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Arran's Weekly Newspaper SATURDAY, 5 APRIL 2014 No 1955 60p



**Nominate someone to go to the Commonwealth Games**

# String Road action taken following complaints

'We hope to allow overnight access from April 17 until May 6'

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

Action has been taken by North Ayrshire Council to open the String Road overnight from Easter weekend onwards, following complaints from residents in last week's *Banner* about the on-going closure.

The B880 is currently closed to allow for major repairs to be carried out and is only open three times a day at specific convoy times, much to the irritation of residents and businesses on the island's west coast.

**Discussed**  
A council spokesman said: 'When we discussed proposals with Arran Community Council and Visit Arran earlier this year, we stated that we would allow access through the road when construction work allows.'

'As it currently stands, we hope to allow overnight access from April 17 until May 6. The following phase of works scheduled for May 6 will require overnight closure

for approximately two weeks, after which overnight access will again be allowed.

'In addition we are examining options to increase evening opening by a further hour.'

However, despite the announcement on Wednesday, many residents still don't feel it is enough.

**Vocal**  
Neil Arthur from Kilpatrick has been vocal with the community's complaints about the inadequate timing of the convoys.

He told *The Banner*: 'This seems a lot better but I think it needs clarification. 'Is it a 'we hope' or 'we will' open the road, and how is this to be achieved?'

'Will it be unattended with traffic lights, or will a convoy run through the night?'

He added: 'One extra hour is not sufficient - a convoy to midnight has been requested but I think 6pm until 10pm would be acceptable as it would allow for access to the 7.20pm boat as well as social, recreational, golf, gym, shopping, entertaining, visits etc.'



## Corrie raise their voices to win coveted prize

Talented young singers from Corrie Primary School were overwhelmed to win the Ormidale Cup for best primary school choir after their fantastic performances of 'Dream for your Inspiration' and 'Down in the Jungle' on Friday afternoon.

The choir consisted of all 12 pupils

from the school from P2 all the way up to P7.

### Best in recent years

The school was just one set of performers that helped make this year's Arran Music Festival one of the best in recent years.

With entries up, audiences enjoyed

an enchanting three days of music, singing, verse and dance which sometimes nearly raised the roof off the Arran Community Theatre in Lamlash.

For a full report and photographs see pages 9,10 and 11.

20\_b14one01

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## Pier collision brings ferry chaos

There was ferry chaos on the Brodick to Ardrossan route last Friday after the *MV Caledonian Isles* hit the pier on the mainland.

As a result of the collision, the first sailing on Friday was the 3.15pm from Ardrossan, but due to a low tide the replacement vessel, the *MV Isle of Arran*, did not depart until after 5pm.

Many questioned why the vessel did not sail from Brodick first as she had to navigate past the port on her way to Ardrossan from Islay.

The *MV Isle of Arran* did, however, sail late into the night to clear the backlog of traffic and the String Road convoy was opened to let the late night ferry traffic through.

A spokesman for Caledonian MacBrayne said: 'The *MV Caledonian Isles* came into contact with the pier while berthing at Ardrossan on Thursday night and unfortunately sustained minor damage which resulted in her being removed from service while repairs were carried out. The *MV Isle of Arran* was subsequently redeployed from Islay to provide the Arran service and ran extra sailings to ensure all traffic was cleared.'

# Vision award for Scottish Water team



The award winning Scottish Water team, left to right, Mark Bunyan, Maurice Crisp, Nicol Hume and Archie Hamilton.

## The four-man team 'went that extra mile'

Scottish Water staff on Arran who battled to maintain supplies during the snow storms last March have received one of the company's Vision awards for their efforts to help customers on the island.

The four-man team on Arran, Nicol Hume, Mark Bunyan, Maurice Crisp and Archie Hamilton, worked hard to maintain normal water supplies to customers or, when supplies were disrupted, to restore them as quickly as possible during the severe winter conditions.

Scottish Water was just one of a number of organisations which worked to maintain services on Arran during the extreme weather.

Mr Hume, Scottish Water's senior operator based at Corriegills, Brodick, said: 'Our team did everything we could to keep people in supply in the exceptionally bad weather of this time last year.'

'We managed to maintain and fuel our fleet of stationary and mobile generators at our works and pumping stations, ensuring we kept the water

coming. We estimate there were only about 40 homes without water for a short period.'

'We went that extra mile as we helped keep roads clear, pull vehicles out of snow drifts and even cleared some paths for householders.'

'We are delighted to have won the Scottish Water award in recognition of our efforts and we can assure customers on Arran that, if we experience this sort of weather again, we will do exactly the same and work as hard as we can to maintain supplies.'

## Dog dirt danger to breeding cattle

Members of the public are being urged to clean up after their dogs when walking on Arran's agricultural land.

NFU Scotland has warned that parasites found in some dog faeces can result in the abortion of cattle and death in sheep.

With several reports of this in Scotland over recent months, Arran's farmers are pleading with the public to be more responsible.

There is evidence of links between two livestock diseases - neosporosis and sarcocystosis - and the presence on grazing land of faeces from infected dogs. Neosporosis can cause abortion in cattle and is thought to be responsible for the highest percentage of all abortions in the UK. The union's animal health policy manager, Penny Johnston, said: 'As we are now into lambing and calving season, the message to members of the public is to remember to pick up any faeces from dogs they are walking, including when they are using agricultural land.'

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Scotland's finance secretary, John Swinney, left, with Derek MacKay, minister for local government and planning, at the event in Brodick Hall on Sunday night. 20\_b14ind03

## Scotland's future discussed with finance secretary

Arran residents were given the opportunity to quiz the finance secretary John Swinney on the government's plans for independence at a special question and answer session on Sunday night.

The cabinet secretary was joined by Derek MacKay, minister for local government and planning as well as Kenneth Gibson, Arran's MSP, for the event in Brodick Hall. The aim of the evening was to allow the public to discuss the plans the government has set out in detail which would come into fruition if Scotland votes for independence on September 18 this year.

Mr Swinney told *The Banner* he had been delighted by the turnout.

'It was a very positive event,' he said. 'The breadth of questioning never fails to amaze me and Arran was no different.'

'It was interesting though that the questions tended to focus very much on the referendum and possible independence rather than issues specific to Arran.'

He was keen to hear as many views as possible and answered questions from members of the audience.

The topics ranged from the currency union, Trident, immigration and pension annuities to Scandinavia and tourism development.

Questions were also asked about a future Scottish constitution, the relationship with the European Union and media coverage of the debate so far. 'The event was part of a series of events which will see all my colleagues engage with people across the country about the exciting future we envisage following a vote for independence,' added Mr Swinney.

# Council steps in to help meet harbour shortfall

The redevelopment of Brodick Harbour has received a £1.2 million funding boost.

North Ayrshire Council has agreed to the cash to help make up a shortfall in the £18m scheme.

Without a full funding package in place, the project ran the risk of being delivered on a phased basis or with the new pier only and no other facilities, a meeting of the full council heard on Wednesday.

But councillors agreed that the money will only be handed over after a commitment from the harbour owners, Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL), that all the works will be carried out in a single phase.

To date the main funding bodies CMAL and and Transport Scotland have provisionally outlined funding contributions totalling £14m for the capital works. There is therefore a funding gap of around £4m.

Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT) have confirmed support through a £500,000 funding contribution towards the public transport elements of the proposal. Funding is also being sought from the Coastal Communities Fund, backed by the council.

However, even accounting for a positive response from

these bodies, there remains a significant funding gap which the council cash will help plug.

Councillor Marie Burns, cabinet member for economy and employment, said: 'This is the perfect opportunity to address the issue of an aging facility and make improvements which will be of benefit to the local economy.'

### Catalyst

'More frequent ferries would be a catalyst for increased tourism and service-related jobs.'

Councillor John Bruce, who chairs Brodick Harbour Regeneration Group, said: 'The upgrade of the harbour will be a massive boost for the whole island, given that Brodick is the gateway to Arran. There is already substantial funding in place. Undertaking the work will help reduce disruption for visitors and islanders.'

The single phase option is anticipated to deliver Gross Value Added (GVA) of £39.6m within the Arran economy over a 25 year period whereas, were only a new pier to be built, that would drop to a GVA of £19.7m.

The full scheme would see a new two-berth pier to the east of the existing pier and link-span, a new terminal building with covered walkway, increased marshalling areas, reconfigured and expanded parking and drop off facilities, and a new bus stance.

Work commissioned through the regeneration group confirmed that the development of new pier facilities and associated infrastructure in a single phase offers the most economically and operationally advantageous delivery option.

The project is due for completion by 2016.

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## 'Jack' teaches kids about beanstalks

The children of Lamlash early years class are doing a project on growth and teachers thought a good way to explain the growing process was to start reading the story of Jack and the Beanstalk.

### Explained

They then contacted Brodick Castle to see if they could help the children learn about planting. They kindly sent their best beanstalk grower 'Jack' who helped the children plant beanstalks with magic beans, and explained to the children how to grow them successfully.

The class are very grateful to 'Jack' and the National Trust for the pots, soil and beans which they provided and hope 'Jack' can visit again, and bring back his axe if their beanstalks get too big.



'Jack' with the children of Lamlash early years class.

# Gate to Gate will be biggest fun run

## 'We want to get the whole community involved in the event'

The biggest ever fun run to be held on Arran is to take place at Brodick Castle this summer.

The inaugural Castle Gate to Gate 5km fun run will have its first ever outing in June.

Held entirely within the castle grounds the event will be a day of family fun.

It is being organised by RunArran in partnership with the castle and it is hoped it will become an annual event.

This year's race will take place on Saturday 28 June with a 12.30pm start.

Although the race itself is only open to men and women over 17, various family events will be taking place throughout the day including face painting for the kids and there will even be an appearance by Cyril the Squirrel.

So, participants are being encouraged to bring their whole family along for support.

The course follows the castle drive from the main en-

trance gate to the exit gate, starting and finishing at the visitor centre. The road will be closed to traffic throughout the event.

An undulating and easy course, organisers say it is perfect for fun runners, first timers, old timers and personal bests alike. There will be a water station at 3km.

All runners taking part have to register ahead of the event. Registration opens on 21 April and closes on 1 June.

There will be a fun warm up at the start of the race and all finishers will receive a medal and a goodie bag at the end of the race.

Castle property assistant Tanya Guthrie said: 'We want to get the whole community involved in the event. There are other more serious races on the island but this is more based on fun. We also hope it will attract participants from the mainland and bring people to the island.'



RunArran members get in training at Brodick Castle.

Already a castle team is in training and they are encouraging other teams to take part, even in fancy dress.

'It's perfect for experienced runners and those not so experienced. If you're looking for a family day out, a fun way to get fit and a unique chance to run with red squirrels then do get involved,' she added.

Laura Aitchison from RunArran said: 'We are really happy to be working with the castle in creating the first really big fun run on Arran and we hope that people will get

involved.

'The run is just half an hour and all ability of runners and jog walkers are most welcome to take part.'

For any novices a new RunArran beginners class starts in Lamlash on 22 April.

On the day of the race Brodick Castle mini buses will be running a free shuttle service for participants from Brodick pier to the castle.

Details of the race and how to register are on the RunArran website [www.runarran.com](http://www.runarran.com).

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# Pupils strut their stuff at school fashion show



One of the models in full catwalk pose. 20\_b14fash01

Pupils from Arran High School strutted their stuff on the catwalk on Tuesday night.

The theatre was packed for the third annual fashion show to be held at the school.

A special catwalk had been built for the evening and be-

hind the scenes nerves were shredded as the models got their hair, make up and clothes ready for their big entrance.

First out were the boys and girls who were 'dressed to impress' in the clothes they would wear for an evening out on the town. It was fol-

lowed by 'a walk on the wild side', 'over the rainbow' and 'fashioned from trash' in a series of quick change routines.

There was even an appearance from the teachers in the section 'Hogwarts comes to Arran High'.

Music was provided by the

school woodwind ensemble and there were solo musical appearances throughout the evening.

At the end of the event organisers thanked parents, pupils and staff who helped in any way to make the evening such a success.



Two of the younger models. 20\_b14fash02



The audience applaud the catwalk models. 20\_b14fash04



Two of the models soak up the atmosphere. 20\_b14fash05



A young man milks the catwalk applause 20\_b14fash03

## Peaks race left high and dry in Lamlash Bay

Organisers of the Scottish Islands Peaks Race have found themselves high and dry on Arran as the usual Lamlash base is out of action.

One of the world's most long running extreme adventure races, the event, which is now in its 31st year, is due to hit Arran over the weekend of 16-19 May.

The race is usually host to around 50 yachts - catamarans, trimarans, monohulls and cruisers - and takes in sailing between and running over Oban, Mull, Jura and Arran before the final sail to Troon.

With a minimum team of five on each yacht that's at least 250 competitors of all ages and sexes battling out some 60 miles of running and some 120 miles of sailing in one weekend.

The first of the fleet usually arrive in Lamlash bay some time on Saturday evening with the last arriving some time on Monday greeted throughout by a willing band of marshals but this year the race has a problem without a Lamlash base.

Nick Macdonald, chief marshal since 1992, said: 'Traditionally we've been given

the use of Arran Yacht Club as our shore side base but as Arran Banner readers will be aware the clubhouse is due for demolition and won't be rebuilt in time.

'The race is on 24/7 over the weekend and our marshals have used the clubhouse to bunk down in, shelter, wash, cook and eat in, within easy reach of Lamlash pier.

'So, currently we're left high and dry on the beach unless someone knows where we can find similar facilities in Lamlash.'

He added; 'Arran Yacht Club has generously offered us an electric hook up for our battle bus which is tremendous and very much appreciated but in addition it would be great to find somewhere where our marshals could hang their hats, aye and their waterproofs or hopefully sun-wear over the weekend.

'We're used to the friendliness and helpfulness of the Arran residents and hope someone can help.

'They might not have all the facilities of the yacht club but any assistance would be great and anyone who can help us out can contact us on our web, Facebook or Twitter pages.'

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# Eco Savvy's community shop is closer to opening



'It is a truly positive, fun and rewarding project that everyone can get involved with in so many ways.'

your diary and feel free to come along to the shop between 10am and 4pm on any of these days to lend a hand. If anyone can spare a few hours or a few days, Eco Savvy will be grateful for all of their help. They should wear suitable clothing and any cleaning kit, rubber gloves and paint brushes etc that can be brought along would be great.

They will be painting everything white so any donations of emulsion or gloss paint and white spirit anyone has left over will be useful.

On Wednesday 16 and Thursday 17 April there will be volunteer training and pricing.

If anyone is interested in volunteering in the shop, just occasionally or regularly and wish to have a run through of how the shop will work, Eco Savvy will be sorting through the stock and pricing items over two days.

This means anyone interested can pop in between 10am and 1pm or 2pm and 4pm at on the Wednesday and Thursday.

If volunteers can't make any of these times they can con-

tact Eco Savvy by email or phone to express an interest and arrange a time for training that suits them.

Items will be received in the 'Waste Not Want Not' shop from Tuesday 15 April, so have that clear out, get creative and find an up cycling project to inspire you.

Following the official opening on April 19, the first day to receive second chance items will be Monday 21 April - these are items where the donor receives a share of the profit.

Forms for such items will be available in the shop on the opening day so that details and prices can be submitted in advance.

Please contact Eco Savvy by email, phone or through the shop in advance for larger items.

Eco Savvy said: 'There has been a huge amount of interest in what I am up to and I'd like to thank everyone who has helped so far, you know who you are. This project has got this far thanks to your enthusiasm and vision.'

'It is a truly positive, fun and rewarding project that everyone can get involved with in so many ways. If you think you have some ideas and energy to offer please get in touch or come along.'

Contact [arran.ecosavvy@gmail.com](mailto:arran.ecosavvy@gmail.com) and call 700411 or 700398.



Alyson Munro and Angela Robinson welcome visitors to the castle. 20\_b14castle02

# Brisk start as castle opens for new season

Brodick Castle has opened its doors to the public for the season.

Just minutes after opening at 11am on Tuesday the castle welcomed the first visitors, a party of six, four of whom were first time visitors to the island, including a couple from Cornwall.

They were quickly followed by several other families and

couples all keen to see the castle fresh from its spring clean.

The first Arran visitors of the new season were 10-year-old Marsha Bain from Kildonnann, who had been given the morning off school to go along with her mum Murielle.

The shop has been completely restocked and new member of staff Angela Robinson joined shop supervisor

Alyson Munro in welcoming the first visitors at the castle reception desk.

Alyson said: 'We have been pleasantly surprised by the number of visitors having just opened. We are looking forward to a good season.'

The castle is open from 11am to 3pm until the end of the month. From May to the end of September it is open until 4pm and for October again closes at 3pm.

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Helen Cluett from Doune near Stirling with children Ellie, Allysa, Rebekah and Benjamin who were among the first visitors to the castle. 20\_b14castle01

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**Firefighters raise cash for brave boy**  
 Firefighters from Ayrshire are taking on a fundraising challenge on Arran for a little boy who may have just weeks to live.  
 The parents of brave Alfie Sharp from Kilmarnock were given the heartbreaking news last month that his cancer had returned.  
 The six-year-old, who was diagnosed with neuroblastoma on his adrenal gland when he was four, had been given the all-clear in November after pioneering long infusion immunotherapy treatment.  
 Around a dozen firefighters from Kilmarnock Fire Station will undertake a sponsored cycle round Arran before climbing Goatfell the next day after they arrive on the island next Thursday (10 April).



Delegates gathered at Arran High School for the Convention of the Highlands and Islands (CoHI) on Monday. 20\_b14con01

# Arran hosts Convention of Highlands and Islands

Health and social care, housing and community planning were the topics for discussion at the Convention of the Highlands and Islands (CoHI) in Arran on Monday.

Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth John Swinney MSP chaired the convention, which was held in Arran High School.

The finance secretary was joined by Derek Mackay, minister for local government and planning and Michael Matheson, minister for public health.

All seven local authorities with highland and island communities were represented at the meeting, along with fellow CoHI members from Visit Scotland, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, Bord na Gaidhlig, The Crofters Commission, Forestry Commission Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and Skills Development Scotland.

The Convention of the Highlands and Islands meets twice a year and focuses on common rural and island issues, in particular the development of public services and sustainable economic growth across the Highlands and islands.

Speaking after the meeting Mr Swinney said: 'The Highlands and islands make a major contribution to Scotland's economy.'

'The Convention of the Highlands and Islands pro-

vides an opportunity for government, public sector partners and agencies to consider future opportunities and the challenges that lie ahead.

'During the meeting we discussed the key issues affecting the Highlands and Islands including health and social care integration, community planning, housing and infrastructure.'

### Together

He added: 'This is a great opportunity for different communities with very similar issues to work together and I think we've very clearly turned a corner today.'

Councillor Willie Gibson, leader of North Ayrshire Council, said: 'We had a packed agenda which addressed some of the most

important subjects affecting today's island and rural communities.

'Housing is a subject which resonates right across the country.

'Island and rural communities face a number of challenges including higher transport, labour and material costs, which often lead to higher house prices.

'Here on Arran we have already taken action to address these issues, working with our partners to create much-needed affordable housing.

'The members of CoHI have a broad range of experience in these areas, so Monday's meeting was a valuable opportunity to discuss how best to address these issues in the future.'

# Help needed to restore famous castle gardens

Volunteers are being sought to help restore the gardens at Brodick Castle to their former glory.

There are 70 acres of garden grounds around the castle including the famed walled garden.

But these have been somewhat neglected as the main focus in the past couple of years has been fighting the notifiable disease Phytophthora which has led to the removal and replacement a number of trees within the gardens at a total cost of £250,000.

Property manager David Cameron said: 'Fighting the Phytophthora has taken up a lot of time, money and resources which could have been spent elsewhere.'

'As a result a lot of attention has been deflected away from the gardens. We now want to put that right and give the gardens back their wow factor but we don't have sufficient staff.'

That is why the appeal has gone out to any volunteers, individuals or groups, willing to give a few hours a week to help improve the sprawling

gardens.

'If enough people come forward we will hold an open day to advise people what we are looking for,' Mr Cameron said.

The gardens of Brodick Castle are home to an enormous range of flora and fauna and since Arran lies in the North Atlantic Drift, its mild moist climate is ideally suited to the nurturing of plants from as far afield as China, New Zealand, Tasmania and Chile which thrive in the gardens today.

The walled garden was first built in 1710, but it was the Duchess of Montrose who made the gardens her own in the early 20th century. And it

is her vision that the gardens represent today.

She was helped in the early days by her son-in-law Major Boscawen who arranged for a steamship of exotic plants to be brought from his uncle's home, Tresco Abbey, in the Isles of Scilly.

While the wider design of the landscaped gardens of the castle were influenced by the work of famous British landscape architect WA Nesfield, who helped design London's Kew Gardens.

Any individual or group interested in helping to restore the gardens should call Mr Cameron at the castle on 302202 or e-mail davidcameron@nts.org.uk.

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# THE ARRAN BANNER

## Let's make dog mess a thing of the past

There is a warning in The Banner this week directed at all dog owners who walk their animals on agricultural land.

The National Farmers Union Scotland (NFUS) is urging members of the public to pick up their dog faeces even when walking through fields that contain sheep and cattle. Naturally many people might think that it is safe to leave the dirt in these places but surprisingly it is not.

There is growing evidence of the links between two specific diseases in livestock and the presence on grazing land of faeces from infected dogs.

The two diseases are: Neosporosis which can cause abortions in cattle, and Sarcocystosis which can cause neurological disease and death in sheep.

As we enter the lambing and calving season here on Arran it is imperative that dog owners take care.

Following last year's disastrous lambing season during 'Snowmageddon' and the losses faced by the island's farmers, it is crucial that this year is a success.

For the sake of the livestock it would be stupid of dog owners not to take 30 seconds to dispose of the waste.

And of course dog faeces can be dangerous to humans too as Toxocara parasites in the faeces can cause blindness.

Last year The Banner commented on the ghastly amount of dog faeces left all over the island.

In recent months dog owners have been improving and it is rare now to see waste left on a footpath or public highway.

It also helps that police have cracked down on those leaving dog dirt behind but obviously the police cannot be in the forests and tracks that dot the hillsides.

And in some areas such as the Dyemill, Dunfion, Glen Sannox, Kings Caves and Glenashdale Falls the amount of waste left on the paths is unacceptable.

What is even worse is the number of owners who take the time to pick up the waste but then leave the plastic bags all along the pathways.

Often these bags can be seen hanging from trees and they are a very unappetizing sight.

Who do these people think is going to dispose of these little bags of poo - the faeces fairy?

So this is a call to all dog owners to think a little bit more carefully about where they walk their animals and what they do with the poo.

Let's try to make the island a pleasant place for everyone to walk, without the fear of disease or stepping in something mucky.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'There is nothing in all creation that can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.' (Romans 8:39)

### 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



### String Road frustrations

Sir,  
Of course we are all frustrated, the road closed means adding a large amount of time and fuel onto a trip to Brodick and is costing residents and local businesses thousands of pounds per week.

I am not in the habit of writing to The Banner and am doing so now chiefly because I am tired of hearing about locals blaming Shiskine businesses; who are being used as a scapegoat; for the lack of progress and length of closure with the String Road.

I was at the meeting in The Kinloch Hotel involving approximately 15 local businesses along with Craig Hatton (North Ayrshire Council (NAC) finance) and Joe Smith (NAC roads).

The road needs to be upgraded and we were there to try and get this done with the least amount of impact to island businesses and residents. I did not take notes, therefore stand to be corrected, however my recollection of the meeting is this.

NAC was always going to do the work itself and it was not going out for tender. It had about five or six proposals for closure ranging from eight weeks to several months.

It favoured starting in May and running into July but it was the consensus that because of tourism, winter would be better.

NAC said it could not do winter and the earliest it could start was March 10 and after discussion it was agreed that they would run from then until late May, and that we would get an extra convoy at lunchtime.

Mr Hatton spoke of £750,000 available for the road but that he could get extra funds if needed and it was agreed that NAC would do as much distance as possible within the time period to reduce the need for further road closures and that it would be working from 8am until 7pm. I subsequently received an email from Mr Hatton promising that the road would be opened by convoy if and

when work allowed during this 10-week period. Happy days!

We all left that meeting feeling optimistic and that the council was trying to work with us. Promises made to open the road when possible have not been met; the workforce have not been there from 8am until 7pm; the length of road being renewed is much less than expected and to commit to 800 metres on day one is hardly in the spirit of doing as much as possible within the time period.

In 2010 the String was closed for eight weeks and 2,700 metres was renewed which works out at 337 metres per week. The only difference in working conditions between now and 2010 is the convoy at mid-day, however this time the amount of road renewed will be 80 metres per week, less than a quarter of 2010 rate.

At this rate the String would need to be closed for two years to renew its length!

In Argyll, where long diversions would be required, they keep the roads open when upgrading.

Last week we witnessed Hamilton Tarmac resurface 300 metres of the busy Brodick/Lamlash road in two days with no closures. I firmly believe the String should have been put out to tender.

We should be campaigning NAC to follow the example of Argyll and keep all Arran's roads open when working on them, Hamilton Tarmac proved to us all last week it can be done.

Yours,  
**Gordon Kinniburgh  
Blackwaterfoot**

### Where's Brucie?

Sir,  
Now that the Banner no longer has the 'Where's Archie?' competition would you consider replacing it with 'Where's Brucie?', where readers could try to guess where Councillor Bruce was.

With perhaps a bonus prize for anyone who could give details about the contribution that he, John Hunter, Peter McNamara and Tony Gurney, who are his fellow

Ardrossan and Arran ward councillors, have made to the debates about the needs of residents and businesses during the present road closures and the continuing disrupted ferry services.

They have been notably conspicuous by their absence so it is safe to assume that there are no elections in the offing thus our opinion about their lack of representation is of no consequence.

I wouldn't be too sure about that if I were them.

Yours,  
**Neil Arthur  
Kilpatrick**

### Complain! No long term gain

Sir,  
I never cease to be amazed about just how much some folk on this island complain - if they are not complaining about the state of the roads and the impact this state of repair is having on tourism and on their businesses - this seemed to be the case for most, if not all, of last year, now they seem to be complaining about the fact that the roads are being repaired and the impact this reparation work is having on tourism and on their businesses.

We hear from lay people, suggesting that they know best, and that traffic lights are the solution - perhaps they should think outside the box and consider that Health and Safety regulations are there for a purpose.

Only this week we have seen the instance of a road worker being killed in Renfrewshire, albeit in different circumstances, but one doesn't have to go back too far in time to discover a similar tragedy, where a driver, either didn't see or disregarded the temporary traffic lights and killed a road worker in South Ayrshire.

Heaven help us - but we have folk who ignore the road closure or use pass keys inappropriately (as has been the case in the past), so what chance have we got of them paying heed to a red light on temporary signals.

We hear of roadmen virtually being spied on, indeed it

is well documented on social media pages.

1. The convoy operators are only on site around convoy times, and 2. Some workers are off site because they have reached the optimum number of hours available to them.

What also must not be forgotten is that the council brought these works forward to accommodate the island, and are also suspending works over the Easter weekend, again to accommodate the island - so let's just 'suck it up' and realise that for what is relatively short term upheaval there will be a long term gain.

Yours,  
**Margaret Kay  
Whiting Bay**

### Support for work done

Sir,  
As someone with a ring side seat to the roadworks on the String - we are in fact locked into them - I feel I need to write in support of the work being done.

It may not look to some as if much has happened, but to date the stretch on one side has been excavated, lined, new pipework laid and filled in.

The banking on the other side has been built up. The men are working from 8am to 6pm seven days a week in all sorts of horrible weather so it would not be possible for cars to have access during the weekend.

As to opening in the evening, if the usual driving of some motorists on this part of the String is anything to go by, it would not be long before someone had an accident, as the width of the road is restricted by the work being done on the other side.

It is regrettable that the stretch of road is not longer and I realise that the closure is an inconvenience to everyone on this side of the island, not least to us, but we all moan about the state of the roads, so perhaps we just need to put up with it until the work is finished.

Yours,  
**Lillian Smith  
The Byre  
Glenloig**

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# Arran has loads of talent

## Music festival biggest and best for years



Two of the P1 to P3 mixed Scottish country dancers from Brodick primary pick up the Corrie SCD Club Cup from adjudicator Margo Priestley. 20\_b14music01



Brodick primary (P3-P5) picked up The Association's Shield in the mixed Scottish country dancing. They also lifted the MacDonal Memorial Shield for the best team in the whole competition. 20\_b14music02



The packed hall during one session of the festival. 20\_b14music26

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# Entries up at the 85th



Whiting Bay mixed dancers receive the Jean Marriot Trophy from Margo Priestley. 20\_b14music03



There were only two entries for the verse speaking for primary 2 children and Harry Gilmore from Brodick just pipped Annie McKelvie to the Alice Geddes Memorial Cup presented to him by adjudicator Margaret Tomlinson. 20\_b14music07



The Leckie Cup was won by Olivia Barker for her solo of 'Waly'



The dancers of the Shiskine primary girls team lifted the Cresswick Cup. 20\_b14music04



Julie Hamill from Shiskine picked up the K Wilson Trophy winning the verse speaking for P4 class. 20\_b14music10



Daisy Campbell from Kilmory lifted the Bilsland Plate for verse speaking in the early year and P1 class. 20\_b14music08

Young performers from the tiny to the extremely talented all helped to make this year's Arran Music Festival one of the best in recent years.

With entries up, the audiences enjoyed an enchanting three days of music, singing, verse and dance which sometimes nearly raised the roof off Arran Community Theatre in Lam-lash.

Being held for the 85th time, the audiences were treated to some splendid performances over the festival from children of all ages.

Compare Cathy Steed re-

marked during Thursday morning's primary school song and verse session that she had not seen the hall so packed in years, with every seat taken and children having to sit on the floor.

Marks were high and the adjudicators praised performance after performance.

Adjudicator Margaret Tomlinson gave what she said was an extremely rare 90 points to Daisy Innes of Pirmill in the verse speaking contest.

And Pirmill were in winning form again when they won the primary choric speaking contest which Mrs Tomlinson said was



James Macis from Lam-lash is congratulated on winning the Cargill Trophy by Russell Cowieson in the brass solo elementary class. 20\_b14music22



The girls' team from Kilmory primary lifted the Margaret Hart Trophy for the best display with spirit in the whole competition. Two of the dancers are pictured with adjudicator Margo Priestley. 20\_b14music05



Daisy Innes from Pirmill receives the Baker's Cup from Margaret Tomlinson after winning the P3 verse speaking class. 20\_b14music09

marked during Thursday morning's primary school song and verse session that she had not seen the hall so packed in years, with every seat taken and children having to sit on the floor.

Compare Cathy Steed re-



Pupils from Pirmill primary proudly hold the The Association's Challenge Shield aloft after winning the primary school choric speaking contest. 20\_b14music15



Lam-lash primary in the primary school choric speaking contest. 20\_b14music17



James McCarthy from Shiskine receives the Ormidale Cup for Junior Verse for P5 from Margaret Tomlinson. 20\_b14music11



Left: A B pretend picked up Trophy for second Hunter w Glasgow with his 20\_b14music1

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# Arran Music Festival



**Waly' by Britten in the S5 and S6 category.** 20\_b14music28

one of her favourite classes. She awarded them 88 points.

Most neutrals in the audience would have agreed with their charming performances particularly of McCavity - the mystery cat.

Later in the festival Charity May shone in the intermediate piano solo contest as did Lois Ashley picking up a splendid 174 points for her two pieces in the brass solo intermediate class.

On Friday Corrie Primary School were overwhelmed to win the Ormidale Cup for best primary school choir after

their fantastic performances of 'Dream for your Inspiration' and 'Down in the Jungle'.

Throughout the entire festival, the very best of Arran's talent was on show and this culminated on Friday night with performances from adult competitors.

Samantha Payn's recital of Britten's 'Prologue' and Mozart's 'Romanza' on the horn was truly outstanding.

Likewise the vocal group Vivace were praised by the adjudicator for their two contrasting pieces - 'Wild Mountain Thyme' and 'She's like the Swallow'.



**Maili Beaton won the Thomson Cup for her Gaelic vocal solo.** 20\_b14music29



**Abbey Mulholland with the handsome Book and Card Centre Trophy for winning the P6 verse speaking class.** 20\_b14music12



**Charity May with the Bank of Scotland Cup she won in the intermediate piano solo class.** 20\_b14music19



**Talented young saxophonist Ellie Ewing proudly displays the Festival Salver for woodwind, under 18, solo in the elementary category.** 20\_b14music31



**Right: Charli Hodgart of Corrie Primary School won the Dean Lodge Cup for her beautiful rendition of 'When She Loved Me'.** 20\_b14music27



**Shiskine primary lifted The Association's Shield after winning the primary school recorders, fifes and whistles class.** 20\_b14music21



**Fraser MacKenzie and Jessica Demazeux picked up the Cordon Cup for their rendition of 'My heart will go on' in the closely contested brass duo or trio, under 18 class.** 20\_b14music24



**Cousins Rory and Donald Currie shared joint first place in the piano solo elementary class seen with Russell Cowieson.** 20\_b14music18



**Kilmory P5 - P7 receive the Bess MacMillan Cup from Russell Cowieson for their fiddle and percussion version of Mairi's Wedding in the primary school group music making class.** 20\_b14music20



**Maggie Seine and Abie Traill of Pirnmill Primary School with the Festival Salver that they won for their vocal duet of 'When I Grow Up'.** 20\_b14music33



**Iona Summer of Whiting Bay Primary School won the Festival Salver for her beautiful performance of 'Somewhere over the Rainbow'.** 20\_b14music32



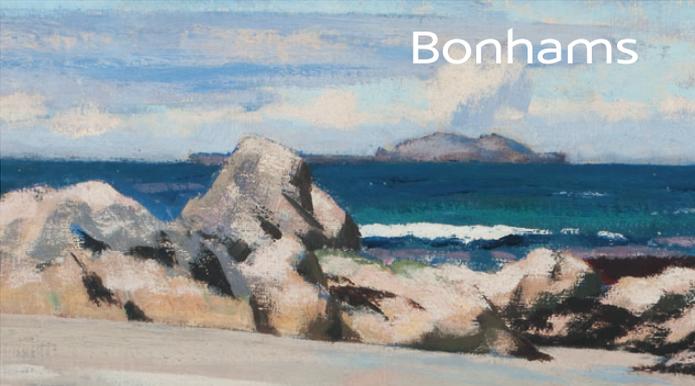
**...y lifted the Maynell Cup ...schools action songs class.**

**...urns speaker and his young ...r. Finlay Murchie, left, ...p the Lamlash Burns Club ...or his Address to a Haggis ...rdary pupils, while Fireun ...on the Arran Society of ...Salver in the primary class ...ndition of Scots Wha Hae.**



**A stunning performance of Royals by Lorde gained Bethany Walsh and Emily Hodkinson the Douglas Hotel Cup for vocal duet in the secondary school category.** 20\_b14music30





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# Shiskine Primary School news

## Jenny has double success at bake-off

A large number of children, parents and members of the community entered cakes to see who would be crowned

queen or king of the Great Shiskine Bake-Off.

Shiskine Primary School was the venue on Friday 21 March for the event.

Pupils from primary 1-4 decorated gingerbread men,

primary 5-7 pupils baked and decorated six cupcakes, while adults had the choice of baking chocolate, carrot or lemon drizzle cakes.

Judges Phil, Carol and Jacqui spent an hour tasting and deliberating over which of the 35 large cakes and 13 cupcakes entered should be the overall winners.

As well as having the fun of baking the cakes, entrants were asked to pay an entrance fee and cakes were sold, for a donation, after judging had taken place.

Pupils also took part in potted sports and were able to dress up for the day in sportswear.

The money raised in the school on the day was almost £300.

Further donations, including one from Shiskine Hall's recent auction means that Sport Relief and Yorkhill Children's Hospital will each receive £250.

Bake-off results: decorated gingerbread man winner Emma Henderson; decorated cupcakes winner Cara Crawford, with Leah Brown highly commended. Carrot cake winner Gina Thorburn; chocolate cake winner Jenny Harper; lemon drizzle cake winner Jenny Harper.

Potted sports winning team: Eilidh Hamill, Leah Brown,

Laila Webster and Lewis Campbell.

Thanks went to everyone who made this event such a success, and special thanks went to Phil, Carol and Jacqui who had the difficult job of choosing the winners.

This event was organised by the fundraising group.

## Sports hall athletics

Sports hall athletics consists of track and field events.

There are running, jumping and throwing events.

P6 and 7 pupils from the seven primary schools went to the Auchranrie sports hall for the heats to see who would go to the Magnus in Irvine to compete.

Ten boys and 10 girls go from schools on the island to make up the Arran team.

They go to Irvine where they compete against other teams from North Ayrshire.

Some of the events are the 2x1 relay, paarlauf, chest throw, long jump and vertical jump.

Eilidh Hamill and Jordan Rogers are the two pupils

from Shiskine who were chosen to be part of the Arran team.

## Music tuition

Dave Payn teaches whistle and brass at some of the schools on Arran. At Shiskine P5 and 6 have whistle lessons and five pupils from P6 and 7 have brass tuition.

Lois Ashley and James Smith also play with Arran Brass Band.

Pupils interviewed Mr Payn and this is what he said:

Q How long have you been teaching on Arran for?  
A Since January 2010.

Q What do you most enjoy about teaching music?  
A Passing on what I have learned.

Q What instrument are you good at?  
A I am good at the trumpet.

Q What instrument would you like to learn?  
A I would like to learn to play the piano.

Q How many instruments can you play?  
A Ukulele, trumpet, trombone, tuba, penny whistle, cornet and tenor horn.



Jenny Harper, winner of lemon drizzle and chocolate cakes.



Chocolate cakes on show.

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## Arran wetland bird

One designated Sunday each month 'volunteers' count all the birds on eight stretches of coastline on Arran.

This is done at Brodick, Lamhah, Whiting Bay, Kildonan, Blackwaterfoot, Machrie, Pirmill and Lochranza.

The birds counted include

familiar birds like mallard and oystercatcher and less familiar birds like common scoter and greenshank.

### Recorded

In 2013 a total of 35 species were recorded.

These volunteers are part of a bigger group of unpaid helpers

who are continuing a tradition begun in 1947.

Last year around 3,000 volunteer counters took part in synchronised monthly counts at wetlands of all habitat types throughout the UK, mainly during the winter period.

This national survey pro-



From the information collected Arran is a site of national importance for red-breasted merganser.

## Arran plans to sell sake to the Japanese

First it was selling sand to the Arabs, now Arran is planning to export sake to the Japanese.

The Arran Brewery has acquired a five-acre site in Ayrshire to create Scotland's first sake brewery as well as a state of the art brewing and distilling research and teaching centre.

The site of the development is the former Dregghorn Primary School near Irvine and consists of three existing buildings and associated grounds. Formal planning applications will be made within the next three months and it is hoped the sake brewery will be in production by the winter, the traditional time to make sake in Japan.

### Very small

Managing director Gerald Michaluk said: 'We have been making sake on a very small, almost domestic, scale and are now ready to build a sizable facility.'

'As well as the brewery, which will almost exclusively export its sake to Japan, there will be our research and development centre and a brewing and distilling train-

ing school subject of course to licensing.

'It may not at first appear there is a connection between Dregghorn and Japan but there is.'

'In Japan you will find a small piece of Scotland in the form of a church which once graced Dregghorn but which was dismantled and rebuilt in Tokyo.'

### Raising funds

The Arran Brewery is in the process of raising funds through a crowd funding initiative which closed yesterday (Friday).

Part of the funds raised will be used for this project.

Meanwhile, the Brewery's Arran Blonde saw sales grow by 11 per cent in 2013.

Currently Arran Blonde outsells Brewdog's Punk IPA in the packaged beer segment of Scotland's ale market, according to research conducted for the Scottish Grocer magazine.

Despite this growth Innis and Gunn's Original moved up the table with impressive growth of 33 per cent to push Arran into the 11th best seller slot from 10th last year.



Emma Henderson, P1-4 winner.



Leah Brown's decorated cupcakes were highly commended.



The Great Shiskine Bake-Off raised almost £300 for charity.



Cara Crawford, P5-7 winner

## survey

vides information on the size of waterbird populations, the trends in numbers and the importance of individual sites.

For example, from the information collected Arran is a site of national importance for red-breasted merganser.

The survey is called the

Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS) and it is a partnership between leading conservation bodies in the UK, namely the British Trust for Ornithology, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (the last on behalf of the statutory nature conservation bodies: Natural England, Natural Resources Wales and Scottish Natural Heritage and the Department of the Environment Northern Ireland), in association with the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust.

Why? The UK is of outstanding international importance for waterbirds. Lying on some of the major fly-

ganser.

# Bird notes

by Jim Cassels

APRIL

ways for Arctic-nesting species, large numbers of waterbirds are attracted, especially during winter, by the relatively mild climate and extensive areas of wetland, notably estuaries.

The UK thus has both moral and legal obligations to conserve both the waterbirds and the wetlands upon which they depend.

Legal obligation? Yes the UK has ratified a number of international agreements which require, among other things, that sites and habitats for migratory waterbirds are identified, protected and managed appropriately, signatures to the agreement specifically are required to monitor waterbird populations.

The latest report of the Wetland Bird Survey (WeBS), has recently been published 'Waterbirds in the UK 2011/12'

and it can be viewed on line at [http://issuu.com/british\\_trust\\_for\\_ornithology/docs/wituk-2011-12?e=0](http://issuu.com/british_trust_for_ornithology/docs/wituk-2011-12?e=0)

If you would like to find out more about the Wetland Bird Survey visit [www.bto.org/survey/webs](http://www.bto.org/survey/webs)

If you feel that you would like to take part in the monthly counts, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

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](mailto:james.cassels@virgin.net)

I look forward to hearing from you.

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

# Subscribe to the new look



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**ROUND THE RURALS**

**Shiskine SWRI**

At a meeting on Wednesday 5 March in Shiskine Hall, Jenny Harper welcomed everyone and members then thoroughly enjoyed a slideshow given by Carole Stewart of her holiday last year to South Africa.

Not only were there beautiful scenes of the countryside and of Table Top mountain but she gave informative details of her long drive through the country to Namibia.

It was also the AGM, and after the annual accounts were discussed, new committee members were elected for 2014/2015.

The raffle winner was Jean Lammie. Exhibition winner: holiday souvenir was won by

Alice Anderson with Eunice Williamson coming second. Competition winner: a bowl of spring bulbs was won by Angela Cassels with Morag Murchie second.

The annual dinner will be held in the Kinloch Hotel on Wednesday 14 May at 7pm for 7.30pm and anyone wanting to add their names should please contact Fiona Scott on 860275.

**Kilmory SWRI**

On Monday 10 March Kilmory rural held its annual business meeting.

All members were thanked for their hard work throughout the year. The new committee members were elected for 2014/2015.

The next meeting will be on Monday 14 April at 7.30pm in Kilmory Hall when Vicki Milne will give a demonstration on flower arranging.

The competitions for the evening will be a candle stick and a hand-made egg cosy.



The Kilmory pupils with their Commonwealth Games artwork.

**Kilmory artwork on show at Commonwealth Games**

Ten lucky children from Kilmory Primary School have been chosen to have their artwork displayed at the Commonwealth Games

in Glasgow this summer. Using the games and its 17 sports as inspiration, the children were challenged to design posters to decorate bed-

rooms in the Athlete's Village where competitors and officials from across the Commonwealth will be staying.

The children were excited to know that their posters could end up in the bedroom of Usain Bolt, Tom Daly or any of the other talented athletes coming to Scotland from all over the world.

**Encouraged**

At the end of the games, athletes and officials will be given the art as a gift from the people of Scotland and will be encouraged to send a note expressing their thanks to the young artists.

The staff and pupils would like to thank Graham Chappell of Arran Graphics for performing the very difficult task of selecting the winning entries.

**Arran Fairtrade to complete around island walk**

Members of Arran Fairtrade are planning to walk around the island to visit and highlight the businesses that serve or sell Fairtrade produce.

Starting this Monday (April 7) it will take six days, allowing time to see the businesses and take some photographic evidence.

Jan MacGregor of Arran Fairtrade, said: 'Arran is a Fairtrade island and we want to show how proud we are of all the businesses who support Fairtrade and make a difference to the lives of producers in developing countries.'

'Anyone is very welcome to join the walk and the plan is as follows.'

'On Monday we will walk from Lamash to Lagg via Whiting Bay on the forestry track.'

'On Tuesday 8 April it will be Lagg to Blackwaterfoot on the road and Wednesday will see us go from Blackwaterfoot to Cafe Thyme along the track and road.'

She added: 'Thursday will be Cafe Thyme to Lochranza on the road, Friday Lochranza to Corrie (track and road), and on Saturday Corrie to Lamash on track and road.'

If you would like to join them please phone Jan on 700249 the evening before to check meeting place and time.

For those wishing to join on any of the days, call Jan on 07855795808.

Arran Banner  
Newsdesk  
01770  
302142

**Nominate an unsung hero to be gifted two tickets to a Commonwealth Games event**

The Arran Banner is asking readers to nominate someone in their local community who deserves to experience the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games first hand. The Scottish Government's Legacy Ticket scheme recognises the achievement and contribution of people across Scotland who are helping to create this legacy by offering them tickets to watch one of the 17 sports at the games.

The Commonwealth Games in Glasgow this summer is set to be the biggest sporting event in Scotland's history - and they promise to be a fantastic spectacle to enjoy. These games are a once-in-a-generation opportunity to secure a legacy for communities across Scotland.

Readers of The Arran Banner will know the unsung heroes who are already making a difference - whether it's a young person involved in sport, someone helping to make sport happen by volunteering or someone simply making your community a better place.

**HOW TO NOMINATE**

If you know someone who deserves this once in a lifetime opportunity then fill in the nomination form provided below or online at [www.arranbanner.co.uk/legacy](http://www.arranbanner.co.uk/legacy) and let us know. Please see the nomination criteria in the right hand box. All nominations must be received by midnight, Tuesday 29th April, 2014. Nominations will be shortlisted by a Wyvex Media judging panel, including a Wyvex Media Director, and the winner chosen by an external panel of judges who will be announced in a future issue.

**Nominate today! Do you know an unsung hero who fulfils one or more of the following criteria?**

1. Young person, including Team Scotland supporters, and those involved in sport at school, community or club level.
2. Those who make sport happen, including volunteers.
3. Those who make a contribution to their communities, through volunteering or other means.
4. People without the opportunity to experience the games, and those from disadvantaged groups or those with a disability.



Nominee's name .....  
 Nominee's telephone number .....  
 Nominee's address & postcode .....  
 My nominee should win a Legacy Ticket because .....  
 (please submit up to 500 words on a separate sheet and attach this form. Please provide as much information as possible. The more details we have about your nominee the more the panel has to help aid their decision. The judges involved will not be able to research or get in touch for further information).  
 Your name .....  
 Your address .....  
 Daytime telephone number .....  
 Mobile number .....  
 Email address.....

Send to: The Arran Banner  
Wyvex Media, Legacy Ticket Nomination,  
PO Box 1, Oban, PA34 4HB.



Terms and conditions: Nominees must live on the Isle of Arran. The identified beneficiary of the Commonwealth Games ticket will be gifted a pair of tickets so that they may be accompanied by a loved one, friend or carer. Travel, accommodation and other associated expenses are not included in the prize package. Staff employed by Wyvex Media and relatives of staff are ineligible to be a recipient of a ticket. The names and addresses of the ticket recipient and their companion will be supplied to the Scottish Government and the Glasgow 2014 Organising Committee. Legacy Tickets are a gift and not for resale. It is illegal for tickets to the Commonwealth Games to be sold on. A Legacy Ticket needs to be used by the named ticket beneficiary and their companion. The following Glasgow 2014 terms & conditions set out the rights and obligations in relation to the use of tickets. Please familiarise yourself with these in advance of attending the sporting session/ceremony: <http://www.glasgow2014packages.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/08/Glasgow-2014-Ticketing-Terms-and-Conditions.pdf>. Nominations must be received by midnight, Tuesday 29th April. Nominations will be shortlisted by a Wyvex Media judging panel, including a Wyvex Media Director, and the winner chosen by an external panel.

**the National Trust for Scotland**  
a place for everyone

**WHATS ON AT THE CASTLE**

**TUESDAY 8TH APRIL Tots Tour**  
1.30 - 2.15pm  
Free with entry to the Castle 3-6yrs (accompanied)

**Children's Castle Secrets Tour**  
2.00 - 3.30pm  
£2 + Castle Entry 7-11yrs (unaccompanied)

**WEDNESDAY 9th APRIL Vile Victorians**  
11.00am - 12.30pm  
£2 + Castle Entry 7-11yrs (unaccompanied)

**Back to the Bronze Age**  
2.00 - 4.00pm  
Adults £8 u16 £4

**THURSDAY 10TH APRIL Woodland Survival Skills**  
2.00 - 4.30pm  
(RANGERS) £10 per child 8 - 12yrs

**FRIDAY 11th APRIL Castle Secrets Tour**  
11.30am - 1.00pm  
£8 + Castle Entry Adults ONLY (RANGERS)

**Flickering Tales**  
7.30 - 9.15pm

**Storytelling in the Roundhouse**  
Adults £8 u16 £5  
Not Suitable for under 7s

Booking Essential is for all Tours - Please contact the Castle 0844 4932152 or Ranger Service 0844 4932154

## THE ARRAN

## BANNER

TWENTY  
YEARS AGO

Saturday 9 April, 1994

## First post

When does the first post of the day arrive? For Brodick it's around 2pm in the winter, and in Machrie it can be around 'teatime'.

But this could be set to change.

Arran's mail comes on the ferry and The Royal Mail is not happy with the delivery times and reliability of the service.

As a result they are exploring other contract options to improve the quality of the service to Arran, which will be less susceptible to the vagaries of the ferry.

## I do!

Twenty couples were joined in holy matrimony on Arran in 1983 and each year since it has been increasing.

Last year 59 couples were married on the island largely because of the number of off-island couples deciding to say 'I do' here.

Is Arran becoming a second Gretna Green we asked Eileen Griffin? No, she said, but admitted the increase was fascinating.

## Narrow escape

Tourism manager Charles Currie narrowly escaped injury on Monday when involved in a high speed crash on the M1 motorway.

Charles was returning from France with CalMac purser David Wild where they and two others had been manning an Argyll and the Islands stand in the Paris Exhibition Centre about outdoor activity holidays.

## Late book return fines

Cunninghame has a policy of no fines for late



The Arran 'A' team with players from the winning Rugby Sevens team Stirling County. b14tw01

returned library books.

So one borrower was surprised this week to find in a book a slip of paper saying: 'As from September 1, 1990 in the event of loss, damage or long overdue return of this item, you will be liable as borrower for a minimum charge of £42.85.'

Librarian Ewan McConnell told The Banner that no fines was still the policy but this referred to interlibrary loans.

## Plethora of purvey

The announcement that a large Co-operative supermarket is to be built in the centre of Brodick has understandably created a buzz on the island.

Not least among housewives who are excited at the prospect of an increase in purvey.

But not everyone is pleased.

Brodick shopkeepers in particular view it with apprehension not least because this week plans have been submitted for another supermarket just 100yds from the proposed new Co-op.

## Lost harvest

A virus which affects fish has resulted in a ban on all fish movement from Marine Harvest's fish farm in Lamlash Bay.

Following a twice-yearly inspection by the marine lab from Aberdeen a temporary ban on ova, fry or fish has been put in place.

## New house for the Lees

Work has begun this week in Sannox to build a new house for Jim and Shauna Lees, whose wooden house blew down on a night in December during high winds.

That planning and building warrants have gone through in such a short time shows that these departments can get their skates on in extenuating circumstances.



The Arran pool season drew to a close at the Aldersyde Hotel last Thursday night when the finals of the singles and doubles competitions were played. Doubles champions John Sweeney of Lagg and George Lammie of Drift Inn, and singles champion Arthur Duncan of Nags. b14tw02



Married by the Rev W MacMillan in Lamlash Church last Saturday were Lorna, elder daughter of Donnie and Christine Watson of Lamlash, and David MacKinnon, son of the late Margaret MacKinnon of Hillhead, Bennan. Lorna works at the hospital in Lamlash and David with Arran Plant. b14tw04



Eleanor Harrison has opened the Brodick Boarding Kennels and Cattery at Oakbank. b14tw03

# What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

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



## Everyday

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

Loch Garbad, Bank fishing  
 Daily 9am-Dusk  
 Open Mon, Tue, Fri & Sat 12.30-5pm,  
 2pm  
 Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am - 4.30pm

## Saturday 5th April

Army Cadets  
 Over 21s Disco  
 Karate  
 Family Games  
 Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)  
 Junior Football  
 Live Music from David Redfern  
 Bingo

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1 pm.  
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm  
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm  
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Arran High School, 10am  
 P4s and upwards, Arran High School, 11am-12.30pm  
 Douglas Hotel Bar, 9pm  
 Whiting Bay Golf Club, 7pm

## Sunday 6th April

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

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm  
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm  
 Ormidale sports pavilion, 2pm - 3.30pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 4pm - 6pm  
 Kinloch Bar, 5pm  
 Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 2pm-5pm  
 The Hirsell, Lamlash, 12noon - 5pm

## Monday 7th April

Quiz  
 Over 50s Badminton  
 Badminton  
 Citizens Advice  
 Senior Fitness  
 Table Tennis  
 Aerobics (low impact)  
 Badminton  
 Arran Junior Football Club  
 Yoga  
 Lunch club  
 Yoga - Arran  
 Shirley & Sarah fitness class  
 Scottish Country Dancing  
 Bridge Club

Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm  
 Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30-1.30pm  
 Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 Corrie Hall, 6.30pm  
 Shiskine Hall 6pm  
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm  
 Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm  
 Corrie Village Hall, 11am - 12 noon  
 Lamlash sheltered housing, 12 noon  
 Kinneil, Lamlash, 3-4.30pm  
 Lamlash High School, 6.30-7.30pm  
 Beginners & Improvers Corrie Hall, 2-4pm  
 Lamlash Golf Clubhouse 7pm

## Tuesday 8th April

Pop Quiz  
 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Youth Club  
 Rotary club  
 Tots tours  
 Children's castle secrets tour  
 Streetly Dance pre school  
 Streetly Dancing minis P1-3  
 Streetly Dancing Juniors P4-7

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm  
 Kildonan Hall, 7pm  
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm  
 Brodick Castle, 1.30 - 2.15pm  
 Brodick Castle, 2.00 - 3.30pm  
 Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.45-2.30pm  
 Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4-4.45pm  
 Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4.45-5.30pm

Streetly Dancing Seniors  
 Junior Hockey Club  
 Healthy Outdoors  
 Winter bowls  
 SFA Early Touch Football  
 Scottish Country Dancing  
 Arran Food & Craft Market  
 Sannox Cricket AGM

Auchrannie Gym Hall, 5.30-6.15pm  
 Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6-7pm  
 10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre  
 Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm  
 P1-P4s, Arran High School, 6-7pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, 11am -3pm  
 Douglas Hotel, 7.30pm

## Wednesday 9th April

Hockey  
 Tae Kwondo  
 Alcoholics Anonymous  
 Arran Brass Rehearsal  
 Yogalates  
 Aquafizz  
 Music Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones  
 Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service  
 Vile Victorians  
 Back to the bronze age  
 RunArran mixed ability  
 Running Coaching  
 Yoga-Arran  
 Sports Club  
 Drift Inn Quiz  
 Lamlash guild Spring Coffee Morning

Auchrannie Games Hall, 6.30-7.30pm  
 Arran High School, Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm  
 Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm  
 Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm  
 Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am  
 Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am  
 Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am  
 10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30  
 Brodick Castle, 11.00 - 4.00pm  
 Brodick Castle, 2.00 - 4.00pm  
 Auchrannie car park, 5.30pm  
 Auchrannie car park, 5pm  
 Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm  
 P4-S2s, Arran High School, 6-7.30pm  
 Lamlash, 9pm  
 Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - noon

## Thursday 10th April

Senior Fitness  
 General Knowledge Quiz  
 Lochranza Craft Club  
 Live music  
 Woodland survival skills  
 Weight Watchers  
 Yoga  
 Shirley & Sarah fitness class  
 Winter bowls  
 Bridge Club  
 QuiltArran  
 Garden Club  
 Open Music session  
 Ladies Hockey

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am  
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 2pm  
 Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay 8.30-11.00pm  
 Brodick Castle, 2.00 - 4.30pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, 5.30pm  
 Corrie Village Hall, 6pm - 7pm  
 Lamlash High School, 6.30-7.30pm  
 Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm  
 Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7pm  
 Fire Station, Lamlash, 2-4pm  
 Brodick Ranger Centre, 7.30pm  
 Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9pm  
 Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30-8.30pm

## Friday 11th April

Aqua Fizz  
 Yogalates  
 Castle secret tours  
 Flickering Tales  
 Arran Youth Foundations  
 Lochranza Kids Badminton  
 Lochranza Adults Badminton

Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am  
 Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am  
 Brodick Castle, 11.30 -1.00pm  
 Brodick castle, 7.30-9.15pm  
 Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm  
 Lochranza Hall, 8pm



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



# Recruitment

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This is a full time position but would consider job share.

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Experience and SVQ3 in Health and Social Care preferable. Must hold full drivers licence. Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) and references are required.

Call 01294 608222

or email jobs@inacs.co.uk

www.carewatch.co.uk/jobs



# Public Notices



**marinescotland**

## Regional Fishing Industry Assembly – South West Friday 11 April 2014 from 6:30pm to 8:30pm

Mercure Hotel, 201 Ingram Street, Glasgow, G1 1DQ

The Scottish Government is committed to continued engagement with fishermen and others involved in the seafood industry; to listen, share ideas and respond to the issues facing the industry locally and nationally.

Following on from last year's successful Quayside Conversations events, Marine Scotland is holding one of seven Regional Fishing Industry Assemblies in Glasgow on Friday 11 April 2014

As well as reporting on the actions we have taken to address the key points raised during last year's events, we would like to hear about the issues affecting people day-to-day, and for your views on four issues that will have a major influence on the future prosperity of the Scottish seafood sector:

- The Common Fisheries Policy and implementation of the landing obligation
- Access to quota for active fishermen
- Encouraging new entrants into the industry
- Fishing and the shared marine environment

All of those connected with the local fishing and onshore seafood sector, as well as Local Authorities and non-governmental organisations, are invited to attend. This is your opportunity to put your views on local or national issues directly to Marine Scotland staff and help shape future government policy.

For more information, please send an email to rfa2014@scotland.gsi.gov.uk; or contact Ross Cumming on 0131 244 6214.

## Kenneth Gibson MSP



will hold advice surgeries at the following times and locations.

### Monday 7 April

Pirrmill Village Hall	11.30-12.30
Corrie & Sannox Village Hall	13.15-14.15
Brodick Health Centre	15.00-16.00

### Monday 12 May

Kildonan Village Hall	11.30-12.30
Shiskine Village Hall	13.00-14.00
Lamlash ACVS	15.00-16.00

No appointment necessary

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

ARRAN AROMATICS

SCOTLAND

ARRAN AROMATICS FACTORY SHOP

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### Part time Seasonal Retail Consultant

Retail Experience preferred with weekdays and weekend work required.

20 – 30 hours per week April until October

You should have a keen interest in the product range and be willing to learn about our wide range of merchandise.

Please email your CV and letter of application to our Retail Manager, Irene Currie.

Email address: ireneC@arranaromatics.com or Telephone Head Office on 01770 302 595

## BANNER RECRUITMENT



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a place for everyone

### CATERING ASSISTANT

We are looking to recruit someone to join our busy Front of House Team in the Castle Tearoom.

The work would be part-time with some weekends required.

Please Contact Judy Cook for an application

01770 302202 jcook@nts.org.uk



### Production / Retail Assistant

We are looking for someone who can work in our busy shop and assist with cheese making. The successful applicant will be cheery, good with customers and prepared to work one day at the weekend.

This is a permanent full time position 40 hours/week however consideration will also be given to anyone seeking part time work.

Please apply in writing to: Gordon Kinniburgh, Island Cheese Co., Home Farm, Brodick KA27 8DD on or before Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> April.

## LOOKING FOR NEW STAFF?

THE ARRAN BANNER

Tel: 01770 302142  
www.arranbanner.co.uk



where?

Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick

when?

12th April @ 2.30-4pm  
WITH TEA, COFFEE & HOME BAKING

who?

Frances Barron  
BUSINESS WOMAN  
DESSERT DEPOT, AYR

Free, Informal, Welcoming

www.facebook.com/pages/Yes-Scotland-Arran

PUBLIC MEETING

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**BANNER CLASSIFIEDS**  
**BANNER CLASSIFIEDS**  
**BANNER CLASSIFIEDS**  
**BANNER CLASSIFIEDS**

# Private Classified

### UNDER £30

CNM 7" touch tablet vgc - hardly been used comes with cover £30 Tel: 810608

Henry Vacuum Cleaner. £20. Tel 700786

Triton electric shower 9klw £30 Tel: 700742

### OVER £30

Ride on lawnmower, west-wood gazelle 11 hp, twin rotary old but reliable £200 Tel:700742

Washing machine excellent £80 also dryer £80 Tel: 07910 394431

### FREE TO UPLIFT

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

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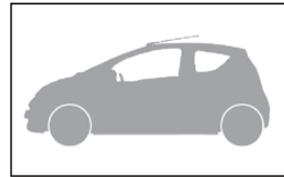
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**CHURCH NOTICES**

**SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

(in full communion with the Church of England)  
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay  
**Sunday 6th April**  
Holy Communion, 11.00  
Mrs Janis Gallagher  
Coffee after service  
**Wednesday 9th April**  
Holy Communion  
12.15 pm  
ALL WELCOME

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Parishes of North Arran  
Brodict, Corrie, Lochranza,  
Pirmill and Shiskine  
Independent but working  
together  
Minister:  
Rev Angus Adamson  
Parish Assistant:  
Mrs Jean Hunter:  
Worship will be conducted in  
the above churches at the  
following times to  
which all are invited  
**Sunday 6th April**  
Brodict Church, 10.30am,  
Morning Worship.  
Corrie Church, 12noon,  
Morning Worship.  
A Service of Worship will also  
be held in Montrose House  
at 1.30pm.  
Lochranza Church, 9.30am  
Morning Worship.  
Pirmill Church, 10.45am,  
Morning Worship.  
Shiskine Church, 12noon,  
Morning Worship.

**CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

Kilmory linked with Lamlash  
"A faith to proclaim ~ a  
fellowship to share"  
**Sunday 6th April**  
Kilmory 10am  
Lamlash 11.30 am  
Both Churches:  
Rev Dr Ian MacLeod  
All welcome, including  
Families; children's area  
Scottish Charity SC015072

**WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

(Charity Number: SC014005)  
**Sunday 6th April**  
Worship will be conducted

by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am.  
Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service. All most welcome.  
There will be a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm to which all friends are welcome.

**HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Sunday morning masses 11am  
**ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Minister: Rev Vince Jennings  
**Sunday 6th April**  
11am Morning worship in the Ormisdale Sports Pavilion, Brodict  
Tea & Coffee after the service.  
Wednesday at 7.30pm  
Home Fellowship Group for Bible Study and Prayer.  
Contact phone no 600222  
Everyone warmly invited

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**  
(continuing)

**Sunday 6th April**  
Morning Service 11am  
Trust Housing Lounge  
Glen Estate, Brodict  
Evening Service 6.30 pm  
5 Glen Road, Brodict  
**Wednesday 9th April**  
Prayer Meeting 7pm  
5 Glen Road, Brodict  
All welcome

**ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

**Sunday 6th April**  
Rev David Ford  
Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)  
Brodict 7pm (Church behind post office)

**RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS**

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

**SALVATION ARMY**

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



**Shiskine Golf Club**

Thursday 27 March, Ladies 18 Hole Medal, 11 Played. Silver 1 and Scratch Jenni Turnbull 90-15=75, 2 Sheila Gray 93-17=76. Bronze 1 Esther Henderson 96-29=67, 2 Sally Brookes 93-23=70. Our congratulations go to Esther on a super score.

Sunday 30 March, Shiskine Grand Shoot Out, 14 played on a nice day with a tricky east wind. Nearest the pin at the 12th was young Jack McNally and at the 10th was lefty himself Donald Logan. Donald Logan, Gator Kerr and Hamish Bannatyne were left at the 12th hole with Gator and Hamish going forward to a shoot out which Hamish won.

Fixtures: Sunday 6 April, Gents 12 Hole Medal. Wednesday 9 April, gents Daniel Ferguson Trophy. Thursday 10 April, 12 Hole Medal. Sunday 13 April, Gents 18 Hole Medal.

**Brodict Golf Club**

Sunday 30 March, last round

**DEATHS**

**FULLERTON** - George Peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital on Tuesday 1st April 2014, George, aged 76 years, beloved husband of Isabel, loving Dad of William, George and Stephen and Papa of the family. Funeral service at Holmsford Bridge Crematorium on Wednesday, 9th April at 10am to which all are welcome. Family flowers only please.

**SMITH** - John (of Whiting Bay). Passed away on March 29th, in Arran War Memorial Hospital, surrounded by his family. Our thanks to the Nurses and Doctors for Dads' care and their constant support of the family. To the Whiting Bay shopkeepers who helped Dad with whatever he required, our heartfelt thanks. Service at Holmsford Bridge Crematorium Friday 4th April at 11am. No flowers please. Donations to the Woodlands Trust Charity if desired.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

**BELL** - The Family of Nancy Bell would like to thank everyone for their cards and letters, the Rev. Angus Adamson for his warm and moving service and C & D Hendry for the funeral service arrangements. Special thanks to all staff at Cooriedoon Nursing Home who looked after Nancy during her time there. The collection raised for Cooriedoon was £110.

**MEMORIAL**

**HAND** - In memory of Rich Hand who sadly passed away on the beautiful Isle of Arran he loved so much, on 2nd April 2013. Always in our thoughts now and forever, missed lots by his family and friends. Goodnight and God bless. Love ya loads xxx

of Winter Cup, 18 played. 1 L Keir (14)42pts, 2 C Pattenden (13)39pts, 3 D Hendry (12)38pts. There were eight twos, far too many to mention individually. A great effort by Davie Hendry, who needed 39pts to draw level with John Beattie, who therefore wins the Winter Cup overall.

Results: Winter Cup, winner John Beattie 188pts, runner up David Hendry 187pts.

Fixtures: Sunday 6 April, Brandon, open draws at 8.30am and 1pm (note summer start times).

Wednesday 26 March, 10 played on a lovely spring day. 1 B Allison 79-22=57, 2 J Green 82-16=66. There was one two from B Allison.

The 'Old Farts Dinner' was a very enjoyable evening, a big thank you to Trish and friends for the excellent food and service, and also to Douglas for keeping us all well plied with drink. Hope to see you all in September.

Tuesday 1 April, April Ladies Medal CCQ2, 10 played, RO. Division 1: 1 Susan Butchard 83(12)71, 2 Jill Plenderleith 90(18)72. Division 2: 1 Gege Kroner 100(23)77, there were two magic twos, Susan Butchard and Jill Plenderleith.

Nine hole Stableford, 5 played, 1 Pam Holmes 18 pts.

Fixtures: Tuesday 8 April, Coronation Foursomes, entries by Saturday 5 April. Tuesday 15 and 22 April, Stableford, draw at 9.30am only, Kiscadale 5pm.

**Whiting Bay Golf Club**

Sunday 30 March, a good turnout of 20 players competed for the Captain's Prize - already postponed twice last year because of too much weather! Huge thanks go to Captain Gus MacLeod for the hospitality on and off the course, the lovely food in the clubhouse afterwards and the generous prizes. In the sweep the winner was Markus Kroner with 39 points, second was Stan Rainey on 37 points and third Eddie Hope with 36 points. Markus also won scratch with 72 and there were magic twos from David Brookens (2), Ronnie Mann, John Simmons, David Morrison and Dave Hackett. The prize for the fewest putts went to John Pennycott, and for the most putts Tam Young.



**Whiting Bay Golf Club's captain Gus MacLeod, left, presents Markus Kroner with the Captain's Prize.**

Sandy Pringle won the special prize for the fewest points for holes completed.

Fixtures: Saturday 5 April, Mixed Fours Poole Trophy, 11am. Sunday 6 April, Roy Ure Tankard Stableford. Sheets are on the notice board for names for the Clarke Trophy and the Spring Handicap.

**Machrie Bay Golf Club**

Tuesday 25 March, final round of the Winter Cup. 1 David Price 66, 2 David Scott 71, 3 Brian Sherwood 74, Scratch David Price 73. Winner of the Winter Cup was Brian Sherwood 389. Runner up David Price 394.

Fixtures: Tuesday 8 April, start of the Lady Mary/Peter Sutton tee off 12.30/5.30pm. Tuesday 15 April, Arran Grouse Qualifier tee off 12.30/5.30pm.

**Lamlash Golf Club**

Sunday 30 March, Winter Stableford, CSS 64, Par 64, 36 points to Stableford: 1 Andy Smith 38pts, 2 David Cameron 38pts, 3 John O'Sullivan 37pts. Best Scratch David Cameron 32 pts to stableford. Twos from David Cameron at the 14th and John O'Sullivan at the 5th. Overall winner of Winter Stableford was Alan Smith with a total of 133pts. Runner up was Ian Bremner with a total of 127pts.

Result of Glenburn Cup: overall winner was Ian Bremner with 257 in total, runner up was Raymond Burke with 267 in total.

Fixtures: Thursday 3 April, Summer Cup, make up own groups. Sunday 6 April, Carpenter Rose Bowl, stroke play 18 holes at 9.30am and

12.30pm starts.

**Corrie Golf Club**

Saturday 22 March, Winter Cup. 1 A Burke 73-13=60, 2 A MacDonald 70-9=61. Magic twos from P Bremner and A MacDonald.

Monday 24 March, 1 A Burke 65-10=55, 2 J McConnachie 63-4=59, 3 L Hartley 75-13=62. Magic twos from J McGovern (2), I Buchanan, A Burke and J McConnachie.

Saturday 29 March, Winter Cup, final round. 1 J Broomhead 67-9=58, 2 A Smith 72-10=62 BIH, 3 B Rooney 75-13=62 BIH over D Logan. Scratch - J Broomhead.

Magic twos from J Broomhead, J McConnachie, HB McKinnon, D Logan and B Rooney. Congratulations to Alan Smith, the Winter Cup winner.

Monday 31 March, 1 A Burke 64-5=59, 2 A MacDonald 68-7=61 BIH, 3 J McGovern 69-8=61. Magic twos R Burke, A Smith, J McGovern and A MacDonald.

Winner R Burke 351, runner up A Burke 352. Congratulations to Raymond just pipping his boy by 1.

Fixtures: Members please note there is no competition Saturday 12 April - course tidy up Saturday 8.30am and 1pm, Sunday 10am. Volunteers welcome.



**Brian Sherwood shows off his haul of silverware - Machrie Bay Golf Club's Lochranza Hotel Cup and the Winter Cup.**

**Arran Bridge Club results**

Here are the latest results from the Arran Bridge Club, Monday 17 March at Lamlash

1 D and M Bruce, 2 T Martin and A Bilsland, 3= P Adamson and E McConnell, J Barclay and J McArthur.

Thursday 20 March at Brodict N/S 1 T Martin and D Hamilton, 2 J Baraclough and J Wales, 3 J Barclay and M Gardner. E/W 1 H Boyd and J McArthur, 2 P Adamson and B Livingstone, 3 E McConnell and M Macgill.

Monday 24 March at Lamlash N/S 1 P Adamson and E McConnell, 2 T Martin and A Bilsland, 3 M Gardner and B Livingstone. E/W 1 M Macgill and E McKellar, 2 J and J Peacock, 3 J Barclay and J McArthur

Thursday 27 March at Brodict, Boyd Trophy 1 E McKellar and J McArthur, 2 J Barclay and Morag Gardner, 3 E McKellar and J McArthur.

**PERSONAL**

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# Sport

Arran's Weekly Newspaper

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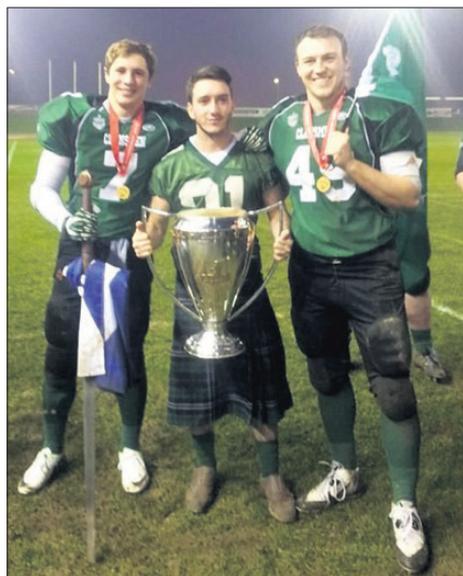
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Craig Black from Lamlash, front row, far right, is now a British champion with his American football team Stirling Clansmen.

## Arran student helps to tame the Lions



Tony McDowall from Brodick, centre, celebrates the win with Craig Black, right, and another team-mate.

### Stirling Clansmen are officially now the best team in Britain

An American-football player from Lamlash was part of the team that was recently crowned British champions.

Twenty-two year old Craig Black plays for the Stirling Clansmen who are officially now the best team in Britain after claiming the National Championship title for the first time since 2003.

The squad completed their undefeated season with a tightly fought 20-15 defeat of the Birmingham Lions to claim the cup win, taming the Lions' roar one year after they fell to the same side in the first round of the play-offs and a full 11 years after they last took the title.

The final whistle was met with understandable jubilation from the Stirling team, and their captain Austen Jacks claimed the title to

widespread agreement.

'This is our year', the team often insisted in the build-up to the play-offs.

'Nobody can beat us', claimed many in the club throughout the term.

After the 2014 National Championship final, it's clear to see that the confidence and belief was more than just talk as the Stirling Clansmen are now British champions.

Craig told The Banner: 'It was an amazing feeling.

'Birmingham knocked us out last year, so to win it against them was great - they're a class outfit, but I think the last two games have forged a rivalry that will last for some time to come.'

Craig is currently doing an MSc in Marketing at Stirling University and will graduate this summer.

## Stretching benefits explored as 10K training continues

There is now just three weeks to go until the Arran 10K and for those of you that have been following the programme the importance of stretching before and after training sessions must be considered.

Stretching has many benefits.

While reducing muscle tension and relaxing the body, it prevents joint and muscle strains while promoting circulation in the body and flexibility.

Prior to an exercise session, it is imperative that stretching is only done once the body has warmed up and not on 'cold' muscles.

Although new research argues that it is not essential before training, it is widely agreed that it is a necessity afterwards.

As a runner it is the lower body that is worked out meaning the hamstring, quad, glute and calf muscles are the ones that require attention.

#### Different

There are many different types of stretches available for each of these muscles and each should be held for about 10 seconds for it to have a beneficial effect.

These could range from the common static stretches to short yoga routines.

Prior to running, a brisk walk or gentle jog before breaking out into full running mode should be adequate enough to increase the heart rate and create a blood flow to the muscles that warms up the body temperature. This

gives a controlled method for reaching the body's full range of motion to prevent injury.

After exercising there is an excess of lactic acid which is what causes the stiffness and soreness the next day.

Stretching helps to remove this excess which in turn helps to prevent these common repercussions when your body feels like it has seized up.

#### Light exercise

If you are struggling the next day movement is still the key. A little light exercise like a walk is the best way to cure it along with rest and eating some protein to help the muscles rebuild.

Share your warm up and cool down routines with others or anything else race related you think might be of interest using twitter #Arran10K. This week we introduce hill training which can be very effective. It is not too difficult to find a suitable road or hill track on Arran.

#### WEEK 9

You should be able to achieve the 50-minute mark now so run for this on days one, three and five. Continue with the HIT incorporated on day three by inserting 45 second sprints after each 10 minute run.

Continue with resting on days two, four and seven while still pushing the body with some cross training on day six.

#### NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

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



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The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.