sevens team

CLADACH POTTERY
UNIQUE HAND-MADE POTTERY

GIFTS & CRAFTS

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CLADACH,
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North Newton, Lochranza
Home of the Arran Stonemen
Hand painted stone characters & animals
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Handmade on the premises
Working craftsmen
Open to the public
7 days 10am - 6pm Walking only please
Sign posted from Lochranza with scenic views
Tel: 01770 830 650

BEST WESTERN
Kinloch Hotel
Isle of Arran

Open daily from 10.30am, come and enjoy our beautiful sea front location while enjoying morning coffee & cakes, a light bite or a fabulous lunch or dinner.

coffee & cakes	10.30am until 4.30pm
lunch	12pm until 2.30pm
snacks	12pm until 4.00pm
evening meals	5pm until 8.30pm

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BRAND NEW MENU FOR 2012

Home cooked & served all day 12.30pm - 9pm
Malt Whiskies Children Welcome

WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Friday - Rock Disco - 10pm
Saturday - Tommy's over 21s Disco - 10pm
Sunday - Live Music Session - 9pm
Tuesday - Trev's Pop Music Quiz - 9pm
Wednesday - Live Music - 9pm
Thursday - Famous Pub Quiz - 9pm

Real Ale (Recommended CAMRA Good Beer Guide)

LAMLASH GOLF CLUB EASTER WEEKEND
Come and join us for a fun FAMILY weekend of Golf, Bar-B-Q, Music, Dancing, Fun and games for all the family !!!

Saturday 7th April

- Glenisle Cup, Mixed Foursomes (Contact Starter for details)
- Easter Dance in the Clubhouse with popular DJ Allan Little. (9pm until late)

Sunday 8th April (Easter Sunday)

- Texas Scramble 11.30 for noon start.

Family Fun afternoon with something for everyone

- Bar-B-Q from 4pm
- Egg and Spoon Race
- Egg painting
- Grand Prize Draw
- Junior Golf Competition from 3pm
- Mum's and Tots putting
- Kids 'Lucky Dip'

Visit our house-on-the-hill with its spectacular view of Holy Isle

We offer B&B accommodation, dinner, Guided Walking and relaxing holiday breaks

Join us on **Easter Sunday and Monday** 2.30 - 5.30pm

Enjoy tea, coffee and home baking in our beautiful surroundings

Bar open

Altachorvie
Shore Road, Lamlash
01770 600468

better altogether holidays



Where are they now?

Deep in the archives of The Oban Times was found this photograph of the Arran Gaelic Choir from 1970. There are a few recognis-

able faces in the group. Does anyone remember the names of the choir members and why you were all in Oban?

If you do have any information give us a call here in the office on 302142 or send us an e-mail to editor@arranbanner.co.uk.

Arran's history is celebrated in song

A free CD of oral recordings from islands across Scotland including Arran was launched by Tobar an Dualchais/Kist o Riches at an event on the Isle of Skye last week.

Guthan Eileanan na h-Alba/ Voices of Scotland's Islands contains a selection of songs, stories and tunes which provides a glimpse of the oral tradition of Scotland's islands.

The CD features tracks from Arran, the Inner Hebrides, Western Isles, Shetland and Orkney, with 26 islands in to-

tal represented on the CD.

Highlights include a humorous story about a farm servant on Arran, the haunting Uist song 'An Eala Bhàn', fiddle tunes from Shetland and a sweet rendition of the song 'Moira of Jura's Isle'.

Small taster

Mairead MacDonald, director of Tobar an Dualchais commented: 'The CD gives a small taster of the wealth of material that is available on our website.'

'There are now over 28,000 recordings online and those

made in the islands make a significant contribution to the website.

'The islands Of Scotland have a rich oral tradition and we are delighted to be able to produce a CD which reflects this.'

'We believe there will be considerable interest in the CD from people living in the islands featured and also from visitors. People will be able to get free copies of the CD from local tourist information offices, museums and visitor centres.'

WIN!

A four night stay for two in South Lakeland Worth £500

Abbey House Hotel

TWO TO GIVEAWAY!

Wyvex Media has teamed up with Abbey House to offer two lucky readers the chance to enjoy a wonderful four night stay for two at the hotel, bed and breakfast. Plus, winners will receive a glass of champagne and afternoon tea on arrival.

Only a fifteen minute drive from the southern tip of Windermere, Cumbria, lies the award winning Abbey House Hotel. Designed by world renowned architect, Sir Edwin Lutyens, the hotel is set in 14 acres of stunning grounds, with 61 individually designed bedrooms to suit every taste.



The CD launch was held at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig on the Isle of Skye.

Fair Trade at Arran High School

A highly successful and unusual event took place at Arran High School two weeks ago – a combined concert and fashion show.

This highly entertaining evening on March 22 show-

cased many talented students from all year groups who sang, played wind and brass instruments and performed at the wonderful new piano.

In addition, the evening highlighted the creative

abilities of those who had designed and invented their own incredible outfits from crisp packets and newspapers as well as delighting the audience with a reminder of costumes from school shows past, striking outfits for wedding guests and some cute bunny costumes for Arran High School staff!

At the same time the evening had a serious purpose – to raise awareness of Fair Trade and the many fashionable items available through Fair Trade clothing outlets.

The young people modelled these with aplomb and elegance and several members of the audience went on to purchase Fair Trade items from the show at the interval.

All round, this was an evening that not only gave much pleasure through talented performance but encouraged a worthwhile cause in Fair Trade.

THE ARRAN BANNER

3

TOKEN THREE

To enter, simply collect four tokens -

token one and two have already been printed. Here is token three.

Token four will be printed April 14.

To order a back copy call 01631 568000.

Full details on how to send in your tokens will be announced April 14, 2012.

Terms & conditions: The prize is based on two people sharing a double or twin room, bed and breakfast only, subject to availability. The prize must be taken by September, 30, 2012. The prize is as stated. No cash alternative. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entries will not be accepted. The winner may be asked to take part in publicity and may appear in a Wyvex Media publication and website. This competition is not open to Wyvex Media and Abbey House Hotel employees and their families. This competition is open to readers of other Wyvex Media publications.

Reader Offer

Exclusive to readers of The Arran Banner, Abbey House Hotel is offering bed and breakfast for only £75 per night based on two people sharing a double or twin room, subject to availability. The offer ends on September, 30, 2012. Please quote reference code OT when booking. For further information go to www.abbeyhousehotel.com or telephone 08448262095.

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COAST supports Fisheries reform and MPA

At the AGM of COAST (Arran Community of Seabed Trust) on Wednesday 21 March, chairman Howard Wood described how the group had been busy again last year.

He focussed on the need to get the COAST proposal for a Marine Protected Area (MPA) established round the Southend approved by the Scottish government.

The aim is to protect the area three miles out from south of Brodick to Drumadoon Point from bottom trawling and scallop dredging.

Andrew Binnie, appointed Marine Project Officer last spring, described the proposal process and then Ian Campbell of OCEAN2012 described the key issues in the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy of the EU.

Andrew's appointment last year was seen as a major step forward for COAST along with establishing an office in Park Terrace large enough to host meetings and research students.

The Scottish government is

due to decide on MPAs by the end of this year and then how they will be managed, so COAST will continue to lobby.

Last summer COAST hosted a full programme of research related to the existing No Take Zone in Lamash Bay.

Two students from University of York expanded the programme started in 2010. Volunteer Arran boatmen played a significant part in assisting the research.

The group also organised several SEASEARCH expeditions using volunteer divers around the south coast of the island, contributing to research knowledge in the in-shore waters.

Among other events, COAST took part in the Arran Mountain Festival, Maritime Festival, Farmers Show, Whiting Bay Christmas Bazaar and Arran on the Square in Glasgow.

Ian Campbell finished by praising the work of COAST and the energy going into creating a change in attitude to the marine environment.

Salvation Army Befriending Service pilot new service

The recently recognised Salvation Army befriending service is shortly going to pilot a new service in Brodick.

It will take the form of a 'drop-in' café and anyone who wishes can pop in to enjoy tea, coffee and biscuits.

As with the similar befriending service on the mainland, this will be free at the point of use and will be run by an excellent team of volunteers. Lexie Andrade, Salvation Army development officer for Arran and Irvine said: 'If you are in need of some company, or know someone who is, then we'd like to meet you!'

'We aim to offer signposting to other services too, and it is hoped that we can provide this service once every two weeks on a mid-week afternoon.'

'The starting date and time will be confirmed later in the month as will the venue.'

Watch this space for further details.

If you would like more information in the meantime, feel free to contact Lexie on 07726 695409.

The Day Between

a special Easter programme
of Music & Drama
with **NEW SCOTTISH ARTS**

Saturday 7th April at 7.30 p.m.
In Brodick Church Hall

Tickets (£5) from Book and Card Centre, Brodick, and from churches (light refreshments included)

Presented by Arran Baptist Church – Scottish Charity SC034942



Arran High School Wind Band performing at The Magnum. b14wind01

High School band excels at Magnum concert

Huge congratulations are due to the Arran High School Wind Band who travelled to the Magnum Sports Centre in Irvine on Sunday 25 March to participate in the North Ayrshire Massed Bands Concert.

The concert included performances from every secondary school throughout North Ayrshire as well as performances en masse of 'Disco Lives' and 'Highland Cathedral'. The Arran pupils performed their rendition of the 1982 classic song 'Eye of the Tiger' before listening to the other bands perform an eclectic repertoire including 'Adiemus' by Karl Jenkins and a 'Lady Gaga Dance Mix'.

Following weeks of preparation, the band played exceptionally well. Mr Lambert, Principal Teacher of Music, said: 'I am very proud of the young people in our band.'

'Having committed themselves to rehearsals twice a week, they have worked extremely hard in preparation for the concert.'

'I am delighted it has all gone so well and hope that we can continue to organise similar opportunities in the future.'

Pupil Tabitha Thorburn-Eaddy said: 'Even though all the bands had never played together before, I was amazed at how good it sounded.'

Megan Ingham added: 'In the end, all the rehearsals paid off – we played really well and everyone enjoyed themselves.'

Head teacher Douglas Auld said: 'In what has been an excellent month of March for Arran High School, on the back of pupil successes in a whole range of areas, I was delighted to be part of the audience which showed Arran High punching above its weight yet again with a superb 'Eye of the Tiger' performance.'

Thanks must go to the North Ayrshire Music Service for the many fantastic opportunities given to pupils in schools across Arran.

Arran Visual Arts workshop and exhibition

Arran Visual Arts most recent weekend workshop on Saturday 24 March by Felicity Walker was a great success.

Michael Grant writes: 'There is something special about the ability of a true artist, especially one that can share their processing of inspiration.'

'Felicity Walker always achieves creativity from her students of whatever level. The AVA workshop, 'sketching, as a support for painting' went beyond expectations.'

'Like an alchemist or chef she went through processes of taking the raw ingredients, in this case our images and ideas, by using thumbnail sketches, rendering them into the perceived structural bare bones, then encouraging the unconscious mind to create and redevelop the images from the ingredients into a new and fresh interpretation of the visual experience.'

'Supporting this process she showed examples of her own work resulting in rich and lively paintings, compared to on-the-spot photographs, which became by comparison almost drab and soulless. Thank you Felicity.' Many works by AVA members will be on show this weekend at an Art Exhibition in the Community Theatre, Arran High School, Lamash from Saturday.

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

ARRAN VISUAL ARTS

Easter Exhibition

Sat 7th – Thu 12th April

Community Theatre at
Arran High School, Lamash

10.30am – 5pm – SAT-WED

10.30am – 4pm – THU

www.arranvisualarts.co.uk

What's On at Kilmory Hall

For further details phone 01770 870345

8th April	Duck Egg Derby – 4pm At Lagg Burn
9th April	Farmers & Craft Market - 10.30am – 2.00pm
19th April	Open Evening – 7.30pm – 9.30pm Come along and look round the Hall & Bunkhouse and see what facilities we have to offer for groups and activity holidays.
9th May	Farmers & Craft Market - 10.30am – 2.00pm
13th May	Plant Sale & Table Top Sale – 2pm Donations of plants, home-baking and raffle prizes gratefully received. To book a Table – £5.00 - please phone hall.
21st May	A.G.M. – 8pm



Easter Family Ceilidh

18 - 21 May 2012

Lochranza Hall

Saturday 7 April, 8-11pm

* Easter Bonnet Competition * BYOB *

adults, £8/under 16s, £5

Family* ticket £20

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

DRAMA NIGHT

Three One-Act Plays

Each Evening Sees Its Close - Shiskine Drama Club
The Real Problem - Shiskine SWRI
Last Tango in Little Grimley - Castaways

Shiskine Hall
Friday 13th April
Curtain up 7pm

Tickets £4 at door - includes tea and buns!!



Finlay Murchie, Struan Robertson and Colin Mackenzie with their prizes at the North Ayrshire Secondary Schools Burns competition. b14burn01

Burns success for four Arran youngsters

Four talented Arran youngsters have again picked up coveted prizes for their mastery of the works of Robert Burns.

They were taking part in the North Ayrshire Council Burns Competition on Tuesday 27 March in Ardeer Community Centre, Stevenston. The judges were Hugh Hutchison, Iain Skene and John Skilling.

More than 450 pupils representing 35 Primary Schools

participated over the five area heats. The 80 children who were placed first, second and third competed again at these finals.

Category

Struan Robertson of Shiskine won the S3/4 category with an excerpt from 'Tam O'Shanter' and Finlay Murchie, also of Shiskine, was placed third with 'To a Louse'.

Colin Mackenzie of Whiting

Bay won the S5/6 class with his 'Address to a Haggis'.

The three had qualified for the competition by their performance in the Arran heats at Arran High School on March 13. They were said to be of a very high standard and 'did the island proud'.

Alison Provan of Whiting Bay Primary School did extremely well to be placed first equal in the P5/7 girls class with 'To a Louse'.



Alison Provan of Whiting Bay, second from left, with her prize for coming first equal in the P5/7 class. b14burn02

Obituary: Leonard Tunnell died Monday 26 March

Leonard (Len) Tunnell, former resident of Arran, died on 26 March at the age of 90.

Len moved to Arran in 1989 when he married long-standing resident Margaret Hood. Len and Margaret lived at Camus Ban, Machrie and were involved in a number of island activities including the Isle of Arran Gilbert and Sullivan Society (now the Music and Drama Club), Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, and Machrie Golf Club, where Len was Treasurer for a few years.

They moved to Altanna, Brodick when Margaret's health deteriorated and she

died in 1995.

Len enjoyed a few more years in Brodick before moving in 1998 to Radcliffe-on-Trent, Nottinghamshire near his elder daughter. He retained an interest in Arran affairs, subscribing to The Banner until his final illness.

Len died peacefully in a nursing home attended by his daughters from his first marriage, Sue Cadge and Pauline Penneck.

They and their families, Len's two grandsons and two granddaughters, have enjoyed many holidays on Arran and intend to keep up the tradition.

Corrie Film Club

Enchanted April (UK 1992)

April's Corrie Film Club offering is a delightful comedy directed by Mike Newell who has had an eclectic directing career including critically acclaimed 'Dance with a Stranger' as well as 'Four Weddings and a Funeral' and some of the Harry Potter films!

This charming film is set in Italy just after the First World War and has a superlative cast including Miranda Richardson, Joan Plowright, Michael Kitchen and Jim Broadbent.

This is a film to enjoy so please come and do just that on Sunday 15 April in Corrie Hall at 8pm.

Bring a bottle to share if you wish. All welcome.

Entry free but donations welcome.

Regulars please note change of date from syllabus as Corrie and Sannox Hall is being used by a school group during Easter Weekend.



Leonard Tunnell.

NOW ON SALE

THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH FIELD...

FORGED IN FIFE – Artist David Mach on his school of hard knocks

READ...

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Why America loves our deerhounds

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The year's best wildlife images

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Margaret puts Arran doggies through their paces

Arran's doggies are again being put through their paces in Whiting Bay Hall.

Local dog breeder and Kennel Club Regional Breed Advisor Margaret Kay has just finished a successful run of puppy socialisation and obedience courses in the village hall and was due to start another one on Wednesday 4 April.

She said: 'The classes will run for 10 weeks and will be in the hall on a Wednesday afternoon from 1pm.

Agility kit

'We plan to take the agility kit outside again for the summer at Sandbraes Park and have purchased two new bits of kit for this year. We now have an A frame and Doggy Walkway.

'The walkway has been manhandled up to the hall for the last couple of weeks to give the dogs a wee bit of extra stimulation and they love it.'

Anyone needing more information can contact Margaret on 600725.

Join us on facebook

www.facebook.com/campbeltowncourier

Arran Bird Report 2011

In 1872 Robert Gray wrote a booklet called 'Birds of Arran' published by Bell and Bain of Glasgow.

In his introduction, before giving a catalogue of all the species on the island, he writes eloquently about Arran and its birds.

This is a short extract: 'With the exception of Skye, there is perhaps no part of the Western Hebrides more remarkable for the sublimity of its bird haunts than Arran.

The towering peaks of Goatfell and Ben Ghnuis – homes of the eagle and ptarmigan – can nowhere be exceeded for grandeur and magnificence.....the natural features of Arran are sufficiently diversified to attract a very large

Bird Notes by Jim Cassels

proportion of the birds to be found in Scotland and that on this account the bird-student who may make this beautiful island a temporary post of observation, is enabled to acquire, within a comparatively small compass, a knowledge of the habits of species ranging from the monarch of its own Alps - the sea eagle – to the little storm petrel whose shadowy form at twilight is occasionally detected by the passing mariner.'

While historical records are interesting, Arran bird records are sparse until the Arran Natural History Society published its first annual

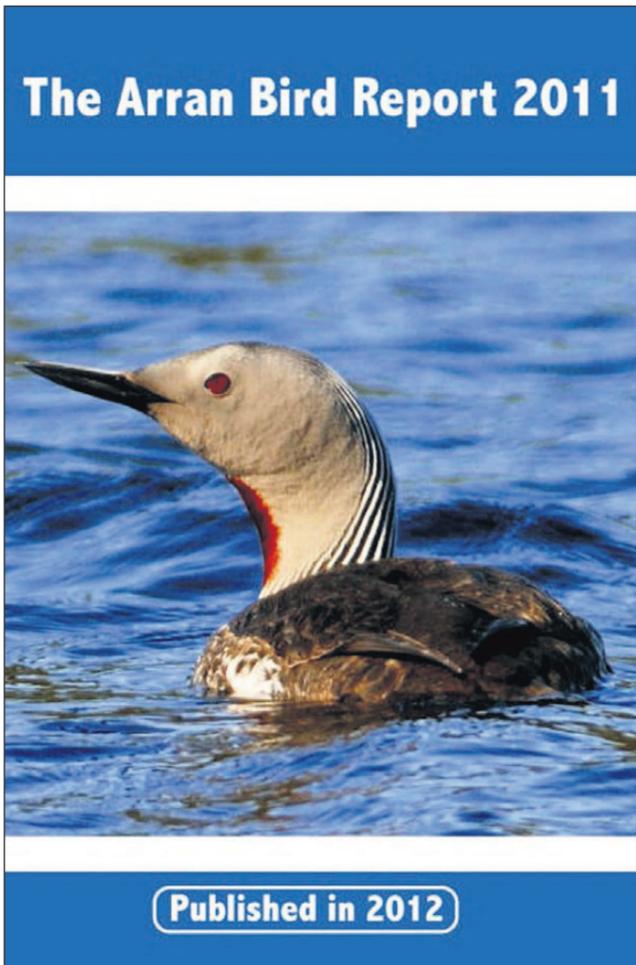
'Arran Bird Report' in 1978.

These reports provide a unique record of the bird life of this special island over the last 30 odd years.

In 2006, the responsibility for writing the annual report fell to me.

In 2011, almost 300 contributors submitted over 6,000 records on 163 species, two of which had never been recorded before on Arran. The annual Arran Bird Report is a 'must' for anyone interested in the birds of Arran. It includes reports on all species seen on Arran, a summary of the year, the impact of weather on birds, information on ringed birds and reports on some of Arran's bird projects.

The uniqueness of Arran is reflected throughout the report, including the number of UK protected birds that share our island with us, as well as the differences between here and even the adjacent mainland. Make sure you get your copy. This latest version of the annual bird report is now avail-



The 2011 Arran Bird Report, available in local shops this week. b14bir01

able from shops and other outlets throughout the island, priced £4 or directly from Alan and Jill Hollick of High Kildonan alanandjillhollick@gmail.com

Enjoy your birding. Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels,

Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at james.cassels@virgin.net I look forward to hearing from you.

For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Report 2011 and visit this website www.arran-birding.co.uk

Corrie coffee mornings success

The monthly coffee mornings held on the last Friday of each month in Corrie and Sannox Village Hall since October 2008 were begun to keep our community together since sadly our village post office and grocery had to close.

Many thanks are given to the volunteers from Corrie Church and villagers who haul out the tables and chairs; to the willing scone and bread makers; suppliers of eggs, cakes and garden produce, all of which is sold or eaten.

This has brought in a total over the four-and-a-half years of £3,783.

Of that, £1,533 has gone to train nurses and help in providing equipment to two hospitals in northern Ethiopia, £675 to disaster areas in the West Indies, Pakistan, Japan and Africa.

Corrie Church, the village hall, Marie Curie nurses and Northend First Responders have shared a further £1,500.

Thank you to all who attend and bring friends and visitors.

It is not just for local residents and all are welcome. There is always ongoing patter, repartee and our two men in the kitchen sharing jokes to entertain you whilst you help others in need. RP.

Ebooks available from Arran's library

North Ayrshire Council have launched an eBooks service to allow readers to download books onto PCs and other compatible devices.

This means that books can be downloaded to your pc for using with an ereader or downloaded straight to your mobile device from anywhere in the world 24/7.

To access North Ayrshire's eBooks, log onto www.northayrshire.lib.overdrive.com to browse over 800 adult titles and young adult titles.

You can download four books for up to two weeks and they will expire from your device after that time - so no more fines!

You will need your North Ayrshire library card number and PIN to download books to your mobile device or computer.

If you are not a member of North Ayrshire Libraries and live, work or study in the area, you can complete an online library membership form and they will arrange a card to be processed and to be collected at your nearest Arran Library in Brodick.

Ask at your branch library for your PIN if you already have a library card.

Please note that Kindle do not support the Overdrive product in the UK at present.

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For more information call Fiona on 01631 568018
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Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall
Charity Nos SCO18338
DAFFODIL TEA
Saturday 7th April
2 - 4pm
Lots of Children's Activities, Tombola, Plants & Flowers
Cards - Gifts, Home Baking, Bric a brac, Raffle
& the Famous Lochranza Cream Tea

ARRAN VISUAL ARTS
Easter Exhibition
Sat 7th - Thu 12th April
Community Theatre at
Arran High School, Lamlash
10.30am - 5pm - SAT-WED
10.30am - 4pm - THU
www.arranvisualarts.co.uk

The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday, April 4, 1992

Rifkind drops in

Transport Secretary and former Scottish Secretary Malcolm Rifkind was helicoptered into Brodick on Friday morning, a sure sign that the Conservatives see Cunningham North as a winnable seat in the upcoming election.

As Transport secretary he naturally wanted to visit Arran Transport where he visited the garage and looked at the buses with Mr George Lammie.

Fire exercise

Strathclyde Fire Brigade and other services will send units to the island this weekend to stage a special exercise at Brodick Castle in which treasures will be evacuated from the castle.

Bigger minibus

The community of Kilmory have been running a new, bigger minibus for two weeks now.

Kept with a full tank and pool of 10 volunteers drivers

always at the ready, it is well used.

Phyllis Picken said: 'This new bus was a prison bus before coming to Kilmory.

'They did actually take the bars off the windows.'

Ferry upset

The late Friday ferry is due to begin again this summer but there are grumblings of discontent. This time not from passengers but because of a shortage of staff and payments for the late work.

Shore staff are angered that ferry crews get an additional £25 a week for late work that they do not receive.

Ladies only

For ladies only, the sexiest show in the world. And it's coming to Lamlash.

Hunkamania - or Tony Valentine's men of LA - are an all male show for the girls and will be at the Community Centre at the end of April.

A classy act, the men do not reveal all but leave very little to the imagination.



Malcolm Rifkind, right, chats to George Lammie and Ralston Green at the Arran Transport garage. b14twe01



Bob Lawson, Phyllis Picken and Stuart Yates with excited youngsters eager to try the new bus in Kilmory. b14twe04



The pool season drew to a close last Thursday night and pictured are Crawford Duncan and Clifford Latona, the doubles champions. They beat Dennis Smith and Grant McAlister of Lagg by four games to one in the final. Clifford was also the singles champion and Rosalind Millar the ladies singles champion. b14twe03



Forty-eight players took part in the third Arran Junior Badminton Open Championship last Saturday. Under the umpireship of Nigel Marshall, they played all day in Lamlash Primary School hall. The picture shows the winners. b14twe02

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 Shore Road, Whiting Bay
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 enquiries@pillarboxarran.co.uk
 www.pillarboxarran.co.uk

Last week Archie was sitting in the woods near Sannox Congregational Church, hoping to meet the new owners. First correct answers came from Colin in Wetherby and Kirsten in Bathgate. This week he is on the shore, close to his favourite post office, but do you know which post office? 02_b14arc02

Burns Pet Nutrition
 The Holistic Approach to Health and Nutrition

gibbs galston

If you think you know then post your answer on the website www.arranbanner.co.uk
 Or email us at: editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Whats on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com

ISLE OF ARRAN BREWERY

EVERYDAY

Arran Brewery
Arran Brewery Tour
Brodict Castle, Gardens Open Daily
Arran Heritage Museum,
Trout Fly Fishing

Saturday 7 April

Over 21s Disco
Karate
Family Games
Fun in the Pool
Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
Teddy Bears Picnic
Kids Family Quiz
RNLI Shop
Councillor's Surgery - M Currie
Easter Dance
Arran Rugby 7s
Arran Rugby 7s Dance
Open Rinks
Open Garden - Model Trains
Daffodil Tea
The Day Between
Arran Visual Arts
Easter Family Ceilidh

Sunday 8 April

Alcoholics Anonymous
Family Games
Fun in the Pool
Teddy Bears Picnic
Live Music
Open Mic Session
RNLI Shop
Texas Scramble
Easter at the Castle
Duck Egg Derby
Open Garden - Model Trains
Woolies of Brodict
Arran Visual Arts

Monday 9 April

Over 50s Badminton
Badminton
Weight Wise
Ladies Netball
Citizens Advice
Breathe Walk Class
Table Tennis
Hatha Yoga
Activity Time
Come Dance With Me – LeRoc Modern Jive
Circuit Training
Quiz
Citizens Advice
Badminton
Farmers/Craft Market
Folk Music
Arran Visual Arts

Tuesday 10 April

Lochranza Swimming Club
Army Cadets
Pop Quiz

Open Mon-sat 10am-4pm, closed Sunday
2pm
9am-Dusk
Rosaburn, Brodict 10.30am - 4.30pm
Loch Garbad, Bank or Boat

Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am -12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Arran high School, 10am
Playbarn Auchrannie, 2pm - 3pm
Playbarn, Auchrannie, 5pm - 6pm
2pm - 4pm
Brodict Library, 1pm - 2pm
Lamlash Golf Club, 9pm till late
Ormidale Park, Brodict, 10am
Brodict Hall, 9pm till late
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Murray Crescent, Lamlash 10am - 5pm
Lochranza/Catacol Village Hall, 2pm - 4pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30pm
Community Theatre, 10.30am - 5.30pm
Lochranza Hall, 8pm - 11pm

Church Hall, Brodict 4.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Playbarn, Auchrannie, 2pm - 3pm
Ormidale, 8.30pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 2pm - 5 pm
2pm - 4pm
Lamlash Golf Club, 11.30 for noon start
Brodict Castle, 1pm - 4pm
Lagg Burn, 4pm
Murray Crescent, Lamlash, 1pm - 5pm
Open 9am - 2pm
Community Theatre, 10.30am - 5.30pm

Lochranza Village Hall 2pm-4pm
Lochranza Hall 6.30pm
Hospital Bungalow 5pm-5.30pm
High School Sports Hall – seniors 7.30pm-9pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict 10am-2pm
Kinneil, Lamlash 5.15pm
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
Arran high School, 6pm - 7.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall 7.30pm
Auchrannie Spa Gym, 6pm-7pm
The Shurig at Bar Eden, 8.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30am - 1.30pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7 - 9pm
Kilmory Hall, 10.30am - 2pm
Kildonan Hotel, 9pm
Community Theatre, 10.30am - 5.30pm

Kinloch 11am- 12pm
Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm-9.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm



Alcoholics Anonymous
Youth Club
Rotary Club
Junior Hockey Club – 8yrs up
Melody Movement, Ballet Class-2 ½ yrs up
Dudes & Divas Funky Dance Class- 2 ½ yrs up
Youth Club
Scottish Country Dancing
Winter Bowls
Zumba Fitness Class
Rowan Singers
Weight Watchers
Green Gym
Rink Games
Arran Visual Arts
Northend Football Training

Wednesday 11 April

Hockey
Tae Kwon-do
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Senior Badminton
Yogalates
Aquafizz
Music Mayhem Class Parents and little ones
Kids Games
Circuit Training
Dog Training
AYF Film Making Club
Arran Heritage Museum Archives and Genealogy Services
Coffee Morning
Arran Visual Arts

Thursday 12 April

General Knowledge Quiz
Lochranza Craft Club
Youth Club
Coffee Morning
General Knowledge Quiz
Brodict Embroidery Club
Winter Bowls
Zumba Fitness Club
Garden Club
Live Country/Folk Music
Lunchbox
Pub Quiz
Cricket Practice
Arran Visual Arts

Friday 13 April

Quiz
Aqua Fizz
Yogalates
Arran Youth Foundations
Kids Party Games
Weight Watchers
Quiz Night
Lochranza Kids Badminton
Lochranza Adults Badminton
Disco
Shiskine Drama Night

Saturday 14 April

Over 21s Disco
Karate
Family Games
Fun in the Pool
Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
Rink Games
Live Music and Indian Buffet
RNLI Coffee Morning

Sunday 15 April

Alcoholics Anonymous
Family Games
Fun in the Pool
Corrie Film Club - Enchanted April

Brodict Church Hall - 2pm
Kildonan Hall - 7pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6pm-7pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 2pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio 2pm
Brodict Hall, 6.30pm - 8pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7pm-9pm
Arran High School, 6.30-7.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 7.30pm
St Molios, Church Hall, 7pm
Rangers Centre, 10am - 1pm
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Community Theatre, 10.30am - 5.30pm
Lochranza, 7pm

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm-8pm games hall
KA Leisure Kids, 6.30pm-7.30pm Adults 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Lamlash church Hall 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm
High School Games Hall 8pm - 9pm
9.30am – 10.30am Auchrannie studio
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45am - 10.30am
Auchrannie dance studio 10.45am
The Playbarn Auchrannie 5pm - 6pm
Auchrannie Spa Games Hall 6pm - 7pm
Whiting Bay Hall 1pm
Brodict Church Hall, 4.30pm-6.30pm
10.30 - 12.30 and 1.30 - 3.30
Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - 12noon
Community Theatre, 10.30am - 5.30pm

Ormidale Hotel 9pm
Hall 2pm
Youth cabin, Lamlash 7-9pm
St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
Kinloch Bar 9pm
Brodict Library 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall 7pm - 9pm
Arran High School, 6.30-7.30pm
Brodict Ranger Centre, 7.30pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm - 10.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion 12.30pm - 2.30pm
Kinloch, 9pm
Sannox, 6pm
Community Theatre, 10.30am - 4pm

Whiting Bay Golf Club 8pm
Auchrannie Hotel Pool 9.45am - 10.30am
Auchrannie Studio 10am - 11am
Church Hall, Brodict, 7pm - 9pm
The Playbarn, Auchrannie 5 - 6pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 6.30pm
Catacol Bay, 9pm
Lochranza Hall, 6 - 8pm
Lochranza Hall, 8pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Village Hall, 7pm

Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Arran High School 10am
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Kildonan Hotel, 7pm
Ormidale Pavilion 10.15am - 12pm

Church Hall, Brodict 4.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool 4pm - 5pm
Corrie/Sannox Village Hall, 8pm

Public Notices

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 Corporate 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 Solicitor to the Council (Corporate Services) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 27.04.12. 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
12/00148/PP; Site to South of, Greenhill Cottage, Blackwaterfoot, Brodick; Erection of detached dwelling house (renewal of planning approval N/11/00119/PP).
12/00146/PP; Bennecarrigan Free Church of Scotland, Sliderry, Brodick, Isle of Arran; Alterations and conversion of church to form 2 holiday lets.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



An Initiative of Trust Housing Association

Isle of Arran Homes

The office will be closed from
Easter Friday and Monday
6 and 9 April 2012
and will reopen on Tuesday,
10 April 2012

If you have an emergency
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0845 434 5141

We would like to take this
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Boom box style JVC powered woofer player. Plays cds, Ipod link, MP3 playback, headphone output and intergral speakers. AM/Fm radio, remote control sound fill community hall Cost £156 new accept £60 Tel:01770 600479

Subaru Forrester, automatic 1998. 4WD, 2L. Mot Tax August. 129K, silver. £550. 01770 850516. / 07836743944.

Red Leather Corner sofa as new £300 – Tel:07913 967605

New flymo glider 330 new in box unwanted gift £80 ono Tel: 850553

Qualcast Rotary mower eclipse 320 – hardly used £60 ono Tel: 850553

10ft fibreglass boat £150, Honda 2.5 HP 4 stroke air cooled out-board engine as new £300, 2 small kayaks suit up to 15 yrs \$45 each Tel:01770 840246

6 pine "fiddle back" kitchen chairs. £60 o.n.o. 07522 860435

UNDER £30

Girls first Tri-Scooter (pink, Barbie graphics), new in box £10, child's drowsied cot (needs repainted), mattress and cover £5; Child's plastic sled blue £3; set of 3 blue velvet cushions £5; 2helfords roof bars with clamps for rails £20 for pair; 2 bicycle holders for car roof bars £10 each or £15 for pair; 2 silver coloured TV stands (one with glass shelf) £5 each Tel:01770 600479

12f Wooden extension ladder – Good Condition £15ono – Tel:01770 302179

Samsung upright vacuum cleaner – 5 months old £29 Tel:01770 860760

Double Glazed UPVC Windows Rosewood/White – Top Openers 1 at 760mmWx 1050mmH and 1 at 890mmW x 1200mm H VGC (Andrew Wright) £30 each Tel:01770 7003258

WANTED

Small Television, good condition Tel:01770 810608

Washing Machine in good condition Tel:01770 600492 after 7pm
2 Seater Settee, preferably 2 easy chairs VGC only please Tel:01770 700413 after 5pm

DVD/Video Recorder – Good Condition Tel:01770 302179

Records and CDS – Tel: Tom 07504 739952

FREE TO UPLIFT

Upright Piano Tel:01770 302392/07941 795125

Bagged Manure in Oakbank, Lamlash £1 per bag donation to Arran RDA Tel:01770600752

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www.arranbanner.co.uk



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**Shiskine Surgery
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Lamlash Medical Centre
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and Monday 9 April

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Please ensure you have enough medication for this period

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Kenneth Gibson MSP

will hold advice surgeries at the following times and locations.

Monday 09 April	
Kildonan Village Hall	11.30-12.30
Whiting Bay Hall	13.30-14.30
ACVS Lamlash	15.00-16.00
Monday 14 May	
Pirnmill Village Hall	11.30-12.30
Shiskine Village Hall	13.30-14.30
Brodick Health Centre	15.30-16.30

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

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Property

Arran Estate Agents

GLENASHDALE COTTAGE WHITING BAY GUIDE PRICE £250,000

Charming detached stone built cottage in woodland riverside location on the outskirts of Whiting Bay with attractive garden grounds extending to approximately 3 acres.



Accommodation comprises entrance hall, bathroom, large dining kitchen, lounge, one double bedroom, attic workroom and separate detached stone built studio – suitable as additional accommodation. The property is finished to an excellent standard with oil fired heating, double glazing, large timber workshop. A most unusual and characterful home in a unique, quiet location

AFTON, LOCHRANZA ASKING PRICE REDUCED FROM £275,000 TO A GUIDE PRICE £250,000

Very attractive, traditional, stone built villa in central location with open aspect across the loch towards the castle and beyond. Accommodation comprises entrance vestibule and open plan living, dining and kitchen area. There is an additional kitchen to the rear and a utility room, shower room and garden room and on the upper floor there is a bathroom, three bedrooms and an ensuite shower room. Beautifully landscaped garden to the front with terraced gardens to the rear. Electric central heating and double glazing. A most attractive, traditional home in a much sought after location.



Invercloy House, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ
Robert N Brass FRICS FNAEA

Tel: 01770 302310 / 302313

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WANTED

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Or call: 07931 990258 or 01132 674550

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resort



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Closing Date: Monday 16 April 2012

For further details and to apply visit
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More Recruitment adverts on page 22

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An opportunity has arisen to join a small dedicated team of staff who care for the historic collections and interior of Brodick Castle. Week end work will be required
Experience preferred but not essential - training in collections care will be given

For Details and Application form please contact
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Recruitment



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If you are interested in this position, please respond by sending your CV quoting reference number 431-SB no later than Friday, 13 April 2012 to: vacancies@davidmacbraynehr.co.uk or

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Arran War Memorial Hospital, Isle of Arran
Nursing Assistant (various)
 Band 2: £14,258 - £17,003 PA
 Ref: N/569/11

Our 17 bedded community hospital provides care to a diverse population on an inpatient and outpatient basis, including Accident and Emergency services, day services and outpatient clinics. Patient care services are provided by a wide range of clinicians from both Primary and Secondary care settings.

You will possess excellent communication skills, be able to work effectively as part of a team and be committed to delivering a high standard of care. SVQ level II in healthcare or experience gained within a healthcare environment is desirable.

Hours: various hours ranging from 15 per week, rotational shifts.

Bank Nursing Assistant (3 posts)
 Band 2: £14,258 - £17,003 PA
 Ref: N/570/11

Our 17 bedded community hospital provides care to a diverse population on an inpatient and outpatient basis, including Accident and Emergency services, day services and outpatient clinics. Patient care services are provided by a wide range of clinicians from both Primary and Secondary care settings.

You will possess excellent communication skills, be able to work effectively as part of a team and be committed to delivering a high standard of care. SVQ level II in healthcare or experience gained within a healthcare environment is desirable.

Hours: as and when required on all shift patterns.

Informal enquiries to Ailsa Weir, Senior Charge Nurse, Tel: 01770 600777 or Mr Alan Stout, Clinical Manager, Tel: 01770 601032.

For an application form please contact the Department of O&HRD, 63 Lister Street, Crosshouse Hospital, KA2 0BE Tel: 01563 825711 or e-mail: allison.robertson@aaht.scot.nhs.uk

Closing date: Friday 20th April 2012.

To find out more about NHS Ayrshire and Arran and services visit www.nhsayrshireandarran.com

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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(in full communion with the Church of England)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay
Saturday 7th April
Easter Eve, 6.00 pm.
Sunday 8th April
Easter Sunday,
Holy Communion, 11.00 am. Mr John Roberts.
Coffee after service.
Wednesday 11th April
Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
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 - families, young people and children welcome.
Sunday 8th April
Brodick Church, 10.30am
Family Praise Service with ARCO
Corrie Church, 12noon,
Family Praise Service with ARCO
Lochranza/Pirmill,
joint service at Lochranza 10.15am
Shiskine Church 12noon
A service of worship will also be held in Montrose house at 1.30pm

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Good Friday Witness walk 2pm
Evening Liturgy 7pm
Holy Saturday Polish Blessing of Easter Food 11am
Easter Vigil 9pm
Easter Monday Masses 9.30am and 11am

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(Charity Number: SC014005)
Sunday 8th April
Easter Sunday: There will be a sunrise service at the Viking Fort, Kingscross at 6.20am for an expected sunrise at 6.29am, 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 7th April
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.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 8th April
Easter Day
Rev. Gillean Maclean
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30am
In both churches:
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 8th April
Shiskine 11am - Sunday school during the morning service and also tea and coffee after the service
Brodick 7pm
Rev Ricky MacDonald
All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(continuing)
Sunday 8th April
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
Prayer Meeting
Wednesday 11th April
at 7pm
5 Glen Road
All welcome

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS
Sunday 8th April
Meeting for worship will be at 11 in Dippen House, Dippen.
Enquires to Judith at 820 223.
All very welcome



Whiting Bay Golf Club
Ladies: Sunday 1 April saw the first formal fixture for the golfing season ahead - the Boyd Quaich trophy. Second place went to Viv Parks with a net 68. First place went to Lesley Wood with a net 67 and a handicap cut to 21 - well done Lesley! Also notable were two magic twos; Lesley Wood with at the 4th and Doreen Mains at the 17th.

Gents: Sunday 1 April, 16 played in the Roy Ure Tankard, played as a stableford. The winner with a total of 40 points was John Taylor, second with 38 points was David Brookens and third John Dick with 36 points. Jamie MacPherson won scratch with 70 and there were magic twos from Jamie MacPherson and Gordon Provan.

Fixtures: Saturday 7 April, Poole Trophy Mixed Fours 11am. Sunday 8 April, Gents Easter medal, draws at 9am and 10.30am.

Brodick Golf Club
Sunday 25 March, Winter Cup final round. 1 D Robert-

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BRADFORD - KENNETH
Sheena and family would like to thank everyone for all their help and support also for the beautiful cards and flowers. Special thanks to Angus Adamson and Rev G Maclean for a lovely service. Also Pier Head Tavern for catering. The sum of £511.00 was collected for Cancer Research.
Gone but never forgot
MCSPORRAN - MARY
Aged 87
Died 29 February 2012. Raymond, Ian, Ena and Margaret would like to thank all the Doctors, nurses and Carers for there excellent care of Mary.
Also thanks to David and Clair for the funeral arrangements and Lamlash golf club for the refreshments this was all gratefully appreciated.



The host club Machrie were this year's winners of the Eddie Rankin Cup.

son (14)40pts, 2 J McKean (11)40pts, 3 J Armit (4)39pts. Winter Cup Winner overall J McKean 188pts (on count back) - average 37.6 over five rounds. Runner-up D Robertson 188pts.

Wednesday 28 March, Summer Cup. 1 G Sillars (25)61, 2 D Hendry (11)63, 3 I MacMillan (14)64. Scratch B Jenkins 72. There were 10 twos.

Sunday 1 April, Brandon. 1 I MacDonald (7)63, 2 G Hendry (7)65, 3 R McCrae (7)66. Scratch I MacDonald 70. There were seven twos - Bruce Jenkins got two.

First Class Brandon I MacDonald. Second Class Brandon K McMillan.

Fixtures: Sunday 8 April, Marchioness of Graham Trophy (Bogey), draw Saturday 12noon. Sunday 15 April, British Legion 36 hole.

Ladies fixture: Tuesday 10 April, Coronation foursomes (draw for partners). Names by Sunday 8 April.

Shiskine Golf Club
Sunday 1 April, Gents 12 Hole Medal, 20 played. First class: 1 and Scratch D Tod 42-3=39, 2 D Logan 46-5=41 BIH, 3 C Watson 47-6=41. Second class: 1 Q Oliver 54-13=41, 2 M Hesp 56-11=45, 3 A Bannatyne 60-13=47. Magic twos from D Tod (2) and Q Oliver. Congratulations David on a super score.
Fixtures: Thursday 12 April, Ladies 12 Hole Medal, 1pm/5.30pm tee-times.
Sunday 8 April, Gents 18 Hole Medal, 3pm.

Machrie Bay Golf Club
Tuesday 27 March, final day of the Winter Cup. 1 Brian Sherwood 69, 2 David Scott 70, 3 Campbell Laing 73 BIH. Scratch Brian Sherwood 75.



Eric Thompson with his runners-up prize.



The Duggie Graham Shield is presented to John Dick and Hamish McArthur by Brodick captain Nicol Hume.

Winner of the Winter Cup was Brian Sherwood with a total of 400 and Steph Hill was second with 402.

Saturday 31 March, Eddie Rankin Cup - Machrie v Corrie at Machrie. With the course in excellent condition there was also delicious soup and rolls in the clubhouse afterwards. Thanks go to Tom and his staff. Winner of the sweep and a bottle of whiskey donated by the family: 1 John Adams 37pts, 2 David Jeffrey 35 BIH, 3 David Price 35 BL6. Twos John Adams, David Jeffrey, Brian Sherwood. The host club Machrie were this year's winners of the cup with 289 pts to Corries 268.

Fixtures: Tuesday 10 April, start of the Peter Sutton/Lady Mary which tee-off as usual at 12.30pm and 5.30pm.

Lamlash Golf Club
Thursday 29 March, 15 Hole Medal. 1 Ian Parker 64-16=48, 2 Dougie Macfarlane 51-2=49. Sunday 1 April, Drift Inn Quaich, 19 played, CSS 34 points to Stableford. 1 Iain Murchie 35pts, 2 Adam Burke 34pts, 3 Mark Wren BIH 33pts. No twos.



Hamish McArthur won the Brodick Golf Wednesday Club twos trophy.



Wolfi Kroner won the Norman Peach Salver.

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BRODICK GOLF CLUB

Tricia and Douglas Bridge the gap season ends

Brodick Bridge Club held its annual general meeting and prizegiving on the final night of the season last Thursday 29 March.

One pair had a very successful year as can be seen from the results.

Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton lifted all three of the season's trophies – the Adam Morrison Cup, the Duncan Trophy and the Boyd Trophy.

Trophy winners were:
Adam Morrison Cup: 1 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton, 2 Jan and John Beattie, 3 Helen Boyd and Liz Paul.

Boyd Trophy: 1 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton, 2 Janie MacLure and Anne McKelvie.

Duncan Trophy: 1 Tricia Martin and Douglas Hamilton, 2 Helen Boyd and Liz Paul, 3 Mary and John Dick.

The winners for last week's tournament were:

N/S 1 John and Mary Dick, 2 David Henderson and Fiona Crawford, 3 Alison Bilsland and Elaine Duncan.

E/W 1 Morag Gardner and Jean Barclay, 2 Helen Boyd and Liz Paul, 3 Jean Murchie and Evelyn Sillars.

The club remembered two very long-standing members, Jim Alexander and Alastair McBride, both of whom died recently, and took the opportunity to give life membership and a bouquet to Jean Murchie, a faithful member for well over 40 years.

Comfortable

The club has had very comfortable accommodation in Brodick Golf Clubhouse and would like to thank Douglas Robertson for all his help.

The club will resume in the autumn. Meanwhile, bridge lovers are reminded that Summer Bridge tournaments will be run on Mondays in Arran High School, starting on Monday 23 April.



Douglas Hamilton and Tricia Martin, winners of the Adam Morrison Cup, Duncan Cup and Boyd Trophy at Brodick Bridge Club last Thursday night. 02_b14brg01



Southend Bodachs' victory

The Southend Bodachs showed the Southend Youngsters that they still 'have it' after they beat them in a friendly game of football at Sandbraes on Saturday afternoon.

David Morrison, pictured in red, scored a wonder goal for the Bodachs to give them a 1-0 victory over the

younger lads.

As one of the spectators told us: 'Are you wondering which team is the Bodachs? Well in Arran we use it to describe anybody who comes from the southend – but it's actually Gaelic for old man!'

The game was organised as part of the Nags 30th anniversary weekend. 01_b14mag01

Darts season comes to an end

Catacol were excitedly celebrating another triumph last week after they once again won the Arran Ladies Darts League.

The Drift Inn from Lamlash were runners-up and they also won the coveted Gallon of Beer trophy.

The singles trophy was won by Laura McAllister of the Drift Inn who beat runner-up Marjorie Nelson of Kildonan in the final.

Laura also won the doubles with Alice McAllister after they beat Susan and Lorna Logan.

The sum of £121.50 was raised for the Arran First Responders at the mixed doubles on Friday 23 March.

A final mixed doubles tournament of the season will be held at the Catacol Bay Hotel on Friday 20 April.

Cricket practice resumes

Outdoor cricket practice will resume for the season this Thursday night (April 12) at Sannox at 6pm.

It will run throughout the summer until the end of September.

Sannox Cricket Club are currently the Argyll and Islands reigning league champions and they are hoping to continue their success this year. All new members are very welcome as coaching is available for all levels.

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