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See page 10 for details

Plus
Illustrated map of Arran

Arran offenders will work in the community

Report by JENNIFER LYON

Convicted criminals from Arran will soon be seen around the island carrying out much needed volunteer work as part of a community service scheme.

The initiative will see people from Arran found guilty of minor criminal offences donning high visibility vests and being put to work at various different places.

Johnny McGovern from Whiting Bay has been appointed community service officer.

He will be responsible for identifying areas where the offenders could carry out work and supervising them while this is done.

He said: 'This scheme aims to get important work done around the island that would normally be carried out by volunteers. It is in no way designed to take away employment from professional workmen.'

Concerns

Concerns had been expressed about the proper supervision of these criminals at a meeting of the community council last week.

'We're not going to see scores of offenders coming here from the mainland,' said Mr McGovern. 'The community service on Arran will be undertaken by offenders from the island ordered by the court to carry this out.

'We may go through periods when I have two or three offenders to supervise then I might have nobody for months at a time.'

A community service order (CSO) is a court order that requires an offender to carry out a number of hours of unpaid work for the benefit of the community.

The number of hours is decided by the court, and will be between 80 and 240 hours long.

Police sergeant Bob MacKay emphasised that the community service orders are outwith his remit.

Responsible

He said: 'Our job is to get these offenders to court. Once they are there, the punishment dished out has nothing to do with the police so we will not be responsible for the criminals when they carry out this sentence.'

This is not the first time that CSO work has been carried out on the island.

Back in 1995 four Arran men found guilty of assault, a road traffic offence, a DSS fraud and a breach of the peace were given CSOs.

Working with the social work department under the supervision of Jim Wilson they painted the community centre in Lamlash, constructed a decorative garden at Lamlash Primary School, tidied up the garden at Whiting Bay Church, delivered furniture for the community workshop, painted some pensioners houses and did some work at Montrose House.

The scheme should begin by the end of May.

Derek Shand presents AMRT team leader Jamie McKinnon with a cheque for £250 while Tim Keen the team treasurer looks on. b15mrt01

Cash boost for mountain rescue team

The Arran Mountain Rescue Team received a boost this week when retired business manager Derek Shand presented it with a cheque for £250.

The money is part of the Community Cashback fund set up by the Royal Bank of Scotland and will be used to pay for fixtures and fittings at the new team base at Cladach.

'In recognition of my recent fundraising efforts my employer, the Royal Bank of Scotland Group, has awarded me £250 which I have chosen to give to the Isle of Arran Mountain Rescue Team,' said Derek.

As an employee of the group, Derek qualified for the Community Cashback, which recognises staff who gave their time to support the charities and community groups they care about.

The Arran Mountain Rescue team moved into their new operations base at Cladach at the end of February.

Since the 1960s the team has been based in a hut behind the old police station in Brodick that had no toilet and it was too small to hold training sessions in or to store all of its equipment.

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Police files

No car tax

A 60-year-old man from Lamlash was reported to the procurator fiscal for failing to display a valid vehicle licence on April 1.

Careless driving

A 42-year-old Brodick man was reported for careless driving and having no MOT or valid excise licence after a road crash at Lower Glen Cloy on April 3.

Under-age drinking

A 17-year-old Brodick youth was reported to the procurator fiscal after being found in possession of an open alcoholic drink on the main road in the village.

Urinating in public

A 30-year-old Lamlash man was issued with a fixed penalty ticket for urinating in public on Market Road in Brodick on Friday afternoon.

Nick celebrates five years of Arran art in Sydney

Nick Giles established the Arran Art Gallery in Whiting Bay five years ago.

Last year he moved his main residence from The Grange in Whiting Bay to Zenith Residences, Sydney in Australia from where he expanded his art business. His Arran gallery is still going strong, and now, to mark the five-year anniversary of Arran Art Gallery he is holding an exhibition of 'affordable art by Scottish artist Nick Giles' at the Holt Art Gallery in McMahon's Point, New South Wales. The exhibition will run from Wednesday to Sunday April 15-19.

Arran friends are invited to join Nick for drinks next Thursday April 16 at the Holt Art Gallery from 6pm to 9pm.

Anyone wishing directions to the exhibition should contact the Banner.

Driving home road safety message in five languages

Arran welcomes safe drivers.

That is the message being driven home by a joint road safety initiative by Strathclyde Police and North Ayrshire Council.

Last week a large banner was attached to the fencing on the Brodick pier linkspan declaring 'Welcome to Arran; walk, ride, drive safe.'

This banner will remain in place throughout the tourist season giving a clear reminder to all drivers as they alight from the ferry in Brodick.

Care

Now, in a further move to highlight a specific need to treat Arran roads with extra care, a new map and leaflet centre has been established in the foyer of the Arran ferry MV Caledonian Isles.

The road map of Arran is surrounded with notices in different languages urging passengers to take a leaflet. Inside the leaflet the safety message is repeated in five languages and particularly reminds vehicle drivers to remember to drive on the left.

It says: 'Driving on our roads requires great care and this leaflet gives advice on the correct use of single track roads and a reminder to drive on the left.'

John Martin, skipper of MV Caledonian Isles, Colin McCort, Brodick pier manager and police sergeant Bob MacKay in the foyer of the Arran ferry with the new road safety map. b15saf01

It also advises ferry passengers to watch out for deer and sheep on the roads. The leaflet was designed originally by Argyll and Bute Council and is issued by Road Safety Scotland.

It applies to all parts of the country but police sergeant Bob MacKay said: 'We hope to soon have a leaflet available that is specific to Arran. North Ayrshire Access Forum has agreed to assist with the funding for it.

'This map on the ferry has been funded and supported by Arran residents. Perhaps it might be a good idea for local drivers to take notice of it.'

Road safety

Brodick pier manager Colin McCort said: 'Caledonian MacBrayne is happy to co-operate in this safety campaign. We will keep it going and develop it further to improve road safety on the island.'

Arran councillor Margie Currie said: 'I am grateful to the partners who have become involved with this scheme. Initially we were looking at the issue of cycle safety but the scheme has been widened to include all road users.

'This is not an island for high speed travel and that message must get through to local drivers as well as tourists.'

The leaflet has a handy removable sticker on the back which motorists can stick on their windscreen. It says: 'Drive on the left'.

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New chief executive appointed to NAC

Elma Murray, head of organisational change and human resources at Glasgow City Council has been appointed chief executive at North Ayrshire Council. She joins the council in July and will take up her new post in August when the present chief executive Ian Snodgrass retires.

Elma Murray, new chief executive at NAC.

Ms Murray has worked in local government for 26 years. This breadth of experience in the public sector includes depute director of financial services at Glasgow City Council, computer services manager at Strathclyde Police and head of IT Services at North Ayrshire Council from 1995 to 1998.

Experience

Leader of North Ayrshire Council, Councillor David O'Neill said: 'Elma brings a wealth of experience to the post and we look forward to her taking the council forward in what will be challenging times.'

Elma Murray said: 'I am very proud to have been appointed chief executive by the council and am looking forward to working with the elected members and staff to build on their good work so far.'

The 13 newly enrolled Beavers and three who received their Global Challenge Awards last Wednesday. They are: William Sneddon, Isla Sneddon, Jack Crisp, Kyle McNicol, Aiken Adam, James Reid, Luke Nelson, Freddie Bunyan, Jack Hirschfield, Gregor Crichton, Gregor Morrison, Charlie Wilkinson, Cameron MacKay, Taylor Craig, David Copperwheat and Kirk Inglis. b15bea01

Arran Beavers have a strong colony

The Arran Beaver Scout Colony had the largest ever intake of new members at it's meeting in Arran High School last Wednesday.

Thirteen youngsters were enrolled by Beaver Leader Charlotte Hirschfield and Deputy District Commissioner Carole Boon, and another three received their Global Challenge Badges.

Thriving

Carole said: 'The colony is thriving but we would appreciate any help from willing adults, either with Beavers and Cubs or in re-establishing a Scout group.' Beaver Scouts are from six to eight years old.

Anyone interested in helping out at the weekly Beaver meetings or helping with a Scout group should contact Leader Charlotte Hirschfield on 302331.

Islanders asked to help shape North Ayrshire's future

Islanders are to be consulted as never before on how they want to see Arran develop over the next 20 years.

North Ayrshire Council is starting work now on a new Local Development Plan (LDP) and is looking for a great input from islanders.

The LDP will be finally adopted in 2012 and emphasis is on community consultation every step of the way.

The council's LDP committee chairman, councillor John Reid, said: 'Every member of the council sits on this committee, a measure of how important the plan is to the shaping of North Ayrshire.

'The way we are drawing up the plan will reflect Scotland's modernised planning system. It has just undergone the most significant overhaul for 60 years and at its heart is the need to get local people more involved.'

The first stage in the consultation programme is the Main Issue Report, due to be published in November this year.

In the run up to this, some consultation has already taken place and more is in the pipeline.

Examples include planning aid workshops for North Ayrshire and Community Councillors, engaging with local young people and toolkits to help Community Councils to consult on the main issues.

By November the Main Issues Report will be published. This event will signal the start of a big consultation programme.

It will run right through the spring of 2010 and will include online polling, public exhibitions and local public meetings.

All of these activities will be widely publicised.

Information from all of these sources will be gathered and used to draw up the development plan, published as a proposal towards the end of next year.

This will be followed by four more months of consultation.

Finally, after the Scottish Government give the go-ahead the completed LDP plan will be published in late 2012.

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Conservative politicians reflecting three levels of government at the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick – Conservative Westminster candidate for North Ayrshire and Arran, Philip Lardner, North Ayrshire Councillor, Robert Barr and West of Scotland MSP, Jackson Carlaw. b15car01

Conservatives 'super-surgery' success

Conservative politicians reflecting three levels of government held a 'super-surgery' in the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick on Saturday.

The event was organised to give islanders the opportunity to meet and request the assistance of Conservative politicians with issues affecting Arran.

North Ayrshire Councillor, Robert Barr, West of Scotland MSP, Jackson Carlaw, and Conservative Westminster candidate for North Ayrshire and Arran, Philip Lardner were pleased with the turnout.

Philip Lardner said: 'We have a good turnout today of islanders wanting to discuss issues with us that are important to them. The 'super-surgery' has definitely been a success.'

Topics discussed on Saturday included the state of Arran's roads and ferry provision for the island but other issues were discussed too including access to contraception for children under 16 and the need for money to be invested in drug and alcohol rehabilitation programmes in North Ayrshire.

Vandalism in Kilmory Cemetery

Church elders from the kirk in Kilmory were devastated to discover that the picturesque village cemetery had been vandalised last weekend.

Neil McLean, the beadle and elder of the Kilmory Church of Scotland used to be the manager at Torrylinn Creamery but now lives in Lamlash. He said that on Saturday afternoon he was called over to Kilmory after youngsters had been seen playing in the graveyard.

Wanton Damage

'When I got there I discovered that ceramic figures marking graves had been smashed,' he said. 'It's just wanton damage by youngsters who should know better. It's really appalling.'

Neil said he will now have to contact the families of those graves that were vandalised to tell them of the damage.

'I want parents in Kilmory to warn their children about what has happened here,' said Neil. 'Parents need to tell the children not to play in the graveyard and they need to be told that these actions will not be tolerated.'

Kilmory church is in a remote location at the end of a single track lane leading past the new Torrylinn housing estate.

Vandals destroyed porcelain figurines marking graves in Kilmory cemetery last week. b14cem01

The neat and tidy graveyard at Kilmory that was the scene of wanton vandalism. b15kil01

One-off cash boost for Brodick Castle

Brodick Castle has received a £15,000 cash boost from North Ayrshire Council.

The council currently provides financial support to the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) on an annual basis for Brodick Castle and Country Park and Gardens.

After experiencing recent financial difficulties, the NTS had announced measures to restrict the opening hours of the castle.

Responding to a request by the NTS, the council has agreed to grant a one-off £15,000 to assist with the Brodick operations.

Ian Snodgrass, chief executive of NAC, said: 'The support both financial and for business services will help to underpin this key attraction, support local employment and restore and enhance public access to Brodick Castle.'

A specific problem facing the Trust is the effect of storm damage and fungal infestation, which has affected significant parts of the gardens preventing public access.

Costs of around £44,000 have had to be diverted to fight a contagious plant disease that has been spreading through the Merkland Wood near Brodick.

The disease called phytophthora kernoviae particularly affects rhododendron and beech and was first reported in Brodick Castle gardens last year.

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Pressure grows to sort Britain's pothole capital

Ayrshire was named this week as Britain's pothole capital, according to Warranty Direct.

The company is the UK's leading provider of breakdown insurance for vehicles coming out of the manufacturer's standard three-year warranty.

A spokesman said that 14 percent of its policyholders in Ayrshire had made claims for axle and suspension failures. The figures were compiled from claims made over the past eight years. The lowest claim rate was in Oxfordshire where only four percent of cars suffered similar damage.

Motoring groups blame some councils for downgrading roads in their spending priorities.

Local MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'Motorists already pay through the nose in fuel duty and road tax. They should not be expected to tolerate bad roads that increase costs even more.

Neglect

'What we are seeing on Arran and elsewhere in Scotland is the fruition of years, if not decades, of neglect.'

Warranty Direct managing director Duncan Fisher said: 'Continuous driving over cracked or uneven surfaces or the sudden jolting of a deep pothole can cause damage to shock absorbers, springs, upper and lower arms and stabiliser bars. Whether this is due to colder weather or just poor maintenance it seems to underline a clear difference across the country.'

The Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), whose councils are responsible for non-trunk roads, admitted the problem would take years to solve. A spokesman said: 'Councils do their utmost to tackle the problem of the condition of Scotland's roads in a planned and strategic way. However, we recognise that there is a real problem and the difficulty of catching up.

'The bottom line is this is a long-term problem that requires a long-term solution. It cannot be resolved overnight.'

Local councillor Margie Currie said: 'I'm doing all I can to raise the profile of Arran's road conditions. I have written to the first minister, COSLA and Katy Clark MP, asking them to take up the matter with their colleagues. It needs a huge boost of central funding.'

MSP Kenneth Gibson with an Arran pothole. b15pot01

Four police officers arrive for the summer

Four new police officers have arrived on the island on summer secondment.

The additional officers will be on patrol around Arran until mid-September in a bid to prevent anti-social behaviour.

The new officers are Christine White and Audrey Millar who normally serve in Coatbridge, David Clark from Cumbernauld, and Kevin Bonar of Kilbirnie.

Full time

PC Bonar is the only officer to have worked on the island before. He will be working full time on Arran this summer and will be replacing PC Michael Clinton at the end of the season.

'I'm really looking forward to coming to work and live on Arran full time,' said PC Bonar. 'It will be completely different to anything I've done before but I'm sure I'll enjoy it here.'

Sergeant Bob MacKay said that with the extra staff he would be targeting speeding drivers, drink driving, young offenders and vandalism.

Arran's four new police officers for the summer season are, back row, David Clark and Christine White and, front row, Kevin Bonar and Audrey Millar. b15pol01

Craft day for children

There will be a children's craft day in Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church Hall next Thursday April 16. Youngsters from P3 upwards are welcome to attend and the sessions run from 10.30am to 12.30pm and 1.30pm to 3.30pm. Further information is available from Liz Jardin on 700729.

Winners

Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall 200 Club winners of the March draw were: first prize Katherine Bailey, second Alistair Bilsland.

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Arran MYSP says farewell

After two years as the island's representative on the Scottish youth parliament, Scott McMurray writes about this fantastic experience and the issues he has tackled during his time in the role.

I first became an MSYP for Cunninghame North just as the campaign to stop the closure of Corrie Primary was getting underway.

I attended many meetings and saw how hard the campaigners worked and learnt a lot from them about conducting a big campaign. I have been able to use the knowledge gained in other campaigns I have been involved in since.

Shortly after the Corrie campaign began, came the news that the Lamlash Youth Centre was to be demolished.

The Arran Youth Forum set out on a campaign to stop the closure of this vitally important centre.

After a long running battle, we finally managed to secure the youth centre's future as a safe place for young people to meet and relax.

Of course this campaign would not have been successful without the help and support of so many people including the Arran Youth Forum members, councillor Margie Currie, Kenneth Gibson MSP and all the members of public who signed our online petition. Shortly after this I was asked to represent the young people of Arran on the Community Council.

Again, I have been interested in the work they do and issues they get involved with.

Scott McMurray has been the Member of the Scottish Youth Parliament for Arran for two years.

The Community Council has been very supportive of so many issues including the Lamlash Youth Centre and the new youth centre at Brodick.

Arran Youth Foundations will run this new centre and I have been amazed at the generosity of the people of Arran to the centre.

Everything from foundations upwards has been put together by local volunteers and young people.

Thanks to them Arran's young people will have a centre in Brodick that will belong to and be run by them.

It is great to be able to take so many positive stories from the island. Thanks to the young people of Arran who have made so many things a success from the Youth Centre campaign to the Youth Forum gigs.

Thanks are due to everyone at the High School, but particularly to Mr Auld and Miss Wright who have been supportive throughout, allowing the Youth Forum meetings to take place during the school day and allowing me time off to attend different events.

The biggest thank you must be given to Nikki Harris. She has always been there to push my campaigns forward and push me further in everything I have done as an MSYP.

Without her I would never have even applied to the Scottish Youth Parliament. She was the one who gave me the form and gave me the encouragement to throw myself into so many new experiences.

Being an MSYP has been a fantastic experience and I hope that another Arran young person will take the opportunity to be the voice of Arran's young people in the future.

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Forrie Cairns on clarinet and Lennie Herd on trumpet for Quattro MacJazz.

A stomping Easter weekend of jazz

Forrie Cairns, the clarinet star of the Clyde Valley Stompers, returns to Arran this Easter to play Whiting Bay and Shiskine with Quattro MacJazz.

Forrie was the star performer at a reunion concert of the Clyde Valley Stompers in Whiting Bay Hotel in September 1981 and at the time was described in the Banner as 'the greatest clarinetist in the world'. At the same concert Ian Menzies gave a virtuoso performance on trombone and the legendary 81-year-old Monte Rey appeared as guest vocalist.

In a playing career starting at Glasgow University in the 1950's, Forrie Cairns has performed all over the world and met and performed with some of the jazz world's greatest stars. The undoubted highlight was when Forrie's own band, the Clansmen, was selected to perform with the world's first mega-star, Louis Armstrong, at a concert in England.

Memory

Forrie said: 'Before the concert began Louis asked to meet the bandleader of the supporting band, so I was ushered into his private dressing room where only the two of us there spoke for 10 or 15 minutes. It was a bit like speaking to the Almighty! It was a great memory.'

Other stars Forrie has performed with include Albert Nicholas, Wild Bill Davidson and Kid Ory, all legends of the jazz world.

Although he'd be reluctant to admit it, the modest Mr Cairns has become a jazz legend himself. Still at the peak of his powers in his 70's he is looking forward to returning to Arran.

Quattro MacJazz play Whiting Bay on Saturday April 11 and Shiskine Hall on Sunday April 12.

Tickets are available from the Book and Card Centre, Brodick, The Pillar Box, Whiting Bay and the Harbour Shop, Blackwaterfoot.

Come dine with me at Millhouse, Glen Sherraig; from left, Campbell Seaton, Geoffrey Botterill, Antony Butterworth, Nicol Hume, Ian Small and Jason Bohan, with Fiona Hume and Moira Small seated at Moira's perfectly set table. b15din01

Come dine with me in Glen Sherraig

Eight Arran folk indulged themselves with a gastronomic feast at Millhouse, Glen Sherraig last Saturday night.

This was the second instalment of an imaginative project cooked up by Brodick residents Ian and Moira Small, Nicol and Fiona Hume, and Campbell Seaton and Jason Bohan. They have decided to recreate the popular television show Come Dine With Me on a local scale in Arran.

Three weeks ago they dined in style courtesy of Campbell and Jason at Glen Rosa and this time it was the turn of the Smalls at Millhouse. At each dinner there are an extra two mystery guests and on Saturday when Ian opened his front door who should be standing there but Geoffrey Botterill and Antony Butterworth, proprietors of Kilmichael Country House Hotel in the neighbouring Glencloy.

The guests all score each other out of 20 for each dinner party; ten points for food and ten for ambience, and at the end of it they are all going for a special night out in Glasgow with the winning couple having their night paid for them by the others. Ian's menu on Saturday started with warm duck salad with puy lentils and crispy parsnip shreds followed by roasted beetroot and lemon watercress soup.

The main course was stuffed monkfish wrapped with parma ham with olive-infused vine tomatoes, seasonal vegetables and potatoes. Pudding was raspberry pavlova and home-made ice cream.

Next time it will be the turn of Nicol and Fiona Hume to act as mine hosts, and then the six can begin to plan their weekend in Glasgow.

New energy package to fight fuel poverty

A groundbreaking Scottish energy efficiency scheme could lead the UK in the drive against fuel poverty.

From April 6 the new Energy Assistance Package will replace the Central Heating and Warm Deal programmes.

Families with children under five, or children aged under 16 with a disability are eligible for significant assistance where they are in receipt of benefits.

The package, backed by over £60 million a year from the Scottish Government, will target pensioners and low income families.

As well as providing central heating and insulation, incomes will be boosted with free benefit and tax credit checks. Tariff checks will ensure people are paying the correct amounts on their bill.

Local MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'I am delighted by this announcement, which will benefit thousands of people in Arran, Ayrshire and across Scotland.'

A North Ayrshire Council spokesman said: 'There will be surgeries on Arran over the next few weeks for those who are finding it difficult to pay fuel bills. For more information about the Energy Assistance Package telephone 0800 512012.'

Launching the Energy Assistance Package, Deputy First Minister Nicola Sturgeon MSP said: 'There is no doubt that previous fuel poverty schemes did not properly target fuel poverty. The new Energy Assistance Package, the key recommendation of the expert Fuel Poverty Forum, rights those wrongs and has attracted unanimous support from consumer, pensioner and child poverty groups.'

More information for Arran Banner readers is available at: http://www.scotland.gov.uk/housing/eap

The phosphorous flare found burning at Whitefarland by Sam Rice

A *Banner* reader has contacted us to warn members of the public about the dangers of finding phosphorous flares on Arran shores. Geologist Sam Rice had a close escape when he found a flare burning on the beach at Whitefarland Point two weeks ago.

He said: 'I was on Arran on a geology field trip and I called the police because I thought it was strange. I didn't know what it was.

'It was burning for about an hour and the fire brigade and coastguards arrived just after it went out and told me what it was. I was advised to seek medical attention. However, I am fine and have no ill effects.'

Coastguard and police advise people to contact the emergency services if they find a flare, and not to touch it under any circumstances.

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Easter means tourists

Easter is upon us, but what is the iconic image that best symbolises the significance of this traditional Christian festival to the community of Arran?

For some it will be the Walk of Witness from the Holy Cross Church in Brodick to St Brides Church of Scotland in Knowe Road on Good Friday to commemorate Jesus carrying the cross to Calvary. This procession of faith has been established for more than 10 years and attracts around 100 walkers.

It could be the Easter sunrise service at the Viking Fort, Kings Cross, held to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ early on the first Easter. This simple early morning service has been led by Rev Elizabeth Watson for 27 years and regularly sees up to 50 people gathering in the chill of Easter Sunday morning to watch the sun rise in the east over the Ayrshire coastline.

Maybe hot cross buns conjure up your idea of Easter. These spiced cakes are traditionally eaten on Good Friday and have a cross etched on top as a symbol of the crucifixion.

For children, the image of Easter may be one of Easter eggs or bunnies or even bonnets. The Easter bonnet parade at Brodick Castle has become a popular and colourful event.

The tradition of Easter eggs began as a celebration of the ending of fast and a declaration of the Resurrection of Jesus..

The Easter bunny is a mythical rabbit that was believed to deliver chocolate eggs and toys to the homes of children the night before Easter.

In fact, for many years Arran had its very own Easter bunnies. Two Southend gentlemen were renowned for allegedly delivering small chocolate eggs to every household in the district. On Easter Sunday morning each Southend family would wake to find that the Easter bunny had mysteriously been to their door under cover of darkness and left the correct number of eggs for the size of the household. In some cases they were lined up on a windowsill or perched on the windscreen wipers of the family car.

It must have cost Eddie and John a small fortune, but it brought a bit of magic into Easter for many small children. And the gentlemen probably enjoyed the same kind of mystical notoriety as Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid.

On Arran Easter heralds the influx of tourists. It is the springboard of the island's economy and marks the real start of the holiday season. It brings boatfuls of tourists eager to enjoy Arran's hospitality and special attractions and at the same time to part with considerable sums of money.

More than 80 percent of the island's economy is dependent on tourism and it is every resident's duty to make sure that these tourists continue to come to our shores in ever increasing numbers and have a great time while they are here. Many of the visitors alighting from ferries at Brodick and Lochranza will have been here before.

It is up to us to make sure that they enjoy the Arran experience like never before and come back again and again.

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.' (1Peter 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

Bank scams on other islands

Sir,

The bogus Bank of Scotland woman who called Terry Crawley (Banner March 14) was part of a scam that was also working in Orkney and Shetland that week as the enclosed cutting from The Orcadian of March 12 makes plain.

A briefer report is in the Shetland Times of March 13.

I read quite a few local weeklies, and keep a notebook of common topics extracted from them. It has come in useful for this letter. The earliest example of this sort of scam was seen in The Scotsman of October 2, 2008, from HBOS.

Yours,

Jeremy Godwin
15 Drovers Lane
Penrith
Cumbria

Frogs in Lochranza post office

Sir,

I had to smile to myself when I read in the Banner that Arran didn't have frogs until 1980s.

I and my brother collected frog spawn every year from 'Jonny Mains' pond' at Lochranza in the 1950`s.

We raised them behind our house. The spawn developed into frogs to the horror of our father. This was because they came into our post office and hid among the pile of mail bags; I am sure many of them had a stormy journey on the ferry to Ardrossan.

PS. I enjoy reading the Arran news on a Saturday morning in the Banner website.

Yours,

Ann Kerr
Switzerland
kerra@sunrise.ch.ch

No bias here

Sir,

Billy McLaren and Fiona Laing of the Arran branch of the SNP clearly feel aggrieved that the 'local editorial staff have a deep rooted bias against the SNP'.

That would, of course, be the same editorial staff who in the week of the 2007 Holyrood and Council elections failed to run my response to a letter of the previous week in which a 'William McLaren, SNP Candidate' from Lamlash made (what I considered to be) an unjustified attack on myself, our Tory council candidate and local Independent councillor, Margie Currie.

I doubt that Billy saw that particular failure to provide a balanced coverage in the crucial days before the election as the Banner being 'dragged down into the media sewer of political bias'.

When the temporary paranoia of election week wore off, I fully accepted the explanation of the Banner's editor that it was a mere oversight and not part of some pro-SNP conspiracy.

Over the past few years of subscribing to the Banner, my own experience has been that the Banner gives as fair a hearing to the views of correspondents from all political parties – and none – as I have found anywhere, with such lively and varied debate and editorials which are often 'challenging'. That's part of the reason why we read it.

Perhaps Billy McLaren and the local branch of the SNP may regret being quite so extreme in their open condemnation of the Banner's editorial team. From what I've learned of the people of Arran, they tend to demonstrate rather better judgement than Mr McLaren might often wish.

Yours,

Philip Lardner
Scottish Conservative and Unionist Party
Westminster candidate for North Ayrshire and Arran

Deteriorating road standards on Arran

Copy of a letter sent to the Chief Executive, North Ayrshire Council regarding Arran roads

Sir,

Once again the condition of the roads on Arran is causing deep concern and anger among residents and visitors to the island.

The community councillors are only too well aware of the number of times we have broached the subject with North Ayrshire Council and central government, but nothing seems to be being done to improve the situation. We are a non-political body and therefore are not concerned with the politics.

What we are concerned about is the safety of the people who have to use the roads, which are in what can only be described as a dangerous condition. Time after time the roads have had repairs that are in fact no more than temporary, as within a very short space of time they have either returned to the original state or to a worse state than before.

The Jetpatcher is the commonly used repair method, not only to fill in potholes but also to cover quite large areas.

It is not suitable for this wider purpose, and the result gives the effect of driving over corrugated iron. The roadway is left with a layer of loose gravel, the excess of which should be swept up but is all too often left for the unsuspecting cyclist or motorcyclist to skid on. A large part at the summit of the String was repaired last year and after a short time it was apparent that the whole roadway had moved. No permanent repair has been made. All these situations lead one to believe that the persons repairing the roads have not been properly trained or it is just poor workmanship, or the materials used are not suitable.

We are aware that roads on Arran are not suitable for some of the traffic using them – too heavy lorries, too large buses etc – but that does not excuse the fact that roads in general have not been maintained to a reasonable standard.

Whatever the reasons, the standard of the roads is not acceptable.

Yours,

Campbell Laing
Chairman,
Community Council
Woodside
Pirnmill

Clachan Church update

Sir,

May I use your columns to give an update on the Old Clachan Church.

The present church was built in 1805 and was used until 1898 when St Molios was built. The materials came from the previous church built in 1708. Some of the material for this building came from the old chapel which was in the middle of the old part of the graveyard and possibly dates back to 1200.

The sculpted slab now built into the buttress of St Molios came from this chapel. It was possibly displayed inside the next two churches until St Molios was built.

A flat stone with the inscription that this stone replaces the sculpture now in St Molios wall covers the area which is probably the burial place of St Molio.

A half-round stone built into the wall of the present building is probably an arch from one of the windows of the old chapel. It was known locally as the Leper Port and communion was passed through this hole to lepers who were not allowed into the church.

The pilgrims going to and from Holy Isle came via Clachan and over the Pilgrim's Way to Lamlash.

The building is not fancy or old, but it is the only visible link with Christianity coming to Arran and parts of the west of Scotland and I feel it should be preserved for future generations.

Once the building is made safe we hope to clean it up and have display boards inside.

We intend to have a pub quiz on Thursday April 16 in Kinloch Hotel at 8.30pm to raise funds for all this work.

Anyone who can attend or contribute will be most welcome.

Yours,

G Bannatyne
Lochside, Blackwaterfoot
J Murchie
Bailemargaidh,
Blackwaterfoot

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Art show set for Kilmory

The Arran Visual Arts spring exhibition will be held in Kilmory Hall next week.

The exhibition runs from Saturday April 11 to Thursday April 16 from 10.30am to 5pm.

At last year's Kilmory event there were 156 exhibits from more than 50 members.

The second exhibition will be in Lochranza Hall from Saturday August 1 to Thursday August 6. The submission date for exhibits for this show will be Wednesday July 15.

Change is the subject of talk

At the next meeting of Arran Civic Trust on Tuesday April 21, Mr Dara Parsons of Historic Scotland will be giving a talk on 'Managing change in Arran's historic environment'. His talk will commence at 8pm following the annual general meeting of the trust at 7.30pm. All are most welcome.

Restaurant relaunch at Auchrannie

Last week saw the relaunch of the new restaurant at Auchrannie – brambles seafood + grill.

The first excited diners were a group of local well-known ladies who have been using the facilities at the hotel for more than 20 years.

Richard Small, general manager, invited them along to sample the new menu, offering an abundance of local west coast seafood, tempting grills and sharing platters to enjoy.

The ladies commented on what a delightful lunch they had enjoyed and that the staff as usual were most kind and helpful.

Brambles seafood + grill is now open from Wednesdays to Sunday each week, under the expert hand of Robert McGowan, Auchrannie's executive chef, and welcomes friends old and new.

The group of Arran 'ladies who lunch' at the opening of the new Brambles Seafood and Grill. b15bra01

• Do you have a story? Call the **Arran Banner** reporters on 01770-302142

Jill Jeffries of the Arran Art Gallery with Judy McFaull's friends Gill and Derek Wenham and the four prints for the Arran Hospice Fund on the wall. b15hos01

Prints boost for hospice

The appeal for hospice facilities at Arran War Memorial Hospital is to get a significant boost this week.

John McFaull of Kilmory started the Arran Hospice Fund in memory of his wife Judy who died last year after fighting breast cancer for 18 months. He aims to create a hospice facility at the hospital to give comfort to families of other sufferers.

Now internationally-known artist Pamela Stirling of Kirkcaldy has donated four special prints from her Colours of Scotland range to raise money for the fund.

John said: 'I knew Pamela through a friend and she just came up with the offer. The four prints are of Brodick Castle, Machrie Standing Stones, the Sleeping Warrior and Lochranza Castle and there is a limited edition of 200 of each. I only put them in the shops on Sunday and the Burnside Gallery had sold some within a few hours.'

The four scenes are silhouettes and Pamela said: 'Colours of Scotland came from a challenge to produce Scottish artwork that was both contemporary and unique and fitted with today's market and lifestyles.'

On Monday John McFaull was on hand at the Arran Art Gallery in Whiting Bay as the range of four prints was put on display. They are also on sale at Bilslands in Brodick.

Challenge is to walk, cycle and walk

The people behind the Arran Hospice Fund are organising a special sponsored Arran Challenge tomorrow (Saturday) to raise money for the charity.

Starting from Whiting Bay, the challenge involves a walk to the Dyemill car park in Lamlash before cycling to Brodick Castle then a climb up Goatfell, all in one day.

Contribute

Anyone can join in for all or part of the challenge on the day as long as they can contribute sponsorship for any part of the challenge.

John McFaull from Kilmory started the Arran Hospice Fund after the death of his wife Judy from breast cancer last year.

Sponsor forms are available from various shops around the island.

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Cheese production at Torrylinn Creamery being filmed for BBC Country Tracks programme. b15che01

New BBC programme features Torrylinn Creamery

Arran is to feature on a new Sunday morning television programme called Country Tracks.

The popular and long running BBC Countryfile Sunday morning programme is about to be moved to an early evening slot and it will be replaced by a new BBC series called Country Tracks.

The Isle of Arran has featured many times on Countryfile, most notably during the fight by islanders to oppose an experimental power station near Whiting Bay a few years ago. Now the island will be one of the first features on the new rural affairs programme.

First Milk's Torrylinn Creamery will soon be the subject of one of the first Country Tracks aired at 11am on a Sunday morning.

Jenny Sutherland of First Milk said: 'The programme will explore different parts of the British Isles each week, presented by Joe Crawley and Ben Fogle. 'This episode will feature an adventurous journey around Arran and our Torrylinn Creamery will be in the spotlight, with a particular focus on our cheese making process and explanatory commentary will be provided by site manager, Alex Home. Our Limited Edition Burns Truckle will also play a starring role.'

Torrylinn Creamery is the home of the award-winning Isle of Arran Dunlop cheese, which is hand made in open vats using Arran milk.

Creamery manager Alex Home with BBC presenter Joe Crawley. b15che02

Alex Home, general manager of the Creamery, said: 'We are delighted to be featuring in the new BBC Country Tracks series.

There was a great buzz on site during the filming and our cheese-makers really enjoyed interacting with the BBC production team and showcasing our award-winning cheese, which we are proud of.'

Torrylinn Creamery was opened by the late King George VI at the end of the Second World War when the Scottish Milk Marketing Board moved their cheesemaking production from Bennecarrigan Farm at the end of the Ross Road to the present site in Kilmory.

In those days there were 67 milk producing farms on the island; now there are just three supplying almost the same quantity of milk.

Each week Country Tracks will visit different parts of the British Isles with presenters Ben Fogle and Joe Crawley.

The programme will combine classic archive Countryfile footage from the last 20 years while featuring new ways to enjoy the great outdoors.

Liam Keen, controller of BBC Daytime said: 'I'm delighted that Country Tracks will be able to serve a loyal Countryfile audience in the same time slot for the BBC. It will hopefully attract an even broader audience to rural affairs.'

The programme will be broadcast on BBC One in mid April.

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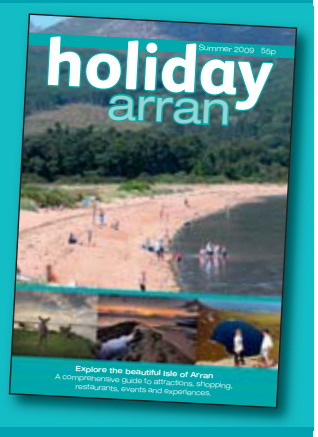
The Arran Banner 10 April 2009



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Ninna Crisp of Lamlash with her children Anna and Jack in Meadowbank Stadium before starting the Edinburgh Half Marathon last Sunday.

Ninna's delighted at run's fundraising

Ninna Crisp of Lamlash ran her best time last Sunday when she completed the Edinburgh Half Marathon in two hours and 23 minutes.

In the process she managed to raise more than £900 from sponsorship for Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church.

The race, dubbed the Chris Hoy Half Marathon in recognition of the Scottish cyclist's Olympic achievements, started from Meadowbank Stadium. The field of 3,500 runners set off through Leith, Portobello and Prestonpans before finishing up at Musselburgh Racecourse.

Ninna said: 'I have raised £910 and there is still sponsorship money to come in. That is an amazing amount of money and I am so pleased with the support I have received.

'Now I am looking forward to taking part in the Great Scottish Run in September.'

Sir Chris Hoy actually drove up from his home in Manchester to present the prizes on Sunday.

The Great Scottish Run is Scotland's largest mass participation sporting event with over 19,000 runners last year, and takes place in Glasgow on September 6.

Take care when sowing seeds

Garden Notes
by Kathy Sayer

Fruit and vegetable crops are probably the most demanding plants.

It may be April but the temperature of the surface of the soil is still too chilly for many seeds to germinate well.

Although Arran is mild compared to many other parts of Scotland we have a very short growing season. Please don't follow the timings on seed packets exactly – they are written for the more southerly gardeners in England.

I aim for the latter end of the stated sowing period and even just after it.

Rather than sowing seeds direct into the earth many vegetables and flowers can be started off in seed trays inside.

A small electric propagator doesn't take a lot of space or electricity but will have the wee green leaves popping through in days.

Lift out the trays and let the seedlings grow on until they are big enough to pot on into individual trays or into the garden soil.

Pick up young seedlings by their leaf not stem and gently separate each set of roots from their neighbours causing as little damage as possible. Pot them using fresh compost.

A bright but not too sunny windowsill or porch can be used but a greenhouse or polytunnel are ideal - use a cover of 'fleece' on nights when there might be frost to keep them warm.

Lettuces are easy if you are a beginner and there are plenty of seeds in a pack, don't sow them all at once, keep some for later sowings.

Tomatoes, courgettes, cucumbers and peppers all need a good head start inside, in the warmth, to ensure a good crop.

There are only a handful of seeds so nurture them carefully! Soak bigger seeds like peas and broad beans in tepid water for eight hours or so before you plant them into pots or into the ground. This speeds up their germination.

Many makes of compost are looking and feeling rather different. There have been new 'directives' to reduce the amounts of peat used and in most cases recycled materials are used instead, which are slightly chunkier than peat.

Tiny seeds need specialist seed compost.

There are some plants that have to be sown straight into the earth, those producing fleshy roots – carrots, beetroot, turnip and parsnips being the most common.

Wait for the soil to dry out before forking or digging the vegetable patch over and some warm sunny days to raise the temperature before you sow the seeds.

Talking of carrots I am going to try sowing the seed mixed with some dry coffee grounds as I read that the smell from the coffee keeps the carrot root fly away!

The first pickings of rhubarb are coming in. This is such an easy, undemanding crop to grow, which thrives just about anywhere.

If you buy plants don't be tempted to pick stalks this year, just be patient and let the plant build itself up.

Fruit and vegetable crops are probably the most demanding plants that need feeding with a general fertilizer or organic mix like 'blood, fish and bone' but I am a great believer in giving all shrubs, flowers and herbs a sprinkle of bone meal to encourage healthy growth and lots of flowers this year.

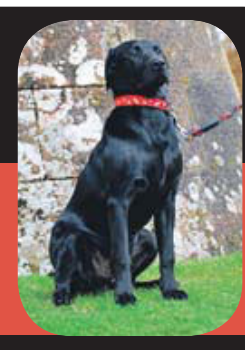
If you are not sure if the cold weather has killed off a plant, wait until May before discarding it and look for signs of new growth from the base of the plant.

Salvias and Euryops seem to have been hit hard this year.

Woody plants, that aren't looking very alive, can be checked by scraping the bark with a fingernail or pocketknife to see if there is a green layer beneath.

If there is – there's still hope!

Where's Archie?



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

Last week Archie was sitting outside the tennis courts in Lamlash. On the Banner forum Fiona and targeman of Falkirk were spot on, and Iain Hendry was quick off the mark by email, but the first to respond with the correct answer was Cathy Davidson who said at 10.34am on Friday: 'I believe that Archie is sitting next to the fence at Lamlash tennis courts.' Well done Cathy. This week he is next to a sandstone edifice, but where is it?

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The *Arran Banner* on holiday

Watch out for the elephant! It's behind you. Young Roisin Doy catches up with Arran news in the Natural History Museum in Arizona. b15ban01

A group of friends from Blackwaterfoot huddle round the Banner on the banks of the Caledonian Canal with Ben Nevis in the background. b15ban02

Isobel Mulholland from Kilmory is pictured 'Down Under' in Perth where she is visiting her sister Lesley. Along with her niece Kirsty she takes time out to read the *Banner* while the locals look on. b15ban03

Arran residents and holidaymakers are making sure that they pack their copy of the Banner to keep up with local issues when they go on holiday.

This week we have three photos sent in by readers showing them studying their local Arran paper in Arizona, Ben Nevis and Western Australia.

Don't forget to pack your copy of the Banner if you are going on holiday. It could be from St Helens or St Lucia, it really doesn't matter; we would love to see your photographs.

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

Cash boost for Goatfell footpaths

Ambitious plans to improve the footpath network at Brodick Castle Country Park will proceed this year, thanks to a cash boost from the European Regional Development Fund.

More than £300,000 has been pledged to the National trust for Scotland to take forward its 'Mountains for People' project which aims to restore the damaged ground surrounding paths at Goatfell, Glencoe, and Torridon.

It is hoped that the £1.3 million project will leave a sustainable path network available for this and future generations of hillwalkers to enjoy.

Thanks to this significant funding boost, which was announced as part of package of funding for the Highlands by first minister Alex Salmond last week, the generous financial support of other partners including the Heritage Lottery Fund, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Mountaineering Trust, and the conservation charity's own highly successful 'Sole Trading' appeal, in excess of £1 million has now been raised, meaning work can now get underway.

Andrew Bachell, director of Conservation and Projects said: 'Our mountains are truly inspiring and through this project, we hope to ensure that walkers can continue to enjoy the hills for generations to come.

Our expert conservation work will not only make some of Scotland's most stunning high mountain areas accessible, but also reverse years of erosion and damage on these delicate high altitude environments.

Without the generous support of our funders, our members and our supporters, this work would not be possible.'

Minister for the environment, Roseanna Cunningham said: 'Scotland's mountains are world-renowned and a considerable asset in our efforts to attract visitors from home and abroad.

'It is particularly apt that, in the year of Homecoming, the Trust will be embarking on a major project which enhances access to our wilderness while at the same time preserves and protects it for future generations.'

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10am – 5pm. Last food orders 4pm

Quattro MacJazz
Forrie Cairns (Clt) Alastair McDonald (Banjo & Vocal)
Lennie Herd (Tpt) Roy Percy (Bass)
Whiting Bay Hall Sat April 11th 2009
Shiskine Hall Sun April 12th 2009
8pm -11pm Cafe-style Seating Licensed Bar
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The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday, April 8, 1989

Bridge bid trumped

For years the Arranton Bridge in Lamlash has been identified as a danger point and the need for a footbridge beside it has been identified as the only way to make it safe for pedestrians.

Then finally, earlier this year, we were told both by MP Brian Wilson and councillor Fergus Clarkson that it would be up and built by Easter.

Yet still there is no footbridge and it is all because of a wrangle over 12 metres of ground.

The small amount of ground required belongs to three different owners.

Cunninghame District Council have agreed to sell the Arran Community Council 67 square metres for £500. Arran Estates have agreed to sell 65 square metres for £250 but the final 12 square metres; they have so far been unable to buy.

So the bridge, which has come so near to being built, now seems a long way off again.

Brodick bureau de change

Arran's Tourist Office has become a Bureau de Change.

Foreign visitors can now come off the boat and change their foreign notes or travellers' cheques into UK currency although no stock of foreign money will be held for changing the other way.

Each day the foreign money will be taken to the Bank of Scotland where staff have already given Tourist Board staff instructions on the intricacies of foreign exchange.

The bank will now give new exchange rates for their use each week.

Final visit for Glen Sannox

The MV Glen Sannox will make her final visit to Arran today (Saturday).

Completed in 1957 for the Arran run she was one of the first ferries specially built for vehicles although the turntable and lift used, seems antiquated now.

Today's voyage will be a farewell sail around the Cock of Arran to Campbeltown.

United reprieve

Southend United Football Team has been allowed to stay in the Arran Football League.

It was decided at the football association's AGM last Monday to give the team a reprieve and any penalty for infringing some of the associations' rules last season will be decided by the new committee.

Another item discussed was the paucity of referees and arrangements were made for potential referees to be examined by SFA officials here on Arran.

Steve Garraway was elected new chairman.

New voice for ferry

The ferry no longer has the purser reading out the safety instructions at the start of the voyage.

In order to achieve greater clarity, and greater convenience, it is now a recorded message read by an actor.

Pool and dominoes competition

Last Thursday was the annual pool and dominoes match between Brodick Golf Club and the Heathfield.

With the pool match locked at three apiece all eyes turned to the final dominoes single where Red Ed McClone from the Currie Shore was pitting his wits against the club captain Cool Hand Rae.

Red Ed got off to a great start winning the first two games but Joe simply lit up his Nicaraguan cigar and levelled the match at two each.

But Eddie wasn't finished and he silenced the clubhouse contingent when he took the deciding game to win. Back at the pool and Heathfield confidence was at a low after Brian 'Rocket Man' Boal was grannied by Peter the Pro.

The atmosphere in the poolroom was electric with Alec using up most of the oxygen but the club boys were just too strong for the Crazy H Lads and ran out winners in both competitions by 8-4.

Stewart Driver of Glenscorradale Farm with two new additions to the Southbank Farm Park which is opening for the season this Easter. The two arrivals are the progeny of pygmy goats Peggy and Jigsaw and were born just last Friday. b15twe04

Jane McAlister looks apprehensive as she carries out her first foreign exchange deal with tourist officer Charles Currie at the new Brodick Bureau de Change, which opened this week. b15twe02

Arranton Bridge showing the lack of space for pedestrians to cross. The proposed footbridge will be on the left-hand side. b15twe01

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Daffodil Tea
Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall
Saturday 11th April
2pm – 4pm
Entry £2 - £1 Children includes Lochranza Cream Tea.
Various stalls and children's activities.

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Tues - Pop Music Quiz - 10pm
Thur - General Knowledge Quiz - 10pm
Real Ale (Recommended CAMRA Good Beer Guide)

BANNER

WHAT'S ON...

EVERYDAY

Brodick Castle,Gardens & Country Park	11am - 4pm
Trout fishing	Loch Garbad, Boat or Bank
Hawk Walks	Lamlash
Fitness Assesments, Gym Induction, Personal Training	Auchrannie Spa & Gym
Arran Heritage Museum, Rosaburn, Brodick	10.30am - 4.30pm

SATURDAY 11th APRIL

Blackwaterfoot Junior Football	Coaching, 10.30am - noon
Arran Dancers, Ballet & Jazz, 3 - 18years	Arran High School 10am - 4pm
Karate	Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
Learn to Salsa	KA Campus, 9.30am - 10.30am
Family Games Kids & Adults	Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Fun in the Spa Pool	Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Over 21s Disco	Ormidale, 10pm
Youth Cafe	Brodick Church Hall, 7pm
Daffodil Tea	Loch & Cat Village Hall, 2pm - 4pm
History of Kildonan in Pictures	Kildonan Hall, 2pm - 4pm
Quattro MacJazz	Whiting Bay Hall, 8pm - 11pm
Open Gardens - Trains	47 Murray Crescent, Lamlash 10am - 5pm
Quiz	Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm
RNLI Shop Open	2pm - 4pm
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, Opening Day	2pm
Arran Visual Arts Exhibition	Kilmory Hall,10.30am - 5pm

SUNDAY 12th APRIL

History of Kildonan in Pictures	Kildonan Hall, 2pm - 4pm
Arran Visual Arts Exhibition	Kilmory Hall,10.30am - 5pm
Open Gardens - Trains	47 Murray Crescent, Lamlash 1pm - 5pm
Quattro MacJazz	Shiskine Hall, 8pm - 11pm
Alcoholics Anonymous	St Margarets Church, Whiting Bay, 4.30pm
Family Games Kids & Adults	Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Fun in the Spa Pool	Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Arran Fiddle Club- Childrens Classes	Library Annexe, 1.45pm
Arran War Games	Arran High School 1 - 4pm
Abbamania	Brodick Hall, 8pm
Duck Egg Derby	Lagg Burn, 3pm
Blood Transfusion Service	Blue Sports Hall, Arran High, 12pm - 5.30pm
Quattro MacJazz	Shiskine Hall, 8pm - 11pm
Family Day	Brodick Castle, 12pm onwards

MONDAY 13th APRIL

Senior Fitness	Auchrannie 10am & 11am (Gym)
Over 50's Badminton	Lochranza Village Hall 2pm - 4pm
Badminton	Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Cardiac Rehab	Auchrannie Gym 12.30pm - 2pm
Circuit Training	Auchrannie Spa, 6pm - 7.15pm (Gym)
Citizens Advice	Open 10am - 2pm
AB Attack	KA Leisure, fitness suite 6.30pm - 6.50pm
Aerobics Class	KA Leisure, dance studio,6pm - 7pm
Indoor Cricket	Auchrannie Gym, 7pm - 9pm
Weight Wise	Hospital Bungalow, 5pm - 5.30pm
Netball	High School Sports Hall, 8pm
Kilmory SWRI	Kilmory Hall, 7.30pm
Arran Visual Arts Exhibition	Kilmory Hall,10.30am - 5pm

TUESDAY 14th APRIL

Lochranza Swimming Club	Kinloch 11am - 12pm
Legs Bums & Tums	Auchrannie Spa 6pm - 7pm (Studio)
Army Cadets	Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Pop Quiz	Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Alcoholics Anonymous	Brodick Church Hall - 2pm
Rotary Club	Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
Citizens Advice	Open 10am - 2pm 4 - 6pm (Appointment Only)
Pulmonary Rehab	Auchrannie Gym 12pm - 1pm (Gym)
Open Music Session	Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm
Indoor Bowling	Auchrannie Hall, 7pm
Brodick Toddler Group	Church Hall, 10am - 12pm
Body Conditioning Class	KA Leisure, dance studio 6pm - 7pm
Country Dancing	Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Youth Club	Kildonan Hall - 6pm
Senior Fitness	Auchrannie, 10am - 11am
Open Gardens - Trains	47 Murray Crescent, Lamlash 10am - 5pm
Lochranza & Catacol Coffee Morning	10am - 12pm
Arran Visual Arts Exhibition	Kilmory Hall,10.30am - 5pm

WEDNESDAY 15th APRIL

Hockey	Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm (Games Hall)
Core Strength	Auchrannie 5.30 - 6pm
Jnr Rugby Training	P4 - S4 Ormidale Park, 6pm- 7.15pm
Shiskine Beavers	Shiskine Hall, 6pm - 7.15pm
Aquafizz	Auchrannie Hotel, 9.45am - 10.30am (Hotel Pool)
Circuit Training	Auchrannie, 6pm - 7.15pm (Gym)
Yogalates	Auchrannie Studio, 10am - 11am (Studio)
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy	10.30 - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 3.30pm
Kickboxing	KA Leisure, dance studio, 6pm - 7pm
Alcoholics Anonymous	Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm- 9pm
Arran Rugby Club Seniors Training	Ormidale Park, 7.30pm
Arran Brass Rehearsal	Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm
Whiting Bay Toddler Group	Village Hall 10am - 12pm
Lamlash Beaver Scouts	High School, 6.15pm - 7.15pm
Selt Making Class	Shipfield, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
Arran Visual Arts Exhibition	Kilmory Hall,10.30am - 5pm

THURSDAY 16th APRIL

Senior Fitness	Auchrannie 10am - 11am
Citizens Advice	Open 10am - 2pm
Lochranza Craft Club	Hall, 2pm
Pilates	Auchrannie Studio, 6pm- 7pm
Coffee Morning	St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
Arran Music & Drama Club Rehearsal	Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
Cardiac Rehab	Auchrannie Gym 2pm - 3pm
Table Tennis	Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm
KA Jog	KA Leisure, front reception 5.30pm
Legs, Bums & Tums Class	KA Leisure, gameshall, 6.30pm - 7.15pm
Arran Junior Singers Practise	Whiting Bay School 6.45pm
Shiskine Cubs	Shiskine Hall, 6.30pm - 8pm
Scouts	Shiskine Hall 8pm - 9.30pm
Lamlash Cubs	Arran High School, 6.15pm - 8pm
Brodick Toddler Group	Church Hall, 10am - 12pm
Brodick Bridge Club	Ormidale Sports Pavilion, 7.15pm
Indoor Bowling	Auchrannie Hall 7pm
Junior Tennis	Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, 5pm - 7pm
Children's Craft Day P3 upwards	Whiting Bay Church Hall, 10.30am
Arran Visual Arts Exhibition	Kilmory Hall,10.30am - 4pm
Birdbox Making	Ranger Centre 2pm - 4pm

FRIDAY 17th APRIL

Arran Pipe Band Practice	Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
Lochranza & Catacol Coffee Morning	10am - 12pm
Aquafizz	Auchrannie Pool, 9.45am - 10.30am
Citizens Advice	Open 10am - 2pm
Quiz	Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm
Adult Tennis	Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, 4.00pm - 6.30pm
Yogalates	Auchrannie 10am - 11am

SATURDAY 18th APRIL

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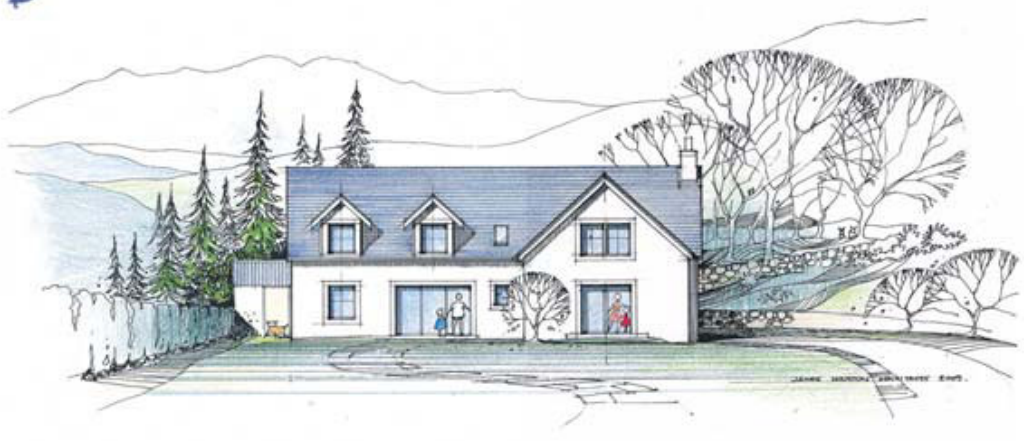
corrie seafront



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11 Payment of any invoice raised by the Publisher will be due 15 days from the date of invoice or as otherwise directed on the invoice. In the event of non-payment the Publisher may charge late payment interest at a rate of 2% and this is chargeable on a daily basis from the due date until the bill is paid. In addition the Publisher may charge a late payment levy of £10 as an administration fee. In the event of late payment the Publisher reserves the right to disallow any discounts given and to raise an additional invoice for the discount which will be treated as though it has been raised with the original invoice.
12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

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Experience working with timber and circular saws preferred.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

ISLE OF ARRAN HOMES

An Initiative of Trust Housing Association

Isle of Arran Homes

The office will be closed from

Easter Monday
13 April 2009

and will reopen on

Tuesday
14 April 2009

If you have an emergency repair please contact 0800 783 3615
We would like to take this opportunity to wish all our tenants and members

HAPPY EASTER

Brodick Health Centre
Lamlash Medical Centre
Shiskine Surgery
and all branch surgeries

EASTER SURGERY HOURS

Friday 10 April: Normal Opening Hours
Saturday 11 April: **Closed**
Sunday 12 April: **Closed**
Monday 13 April: **Closed**

If you require a doctor urgently when the practices are closed please contact the duty doctor at Arran War Memorial Hospital on 01770 600777

Please ensure that you have enough supplies of medication for this period

Whiting Bay Bowling Club

AGM
14th April
7pm
In the Clubhouse

Lamlash Moorings Assoc.

AGM

Lamlash Golf Club
Friday 24 April, 8pm
All welcome

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL
REFUSE COLLECTION SERVICE

Please note that with effect from **Monday 13 April 2009** all bins on Arran will be collected one hour earlier due to cleansing staff moving to summer hours.

Ian Snodgrass
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE

NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

BANNER PUBLIC NOTICES BANNER PUBLIC NOTICES

RECRUITMENT

ISLE OF ARRAN BREWERY

Guest House, Shore Road, Whiting Bay, Isle of Arran.

Arran Brew Ltd is delighted to announce the opening of their Guest House and Conference Centre based in Whiting Bay.

As part of our continued growth and success we are currently looking to recruit a Management Team (either a couple or individuals) who can develop this exciting new business. This will include all aspects of running a successful guesthouse & conference centre. The vacancy is ideally a live in position. All relevant Food, Hygiene and First Aid Certificates will be required. Applicants will be self motivated with previous supervisory / managerial experience. You will have excellent customer service skills a talent for attention to detail, be computer literate and a strong man manager. You will either currently have a personal licence or must be willing to train to become a personal licence holder and hold a clean valid UK driver's license.

We are also seeking to recruit housekeeping and front of house staff; working hours are flexible.

For further information please contact Arran Brewery on 01770 302353 or send your C.V. to Arran Brewery, Cladach, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8DE.

ARRAN DAIRIES LTD

Dairy Produce, Dairy Ice Cream
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Arran Dairies are looking for a passionate and hard working person to work with them in their award winning ice cream and milk dairy. The lucky person will not only get to be a full time ice cream taster but will also be fully trained making it and also working in our fresh milk dairy, earn a good wage and have access to other company benefits.

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John Anderson, Arran Dairies Ltd,
Market Road, Brodick **01770 302374**

VACANCY

An opportunity has arisen at Lamlash Golf Club for an Apprentice Greenkeeper.

Full training give, good career prospects.

Apply to Head Greenkeeper or ring 601256 to arrange interview.

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BLANCO s/s monobloc tap £29 Tel 850580

BT combined phone, fax, xopier, scanner and printer. Good con, includes user guide £25 Tel 07713120106

CHROME electric towel rail. £20 Tel 600603

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

JOHN MACALISTER

I wish to acknowledge the assistance given recently by the Council staff at Lamlash office. In addition, I would particularly thank the outside staff member who attended at the graveside on Saturday 28 March during the interment of my nephew. This was much appreciated by myself and our relatives who had travelled from Denmark to be present.

ROBSON – EVIE

Anne, Richard and family would like to thank doctors, nurses and chaplain at Crosshouse hospital for the care of the late Evie Robson.

Thanks to the Rev G Maclean for a beautiful service at Lamlash Church.

Our grateful thanks for all letters and cards. Also to D Hendry, Undertaker for all their help. Very sadly missed.

DEATHS

CURRIE – FLORA KERR

Suddenly at Crosshousehouse Hospital on 1st April 2009. Flora, aged 82 years, daughter of the late Archie and Annie Currie, Sunnyside, Pirnmill, Isle of Arran, beloved sister of David and the late Robert, much loved sister-in-law, aunt and great gran of the family. Funeral took place on Wednesday 9th April.

INNES – NAN (NEE HUME)

Suddenly at Crosshousehouse, Kilmarnock on Sunday 5th April 2009. Nan, beloved wife of Willie, dear mum of Beth and Lindsay and proud gran of Laura, Emily, Sarah, Cameron and Rachel.

MEMORIAM

STIRLING – JANET

In loving memory.

It's been a long first year but you are in our hearts and thoughts.

Always sorely missed by your husband, step children, close family and friends.

Your husband William.

CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill and Shiskine.
Independent but working together.
Minister
Rev Angus Adamson.
Parish Asst
Mrs Jean Hunter.
Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times. to which all are invited
Sunday 12 April
Brodick Church 10.30am
Corrie Church12pm.
Lochranza 9.30am
Pirnmill 10.45am
Shiskine Church 12pm
A service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 12 April
(Church is on the road between Machrie & Blackwaterfoot)
Shiskine 11am
Sunday School meets in the Church Hall
Brodick 7pm (Church is behind Post Office)
Rev David Karoon
All welcome

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Sunday Morning Mass 11am
Vigil Mass, 7.30pm
Good Friday Walk of Witness 2pm

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH
Sunday 12 April
There will be a sunrise service at the Viking Fort, Kings Cross at 6.05am for an expected sunrise of 6.12am, then breakfast in the Church Hall immediatelt afterwards. All most welcome for this short service to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus christ early on the first Easter.
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, Cooriedoon at 2.30pm and Craigielea at 3.15pm.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(in full communion with the Church of England)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Friday 10 April, 10am
Saturday, 11th April: Easter Vigil, 6.00 pm.
Sunday 12 April
Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
Revd Paul Fletcher.
Coffee after service.
Wednesday 15 April
Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
All Welcome.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 12 April
Rev. Gillean Maclean
Easter Sunday
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30am
In both Churches: Sacrament of Communion
All welcome, including families, children's area

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND *(continuing)*
Sunday 12 April
Trust Housing Lounge,Glen Estate,Brodick
11am
Evening Service
5 Glen Road,Brodick,7pm
Rev J Gracie

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Ormidale Pavilion,
Brodick.
Sunday 12 April
9.30 Easter Breakfast followed by Communion
Tea and coffee from 11.10
11.30 Easter Service
Speaker: Rev Andrew Rollinson
Everyone welcome.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers)
Meeting for Worship
Sunday 12 April
11am
11 Glen Estate, Glencloy Rd.
Brodick. Enquiries to Jeny
All very welcome.

PERSONALS

John and Lily
Would like to thank all their family and friends for the lovely cards and presents received on the golden anniversary.

To Nancy
Happy 65th Birthday
From Eddie & The Boys

Stewart Kilpatrick would like to thank everyone who came to his 21st at the Kildonan Hotel on Saturday 4th April.
Thankyou everyone for the generous gifts, to Anne, Rod and staff for all their hard work and not forgetting Phyllis for yet again ferrying people home in the community bus.

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday April 5, 21 played for the Roy Ure Tankard in Stableford form.

The winner was Dave Hackett with 37 points, 2nd was David Morrison with 36 points, 3rd Malcolm Pennycott with 35 points (bih), and 4th Wolfi Kroner also on 35 points, (bih).

Malcolm won scratch with 65 and there were magic twos from Malcolm and Danny Head who got two.

Fixtures: Sunday April12, Easter Medal, Wednesday April15, Summer Trophy, Sunday April 19, Clarke Trophy, (Stableford). Please note that draws for the gents are now at 9.30an and noon.

The Mixed Fours Poole Trophy due to be played on April 4 has been rescheduled for Saturday April 18 with a 10.30am start.

Brodick Golf Club

Sunday April 5, Brandon, 24 played, CSS 64.

Sweep results: 1 C McFadzean 66 (8) 58, 2 A Dobson 71 (9) 62 bih, 3 S McCalla 71 (9) 62. Scratch C McFadzean 66.

1st Class Brandon C McFadzean, 2nd Class Brandon L Hartley.

Well done Len, that's three Brandons in a row, even though the score doesn't merit a mention. It would seem the second class golfers found conditions difficult.

Next Sunday April 12, Bellhaven Medal, tee off times from 8.30am and 1pm. Draw at noon Sat April 11.

Wednesday April 1, Summer Cup, 53 played, CSS 64.

1 M Keir (9) 61, 2 C McFadzean (8*) 62 (lapsed handicap, so cannot compete in competition, but great round), 3rd I MacDonald (8) 63, 4 A Hume (10) 63. Scratch E McKinnon 69.

There were seven twos, Russell Duncan got two, I MacMillan, Robbie Duncan, A McNicol, E McKinnon and I MacDonald got one apiece.

Monday April 6, Junior Medal: 1 A McNicol 43 points, 2 M Dobson 24 points.

A Junior Medal will be held every Monday evening at 4.30pm.

Lamlash Golf Club

Ladies Wednesday April 1, Fleet 1. A lovely day to restart the season. Nine ladies enjoyed the beautiful afternoon. 1 Gay Mackay 94-31=63 (this is not an April Fool), 2 Elizabeth Ross 88-18 = 70. Scratch won by Brenda Livingstone.

Gents Thursday April 2, Summer Cup, CSS 64, 20 played (good scoring).

1 Peter Smith 80-24=56, 2 Jim QJ Young 71-12=59 BIH, 3 Rory Gibson 74-15=59.

Scratch sweep winner Ian Bremner 77. Twos sweep, A Gibson at the 16th, N Mitchell at the 16th and N young at the 14th.

Sunday April 5, Carpenter Rose Bowl, CSS 67, 16 played (poor scoring).

1 John McGovern 72-7=65, 2 Graeme Andrew 77-10=67 BIH, 3 Iain Murchie 71-4=67 (BIH over John O'Sullivan 81-14=67).

Scratch sweep Iain Murchie 71.

Fixtures: Saturday April 11, Glenisle Mixed Fours, make up own foursomes, see starter for times.

Sunday April 12, mixes Texas Scramble, 11.30am for 12pm start, this will be a draw.

*Correction to error last week. Winter Stableford, best three scores. Winner: Graeme Andrew 109 (36+38+35). Runner-up: Lee Girbow 104 (36+38+30).

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday March 31, Winter Cup. 1 Ian Buchanan 64, 2 Elizabeth Ross 66, 3 Brian Sherwood 67, scratch Hamish Bannatyne 70. Magic twos from Alastair MacDonald and Marc Blair. **Fixtures**: Tuesday April 14, Hall of Fame Championship in aid of Cancer Research UK. Entry £2 + Sweep. Also SLGA Medal, 12.30pm/5.30pm tee-off.

Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday April 2, Ladies 18 hole Medal. Silver: 1 Jenni Turnbull 92-20=72 BIH, 2 Pat Adamson 90-16=74 BIH, 3 Elizabeth Kelso 94-20=74.

Bronze: 1 Sally Brookes 96-24=72, 2 Leslie Murray 101-28=73, 3 Fiona Scott 100-25=75. Best Scratch Pat Adamson 90.

Sunday April 5, 12 hole Medal. First class: 1 W Kelso 45-4=41BIH, 2 J Morrison 48-7=41 BIH, 3 A Home 48-7=41.

Second class: 1 M Hesp 53-12=41BIH, 2 D Ritchie 51-8=43, 3 G Martlew 54-9=45.

Best scratch W Kelso 45 BIH, magic twos from A Home, D Logan, G Martlew and A Bannatyne.

Fixtures: Sunday April 12, 18 hole medal. Sunday April 26, Rock Plate.

Corrie Golf Club

Monday April 6, Monday Cup, 1 D Crawford 72-13=59 BIH, 2 S Beardsley 65-6=59, 3 H McArthur 75-13=62. Due to the Adverse weather conditions on Saturday April 4, the Eddie Rankin was not played - this is to be rescheduled for a later date. **Fixtures:** Saturday April 11, Millennium Cup, Corrie members only - Ladies and Gents welcome. Tee-off at 1pm.

Euan Ingram triumphed in the pool singles competition on Sunday afternoon.
b15eua01

Euan is pool singles winner

Euan Ingram has once again secured his place as one of Arran's top pool players after he triumphed in the singles competition on Sunday afternoon.

Playing at the PHT Euan scooped the Singles trophy after defeating Angus Cook 4-3 after being three games down.

Angus Cook, Euan Ingram, Max Worthington and Arthur Duncan were all in the running for the singles title.

Arthur Duncan and Nicol Auld claimed the Doubles trophy after they won 4-2 against Craig Black and Lee Girbow.

As well as winning the Open Pool Competition three weeks ago, Euan won the open two years ago, the champion of champions in 2004 and the Arran singles and doubles competition in 2007.

Arran trio lead Australian side to first win of the season

Shiskine players shine Down Under

Fergus Judge from Shiskine scored the winning goal in a football match, which secured an Australian team their first points of the season on Saturday night.

Fergus and two other Shiskine footballers were playing for Beerwah-Glasshouse United Soccer Club, better known as the Beegees.

Ian Keen, Fergus Judge and Lachlan Jones, who are on an extended holiday, helped defeat Nambour Yandina United (NYU) on Saturday night in the Sunshine Coast division one football premiership.

Speaking to *The Banner* this week, Ian Keen explained that it was an important match.

'The highlights were on the local news because it was a memorial game,' he said. 'Unbelievably Fergus scored the winner.'

A mix-up between NYU defenders and the goalkeeper in the 80th minute allowed Fergus Judge to calmly slot home the only goal of the match.

Beegees captain John Walton said the result was the product of a committed team who were ready to capitalise on any opportunities they were given.

'We worked hard there, we were in there,' he said. 'If you keep working hard and don't make too many mistakes you can put those sort of chances away.

'In the second half we got tired a bit and they were running us a bit ragged, but we managed to hang in there.'

Walton said the Beegees were the dark horse of the competition – and they were happy with it that way.

'I'm happy for people to underestimate us,' he said. 'We think we've got a really strong squad and we proved tonight we can really grind out a result.'

Fergus Judge has transferred from Shiskine FC to Beerwah-Glasshouse United Soccer Club, on Australia's Sunshine Coast.

Ian Keen explained that all three Shiskine players were recruited to the team because they are such great players.

'Myself, Lachie and Fergus get our membership paid for us because we are so good,' he said. 'It would normally cost $350 for insurance and membership.

'The only downside is that we have to play in green and white strips.'

Fergus Judge scores the winning goal in the match against NYU in the Sunshine Coast division one football premiership.

Fergus Judge, Ian Keen and Lachlan Jones line up with fellow Beegees.

Much needed win for Arran's senior rugby team

Cowal 0 Arran 16

Arran's senior rugby team secured valuable points on Saturday with a decisive victory over Cowal RFC.

Arran travelled to Dunoon for the match that has been postponed a number of times because the pitch was declared unplayable.

In a game that saw double points up for grabs, the pressure was on Arran to deliver after a number of unsuccessful matches in recent weeks.

They started well after Cowal gifted Arran a penalty in the first minute, which Frazer Barr's trusty boot slotted through the posts. 3-0

The crucial period came at the end of the first half when Ben Tattersfield crossed the line and Frazer Barr converted taking the score to 10-0.

Literally minutes later, another mistake from the Dunoon side resulted in Frazer getting another penalty to leave the score 13-0 at half time.

Captain Murray Picken had a good game. He said: 'We knew that it was important to win this game as there were double points up for grabs in this match.

'It was really great to beat them after our depressing 37-0 defeat at their hands last season. It was a great game and we all played really well.'

Alison Bilsland and Tricia Martin are pictured on the left with the Adam Morrison Cup while Helen Boyd holds the Milliband Plate. Runners-up Janie Mclure and Anne McKelvie look on. b15lad01NO

Celebrations for bridge club winners

Alison Bilsland and Tricia Martin were presented with the Adam Morrison Cup last week, after being named the best pair throughout the winter at the annual prizegiving of Lamlash Bridge Club.

Thirty members attended the club's annual prize giving dinner in Lamlash Golf Clubhouse, which was hosted by president Margaret McGill.

In first place, taking the Adam Morrison Cup, were Alison Bilsland and Tricia Martin while in second place, taking the Millband Plate were Helen Boyd and Jean Murchie. They were closely followed by Janie Maclure and Anne McKelvie.

All members enjoyed a delicious hot buffet provided by Janey McIntyre and after dinner the usual partnerships were mixed up and everyone enjoyed a fun evening of bridge.

Following the presentations to the winners of the regular bridge matches, Margaret presented the trophy to the best pair throughout the winter.

Secretary, Jean Barclay said: 'Our grateful thanks are extended once again to Jim Henderson , secretary of Lamlash Golf Club for his help and co-operation throughout the year. We even managed to hold the club on the night of the power cut!'

Lamlash Bridge Club will resume on the first Monday in October.

Results for Monday April 6. N/S: 1 E McConnell and L Trickett +2260, 2 I McArthur and E McNiven +2000, 3 M Bruce and T Martin +1620 .

E/W: 1 J Beattie and C Bone –400, 2 J Barclay and E Sillars –540, 3 E McKellar and M Iutz –1270.

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Impressive win for Arran's youngsters

The youngsters in Arran's under 16s rugby squad triumphed against a powerful mainland team on Sunday afternoon at the Ormidale Park.

Playing against Cartha Queens Park, who are second in the west region division two, Arran ran out impressive 31-27 winners.

Left: Andrew Earle about to score for Arran.

Right: battling to win a lineout.

Treat for rugby fans

The Arran rugby sevens tournament will celebrate its 25th anniversary on Saturday afternoon at the Ormidale Park in Brodick.

Arran's sevens squads will tackle teams from across Scotland including Irvine, Jordanhill Phoenix, Newton Stewart and Loch Lomond.

Last year's winners, Biggar, will also return.

The first Arran sevens was held in 1983 but it was cancelled in 2006, partly due to damage caused to the Ormidale Park pitch by the over-zealous application of weedkiller to white line markings.

A club spokesman said: 'We are hoping for a good entry from the mainland. There will definitely be a couple of Arran teams as well as a few from Ayrshire. The day will be rounded off with a dance in Brodick Hall on Saturday night.'

The rugby will begin at noon and the committee is aiming to be finished at about 4pm.

There will be a beer tent and a barbeque, so go along and enjoy the day!

Brodick bridge pair lift three trophies

Helen Boyd and Liz Paul set a new club record by winning all three bridge trophies.

Brodick Bridge Club celebrated the end of another successful season last Thursday night with the end of season trophy presentations.

Helen Boyd and Liz Paul set a new club record by winning all three trophies.

Unbeatable

After playing well all season, the pair have proved unbeatable this year and it could be a long time before this record is equalled.

The full results were: The Adam Morrison Cup 1 Helen Boyd and Liz Paul, 2= Fiona Crawford and David Henderson/ Alison Bilsland and Elaine Duncan.

The Boyd trophy 1 Helen Boyd and Liz Paul, 2 Douglas Hamilton and Tricia Martin,, 3 Janie McClure and Anne McKelvie.

The Duncan Cup 1 Helen Boyd and Liz Paul, 2 Douglas Hamilton and Tricia Martin, 3 Douglas Bruce and David Scobie.

Winners

Following the prizegiving, a competition was held for the president's prizes and the winners were N/S: Jean Barclay and Morag Gardner, E/W Isabel McArthur and Elizabeth McKellar.

Match point results for Thursday March 26: 1 Janie McClure and Anne McKelvie 58.6%, 2 Douglas Hamilton and Tricia Martin 56.75%, 3 John and Jan Beattie 55.16%.

Last game of pool

The pool season has almost come to a close with just one game outstanding between Kildonan and the Cameronia.

The Cameronia and Kildonan teams were due to travel to the PHT on Thursday night to play a rearranged match that was postponed on February 5.

The results from Thursday April 2 were: Corrie 4 (G) Kildonan 8, Drift Out 6 Bar Eden 6 (G), PT1934 6 (G) Cameronia 6, Catacol 6 (G) PHT 6.

Isle of Arran
Rugby 7's
Sat 11th April • Noon, Ormidale Park
Come along and watch Arran's rugby players take on 7's teams from across the country.
FREE entry • Beer Tent • BBQ • Pipeband
Rugby 7's Dance
Sat 11th April from 9.00pm
Featuring
'THE NEWSBAND'
Brodick Hall • £5.00 entry • Bar

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