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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 16 APRIL, 2011

No 1801 55p

Transport union steps up the battle against Arran ferry privatisation

'The livelihoods of our members and their families are on the block'

REPORT

by JENNIFER LYON
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Arran's residents are being urged to fight attempts to privatise the Brodick to Ardrossan ferry service by the Scottish government.

The rail and maritime union, the RMT, hosted a public meeting in Brodick on Monday as part of its campaign to stop the privatisation of Scottish ferry services. The meetings are the latest events in the on-going union and community campaign to stave off the threat from the Scottish Government Ferries Review which is proposing to tender individual routes opening the door for new operators to take over individual routes currently run by the

'If you end up with a privatised service that is in it for profit then you can kiss your day-trippers goodbye'

publicly owned Caledonian MacBrayne.

On top of that there is now concerted pressure from the European Union for wholesale privatisation.

One of those routes up for discussion is the Brodick to Ardrossan service – one of the most profitable routes.

Steve Todd, national secretary, of the RMT told the meeting: 'If you end up with a privatised service that is wholly in it for profit then you can kiss your day-trippers goodbye.'

He added: 'The livelihoods of our members and their families are on the block and now is the time for the communities and the workforce to stand shoulder to shoulder to resist any attack on the ferry services which are such a vital

component of the infrastructure of Scotland.'

Katy Clark MP also addressed the meeting and said that the threat of cuts and privatisation to Scotland's lifeline ferry services remains a very real threat in the current economic climate.

She added: 'This is a really important issue for Arran but it hasn't been central to public debate because the Scottish Ferries Review has been ongoing for the past two and a half years.

'My concerns about this stem from the deregulation and privatisation of the buses where we saw service levels decrease and fares go up by a huge margin.'

She added that if Arran decided to support privatisation it could have 'dire consequences' for the whole island.

The government's Ferries Review draft strategy will be published after the Scottish elections on May 5 and the public will have six weeks to respond to any proposals.



Ross and Abigail Traill were devastated to discover their beloved cat Rosie had been left to die at the roadside. 01_b15eat01

Youngsters' plea to speeding drivers

A young brother and sister from Lochranza are pleading with speeding motorists to slow down after their pet cat was killed outside their home last week.

Ross Traill, aged nine, and his seven-year-old sister Abigail, were devastated to find that their beloved cat Rosie had been hit by a car and left to die by the roadside.

The youngsters, who live on the long straight stretch of road near the distillery, have now put up posters urging drivers to slow down.

'I'd like to ask motorists going through Lochranza to not go so fast,' said Ross.

'Last week our cat Rosie was killed right outside of our house by a speeding motorist who didn't even stop. It made both of us re-

ally upset and our other cat misses her a lot because he has nobody to play with. We have put up posters to try and stop people speeding in our village.'

PC Kevin Bonar told The Banner that speeding has become an inherent problem in all of Arran's villages.

'We've responded to numerous complaints in the past year about cars driving too fast through Lochranza and we've carried out a number of speed checks in recent months,' he said.

'I'd like to remind drivers that in most villages the speed limit is 30 miles per hour. 'We will be keeping a close eye on all of the villages over the summer and will continue to carry out random speed checks across the island.'



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Police files

Possession of drugs

On Monday April 4 an 18-year-old Lamlash man was reported to the Procurator Fiscal for alleged possession of controlled drugs in Brathwic Place, Brodick.

Drinking in public

On Saturday April 9 a 24-year-old Paisley man was issued with a fixed penalty fine of £40 for drinking alcohol in a public place in Hillview Place, Brodick.

Traffic offences

A 37-year-old Brodick woman was reported to the Procurator Fiscal on Sunday April 10 for various road traffic offences in Shore Road, Brodick.

Hospice funds future to be discussed

A public meeting to discuss the future of the Arran Hospice Fund will be held at the Glencloy Suite in Auchranrie on Thursday 21 April.

For those interested in becoming a member of the Arran Hospice they can email the acting chairman Derek Wenham at derek.wenham@arranhospice.org

Alternatively call him on 01908 394866 after 6pm and he will arrange a membership form to be posted.



The four Arran summer secondment officers; from the left, Andrew Limond, Kerry Callaghan, Jennifer Scade and Melanie Fraser. 02_b15pol01

Arran's summer law enforcers on station

Arran has its new complement of summer secondment police officers.

The four constables are staying in Lamlash and will be available as extra cover for the resident force over the busy summer months.

Serving on the island for the first time are Andrew Limond from Pollock office, Melanie Fraser from Ayr and Kerry Cal-

laghan from East Kilbride. They are joined by Jennifer Scade from Cumnock who has done five stints of duty on the island in the past.

Kerry said: 'I have been here as a visitor before, but this is the first time on duty.'

'I'm looking forward to the community policing side of things; in East Kilbride most of our work is on response calls.'

Candidates named

The four candidates for Cunninghame North in the upcoming Scottish parliamentary elections have been named.

Kenneth Gibson, the current MSP, is defending his seat for the Scottish National Party.

The Scottish Conservative candidate is Maurice Golden and Mallika Punukollu is standing for the Scottish Liberal Democrats.

The Scottish Labour Party candidate is Arran's former MSP, Allan Wilson.

Voting will be held between 7am and 10pm on Thursday 5 May at polling stations around the island.

Fire call-outs soar

Strathclyde Fire and Rescue dealt with a whopping 78 incidents across Arran and the Three Towns between January 21 and March 4, representing almost 32 per cent of the call-outs for North Ayrshire.

In a report heard by councillors at the Ardrossan, Arran, Saltcoats and Stevenston local committee on Thursday, it was revealed that there were two deliberate property fires as well as three incidents where vehicles had been torched on purpose.

Found

A digital camera, spectacles case and notebook have been found in Brodick, near to the tennis courts.

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Climate Week challenge winners

The pupils at Brodick Primary School have been commended for their 'wind powered train' in what has been described as the UK's biggest environmental competition.

The pupils had entered their train design into the Climate Week Challenge and were highly commended in the seven to eleven age group.

Broody hens wanted

Have you got any broody hens? If so, then the Arran Black Grouse Group would be very pleased for a loan of them. Brodick Castle ranger Kate Sampson, on behalf of the group, is on the lookout for some help with hatching out black grouse eggs.

She said: 'Are you willing to loan your broody hens for hatching out black grouse eggs during May? But they must have a proven track record.'

Any poultry keepers should contact Kate on 302462.

Let us know about your event

We are always pleased to receive contributions to the Banner, be they reports or photographs.

But sometimes it can be a bit difficult to capture a good photo, and especially those taken with mobile phones may lack enough quality to reproduce on newsprint.

So if you let us know about your function or event, we will do our very best to attend. If that is not possible, then by all means feel free to send us as good a photo as you can, by email as a jpeg attachment.

We aim to cover as wide a range of Arran life as possible and are grateful for the support of our readers.



Sculptor Tim Pomeroy outside his workshop at White Rock. 02_b15tim01

Easter worship on Arran

Easter worship on the island begins with Palm Sunday worship in Arran churches this Sunday 17 April.

On Wednesday 20 April there is a Labyrinth on the Theme of Christ Passion from 1pm to 9pm in Shiskine Church of Scotland followed by Maundy Thursday Communion Service at Lochranza Church.

There will also be a Maundy Thursday service in St Margaret's Scottish Episcopal Church and an Easter Vigil at 6pm on Saturday 23 April.

There will be a service every night of Holy Week in Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church of Scotland to remember the last earthly week of Christ.

The service on Thursday 21 April will include a commemoration of the Last Supper. Messy Church will hold

its Easter celebrations on Wednesday 20 April in Whiting Bay from 3.30pm until 6pm.

The Good Friday Walk of Witness commences from the Holy Cross Catholic Church in Brodick at 2pm and ends with a service at Brodick Church of Scotland.

On Easter Sunday there will be a sunrise service at the Viking Fort, Kingscross at 5.40am for a sunrise about 5.51am, then breakfast in the Church Hall immediately afterwards.

See church notices on page 23 for full details.

Local sculptor is cathedral guest of honour

St Andrew's Cathedral was re-opened and consecrated

Local sculptor Tim Pomeroy of White Rock, Lamlash was one of the guests of honour last Sunday when the renovated St Andrew's Cathedral in Glasgow was re-opened and consecrated.

The cathedral has been closed for two years for extensive £4.5million renovation work and re-opened last weekend.

Tim was commissioned in 2009 to carve the cathedral's baptismal font from a huge block of Carrara marble brought all the way from Pisa in Italy. In fact, Tim went out to Italy to select the block himself.

He said: 'It's the best marble on the planet and one of the most expensive building materials in the world.'

'It cuts like icing sugar and you can do very fine detail.'

'Michelangelo's 'David' and Canova's 'Three Graces' were Renaissance sculptures using the very same marble.'

The large circular baptismal font is sited in the middle of the central aisle, halfway between the cathedral front door and the altar. It will continually bubble with water as a symbol that baptism is the entry point into the faith.

The font was designed and sculpted by Tim and features fine biblical scenes carved into the wide rim.

Most of the sculpting was done in a large stonemason's yard in St Andrew's with relatively minor touches done on site in the cathedral.

At Sunday's consecration and service he received a commemorative gold medal from Archbishop Mario Conti.

Archbishop Conti said: 'St Andrew's Cathedral belongs to Glasgow as well as to the Catholic community.'

'I hope that visitors to the city will find it most welcoming and regard it as somewhere on their 'must see' list.'

Shiskine Junior Drama proudly presents a short evening of entertainment with
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Please tick which category your nomination applies to:

North Ayrshire Community Group Award North Ayrshire Citizen of the Year Award North Ayrshire Young Citizen of the Year (Under 25 years) North Ayrshire Arts & Culture Award North Ayrshire Sports Award The nominee named has agreed to this submission and to any publicity arising from the nomination I agree to my name being used in any publicity material arising from this submission

Your signature _____ Date _____

Nominee's Details

Name _____

Name of Organisation _____

Address _____

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Your Tel No _____ Email _____

Please attach a separate sheet of paper and tell us in 500 words or less why you feel this person/organisation should receive an award and return with this nomination form to:

Communications Team, Chief Executive's Service
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Under the Data Protection Act 1998 we must inform you of the following:
The information you provide to North Ayrshire Council will be used solely for the purpose of administering and promoting the Provost's Civic Pride Awards.



Provost Pat McPhee with Civic Pride forms.

Cast your vote for Civic Pride citizens of the year

Nominations for North Ayrshire's Civic Pride awards are now open.

Pat McPhee, Provost of North Ayrshire Council, has launched this new initiative to find citizens in North Ayrshire, including Arran, who have

promoted or demonstrated civic pride in their own communities.

There are five categories for nominations for those individuals and groups who have made a difference, such as local heroes, active com-

munity groups, young citizens, achieving sportsmen and women, talented local artists and inspirational volunteers.

KA Leisure are sponsoring the Sports Award and Irvine Housing Association are sponsoring the Community Group

Award. The winners in each category will be announced at the Provost's Civic Pride Charity Dinner, to be held at Seamill Hydro in June.

Members of the public can make their choice on the nomination form on this page.

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SWRI ladies prepare for competition

Members of the Arran Federation of the SWRI are preparing to take part in the national 'Variations on a Theme' competition.

Popular among WRI members who come from all over Scotland to take part, it is four years since Shiskine Institute represented Arran and won the trophy with their programme.

Institutes are asked to put together a programme of nine pieces of poetry and prose that must not be longer than 15 minutes but no shorter than 12 minutes.

The team consists of four members and their programme

must include a piece of original work, at least one piece must be in verse.

Arran federation will be sending a team, but the first they need to hold the heats and it is hoped that all six institutes will take part.

The heats will be held on Saturday 20 August at 2pm in Brodick Hall, there will of course be tea and buns, and the ubiquitous WRI raffle.

All members of the public are invited to attend for a small donation.

Institutes can obtain an entry form from Jerry Arthur on 860435.



Lady Jean Fforde and George Lyle with constables John Kerr and Melanie Fraser.

Legion hears about policing

Lady Jean Fforde and former police officer George Lyle were two of the local Royal British Legion members who took the opportunity to listen to PC John Kerr and PC Melanie Fraser give their impressions of policing on Arran at the latest branch meeting in the McLaren Hotel.

All the members were suitably impressed by the commitment and knowledge shown by the two young constables.

Arran's ferry operator is predicting a tourist boom this summer

Caledonian MacBrayne, the island's ferry operator, said it has 'high hopes' for this summer, stating that bookings for the 2011 season are 'well above average'.

They are warning that tourists should book their journey well in advance as sailings start to fill up.

CalMac managing director Phil Preston said: 'We have high hopes for the summer season as more people are booking well in advance than ever before and indications are that we can expect a very busy year on ferries, especially the traditionally popular services to Arran, Mull, Skye and the Western Isles.'

'We currently still have plenty of capacity, especially on off-peak sailings, but clearly anyone planning to travel during the summer is advised to book early to avoid disappointment, and, if possible be flexible with their travel plans.'

CalMac have also launched a new website, hoping that the new design makes it easier for visitors to navigate their way around the islands.

Fish 'n' ships on the menu

Fish 'n' Ships, an all new Arran band, will be singing songs of the sea at their inaugural performance in the Ormidale Hotel glasshouse on Easter Sunday, April 24.

Led by well-known island musician, Joe Trickett, the performance will begin at 2.30pm and all donations will be given to the local RNLI.

They will also be performing at the forthcoming Arran Maritime Festival in Lamlash this July.

Castle Amble with Colin for Arthritis Care

Islanders are being invited to stroll along to Brodick Castle on Saturday 30 April and raise funds for Arthritis Care in Scotland.

The Arthritis Care Amble is a walk in the castle grounds that can be measured by the amount of steps you take or the distance you walk. It is accessible for all abilities, including wheelchairs.

Last May, arthritis sufferer Colin Mills of Shiskine walked around Arran. As he walked, he wrote about what he saw, including plants, animals, historical sites and geographical features.

His book, called *A Walk Around Arran with Colin Mills*, will be launched on the same day as the Amble, and Colin will be signing copies in Brodick Castle bookshop from 1pm to 3pm.

Colin raised £1,900 in sponsorship and in an amazing act of kindness, he has given full copyright of the book to Arthritis Care in Scotland. The Arran Amble has been organised as a dedication to Colin.

Fundraising manager Melanie McLean is based in Annesland and covers the whole of Scotland. She said: 'I have

suffered from arthritis since eight years old. I'd like to say a huge thank you in advance for helping to raise funds. Every single penny counts and we will support you along the way.'

Colin's daughter Claire is executive assistant to the Chief Executive and Board of Directors of Arthritis Care. Colin added: 'I was advised to use walking poles on my island circuit; they take up to 30 percent of your weight off the legs. Sufferers can also get knee bands to support the leg muscles.' Look out for posters around the island.



Melanie McLean on the left with Colin Mills and volunteer helper Leanne McDicken. 02_b15art01

Salon Seven opens its doors to the public in Lamlash

Lamlash's newest beauty salon and hairdressers has opened its doors to the public.

Salon Seven, situated in one of the units on Park Terrace, opened just two weeks ago but already owners Shirley Sievwright and Emma I'Anson have been inundated with bookings.

'We've been really pleased by how busy we've been,' said Emma. 'It's really encouraging to be

this busy. We were even doing all the hair and make-up for a wedding this morning.'

Emma is a trained beauty therapist and her partner Shirley is a hair stylist and between them they can offer all the usual treatments from hair colouring to spray tans from their unit in Lamlash.

'We really want Salon Seven to be a nice relaxed and friendly place where people can come and have everything done,' explained Shirley. 'We can see people maybe coming here in a group before a night out to get pampered.'

The pair are excited about their unique 'pamper parties' which will see discounts given to groups of any age who book for more than one treatment.

Emma said: 'It's great to go out and get your hair and your nails done but it's even more fun when you're in a group. And that's what we want, for people to come out and enjoy themselves.'

In the next few months Shirley will be doing her L'Oreal advanced hair colouring course and Emma is hoping to focus on the Salon's wedding package for brides to be.



Emma I'Anson and Shirley Sievwright are Lamlash's newest salon owners. 01_b15sal01

AVA Easter exhibition

Arran Visual Arts are holding their Easter Art Exhibition next week. The exhibition in Kilmory Hall runs from Saturday 23 April until Thursday 28 April.

It will be open each day from 10.30am to 4.30pm but will end at 4pm on the Thursday.

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HUSTINGS

A Hustings Meeting for the May Election will take place in Arran High School Theatre at 7.30pm on Wednesday 27th April 2011.

Come along and hear what your local candidates have to say.

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Wednesday 20th April @ 7.30pm

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Round the Rurals

Kildonan SWRI

On Saturday 23 April Kildonan Rural will be holding a Soup and Sandwiches lunch between 12noon and 2pm in Kildonan Village Hall.

Some of the craft items completed by the members over the winter will also be on display. The proceeds will go towards the SWRI so please go along and enjoy lunch with them on 23 April.

Lamlash SWRI

A large number of members attended the final meeting of this session of Lamlash Rural. After the AGM business, president Margaret Gray introduced Jenny Williams, who entertained the members with her hilarious 'Dunny Ditties'. A well-deserved vote of thanks was proposed by Myra Frost. The over-all points winner for the winter session was Morag Campbell.

Note - please remember our coffee morning on Wednesday 27 April from 10.15am to 12 noon, in Lamlash Church Hall.

Sunday cycle

Twenty-four cyclists and a back-up team will be circumnavigating the island on Sunday 8 May.

Scott Gardiner and his friends are doing the sponsored cycle in aid of cystic fibrosis charities. He is from Springside, Irvine, and explained that his sister died from the disease last year and he suffers from it himself.

The group will be cycling clockwise, heading for Lamlash from the pier, and hoping to make the circuit in six hours.

Anyone wishing to donate or get more details should contact Ian McMurray by email at mcmurray007@hotmail.co.uk



Ploughing the fields and scattering

The welcome warm spring weather last week brought people out into their gardens to catch up on pruning, planting and cutting grass.

It also brought a burst of activity on Arran farms. New lambs and calves are popping out all round the Southend, and fieldwork has been going full tilt with ploughing, cultivation and reseeded.

Our picture shows seagulls flocking for worms at Glenkiln last Friday as the Lighthouse buildings fields are ploughed ready for another crop of spring barley. 02_b15tra01

Tourism survey by Aberdeen students

What is the environmental impact of tourism on Arran?

That was the question being posed last week by 41 students from Aberdeen University.

They were staying on the island to study geosciences, a subject that encompasses geology and economic geography. As part of their study course, the students were visiting the movers and shakers in the local tourist industry to ask

a number of questions about tourism and its impact on the environment. Three of the students, including leader Helmut Geist, called in the Banner office to ask our opinions.

Mr Geist said: 'We are interested in exploring the linkages between the island's natural landscape and its potential for development.'

The group promised to let us know their findings.

Isle of Arran Brewery 'puffs' ahead

'Draft quality beer will soon be available to the smallest outlets'

The Isle of Arran Brewery has launched a Guinness style 'surger' version of its own Stout - Arran Clyde Puffer.

The 'Guinness surger' is a device that was originally launched by Guinness in 2006 and recently re-launched, to allow drinkers, at home, to enjoy the real taste of a draft pint.

The device uses ultrasonic waves to agitate the gas in a pint glass poured from a can giving the smoothness and taste of a real draught poured Guinness.

The cans are marketed under the name 'Guinness Draught Surger' and a special 'surger' device is required.

The local brewery's Arran Clyde Puffer, performs identically to the Guinness draught

surger product when placed on the device.

Gerald Michaluk, managing director said: 'While Guinness has aimed at the home consumer we see great potential for this technology and 'Arran Clyde Puffer' in the smaller bars and restaurants who do not have the space or perhaps the volume of customers to justify the installation of a cask or keg dispensing system.

'The surger units are small and self contained and with there now being a choice of product, with more to follow from the Arran Range of 12 Ales, I feel real draft quality will soon be available to even the smallest restaurant or low volume outlet.'

The Oat meal stout is a tra-

ditional stout and has been described as setting the standard against which stouts should be judged.

It is less bitter than Guinness and is very much in the Island style.

Arran Clyde Puffer will be available to taste at the brewery and will be launched officially in May.



Some of the Aberdeen University students carrying out a tourism survey on Arran. From left, Katrina Awramenko, Roseanne MacDonald, Emma Walker and tutor Helmut Geist. 02_b15env01

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Feast of music in Whiting Bay over Easter weekend

Arran Events group has organised a feast of music for Easter weekend.

On Saturday 23 April, Broken Records will be appearing in Whiting Bay Hall.

This band has received high praise from NME and Q magazine, and their debut single was a Radio One 'single of the week'.

In 2009, they signed to the prestigious 4AD label and ended the year playing at the Edinburgh Hogmanay Party. They have just returned from a two-month tour of Europe and the USA promoting their second album. The band's connection with Arran is through their drummer, local boy Andrew Keeney,

formerly of Whiting Bay. The support band for the evening, Hot Jupiter, made their Arran debut in February and their great set of original material was well received, so here's an opportunity for those that missed that evening to see this fabulous trio.

There's a bit of a theme to this evening as Hot Jupiter's drummer, Douglas I'Anson, also hails from Arran.

Traditional

In complete contrast, the concert on Sunday 24 April will feature an evening of traditional Irish music from Mochara featuring Maurice Dickson and Catherine Ashcroft. Northern Belfast born Maurice is an errant Irish min-

strel with a message and has been writing and performing his songs for almost 30 years. He appeared at the Arran Folk Festival in June 1996 and was described by the Banner as a 'virtuoso guitarist with heavy influences of the late, great Rory Gallagher'. Maurice returned for the 1997 festival and played a gig in Corrie Hall in 1999 giving 'a dynamic blend of folk and blues'.

Catherine Ashcroft, although born in the north west of England, has deeper roots in the west of Ireland. She started playing traditional Irish music on the whistle at an early age before moving on to the Uilleann Pipes.

She regards her main in-

fluences as Paddy Keenan, Planxty and Dervish. Three years ago, Catherine met Maurice Dickson and this led to them collaborating and Catherine guesting on Maurice's last two European tours.

Their live performances consist of a blend of Irish traditional tunes and original pieces written by Catherine and Maurice. The evening will start with a performance from local group 'The Saggies' featuring Mike Bailey, Cams Campbell, Donal Boyle, Nicola Swinton, and Jon Hollingworth.

Evolving

This is a slightly different line-up to their previous exciting performances at the last two Arran Folk Festivals, and this cajun/bluegrass combo is constantly evolving but promise to deliver the same sparkle that has been in abundance at their previous outings.

Tickets for both these events are now available online at www.arranevents.com or from Brodick Post Office.

We aim to give a share of the weekend's profits to Whiting Bay Improvements and the Motocross Club as well as continuing to support Whiting Bay Hall.



Claire Richardson, left, is taking over from Marie Park as VisitArran's new operations manager.

01_b15vis01

VisitArran welcomes new operations manager

VisitArran, the island's destination management group, have appointed a new operations manager.

Claire Richardson, the Auchrannie's former sales and marketing manager, has taken over from current operations manager, Marie Park.

Marie, who has been at the helm since February 2010 has been forced to stand down as her personal circumstances have changed.

She will however remain in the position until Claire takes over in June.

'I have thoroughly enjoyed my time with VisitArran and found working with all the participating businesses rewarding, without exception everyone has been a pleasure to work with.'

She added: 'I believe that Arran's destination management is second to none and we are front runners in attracting visitors.'

Claire has already spent time helping to market VisitArran while working at the Auchrannie Resort.

She is already the mastermind behind the group's annual tourism magazine but she is looking forward to working with the island's businesses full-time.

Excited

'I have loved my time at Auchrannie but I'm excited about working alongside the other participating businesses and sharing our knowledge and expertise,' Claire told the Banner.

'This new role will allow me a little more flexibility with my family and baby Olivia but I'll miss all my colleagues at break times as I'll be working from home.'

With the new magazine due to hit the shops any day and the Arran on the Square event in Glasgow next month, Claire is going to be very busy!



Broken Records with Arran's Andrew Keeney on drums will be playing in Whiting Bay Hall on Easter Saturday.

Night of drama at Shiskine

Theatre fans have an exciting night of drama in Shiskine to look forward to this Saturday night.

The two one-act plays will be performed in Shiskine Public Hall and doors will be open from 7pm. Entry is £5 and includes tea and buns. **Please note that these plays are not suitable for young children**

Elderly Forum Meeting

The next meeting of the Isle of Arran Elderly Forum will be held in the Ormidale Pavilion from 11am to 1pm on Wednesday April 20.

Items on the agenda include the issue of a zebra crossing in Brodick, whether to have a stall at the Highland Games, and a report by Brenda Stewart from the Scottish Community Councils Association meeting in Glasgow. Morag Campbell of the ACVS will speak about the digital changeover on Arran.

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Lack of interest in politics is no surprise

It has been reported that there is an increasing apathy among the general public when it comes to politics.

Politics has never really been cool. Well perhaps in the days of Disraeli and Gladstone or when everyone was watching to see what Thatcher would do next it was acceptable to show an interest.

But those who list politics as one of their interests tend to be treated with derision or even suspicion.

In the current economic climate where we are faced with nothing but cuts after cuts, it's hardly surprising that people see politics as a waste of time and energy.

On Monday night there was a rather important meeting held in Brodick Hall but only 12 members of the public attended.

And worst of all, like most meetings I go to on this island, I was the youngest person there by at least 35 years.

It worries me that young people on Arran do not seem to take even a passing interest in issues such as this.

I have been at meetings before organised particularly with young people in mind.

One of these was to discuss the lack of housing on Arran for young people but I was met with a room full of grey heads and not one person under 50 in the audience.

Why is that the youth of Arran are prepared to sit back and let the older members of the community burden themselves with the fight for a better place to live?

The local community council has been trying for years to recruit younger members without any success.

Yes, we all know that this is an island populated by pensioners but young people do live here too.

With such a general apathy about politics it is hardly surprising that so few people attended the meeting on Monday night.

But at the end of the day politics is not about what is happening at Westminster, it's about the problems on our doorsteps.

David Cameron and Nick Clegg are not worried about the fact that Arran's roads are slowly disintegrating around us or that the council have decided not to put a zebra crossing in Brodick - but the community council might be and they are the ones who can do something about it.

So I would ask that all of Arran's young people take a minute to stop and think about what kind of an island they see themselves living on in 20 years time.

Because without your input, this island could quickly change from the Utopia we love to a Dystopia where nobody wants to live.

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.

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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



Ransom demand!

Sir,
Replying to Brian Miller's plea for his music box back, I was wondering if you would be so kind as to inform him that if he ever wants to see his sound-system again, he is to leave £3,500, a bottle of whiskey and a pass in higher history opposite the distillery at midnight next Wednesday.
Yours

Name and address supplied

Relationship misunderstood

Sir,
John Bruce of Corrie misunderstands the relationship

between Transport Scotland and the SPT (letter 9 April).

In June 2005, the Scottish Parliament passed the Transport (Scotland) Act 2005.

This act allowed the creation of statutory Regional Transport Partnerships, and charged those partnerships with the production of Regional Transport Strategies - including ferry services.

In January 2006, the new national transport agency, Transport Scotland, was then charged by Scottish Ministers with providing significant services including the national concessionary travel scheme.

Consequently when SPT asked the then Transport

Minister Stewart Stevenson on March 15, 2010 to incorporate lifeline ferry services into the National Concessionary Travel scheme and he refused; then the writing was on the wall for Arran's previously free ferry fares.

Scottish Ministers still had two choices, however, had they wished to keep fares free for the over 60s.

They could have told CalMac to absorb the costs of retaining free fares - as Western Ferries did on the Gourock-Dunoon route, or they could have increased the subsidy to CalMac to cover the costs.

As we know, they did neither and free fares were no more. With the demise of free fares

last year, further cuts to local government by Scottish Ministers this year and no further subsidy to SPT to cover the significantly higher costs of concessionary travel to Arran and islands like, Islay, Colonsay and Tiree, it was inevitable that concessionary fares would increase still further.

The buck for the new charges, therefore, rests not on Mr McLellan's desk at the SPT in Glasgow, as claimed by Mr Bruce - it is lodged very firmly on the former and current Scottish Transport Minister's desk in Edinburgh.

Yours,
John Sillars
Fasgadh
Brodick

THE ARRAN BANNER

- on holiday . . .

Arran's residents and holidaymakers are still 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 a fantastic picture of Willie Murchie sharing his Banner with some inquisitive fish in Tynemouth.

We've also got a great photograph of three regular visitors to the island posing with their Banner at Universal Studios in Orlando.

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



Above:
David, Craig and Catriona caught up with the news from Arran while at Universal Studios in Orlando last summer. David and Craig are the Grandchildren of Donald McLardy.



Left:
Willie Murchie of Shiskine sharing the Banner news with the fishes at Blue Reef, Tynemouth.

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Business ideas for Latvia and Estonia

A party of 22 Latvians and Estonians visited the island last Monday as guests of the Taste of Arran group.

They were interested in the ways locally sourced materials are processed into products and services for tourism, the local community and mainland sales. Their main interest was in the local food and drink and they met Taste of Arran producers to discuss how they source their raw materials and work in partnership with other island businesses.

They were met by coach driver Iain Hendry and Taste of Arran Events Manager John Boyd, and after a briefing at Auchrannie they made a tour of milk and ice cream production facilities at Arran Dairies in Market Road.

This was followed by a visit to Felt Natural in Lamlash and lunch at Lamlash Bay Hotel.

In the afternoon they called at Duchess Court to see the Island Cheese Company production process and to do some souvenir shopping.



The group of Latvian and Estonian business people at Duchess Court with Gordon Kinniburgh of the Island Cheese Company on the left, John Boyd on the right, and Silja Lehtpuu in centre with yellow jacket.

02_b15lat01

Their tour came to an end with afternoon tea at Lochranza Distillery and a generous measure of whisky tastings.

Taste of Arran Events Man-

ager John Boyd said: 'A lot of them are quite surprised at how small the island businesses are and at the degree of co-operation between them.'

Silja Lehtpuu was group co-ordinator and she added: 'This is an EU funded project called 'Buy Local'. We are spending five days in Scotland visiting

local businesses. It is much warmer here than in Estonia. When we left on Saturday it was minus two degrees with a covering of snow.'

Offenders work to pay back their communities with sale

When a team of offenders from North Ayrshire Council's Criminal Justice Service began working on a project to improve the life of one local youngster, it proved to be an inspirational move.

The council's Social Work department had approached the Criminal Justice Service a year ago looking for assistance for a young boy, who suffers from a rare condition which prevented him from going into the back garden.

The team was soon out to monoblock the garden enabling the boy to get out and about for the first time.

Since then dozens of teams based at the Criminal Justice Service's premises in Stevenston have branched out into a wide array of productive schemes - building garden furniture, growing produce - while continuing to help local families.

The teams produce a range of benches, pergolas and planters at their workshop in Stevenston, while others grow a wide range of produce and plants at gardens within the grounds of Smithstone House in Kilwinning.

Opportunity

Now the public will have the opportunity to see the fruits of the Community Service teams' labours at a special sale day at their premises at Block 4, Unit 2, Moorpark Industrial Estate, Stevenston this Sunday, April 17.

All of the goods are on sale at bargain prices from 11am until 3pm and profits from the day will go back into improving the service.

Councillor Peter McNamara, portfolio holder for Community Services, said: 'There is no doubt that the offenders involved in this project get a real sense of achievement from the

work they carry out.

'The chance to see a job right through from beginning to end - and to see the impact it can have on other people - is something many have never experienced before.

He added: 'They are very proud of the goods they produce and this sense of pride

can help them to understand the importance of contributing to their local communities rather than committing offences.

'The success lies in allowing offenders to start to care about what they are doing while letting the public see they are making a contribution.'

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A combined emergency force aims to deliver a better service

‘By working together, we are able to offer a more robust and effective response should the need arise’



Arran’s emergency services have combined forces to try and deliver a more consistent response to incidents.

The Arran Resilience Group is made up from members of the police, ambulance, fire, Coastguard, RNLI, and Mountain Rescue teams as well as GPs, First Responders and Hospital staff.

It was created at the beginning of the year by Dr David Hogg of Brodick Health Centre.

Dr Hogg believes that by working more closely together, Arran’s emergency services can offer a more effective response to emergencies that may occur on the island. ‘There has been an appetite from all the emergency services to share best practice and improve communication,’ he told The Banner.

‘By working together, we are able to offer a more robust and effective response should the need arise.’

Leaders from the various island rescue teams and emergency services have been meeting regularly over the last six months.

David said: ‘There is a colossal amount of skill and equipment available on the island. ‘We know that it is likely to take at least an hour for main-



Arran’s emergency services have combined forces to try and deliver a more consistent response to incidents. 01_b15aim01

land back-up to arrive, so it makes sense to use what we’ve already got here in the event of a serious incident.’

He added: ‘It’s not about planes crashing on Arran. Some relatively minor incidents can stretch resources, especially if several occur at the same time. Knowing the capabilities of our emergency responders, and how to contact them, could prove vital in the so-called ‘Golden Hour’ of casualty care.’

Workshops

The Arran Resilience group has organised workshops where members from each service met to share skills and ideas.

Eight workshops have so far been held across the island.

As well as training in CPR and triage, scenarios – including a bus crash – have been discussed so that everyone is more aware of what each team can and cannot do.

Supporting Dr Hogg are the

team leaders from statutory and voluntary groups who all share his vision of greater team working.

Gary Lewis, lead paramedic at Arran War Memorial Hospital said: ‘Even getting to know the members of other teams by first name can make an emergency response much easier to co-ordinate.’

‘We’ve enjoyed attending these meetings to improve our understanding of the capabilities that we have here on Arran. The aim is to keep this level of dialogue up for the future.’

Dr Hogg said he hopes that the workshops will help all of the island’s emergency

services to provide a more robust service in times of high demand.

‘In addition to the workshops we have all had the opportunity to visit facilities such as the Coastguard and Fire Stations to gain an understanding and appreciation of the equipment used,’ said Dr Hogg.

‘Ultimately we all have key roles to play and through sharing information, our aim is that we work better and more effectively together.’

With the busy tourist season fast approaching, it is hoped that Arran Resilience will deliver a more co-ordinated response should the need arise.

The Arran Resilience Group is made up from members of the police, ambulance and fire service; the Coastguard, RNLI, and Mountain Rescue teams as well as GPs, First Responders and hospital staff.

01_b15aim02



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Dr David Hogg of Brodick Health Centre created the Arran Resilience Group at the beginning of the year.

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Get set for switchover

With just weeks to go until the first analogue TV signals are switched off in parts of central Scotland, Argyll and Bute, The Arran Banner has teamed up with Digital UK to provide readers with this special guide to digital TV switchover.

get set for digital

How will switchover happen?

Switchover will happen in two stages. If you currently receive your TV signal through an aerial, in either analogue or digital format (e.g. Freeview, Top Up TV, BT Vision), you are probably served by the Darvel transmitter group, which switches on the dates below. Televisions connected to a cable or satellite service are not affected.

Stage one – 11 May 2011:

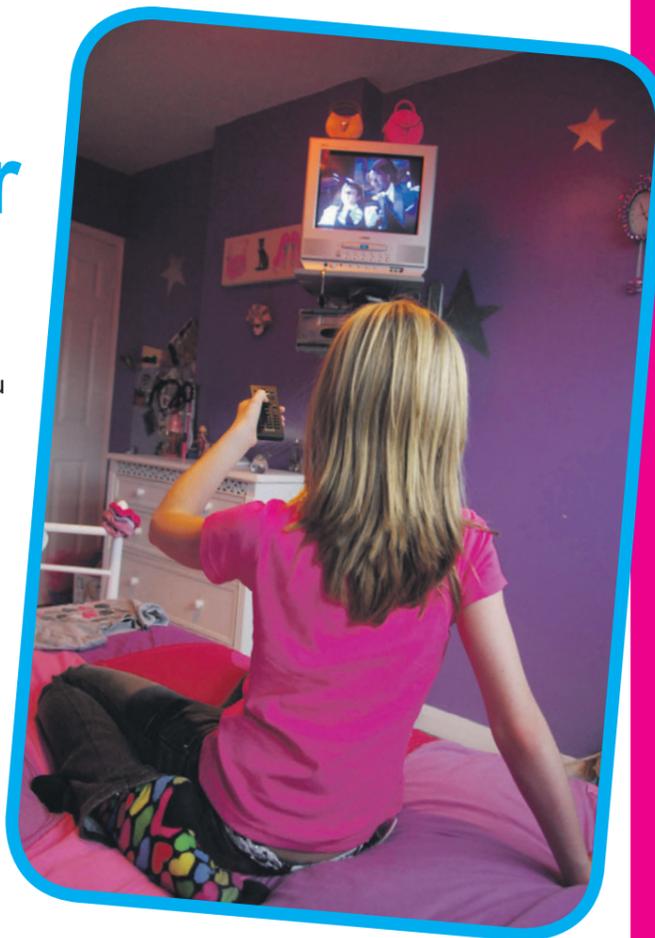
In the early hours, analogue BBC Two will be switched off and replaced with a new digital signal. Local 'relay' TV transmitters will also start to broadcast the BBC's other digital channels for the first time.

Readers switching to digital for the first time via Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision will now be able to set up their equipment. Homes already watching these services should retune their digital boxes or IDTVs.

Stage two – 25 May 2011:

All remaining analogue channels will be switched off and replaced with additional digital services. Everyone watching Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision will need to retune their equipment again to receive all available channels.

On both dates, these changes will happen overnight. For most viewers, services will be restored by the morning. Households receiving their TV signal from local relay transmitters will receive new digital services later in the day and should tune in for the first time or retune from this point.



What is switchover?

Digital TV switchover is the biggest change in television since the introduction of colour. Analogue signals are about to be switched off and replaced with new digital services. This will make Freeview available for the first time to thousands of homes watching local 'relay' transmitters in areas such as Porn Ellen, Campbeltown, Girvan and Troon.

Digital UK is the independent organisation set up by the broadcasters to lead the switchover. It provides an advice line and website to help with general questions about getting digital TV and preparing for the switchover.

Paul Hughes, Digital UK's National Manager for Scotland, says: "Switchover will change forever how television is broadcast. I'm delighted that, very soon, viewers who have previously been unable to get Freeview services will be able to do so for the first time. Most people are well prepared; but for those who still have questions, we are here to help."



If you live in **central Scotland, Argyll, Bute, Edinburgh, parts of Fife, Lothian, Glasgow, Rosneath or the South West Highlands and Islands...**
 ■ You are most likely to be watching one of these transmitter groups*
 ■ You could be watching one of these transmitter groups*

*Please visit www.digitaluk.co.uk to check your address

digitaluk



Getting digital TV

If you only receive five or fewer analogue channels through an aerial on any of your sets, you'll need to think about converting them for switchover – otherwise you risk being faced with a blank screen once analogue signals are switched off.

There are three main ways to go digital:

- Convert your existing analogue TV using a

digital box (e.g. Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision).

- Have a digital TV service, such as satellite or cable TV, installed for you. Providers include Sky, freesat and Virgin Media.
- Buy a new TV with digital (Freeview or freesat) built in.

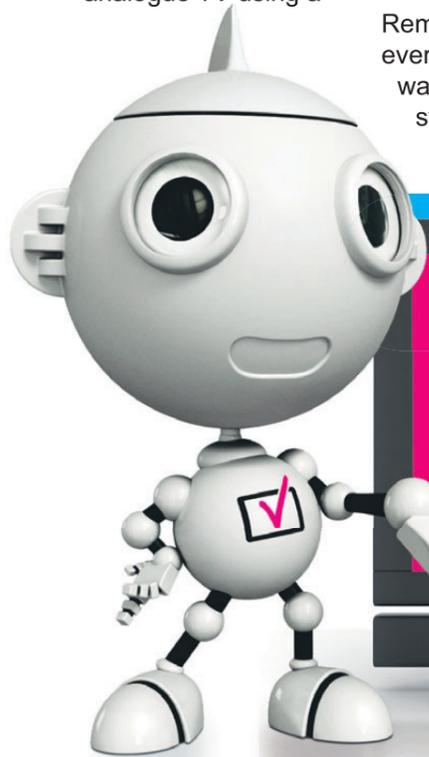
Remember, almost everyone will be able to watch Freeview after switchover – even

homes currently out of coverage. You can check the options for going digital in your

area, and what channels will be available through your aerial, using the postcode checker at

digitaluk.co.uk. Extra channels are available through other digital TV services, such as satellite or cable.

Virtually any TV set, including black and white ones and those without Scart sockets, can be converted using a digital box.



Re-tune in progress
Searching for channels

How to retune

Viewers watching Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision will need to a full retune their equipment at both stages of switchover in order to continue receiving services. You should retune from time to time in order to keep your Freeview box up to date. Sometimes channels move around – so if you should lose access to several channels, try retuning to restore them.

To do a full retune your Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision equipment, follow these steps (these instructions are a guide only – each product works slightly differently).

1. Switch on your digital box or digital television
2. Press 'menu' on the remote control
3. Select 'set up' or 'installation' option
4. Select 'first time installation' option (sometimes called 'factory reset', 'full retune' or 'default settings')
5. Press "OK" if your equipment asks if you want to delete all your channels - don't worry this is normal.
6. Channels will be automatically installed. This may take a few minutes, and your equipment may shut down and restart.

After a retune, if you are not receiving your preferred regional service, you are likely to find your preferred services further down the channel list. If you want to make your preferred services easier to find, you can either use the 'favourites' list or 'channel settings'. See your instruction manual for more details.

If you find you are missing some channels or your equipment has stopped working, visit digitaluk.co.uk/retuning for more information. If you can't fix it yourself, you might want to consult friends or family who could do it for you, or otherwise call out an installer (see 'Common questions').

To watch a short video showing you how to retune, and for specific re-tuning instructions for the most popular Freeview products, visit digitaluk.co.uk/retuning.

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The Switchover Help Scheme

Thousands of people in Scotland have already taken up help from the Switchover Help Scheme. Run by the BBC under an agreement with the Government, it's an official scheme which makes switchover easy for older and disabled people by giving practical help to switch one TV in their home.

People are eligible for the Help Scheme if they are:

- aged 75 years or over;
- eligible for attendance or constant attendance allowance, or mobility supplement, or disability living allowance;
- registered blind or partially sighted;
- or have been living in a care home for six months or more.

If you're eligible, you will be offered equipment that's easy to use, delivery or installation and a demonstration of how to use it, together with a choice of options. We will also check your aerial and upgrade it where we can, if it's needed. There is a freephone number to call for help while you get used to things.

Most people will be asked to pay £40 towards

the standard offer of help. For eligible people on income-related benefits, it's free. Eligible people can also choose from a range of other Help Scheme options, sometimes at a higher cost.

If you know an older or disabled person who might still need help to switch to digital TV, you could lend a helping hand and give them the message about the Switchover Help Scheme. Even if they have digital TV already, they can get help to switch another TV set in their home.

All you need to do to get the help is respond to the information pack which has been sent to every eligible person's home. But you must respond to get the help. The Help Scheme will close for applications in the STV Central region on 22 July 2011.



receive your signal from. Viewers served by a local 'relay' transmitter will receive around 15 Freeview channels for the first time. These will include BBC One, BBC Two, STV, Channel 4 and Channel 5, plus all the other channels from the BBC (those funded by the licence fee)

and some other services from the public-service broadcasters.

Viewers served by a larger 'main' transmitter will receive these channels as well as some extra services from commercial broadcasters. These extra channels are

also available via satellite. You can check which Freeview channels are available in your area by using the postcode checker at digitaluk.co.uk, or by calling 08456 50 50 50. This also gives you information about satellite and cable options in your area.

Common questions

Where can I get face-to-face advice on switchover? Digital UK has been working closely with charities to organise local advice points during switchover. These will be staffed by trained volunteers and are open to everyone. There are also Digital UK roadshows in the region. To find out where your local advice point or roadshow will be, visit digitaluk.co.uk/stvcentralevents or call 08456 50 50 50.

What about my video recorder? After switchover, video and analogue DVD recorders will still play back and record, but you won't be able to record one channel while

you watch another. If you want to continue doing this after switchover, the simplest way is to get a digital TV recorder. These also allow you to record a whole series at the touch of a button, and pause and rewind live TV.

Will I need a new aerial to receive Freeview? Most rooftop aerials will be fine after switchover but a small proportion of aerials are likely to need replacing to receive Freeview. Digital UK recommends that you wait until after switchover to see if your aerial needs replacing in order to avoid having unnecessary work carried out. You can check whether your exist-

ing aerial is likely to be suitable for receiving digital by visiting the aerial test page on teletext page 284.

Where can I find a good aerial installer? Look for a Registered Digital Installer (RDI) with the 'digital tick' logo. Go to rdi-lb.tv/installers.html or call Digital UK on 0845 650 50 50 for more information. If you can't find an RDI locally, look for someone with Associate RDI or CAI Plus status – or ask your local electrical retailer.

What channels will I get? Which channels you receive will depend on which transmitter you

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Dear reader,

There are now just a few weeks to go before most homes in this area start their switch to digital TV on **11 May**.

For anyone who has Freeview services* or an old analogue TV there are two important stages to remember:

11 May – Switchover stage one:

The switchover begins. Analogue BBC Two will be switched off permanently and the higher powered BBC digital services will launch. All Freeview TVs and boxes will need to be re-tuned on or after this date.

25 May – Switchover stage two:

The remaining analogue channels will be switched off and the rest of the digital services launched. All Freeview TVs and boxes will need to be re-tuned again.

Your switchover dates depend on where you live. To check your dates, enter your postcode at digitaluk.co.uk or call 08456 50 50 50. Switchover makes Freeview available to virtually every home, including those that can't currently receive it, as it allows the digital signal to be strengthened and transmitted for the first time from the local relay transmitters.

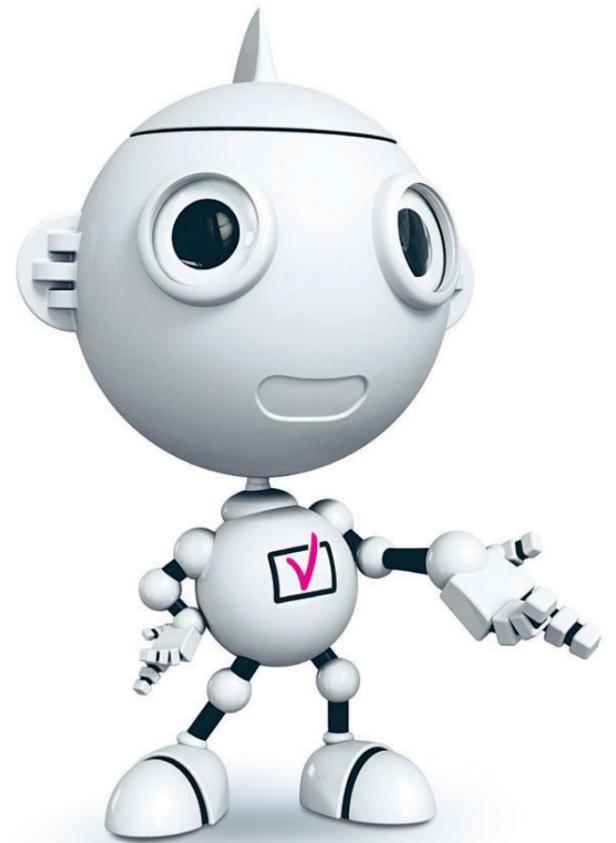
Most homes will be able to receive more than 40 channels and some will receive around 15. It will also provide additional services such as audio description for viewers with disabilities. Any sets receiving satellite and cable TV will not be affected by this change.

If you have questions go to digitaluk.co.uk or call 08456 50 50 50.

Thank you,



Paul Hughes
National Manager, Scotland
Digital UK



**Call 08456 50 50 50
or visit digitaluk.co.uk**

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Calls are free for BT customers within inclusive calling plans. Call charges from other providers may vary.



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Offers end 25th April 2011 except 532/2271, 532/2185 and 532/1557, which end 29th July 2011. Savings compared to Spring/Summer 2011 catalogue prices. [†]Available for pick-up in-store. Delivery charge from £5.95. ^{**}Based on combined volume sales of televisions and set top boxes November 2008 – July 2010 – GfK. Mainland UK & NI only Under the Distance Selling Regulations you have a right to return items purchased by the telephone or online, see our catalogue for full details. This does not affect your statutory rights. Not available in ROI. Offers may not be available in all stores, over the telephone or internet. For availability please check your local store, visit www.argos.co.uk or call 0845 640 1010. Argos Ltd, 489 – 499 Avebury Boulevard, Milton Keynes MK9 2NW.

Thirty Southend residents oppose wind turbine plan

On page 4 of last week's Banner we carried an article about a current planning application for three wind turbines between Sliderry and Corriecravie. In the article we referred to letters of objection on the basis of 'unacceptable intrusion' and visual impact'.

Now a group of 30 local residents have contacted the Banner and put their names to the following objection.

As their spokesperson, Lynne McNeish of Heathcote Farm, Sliderry said: 'We are concerned to ensure that Banner readers are not misled by the article on page 4 of last week's edition referring to the proposed wind farm development in Sliderry.

'In particular, the reference to 'Statutory consultees Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) have raised no objections' infers some level of official approval of this development, when it does not.

Helpfully, SNH area officer, Graeme Walker, provided the following clarification:

'1. SNH were not involved in any pre-application discussions re this proposal. Our first contact with the case was when the proposal was lodged on the NAC on-line planning system. The SNH policy in relation to the planning system is broadly to only engage with applications which impact on sites of national importance (eg SSSI's). This policy and our policy on renewable generation are available on our website:- <http://www.snh.gov.uk/planning-and-development>

2. The development proposals are of a scale that is lower

than the threshold for a mandatory Environmental Impact Assessment."

(Threshold is three turbines or less).

Lynne continued: 'Since the proposed site is outwith an area of national importance, North Ayrshire Council (NAC) has been notified, through objection correspondence, that species of high conservation concern have been officially recorded on the farmland directly adjacent to the proposed site. I trust that due diligence will be fulfilled to ensure these species will not be detrimentally affected.

'For the record, the significant number of concerned residents of Sliderry and Corriecravie who have submitted their objections are fully supportive of renewable energy generation including wind power, providing the site is appropriate and without undue impact from noise, visual effects of shadow and flicker, economic and environmental impacts on the local community.

Supportive

'Indeed the community is generally supportive of a farmer erecting a turbine close to his steading to provide for power generation.

'Should this proposal be granted, we feel that it would inhibit any community backed wind farm opportunity that WOULD benefit the local community's economy and Arran as a whole.

'The primary beneficiary of this commercial development is a mainland developer.

'We are aware that NAC deems this area of the Southend of Arran one of the few areas suitable for the establishment of wind turbines. If this proposal is approved it will set a precedent signalling the onset of commercial wind farms populating many Southend communities with very little consideration given to the residents of the location.

Yours,

L and T McNeish, E C Smith, B McNeish, P and R Rayner, A Brassington, P and S Fletcher, P and J Turner, M and M Reeve, C and J Rutterford, L and R Wallwork, S and C Mills, M and K Hesp, A and M Paterson, A and S Adamson, P McMillan, M and W Tod, A and B Millar.



Erin Boal, second from left, is presented with her prize by guidance teacher Jane Macbeth, Sergeant Bob Mackay and Community Fire Safety Co-ordinator Liz Brady.

Winning pupil answers safety quiz correctly

As part of the recent Arran Avoids Accidents exercise at Brodick Pier, local high school pupils were given a questionnaire to complete.

The questions were provided by the agencies involved - the Fire Service, Coastguard, RNLI, Arran War Memorial Hospital, Heart Start and the First Responders - and focused on the event.

Of the 51 second year pupils who attended, only four answered all the questions correctly.

A winner was chosen at random and Erin Boal was presented with a £10 gift voucher at the school last week.

This was the eleventh annual Arran Avoids

Accidents exercise which involves two days of activities enjoyed by many of Arran's primary and secondary children and all of the emergency services.

Community firefighter Liz Brady is based in Ayr and has been responsible for organising this event in recent years.

She said: 'The main purpose of the event is to give advice to the young people of Arran on what to do and what not to do in the case of an emergency.

'This is a multi-agency event run by dedicated people, working very closely together, some from the voluntary sector on the island.'

Spring lambs in a Corriecravie field



Spring lambs took advantage of the mild spring weather last week. These youngsters were being protected from marauding seagulls by their mothers in a Corriecravie field. 02_b15shp01

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One Sun, One World for Arran youngsters



The One Sun, One World concert in the Magnum Centre.

600 young people take part in flagship concert

Forty young people from Arran schools took part in North Ayrshire's Flagship Concert at the Magnum Centre.

This annual concert, organised by North Ayrshire Council Education and Skills Music Services, featured over 600 young people representing schools throughout the authority.

The main feature was a work called One Sun, One World written by Peter Rose and Anne Conlon.

One Sun, One World was commissioned by the charity WWF to celebrate their 50th anniversary and premiered in the Royal Albert Hall, London. It celebrates the planet's rich diversity but also examines changes brought about by human activities in a modern world.

Under the direction of David Lambert, Principal Teacher of Music at Arran High School, young people from Arran's

schools became involved in the project. Weekly rehearsals took place in the High School where 38 pupils prepared 18 songs, learning all words by heart. Of the senior pupils, Cameron Flewitt was chosen to narrate, whilst Christian Pomeroy played cornet as part of the orchestra.

Funding was gratefully received from North Ayrshire Council and Awards for All which provided a grant of £3,586.

After eight weeks preparing for the concert, the youngsters were very excited about their trip. They stayed at the Menzies Hotel in Irvine, and also enjoyed a visit to Frankie and Benny's and the Magnum Leisure Pool.

They certainly had plenty to say about their weekend.

'It was out of this world!' said Meagan Bennett.

Gavin Anderson said: 'We were excited, and we felt a

sense of anticipation as the performance date drew nearer. It taught us how to sing as a group, and we learned more about sharing space and getting on with other people.'

'It was really good to go swimming,' agreed Charity May. 'We really enjoyed the flumes, the rapids and the whirlpool.'

Sarah Gillingham enjoyed the visit to Frankie and Benny's: 'It was awesome. The brownie sundaes were the best.'

Pirnmill Primary School head teacher Hazel Gardiner, who attended the Sunday afternoon performance, commented: 'We can be very proud of the talents and gifts expressed in the performance. There is such a range of talent, and the singing of the children as a choir was so clear and sweet.'

Mr Lambert added: 'I am delighted that we were able



Arran youngsters enjoying the Magnum Leisure Pool.

to source funding to enable so many Arran pupils to participate in such a fantastic project. The concert was amazing, and I was so proud to see our pupils performing to such a high standard.

'I would like to thank everyone who has supported the project, especially those who made the journey over to see the concert.'

Arran livestock prices at Stirling

United Auctions had forward 2,348 store cattle and 102 cast cows, 6,428 prime and store hoggets and 942 fat ewes at their Stirling Agricultural Centre last Wednesday and Thursday, 6 and 7 April.

Arran cattle prices

Cast cows: Simmental cross £1,195, 141p/kg Bellevue, £875, 131p/kg Birchburn.

Aberdeen Angus cross £765, 121p Moor.

Charolais cross bullocks

£825, 204p/kg Hawthorn, £820, 210p/kg Creagraineach, £665, 199p/kg Moor.

Limousin cross bullocks £730, 200p/kg Creagraineach, £690, 178p/kg Kilpatrick, £605, 202p/kg Balgowan.

Aberdeen Angus cross bullocks £615, 195p/kg Glenkiln.

Aberdeen Angus bulls £500, 217p/kg Glenkiln.

Charolais cross heifers £720, 187p/kg Hawthorn, £750,

187p/kg Creagraineach, £620,

192p/kg Springfield.

Limousin cross heifers £620, 184p/kg Creagraineach, £540, 182p/kg Kilpatrick, £525, 189p/kg Balgowan.

Aberdeen Angus cross heifers £625, 178p/kg Moor, £560, 178p/kg Glenkiln.

Arran sheep prices

Texel cross hogs £119 Kilpatrick, £105 Balgowan, £97 Bridge.

Suffolk cross hogs £116 Creagraineach.

Easycare hogs £88 Brae-

head, Mule hogs £90 Margenaish, £88 Balgowan, Cheviot hogs £65.50 Cosyden.

Blackface lambs £74 Balgowan.

Suffolk cross ewes £50.50 Creagraineach, Texel cross ewes £139.50 Margenaish,

Mule ewes £85.50 Bridge, Blackface ewes £67.50 Balgowan, £64.50 Bridge.

Texel cast rams £131.50 Bridge, £124.50 Creagraineach. Blackface cast rams £69.50 Margenaish.

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Maurice Golden has offered to teach Kenneth Gibson how to ride a bike.

On Your Bike!

Maurice Golden, the Scottish Conservative candidate for Arran, has offered to teach his fellow candidate Kenneth Gibson how to ride a bike.

Maurice said he could give the island's current MSP cycling lessons around Arthur's Seat, next to the Scottish Parliament, should they both become MSPs after the election on May 5.

Maurice made the offer after Kenneth revealed that he had never learnt to ride a bike during an 'Opportunities in

Retirement' hustings earlier this week.

Maurice is third on the Conservative Party Regional List and new boundaries for this election mean that Maurice would notionally be elected to the Scottish Parliament via the Regional List.

Maurice said: 'I would be happy to take Kenneth for a cycle around Arthur's Seat were we both to make it to the Scottish Parliament but I am not taking any votes for granted.'

Summer visitors are on the way

Bird Notes for March - by Jim Cassels

Spring is here, and hopefully you will have seen your first migrants. It is an exciting time of year awaiting the arrival of summer visitors and seeing the last of our winter visitors leaving.

March was settled and dry with around 40 percent of the rain of February and around half the rain of March 2010. The settled spell encouraged the arrival of the first spring migrants. Chiffchaff were heard in Kiscadale and in Brodick Castle Gardens on 21st, wheatear were seen on Machrie golf course and on Cleats Shore on 22nd, two sand martin were in Kilpatrick on 23rd and white wagtail were on Cleats Shore on 27th. These dates are similar to the 2010 arrival dates. Our summer visitors should continue to arrive in April. Look out for swallow, house martin, willow warbler, sandwich tern, common sandpiper, and, who knows, perhaps even cuckoo.

In March, winter visitors were still present including: a long staying pintail at Kilpatrick Point on 5th, a mixed flock of 200 fieldfare and redwing at Balmichael on 6th, two greenshank at Clauchlands on 12th, 21 pink-footed

geese at Shiskine on 20th, 22 whooper swans at Sandbraes on 24th and 250 greylag geese in Blackwaterfoot on 29th.

In gardens there was an 'explosion' of siskins passing through, with a number of reports of 20 or more. Terry Southall, Arran's resident ringer, ringed over 300 in March in his garden.

kingfisher on the Rosa Burn on 5th, a dunlin in Whiting Bay on 9th, a merlin in High Kildonan also on 9th, a great crested grebe off Whiting Bay on 11th, two common scoter off Cosyden on 19th and two snow bunting on Meall nan Damh on 24th. Great crested grebe on Arran is an occasional winter and passage migrant and in 2010 there were only three records. There was only one record of common scoter on Arran last year.

Spring is a great time to be birding, as most birds are getting on with the business of breeding. Breeding involves attracting a mate by song, courtship display and ritual, defining a territory, nest building, and generally establishing relationships.

In March the signs were there, including: two dippers courting in Kildonan on 3rd, three blackbirds singing in Narachan on 16th, 16 black guillemots at Brodick pier on 18th, common crossbills carrying nest material in High Kildonan on 19th, grey heron nest building in Lochranza on 19th and two pairs of shelduck fighting over territory at Blackwaterfoot on 22nd.



An explosion of siskins at a garden feeder.

Photo Carl Reavey

Other garden highlights included: two brambling in Lamlash on 14th, three waxwings round the Auchrannie lodges on 22nd and a magpie in Corriegills on 27th. Magpie may be common on the mainland but is a vagrant on Arran.

Before 2008 there were only seven records in the previous 25 years and no records for 2010. One long staying bird was first reported in Corriegills on 20 April 2008 and remained mainly in the Brodick Golf Course area until 1 April 2009.

Other sightings included: a

Finally remember that under the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 it is an offence to intentionally or recklessly damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is being built or used.

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

Prepare your health needs for Easter

Arran residents have been urged not to get caught out without necessary medicines this Easter.

NHS Scotland has launched a campaign to encourage people to prepare their health needs before the extended

Easter holidays. Eunice Muir, executive nurse director at NHS24 said: 'After winter, Easter is the busiest time of year for health services.'

'This year we have the unusual combination of school holidays, the Easter holiday weekend and a Royal wedding weekend.

Closed

'Many GP surgeries will be closed for two four day spells over the Easter weekend and the Spring holiday weekend. It makes sense to check when your surgery is open, and to keep a note of local pharmacy opening times.

'It's important to plan ahead, particularly if you need repeat prescriptions.'

Arran Yacht Club

WORK PARTY

Sunday 17th April

1pm

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Arran Index 2011

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The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday, April 13, 1991

Passengers only

If the ferry has to sail to Gourock at any time in the next week, car drivers will be stuck.

This is because the linkspan at Gourock is out of action and for the MV Isle of Arran it will mean passengers only.

On Wednesday the MV Jupiter rammied the pier and caused a considerable amount of damage.

The Isle of Arran last sailed to Gourock on Monday but the weather forecast for the coming weeks looks better.

On the beach

A dramatic new addition to the Lamash shoreline appeared on Thursday morning.

A large 35-foot yacht, looking massive out of the water, was sitting high and dry on the seaweed at least 30 feet from the sea.

The vessel is called the Barbeque and is based in Troon. It's owner Richard Bascendale lives in Manchester and told us he'd never brought the yacht

to Arran. A friend had apparently borrowed it over Easter weekend.

Coaches vandalised

Arran Transport have seen a number of their coaches vandalised overnight recently whilst parked at Brodick Pier.

In recent weeks windows have been smashed and curtains have been torn off to make a makeshift bed.

In another incident last week a door had to be replaced at a cost of £850.

Ferry disruptions

Bad weather last weekend caused the ferry to sail to Gourock several times, the first time for months.

On Saturday passengers faced an additional delay when the ferry left Gourock for Brodick but then returned to berth again.

It transpired that a coach party had boarded the ferry while their coach had correctly boarded the ferry to Dunoon.

Wrong car

Lizzie Pentland who works in Curries of Brodick was left red faced last week when she drove off in the wrong car.

A friend had given her permission to use her Metro to nip up to Brodick Nursery Gardens but Liz was blissfully unaware that she was in the wrong car.

It wasn't until Linda Trickett of Lochranza came out of Curries with her groceries that she realised the car was gone.

Pladda wedding

Derek Morton and Sally-Anne Elliott from near Matlock in Derbyshire were married at Lamash Registry Office on Friday.

Last summer the couple, who are both fashion designers, bought Pladda as a summer retreat.

They were originally supposed to be married on the Thursday but high winds meant they were unable to get off their island.

Countdown to census

It's only eight days until Census Day.

Sunday 21 April is the day when we shall be counted wherever we are.

Every household on the island should get a visit before next Sunday from an enumerator.

He or she will deliver a census form that must be ready for collection on Monday 22 April.

The enumerator will then return and go through the form to ensure it has been filled in correctly.



At 8.15am on Tuesday morning the first 'Instanthome' that will become one of the new Kirkcare houses in Glenclay came off the ferry. b15twe01



At 11am the roof is added. Only the ferry height restrictions prevented the houses arriving already roofed. b15twe04 Inset: The strength of ten men: Bill Jacob appears to single handedly lower down one of the houses on to its foundations. b15twe03



Arran's Rugby Sevens team were defeated in the semi-finals in the pouring rain at the annual sevens tournament on Saturday. b15twe02

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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 by a boulder at the entrance to Lamash cemetery. First correct was doggie pal Jet from Bathgate who said: 'See you next week Archie.' This week he is among the daffodils, but where are those blooms?
02_b15arc01

Whats On

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Hawk Walks
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Arran Heritage Museum

Open Mon - Sat 10.30am-4.30pm, Sun 12.30pm - 4.30pm
2pm
Loch Garbad, Bank
Lamlash
9am - dusk
Rosaburn Brodict, 10.30am - 4.30pm

SATURDAY 16th APRIL

Karate
Family Games
Fun In The Pool
Over 21's Disco
Arran Dancers (4 years and up)
Rink Game
'A Night of Drama' (not suitable for children)

Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
3pm to 4pm Auchrannie Games Hall
4pm to 5pm Auchrannie Spa Pool
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Arran High School, 10am
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Shiskine Public Hall, 7pm

SUNDAY 17th APRIL

Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Fiddle Club- Childrens Classes
Family Games
Fun In The Pool
Quiz
Cricket 'Taster Session'
Blood Transfusion Service
Ormidale 10K Race

Church Hall, Brodict, 4.30pm
Library Annexe, 1.45pm
3pm to 4pm Auchrannie Games Hall
4pm to 5pm Auchrannie Spa Pool
PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Sannox Cricket Club, 12pm
Arran High School, 12pm - 5.30pm
Ormidale Park, 12pm

MONDAY 18th APRIL

Over 50's Badminton
Badminton
Weight Wise
Ladies Netball
Arran Junior Football Club Coaching & Games
Citizens Advice
Kilmory Farmers Market
Senior Fitness
BreathWalk Class
Lamlash Bridge Club
Circuit Training
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Mums and Tots Swimming Lessons
Hatha Yoga
Blether & Bite
Arran Antiquarians - Stirling Castle and Palace
Summer Bridge

Lochranza Village Hall 2pm - 4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Hospital Bungalow, 5pm - 5.30pm
High School Sports Hall - Seniors 7.30pm - 9pm
Ormidale Park, 6pm
Park Terrace, Lamlash, 10am - 2pm
Kilmory Village Hall, 10am - 2pm
9.30am to 10.30am Auchrannie Gym
Kinneil, Lamlash 5.15pm
Lamlash Golf Club, 7.15pm
Auchrannie Gym, 6pm - 7pm
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
Auchrannie Gym, 7pm - 9pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 11am
Arran High School, 6pm - 7.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 12pm - 2.30pm
Brodict Hall, 2pm
High School Cafe, 6.30pm

TUESDAY 19th APRIL

Lochranza Swimming Club
Army Cadets
Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Citizens Advice
Youth Club
Rotary Club
Junior Hockey Club
Melody Movement. Ballet Class - 2½ yrs up
Dudes & Divas Funky Dance Class - 2½ yrs up
Scottish Country Dancing
Youth Club
Rink Game
Arran Golf Pass AGM
Lamlash Moorings Assoc. AGM

Kinloch 11am - 12pm
Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodict Church Hall - 2pm
Park Terrace, Lamlash, 10am - 2pm
Kildonan Hall - 6.30pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
Ormidale Pavillion, 6pm-7pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.30pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 2pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30pm
Brodict Hall, 6.30pm - 8pm
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 2pm
Brodict Golf Club, 7.30pm
Lamlash Golf Club, 8pm

WEDNESDAY 20th APRIL

Hockey
Junior Tennis
Tae Kwon Do
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Selt Making Class
Musical Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones
Yoga for Every Body
Senior Badminton
Museum, Archives & Geneology Service
Aquafizz
Yogalates
Circuit Training

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm Games Hall
Shiskine Tennis Club, 4.30pm - 6pm
KA Leisure, Kids 6.30 - 7.30pm. Adults 7.30 - 8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm- 9pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7.15pm
Shipfield, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am
10am - 11.30am
High School Games Hall, 8pm - 9pm
10.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 3.30pm
9.45am to 10.30am Auchrannie Hotel Pool
9.30am to 10.30am Auchrannie Studio
Auchrannie Games Hall, 6pm - 7pm

THURSDAY 21st APRIL

General Knowledge Quiz
Senior Tennis
Arran Hospice Fund meeting
Arran Music & Drama Rehearsals
Lochranza Craft Club
Coffee Morning
Table Tennis
Youth Club
Senior Fitness
Pilates
Pub Quiz
Brodict Embroidery Group
Arran Youth Foundations
The Wee Blether - soup & sandwiches
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club Fundraising Quiz Night

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Shiskine Tennis Club, 6pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie Spa, 5pm
Brodict Hall, 7.30pm
Hall, 2pm
St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm
Youth Cabin, Lamlash 7-9pm
9.30am to 11.30am Auchrannie Spa Gym
6 pm to 7pm Auchrannie Studio
Kinloch Hotel, 9pm
Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Behind Library, 4.30pm - 6.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 12pm - 1.30pm
Kinloch Hotel, 8pm

FRIDAY 22nd APRIL

Arran Pipe Band Practice
Quiz
Aquafizz
Yogalates
Seniors Badminton (Over 50)
Arran Churches Together Easter Walk of Witness Holy Cross Catholic Church, 2pm
Over 21's Disco
Arran Youth Foundations
Shiskine Junior Drama Club present 'Tam's Tale'

Brodict Hall, 7.30pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm
9.45am to 10.30am Auchrannie Hotel Pool
10am to 11am Auchrannie Studio
Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Behind Library, 7pm - 9pm
Shiskine Public Hall, 7.30pm



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Robert N Brass FRICS FNAEA
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enquiries@arranestateagents.co.uk | www.arranestateagents.co.uk

JTC Lamlash Isle of Arran

Following the completion of the first phase of our housing development at Millhill we have now completed Phase II



Plots 12 and 13 are now available for sale at a fixed price of £250,000.00.

Viewings can be arranged by appointment

Please contact Helen Thomson on 01770 600242 or at helen@thomsonconstruction.co.uk

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HOUSE & BUILDING PLOT, KILDONAN

3 Bedroom detached house in approx 1/4 acre with adjacent building plot approx 1/4 acre with full planning permission for a 3-bedroom house. Direct access to beach

Guide price house £340K
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Will separate
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Residential Caravan for Long Let
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Deposit and references required
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IS THERE anyone on the island who repairs porcelain
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Contact Kate – Arran Black Grouse Group – Tel 302462

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Tel 700559

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Tel 07792452814

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BAGGED MANURE. Oakbank, Lamlash. Donation if desired to Arran RDA Tel 600752

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Tel 840360

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TWO Sets golf club plus bags by Sayers & Letters £50 Tel 302792

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KITCHEN Units, base & wall, light oak, includes Bosch oven, D/washer & extractor with housing, w/pool fridge & microwave. All in vgc £350 ono Tel 700325

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PUBLIC NOTICES

THE NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (20MPH PART TIME SPEED LIMIT AT SCHOOLS) (NO. 5) ORDER 2011

On the 8 April 2011, the North Ayrshire Council made the above named Order in terms of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

The Order, which comes into operation on 30 May 2011, was advertised in the Arran Herald, Irvine Herald & Largs & Millport Weekly News between the 1/2 March 2011 and the effect of the Order is as stated in said notices.

Copies of the Order and plans relative thereto are available for inspection during normal working hours Monday to Friday inclusive at the offices of: -

Head of Infrastructure & Design Services (Roads), North Ayrshire Council, Perceton House, Irvine KA11 2AL

Corporate Services, North Ayrshire Council, 1st Floor (Legal & Licensing), Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE

Any person who wishes to question the validity of the Order or of any provision contained in it on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or on the grounds that any requirement of that Act, or of any instrument made under it, has not been complied with in relation to the Order may, within six weeks from the 15 April 2011 apply to the Court of Session for this purpose.

THE NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL (MARKET ROAD, BRODICK) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2011

On the 8 April 2011 North Ayrshire Council made the above-named Order under Section 14 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, hereby makes the following Order to be observed by vehicles on the following road.

Market Road, Brodick

Prohibition of waiting

No person shall, except upon the direction or with the permission of a police constable in uniform, cause or permit any vehicle to wait at anytime in any length of road as specified below:

Length of Road	Side of Road
Market Road 150m east of its junction with A841, eastwards for 170m or thereby.	Both

This Order may be cited as "The North Ayrshire Council (Market Road, Brodick) (Waiting Restrictions) Order 2011" and shall come into operation on 18 April 2011 at 8am and will remain in operation for 18 months.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) ACT 1997

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at Corporate Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine* between the hours of 9am and 4.45pm on weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) excepting Saturdays and Public Holidays or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Written representations may be made to the Solicitor to the Council (Corporate Services) at the address below by 6 May 2011.

Any representations received will be open to public view.

*and at The Council Offices, Lamash

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

Notice of application to be published under regulation 20(1)

Application No: 11/00195/PP Address: Winnfields, Pirnmill, Brodick, Isle Of Arran, KA27 8HP. Proposed Development: Alterations including sub-division of detached two-storey dwelling house.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



Lamash Moorings
Association

AGM
Tuesday 19th
April
8pm

Lamash Golf Club

**BLACKWATERFOOT
ANGLING**

AGM
will be held on
21st April
at 7pm
in the

Kinloch Hotel
All welcome

Arran Hospice
**PUBLIC
MEETING**

on
21st April 2011
at 5pm
in the
Glencloy Suite
Auchrannie Hotel
All Welcome

Charity No SC040995

**ARRAN
FOLK CLUB
AGM**

will be held on
Sunday 17th April
at 8pm
in the
Ormidale Hotel
All welcome

RECRUITMENT

VACANCY Practice Nurse

Brodick Medical Practice

Brodick Medical Practice provides inclusive, high quality care in a welcoming and supportive environment to the Arran community. Main duties will include chronic disease management; the provision of clinical/general nursing services; health screening and education; travel advice and immunisations.

To join our team you should have experience in Practice Nursing or be a Registered Nurse who is interested in Practice Nurse Training. Excellent communication and people skills are essential.

This post is full time or substantial part time.

Salary dependent on experience.

How to apply

Applicants should submit their CV with a covering letter to: Mrs Jenni Turnbull, Practice Manager, Brodick Health Centre, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ.

Informal enquiries are welcome and should be directed to Mrs Jenni Turnbull on 01770 302175

Closing date: Wednesday 20 April

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So since my assistant or office manager Samantha Payne is now leaving me I need someone to help me "going to a place like Iraq".

In the old Arran Transport office I have set up a small office and I need someone of any age or gender who can act as self employed office manager.

A little accounting experience and a lot of computer experience are what I need.

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Staff vacancies – Permanent Positions

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- SVQ an advantage but training can be given

Further information from Judy
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CHURCH NOTICES

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 17 April
 Shiskine, 11am
 Sunday School in the Church Hall (Church is between Machrie & Blackwaterfoot)
 Brodick 7pm
 Rev David Karoon
 All welcome

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 (in full communion with the Church of England)
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 17 April (Palm Sunday)
 Holy Communion 11am.
 Mr John Roberts
 Coffee after service
Services for Holy Week
Monday 18 to Wednesday 20 April:
 Holy Communion 12.15pm daily
Thursday 21 April (Maundy Thursday)
 Holy Communion 6pm.
Friday 22 April Good Friday
 Service 10am.
Saturday 23 April Easter Vigil 6pm.
 All welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (SC015072)
 Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
 Sunday 17th April
 Rev Gillian Maclean
 Kilmory 10am
 In Kilmory: 21st April: Maundy Thursday Communion Service 7pm
 Lamlash 11.30am
 In Lamlash: Palm Sunday 'THE WEE SERVICE'; shorter Family Service
 18th - 21st April: Morning Prayers in Lamlash at 10am, followed by tea/coffee
 In both churches:
 All welcome, including families; children's area
 Scottish Charity SC015072

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)
Sunday 17 April
 Morning Service 11am
 Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
 Evening Service 7pm
 13 Glen Avenue, Brodick
 Prayer Meeting
 Wednesday 20th
 Rev J. Gracie

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH.
 Brodick Hall
Sunday 17 April
 10.45am Communion
 Tea and Coffee from 11.10am
 11.30am - For all the family
 Speaker: Rev Willie Wright
 All welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill 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 - Families, young people and children welcome
Sunday 17 April
 Brodick Church 10.30am
 Corrie Church 12pm

Lochranza 9.30am
 Pirmill 10.45am
 Shiskine Church 12pm
 A service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm
Wednesday 20 April
 Shiskine Church
 Open 1pm - 9pm
 Labyrinth on the Theme of Christ Passion
Thursday 21 April
 Maundy Thursday
 Communion Service at Lochranza 7pm
Friday 22 April
 Walk of Witness
 Holy Cross Church
 Brodick 2pm
 followed by service in Brodick Church at 2.30pm

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (SC014005)
Sunday 17 April
 Worship for Palm 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 and there will be a sale of Traidcraft goods. All most welcome.
 At 7pm in the Church, there will be an informal evening service of praise, prayer and discussion. All most welcome.
 Holy Week: There will be a service every night of Holy Week at 7pm to remember the last earthly week of Christ.
Thursday 21st April
 The service will include a commemoration of the Last Supper.
 Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service. All most welcome to any of these services.
 Messy Church: This will meet on Wednesday 20th April from 3.30pm until 6pm. All young people and their parents most welcome

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Sunday Morning Mass 11am
 Holy Week Services
 Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper 7pm
 Good Friday: Arran Churches Together Witness Walk 2pm
 Evening Liturgy 7pm
 Easter Vigil Mass 9pm
 Easter Morning Masses 9.30am and 11am

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER
Friday 22 April
 Good Friday Walk of Witness
 Meet at Holy Cross Catholic Church, Brodick at 2pm.
 Walk ends with a service at Brodick Church of Scotland

2.45pm - 3pm
 All welcome to join whole or any part of the event.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)
Sunday 17 April
 Meeting for worship, 11am
 Bheinn Ard,
 N.Newton Lochranza.
 Enquiries to Gus 830622

DEATHS

ROBISON & ROBISON
 Tom & Jennie, formerly of the Old Police House, Whiting Bay, latterly of Rothesay, both died peacefully on 3rd January & 5th April respectively. Tom, ex-Police Constable in Whiting Bay in



Colin Bannatyne, one of the founding members of the Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, bowled the first jack of the season on Saturday afternoon. 01_b15bow02



Colin Bannatyne and John Hamilton, Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club's chairman, stand in front of the green's new sign. 01_b15bow01

PERSONALS

THANK YOU Sadie & Bill
 would like to thank Rhonda, Sarah Jane, family and friends for the lovely cards and gifts on the occasion of our **50th Wedding Anniversary**
 The party was great

THANK YOU
 Innis Thorborn would like to thank everyone who supported his fundraising for the Lennox Children's Cancer Fund.

"Heidi" the bear is very happy in her new home in Corrie with Elsa!

THE BEAUTY BOX, BLACKWATERFOOT
 Lorna would like to say a huge thank you to all her clients for their loyal support and looks forward to welcoming them to the new hair and beauty salon at Duchess Court, Brodick

HAPPY 18TH BIRTHDAY ON THE 20TH



Lots of love from all the family xxx

the 1950's/60's and both members of Whiting Bay Bowling Club & Golf Club.

Devoted parents to Tommy, loving in-law's to Lorna and a truly loved Grandpa & Grandma to Oliver & Beinn.

For further information please call Tommy on 07595048431

Colin bowls first jack of the new Blackwaterfoot season

Eighty-nine year-old Colin Bannatyne was tasked with opening the Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club on Saturday as its members celebrated the start of a new season.

The first jack was bowled by Colin, who is one of the original members who founded the club in 1981.

The club's members were also joined by some Brodick bowlers for rinks games, which as usual were keenly contested.

Jenny Harper, the club secretary, said: 'We were delighted to welcome a couple of new players and hope that they will in due course join the club.'

'Blackwaterfoot is the only club on the west side of the island and we play on an all-weather carpet. Unfortunately this carpet is coming to the end of its life and will need to be replaced in the near future.'

Expensive

Jenny added that this is an expensive project so to help raise funds a Quiz Night is being held at the Kinloch Hotel on April 21 at 8pm.

There will be a team prize and a raffle and we hope that as many as possible of our friends from all over the island will be able to join us there.



Shiskine Golf Club

Results: Wednesday 6 April, Daniel Ferguson Trophy, 18 played. First class: 1 W Kelso 43-4=39, 2 J Faulkner 44-4=40, Scratch W Kelso 43. Second class: 1 L Jones 58-12=46, 2 Q Oliver 65-15=50 BIH. There were magic twos from J Faulkner, C Muir and W Kelso. Very windy for the lunchtime starters, the wind eased off for the later golfers. Beware the injured golfer, as Willie does it again - congratulations.
 Sunday 10 April, 18 Hole Medal, 18 Played. First class: 1 A Jeffrey 65-5=60, 2 S Gray 73-8=65, 3 D Markham 75-9=66 BIH. Scratch A Jeffrey 65.

Second class: 1 A Chalmers 85-17=68, 2 S Kerr 83-13=70, 3 Q Oliver 102-25=77.
 Magic twos from J Morrison and G Stewart and A Jeffrey got two.

Fixtures: Ladies - Thursday 21 April, 12 Hole Medal. Gents - Sunday 17 April, AGA Arran Grouse Foursomes Qualifier.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Results: Wednesday 6 April. Only six managed to play in the first round of the Summer Trophy on a damp and breezy day. SSS 63, CSS 63, Dave Hackett (16)60, Frazer Barr (11)62, Danny Head (5)67. Nicol Auld won scratch with 68.
 Sunday 10 April. 26 played in the Gents Medal on a lovely spring day. SSS 63, CSS 63, Graeme Crichton (15)58, Dave Hackett (16)60, Jim Meehan (23)61, Sandy Kelso (17)62. Malcolm Pennycott won scratch with 68 and there were magic twos from Markus Kroner, Sandy Kelso and Jim Meehan.

Fixtures: Sunday 17 April, Wolfi and Gege Kroner Stableford Trophy. Teeing off between 10.30am and 11am. Wednesday 20 April - Summer Trophy.

Brodick Golf Club

Results: Wednesday 6 April, Summer Cup, 46 played, CSS 66. 1 J Kerr (24) 62, 2 G McNicol (25) 65 bih, 3 G McCrae (6) 65. Scratch G McCrae 71. There were six twos and nobody got more than one.
 Sunday 10 April, Marchioness of Graham Trophy (Par Competition), 33 played, CSS 64. 1 K McMillan (12) 3 up, 2 Gus Robertson (21) 2 up, 3 Robbie Duncan (9) 1 up There were seven twos.

Fixtures: Sunday 17 April, 36 hole British Legion, draw at 12noon, Saturday 16

April. There will also be a sweep for those unable or unwilling to play the two rounds. Sunday 24 April, Club Trophy, draw at 12noon Saturday 23 April.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Results: Tuesday 5 April Sweep. This competition was shortened to nine holes because of the weather. 1 David Price 36.5, 2 Brian Sherwood 37.5, 3 Steph Hill 38.5. Fixtures: Tuesday 19 April, Hall of Fame Championship, entry fee £2 plus normal sweep in aid of Cancer Research UK; the winner to play at Drumpellier Golf Course in August. Tee off 12.30pm and 5.30pm.

ALGU

Kiscadale Tray 2011

Shiskine Golf Course looked wonderful in Thursday's lovely sunshine and it was difficult to tear your eyes away from the beautiful views and concentrate on four very exciting golf games.

First off for Machrie were newcomer Steph Hill playing with the experienced Elizabeth Ross. They both acquitted themselves very well but were up against it playing Catherine McBain and Susan Kidston and lost four and two. There was an excellent victory for Jenni Turnbull and Denise Sherwood in the second game who played extremely well to beat Whiting Bay's Viv Parks and Doreen Mainds.

The second match was between the home club, Shiskine and the holders, Lamlash. Matches between those teams are always closely contested and exciting and this time the honours were split with Sheena Murchie and Ellie Jones for Lamlash beating Carole Stewart and Liz Kerr of Shiskine five and four and Fiona Crawford and Alice Anderson of Shiskine beating Lamlash's Ann McVicar and Liz Sinclair by the same margin.

Once again Felicity and Tom provided us with a wonderful supper all provided quickly and cheerfully. This time we were offered chicken curry or lasagne and both were delicious. The hot suppers are proving to be very popular with both players and supporters. You appear to have started a trend, Felicity!

There was a lovely atmosphere in the clubhouse with players and supporters all chatting together and how good it was to see so many of the Brodick ladies there to watch even although their team was not playing tonight.

On Monday of the second week we not only had to play against our opponents, we had to battle the elements. In the first game Lamlash's Ellie Jones and Sheena Murchie got off to a fast start against Machrie's Jerry Arthur and Sally Brookes, taking the first three holes. The Machrie ladies got into their stride but couldn't claw back the deficit and the Lamlash pair won six and four.

Lamlash's second couple, Ann McVicar

and Liz Sinclair also played well against Machrie's Jenni Turnbull and Denise Sherwood taking the last five holes to win five and four.

In the second match, the Whiting Bay youngsters had another good win, this time against Brodick with the first pair, Susan Butchard and Catherine McBain beating Gwen McNicol and Jean Glen by five and three. The second match went to the final hole with Viv Parks and Lynn Walker beating Pat Reid and Isobel MacDonald by two holes.

Whiting Bay are in the lead on ten points with Shiskine and Lamlash second equal on six points, Shiskine having a game in hand. Full results can be viewed on the ALGU website at www.algu.org.uk

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday 9 April, Eddie Rankin Memorial Trophy, CSS 61, 37pts to bogey, Corrie and Machrie stableford competition, 14 players in each side, 28 in total. Results: Corrie 418 points Machrie 413 points - winners Corrie. 1 Ewan McKinnon 41pts BIH, 2 Mark Sherwood 41pts BIH, 3 Hugh B McKinnon 41pts. There were magic twos from C Pattenden, A McDonald, E McKinnon, H Bannatyne, P Moran and M Sherwood. Thanks to the Rankin family for the donation of a bottle of spirits for the competition and to David and Pablo for the course in such a good condition at this time of year. Also thanks to Scotts for the soup and sandwiches.

Monday Cup, April 11, 12 played from yellow tees. 1 A Smith 69-7+62, 2 W Paul 79-16=63, 3 J McGovern 68-2=66. Best scratch John McGovern 66. There was one magic two from Bob Rooney.

Fixtures: Saturday 16 April, Millennium Trophy at 8.30am and 1pm. Wednesday Night Medal starting at 5pm now in operation.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday 7 April, Seniors Medal, CSS 64, Par 61. 1 John Houston 81-21=60, 2 Ian Heron 83-19=64 also Summer Cup, 26 played, CSS 67. 1 Paul Jameson 76-12=64, 2 Neil Young 67-3=64, 3 Raymond Burke 80-13=67 BIH, 4 Graeme Andrew 77-10=67. Best Scratch Neil Young 67. There were twos from Neil Cameron at the 16th, Andy Barclay at 4th and Dougie Macfarlane at the 15th.

Sunday 10 April, John Carpenter Rose Bowl, CSS 64. 1 Crawford Duncan 77-21=56,

2 Andrew Glen 69-12=57, 3 Kenneth Glen 72-10=62. Best Scratch Andrew Glen 69. There were twos from Jim McKenzie at the 16th and Lee Girbow at the 17th.

Fixtures: Thursday 21 April, Summer Cup, make up own groups see starter for times.

Sunday 17 April, Hugh Hutchison Trophy, 12.45pm for 1pm start.

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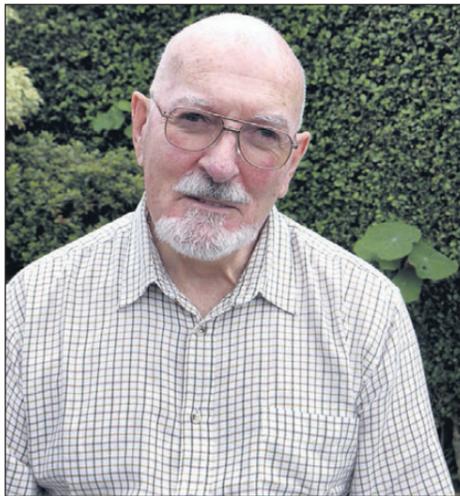
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Junior rugby team tops league

'This team has been the best and most enjoyable to work with of my entire rugby career'

The island's junior rugby team are celebrating this week after it was revealed that they have finally been recognised as joint winners of their league.

The Arran under 18s rugby team were shocked to discover last month that the Scottish Rugby Union (SRU) had placed them three points behind Greenock Wanderers in



Bill McLaughlin, vice-president of the island's rugby club. 01_b15bii01

the final standings of the west's development league.

Coaching staff pointed out this error to the SRU and it transpired that a crucial win against EK/Cambuslang had been unaccounted for in the final standings.

So after weeks of confusion, the mistake was finally rectified at the beginning of the week and Arran can proudly take their place at the top of the league.

Bill McLaughlin, vice-president of the Isle of Arran Rugby Club, said that the boys had been very disappointed by the mistake and that the entire club were very pleased it had now been rectified.

'This team has been the best and most enjoyable to work with of my entire rugby career - and I am talking over 60 years!' said Bill.

'Their spirit and willingness to work at training has been an example to the previous seniors - and who ever heard of a team asking for two extra nights gym work per week.'

He added: 'To finish at the top of the league is just fantastic, considering many of these boys had never played rugby before this year.'

The club are now in discussions with both the under 18s and former players about the re-formation of a senior team next season.



The team from the Drift Inn were the winners of the island's Ladies Darts League.



Gill Duncan and her daughter Emma Willard of the Drift Inn, both left, won the doubles competition. They are pictured with runners-up Cara Galloway and Joanne Lennox of Mac's Bar.

Drift ladies are darts champions

The Drift Inn team ended the ladies darts season on a high last Wednesday when they were crowned 2011 champions.

At a special prize-giving night in Kildonan, the ladies from Lamlash excitedly claimed the trophy for the season.

They also won the trophy for the most Gallons of Beer throughout the season.

With just four teams in the league now it was a close race between the Drift and Catacol for the top-spot.

Going into the final weeks the two teams both had nine wins but - just like the Catacol pool team - they lost at the last hurdle.

Some consolation, however, was that the singles winner this year was Catacol's Susan Logan with Janie McLaren of Mac's Bar as runner-up.

The doubles winners were

Gill Duncan and her daughter Emma Willard of the Drift Inn.

Runners-up were Cara Galloway and Joanne Lennox of Mac's Bar.

	P	W	L	Pts	GoB
Drift Inn	12	10	2	20	9
Catacol	12	9	3	18	4
Kildonan	12	3	9	6	8
Mac's Bar	12	2	10	4	3

Shiskine tennis season starts up again

Shiskine Golf and Tennis Club resume club nights for the season, starting next week.

The Junior Tennis will begin on Wednesday 20 April.

4.30pm - 5.30pm up to age nine.

5.30pm - 6.30pm age 10

upwards. The emphasis is on fun with some games and coaching.

Adults will meet on Thursdays beginning Thursday 21 April from 6pm

You don't need to be a member to join in; a fee of £1 per session for juniors and

£3 for adults. We'll provide the balls, we also have a few extra rackets for juniors.

We'd love to see you there and all standards are welcome.

For more information contact Shiskine Golf and Tennis Club on 01770 860226.

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