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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 20 APRIL 2013

No 1905 60p

Arran to have best-ever ferry service this summer

'There will be no restrictions on capacity – she will be fully crewed all the time'

REPORT
by HOWARD DRIVER
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The introduction of Arran's second summer ferry for five months will give the island the best service it has ever had.

When the timetable for MV Isle of Arran was announced last Monday, Arran Ferry Committee chairman Ken Thorburn told The Banner: 'I think it is as good as it possibly can be.'

'There will be no restrictions on capacity – she will be fully crewed all the time.'

Some of the features of the timetable include a 7am sailing from Brodick on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, an 8pm sailing from Ardrossan on Saturdays and Sundays, and a 9.05am sailing from Brodick on Sundays.

Also highlighted is a 7.20pm departure from Ardrossan on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

VisitArran Executive Director Sheila Gilmore exclaimed:

'This new timetable is a great move – a second ferry will be a great enhancement for visitors and locals alike.'

'Increased sailings to the island will be welcomed by all.'

Kenneth Gibson MSP said: 'I am delighted that the MV Isle of Arran will be serving Arran for five months each year, every year.'

'It will add capacity, choice and flexibility to both islanders visiting the mainland and the visitors Arran needs and wants to attract.'

'Increases in ferry capacity have always in themselves increased the number of travellers and so this, coupled with RET from October next year should mean a year on year boost for the Arran economy.'

'The aim of course is to have two ferries serving Arran all year round. No date has yet been confirmed for this, however 2016 or 2017 is probable and I will certainly be pushing for the introduction of an all

Continued on Page 3



Brian Smith and Angus Raeburn, local SSE workers, are presented with their hampers by Alison Hollingworth of the Arran Cheese Co.

Islanders show their gratitude to power workers

A month after Arran suffered its worst power cuts for a generation islanders have shown their gratitude to the SSE engineers and sub-contractors who worked tirelessly to reconnect the power supply.

Each of the 150 workers involved is to receive a personal hamper of Arran goodies, gifted by the community, that includes local cheese, oatcakes, preserve, Arran Aromatics and Isle of Arran whisky miniature.

Community spirit

Kenny Bone, chairman of VisitArran, said: 'For 10 days parts of Arran were

all but cut off, and though the experience really showed the community spirit that is a particular strength of our island, we are enormously grateful to the small army of men and women who worked in some pretty appalling conditions to restore power to our homes and workplaces.'

'VisitArran decided that on behalf of the community, we had to make a small gesture of thanks to those who helped us through that difficult period. Hopefully as they sample some of the local produce they might be tempted to come back, along with

their family and friends, for a more leisurely visit to Scotland's most accessible island – often considered to be 'Scotland in Miniature'.'

Delighted

Stuart Hogarth, SSE's director of distribution, was delighted with the gesture and said: 'We are extremely touched by the generosity of the Arran community who are very kindly sending hampers to the staff who were involved in restoring power to Arran.'

'One of the lasting memories we will take away is the wonderful level of community spirit on the island.'

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Villagers up in arms over youth hostel alcohol licence

'Lochranza villagers are up in arms.'

Wren Gentleman of Larkspur phoned the Banner on Monday morning with this declaration.

He said: 'The report in last week's Banner about Lochranza Youth Hostel applying for an alcohol licence has really put the cat among the pigeons.'

'It was the talk of the church yesterday. Parish assistant Jean Hunter said that she knows people who come there solely because it is a temperance hostel.'

'There are two licensed hotels in the area - this would be over-provision and effectively turns the hostel into a public bar.'

'We are very unhappy about the way this has been done; if it wasn't for the article in the Banner this would have sneaked through by default. Nobody in the village knew about it.'

Chris Traill, chairman of Lochranza and Catacol Community Association, said: 'We have a big concern about the notification process.'

'There are already two licensed premises here that we are trying to support. The youth hostel is a seasonal business; the hotels are all-year businesses and need to make money in summer.'

Keith Legge, CEO of SYHA Hostelling Scotland, said: 'SYHA makes a substantial contribution to the local community by attracting 7,000 visitors each year. These guests are looking for choices and our alcohol licence application is in response to their feedback and expectations.'

'We have followed the correct processes in relation to our application and should we be successful, we intend to provide beers from the local brewery along with some basic wine to our guests.'

'We have no intention of running a bar within our Youth Hostel.'

'SYHA Hostelling Scotland has been on Arran for over 70 years and has always operated as part of the local community, with local businesses having benefited as a result.'

'Our commitment was further demonstrated in 2010

when we carried out an £800,000 refurbishment at Lochranza Youth Hostel and chose to appoint the contract to a local business.'

'As a not-for-profit self-funding charity, we need to ensure that we remain viable by continuing to satisfy our guests' expectations and attracting them to visit Lochranza. If SYHA cannot continue to attract and increase the number of guests to the area, then this will have an impact on all of us in the local community.'

The application is for consumption of alcohol both on and off the premises, seven days a week.



Over 100 blood donors from the island

Over 100 people turned up at Arran High School last Sunday to give blood.

Among the donors was Rachel Sim of Lamlash who this year was making her second donation.

This was the 2013 annual visit by the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service.

One hundred and twenty-three people offered a donation on Sunday but 15 were not accepted for a variety of reasons, leaving a final figure of 108 donations.

Scotland needs 5,000 blood donations a week just to keep up with demand.

Last year, across the country there were 244,850 donations from 154,807 donors.

Rachel Sim of Lamlash making a blood donation at Arran High School, attended by donor carer Angela Duggan.

02_b16don01

Council not liable for fence damage

Farmers and other island residents whose fences and hedges were damaged or destroyed by snowploughs will get no compensation from the council.

A spokesman for North Ayrshire Council told The Banner: 'We understand the difficulties faced by islanders during the emergency and are identifying ways to support affected businesses.'

'Many of the island's roads were covered with around 5ft of snow, with drifts even higher.'

'The council has a statutory

duty to clear roads in these circumstances and is not liable where damage is unavoidable and work has been carried out in a reasonable manner with no evidence of negligence - as was the case on Arran.'

He added: 'There was an urgent need to clear these roads to give SSE engineers access to damaged power supplies, provide support to the most vulnerable islanders and to reach areas which had no power or communication and were only accessible via helicopter.'

Road closures and convoy systems for resurfacing work

Resurfacing works will be carried out at various locations on Arran from Monday 15 April.

The planned works are as follows: 17 April - Kildonan Road - at Kildonan Kirk (road closure) was cancelled due to weather conditions.

18/19 April - C147 at Machrie Bridge (South of Machrie) (road closure).

22 - 26 April - The Ross Road in various locations (road closure).

24 April - C147 at Seacliff (south of Whiting Bay) (traffic control and convoy system).

This will allow North Ayrshire Council to resurface approximately 2km of the road network on Arran.

The road closures at Kildonan Road, Machrie Bridge and The Ross Road will be from 8am to 3.30pm and local diversion routes for vehicular traffic will be put in place during these times.

Every effort is being made to minimise any disruption to residents and motorists during these major upgrading and improvement works.

North Ayrshire Council would like to apologise for any inconvenience caused.

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Arran to have best-ever ferry service this summer

Continued from Page 1 year second vessel service at the earliest date possible.'

Ken Thorburn added: 'Don't forget that there are trains coming to Ardrossan harbour every hour, so foot passengers can still make use of these extra sailings.'

'But we had all kind of assurances that the timetable would be announced and we would be able to advertise and sell the service in good time. Its regrettable that this hasn't happened.'

The vessel is expected to come into service on 23 May and run through to the end of September.

Compensation offered for powerless customers

Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution are offering compensation to those affected by power cuts on Arran (and Kintyre and Islay) following the severe weather at the end of March.

The amounts indicated are £35 for all domestic customers who remained without electricity after 10am Monday 25 March and a further £27 for each subsequent full 12 hour period.

These figures are doubled for businesses. Domestic customers could receive up to £200 and businesses £400.

Details here: <http://www.ssepd.co.uk/Goodwill>

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Three-month reprieve for Arran's Red Cross transport service

The British Red Cross transport and escort service in North Ayrshire has been facing the axe.

But it has just been secured for the next three months while talks with potential funding partners continue. Now Arran's senior citizens are adding their voices to those trying to save this vital service.

Four residents of Montrose House told The Banner that they are very worried that the service is under threat.

Jim Coombe has been a resident of the home for 14 years. He said: 'I am constantly using the Red Cross for trips to Crosshouse Hospital and the Southern General.'

May Dunn has been in Montrose House for 10 years. She added: 'The Red Cross give an excellent service to Crosshouse and I don't see an alternative.'

Ian McLellan said: 'My wife goes to Crosshouse regularly to see specialists; the Red Cross is a lifeline for us.'

Vera Barker moved from Craigielea last year. She added: 'I use the transport service to see mainland specialists.'

The service is currently funded by a grant from Strathclyde Partnership for Transport (SPT).

SPT are extending their funding till the end of June to allow for discussions between the Red Cross and other potential financial partners.

Generously agreed

Marie Hayes, Red Cross operations director for West Scotland, said: 'SPT have generously agreed to extend their current funding for three months while we talk to other potential partners.'

'After that, they will continue to meet half the costs of the service and we are currently exploring ways of matching that amount.'

'The Red Cross realises the importance of this service to the people of Arran and is fully committed to ensuring that it continues.'

The service is for people



Four concerned Montrose House residents; Ian McLellan, Jim Coombe, May Dunn and Vera Barker. 02_b16red01

who do not qualify for an ambulance but would have difficulty using public transport. Since its introduction in 2003 it has helped thousands of people get to hospital appointments in Ayrshire and Glasgow.

Kenneth Gibson MSP commented: 'The potential impact on this vital service has

been an issue of great concern to many islanders in recent weeks.

'I am therefore pleased that the service will continue to receive funding for three

months to enable discussions involving SPT, the Scottish Ambulance Service and Ayrshire and Arran Health board to reach a positive conclusion.'

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Castaways take Say Something Happened to Ardrishaig

Local drama group The Castaways are travelling up to Ardrishaig on Friday to take part in the 65th annual Argyll Drama Festival.

This is the first time they have entered the festival and are the only Arran group competing this year.

They will be performing Say Something Happened, the one-act three-hander that they put on at the Arran Drama Festival in February.

One of the cast members, John Roberts of Brodick, said: 'The festival is competitive, but we are really only going for the experience of taking part.'

The other cast members are Dorothy Campling and Assja Baumgartner.

Lochranza and Catacol 200 Club

The winners of the March draw were: First prize Pauline Kemp and second prize Steph Hill.



Arran Coastguard received £1,000 from the Co-operative store in Brodick. 01_b16vol01



The Co-operative chose Arran First Responders to receive a £1,000 donation. 01_b16vol03

Co-op boost local charities' funds

Thousands of pounds have been raised for three worthwhile Arran causes by staff and customers at the Co-operative store in Brodick.

Two thousand four hundred pounds was distributed last week between the Arran Coastguard, Arran First Responders and APAWS.

Staff at the store held various different fundraising days in the supermarket and generous donations from customers helped raise the incredible sum of money.

Local causes

Carol Harwood who was presenting the cheques on behalf of the Co-op said: 'The Co-operative allows us to choose which

local charity we want to raise money for and it was agreed that it would be better if three local causes could benefit instead of just one.'

All members of the two local volunteer emergency groups and the charity APAWS were delighted with the donations which will be put to good use by all three.



Members of the APAWS charity were delighted to accept a cheque for £400. 01_b16vol02

Arran Yacht Club Boat Jumble sale

We are appealing for donations of sellable unwanted Boat/Yacht gear.

The sale to be held at St Mirren's football ground on Sunday 5th May.

Collection points on the Island are: Rear of Bilslands shop or (for key holders) in the Clubhouse.

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Shining Bright at Montrose House

Last Thursday ten ladies residing in Montrose House had a wonderful afternoon arranging Easter Baskets of Daffodils, crocus, winter pansies and garden greenery. They were helped by Ellie, Margaret and Jean who all agreed they were the best arrangements seen for years.

All were winners and all ladies including the helpers had a lovely cream tea and a Chocolate Easter Egg.

The Easter Baskets have



been displayed around Montrose House for visitors to enjoy.

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Skerryvore to rock Lochranza hall

Skerryvore, the award-winning band that hail from the tiny Isle of Tiree, are coming to Lochranza Village Hall next Friday night.

The folk rock band have performed everywhere from Chicago to Shanghai, and next week they will perform on Arran with 45 local youngsters who are learning to play the fiddle as their support.

Their tutor, Lynsey Tait, who will play along with them, said: 'The youngsters are all at different stages with some of the wee ones still at the 'scratchy nursery rhyme' stage, but some of the older ones will love this experience.'

The youngsters will have the chance to meet the Skerryvore musicians and may

even be joined on stage by Craig Espie, Skerryvore's fiddler.

'We're always keen to have local support along at our gigs,' said Craig, adding 'and it's great to be able to encourage youngsters who are learning to play music, particularly on traditional instruments.'

When Skerryvore first formed on the tiny Isle of Tiree off Scotland's west coast in 2005, little could they have known that within only a matter of years they would be performing in over 20 countries worldwide, playing to audiences from Chicago to Shanghai, with four albums and an array of industry awards under their belt.

£350 raised at Lifeboat Coffee Morning

On Saturday 13 April the local branch of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution held a Coffee Morning in the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick in aid of funds to support the national charity that saves lives at sea.

The sum of £350 was raised by a raffle, tombola and the sale of home baking etc.

Thanks are due to all those who attended and in particular to local businesses who contributed prizes.

The event ran concurrently with the Thank You Rugby Sevens tournament which had been rescheduled due to the recent adverse weather conditions.

Lady Jean Fforde, honorary president of the local branch of the RNLI, with branch treasurer Mike Meteyard at the coffee morning.



Adrian and Janet Bray handing over the cheque to Geoff Norris at Lamlash Lifeboat Station last Sunday morning. 02_b16chq01

Surcharge cheque given to lifeboat

Arran lifeboat team benefited from a cheque for £39 last Sunday.

The money represented the three percent surcharge issued by Arran Property to Mr and Mrs Adrian Bray for one month's rent and deposit on a house in Lamlash.

The tenants felt that this fee was unreasonable and the company subsequently agreed to refund the charge for using a debit card. Mr and Mrs Bray felt it had been a matter of principle and decided to donate the money to the RNLI.

Operations Manager Geoff Norris said: 'All donations are very welcome; this will pay for the lifeboat fuel for our training day.'

It's a first for Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club - free tuition in the 32nd season

Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club's 32nd season got underway on Saturday 13 April.

Dave Brambles, the Club Chairman, welcomed members and guests for the first rink game of 2013.

Vic Iutz, the Club Treasurer and one of the two founder members still playing, bowled the first jack.

A cold, windy but very enjoyable afternoon's bowls followed. The wind provided a good excuse for members whose scores reflected their lack of play over the winter!

The season continues until October with rink games being played on Tuesday and Saturday afternoons at 1.45pm and on Thursday evenings at 6.45pm. Players

from complete beginners to experts are welcome to come along and play.

Free tuition is available for new players and bowls can be borrowed at the club.

Non-members can play at any time, using the club's equipment for £3 a session. Club membership is £30 per year allowing free play for the entire season.



Founder Member Vic Iutz bowling the first jack of the season at Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club last Saturday. b16bow01

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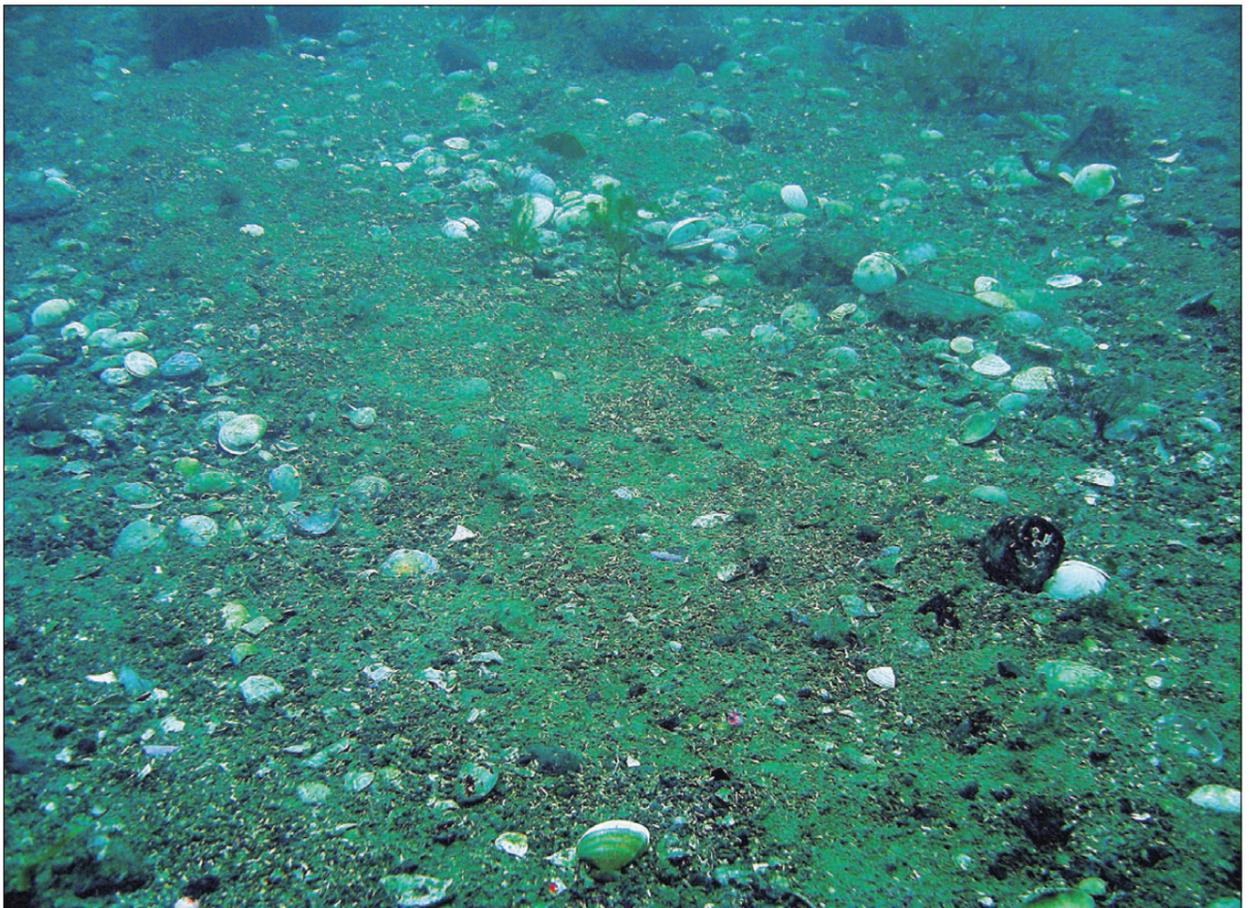
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Young All Black at the Rugby Sevens

One genuine All Black at Saturday's Arran Rugby Sevens was young Mason Marshall of Otautau, New Zealand who was here to celebrate his gran's birthday.

He is the baby son of Ross and Amber who are back here on holiday staying with Jane Marshall of Lamlash who is Mason's gran. We pictured him in his pram, fast asleep, and wearing a number 15 All Black top. 02_b16all01



The devastated seabed off Holy Isle after dredging.

Aims of Arran's proposed Marine Protected Area

Andrew Binnie, COAST's manager explains what COAST's proposed Marine Protected Area (MPA) would mean for the island.

In particular he detailed exactly what the difference is between a No Take Zone and a Marine Protected Area and what impact he thought the MPA would have on Arran's commercial fishermen, sea anglers and tourism.

Andrew said: 'The most important thing to realise is that the MPA will not be a No Take Zone.

'MPAs can have different management measures whereas No Take Zones do not allow any forms of fishing. For instance in the pro-

posed South Arran MPA we are keen to exclude boats using gear that damages the seabed such as dredgers and bottom trawlers but we also view the MPA as a chance to encourage sustainable fishing methods such as creeling and sea angling.

Benefit

'This will benefit fishermen and tourism operators. Ultimately we would love to see a return of Arran's once-famous fishing festivals and more frequent reports of cetaceans such as bottlenose dolphins and minke whales.

'Arran's tourism offer would be greatly enhanced if our seas had more life. It would also be great to see

more local restaurants selling local sustainably harvested seafood. There is a lot we can do to help our seas recover.

'We would like to encourage the whole community to get behind the proposed MPA. We are trying to make the campaign family friendly with events like our recent Easter beach scavange.

'There will be further outdoor events, talks and drop in sessions over the spring and summer. These will complement MPA information leaflets and marine habitat posters to be placed around the island, as well as our new MPA facebook and webpages.

'We hope the posters, events and forums will give Arran residents and visitors lots of

opportunities to give us their feedback on the proposal. It's not guaranteed the MPA will be designated so that's why we have to show strong local support.

'Below are some of the ways that the community can help us.'

- 1 Contact COAST to become an Arran Marine Protected Area volunteer.
- 2 Like our new Arran Community MPA facebook page.
- 3 Support us during the summer public consultation.
- 4 Link your website to COAST's MPA web page.
- 5 Make your own Arran MPA octopus and donate it to COAST for sale at events.

The contact details are: email@arrancoast.com and www.arrancoast.com

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After his talk with the Arran Antiquarians, Carl Reavey hopped on his bike to cycle back to Islay via the Lochranza ferry.

Antiquarians hear about our Mesolithic ancestors

The story of some of Scotland's earliest residents was told to 65 members of the Arran Antiquarians group this week by Carl and Jan Reavey of Islay.

Carl who read Anthropology and Archaeology at university spoke to them on the early residents of the Western Isles and their lifestyles.

He and his wife Jan, both natives of Derbyshire, moved to Islay 20 years ago after several spells living abroad and Carl first visited Arran 30 years ago.

They have owned a hotel, a pub and Carl has worked on the Islay newspaper but they both now work for the Bruichladdich Distillery and live in Port Charlotte.

Carl told us that the first human residents of Islay were hunter-gatherers and amazingly their lifestyle is still the way of life in parts of Africa.

They were not cavemen but a small travelling community living in teepee type huts and using primitive dugout canoes and coracle type boats.

The landscape of Islay was very

different then; there were no sheep or cattle and since that time man has drastically changed the natural landscape.

It was 25,000 years ago when there was the last significant ice age and Britain was part of the European landmass, and not until 13,000 years did the ice begin to melt and animals moved in.

Earliest signs of life in Scotland were discovered by an old friend of the Antiquarians, Tam Ward of Biggar, who when investigating local fields found mesolithic tools subsequently dated as 14,000 years old.

Wildlife of that period included woolly mammoths, cave bears, rhinoceros, cave lions, bison and musk ox.

These were proved and depicted on cave paintings in France and excavations in the Ukraine.

Islay, however, has a skull of an Irish Elk which stood seven feet at the shoulder with antlers 12 feet across.

This megafauna died out quite

quickly and various theories put forward are a climate change, a strike by a large comet or simply over hunting. Meanwhile, sea levels rose considerably.

The Mesolithic communities arrived on the western seaboard of Scotland and the first flint debris on Islay and Jura were cutters, scrapers and harpoon tips dated about 8,000 years ago.

Carl showed some of his collection of flints. These groups would fish, hunt and harvest an area bare and then move on to another.

They had tools, boats and could make basic fish traps. Indeed, the hazel nut crop of Colonsay was wiped out in one or two years. There is evidence they used fire to clear forest.

Carl's researches tell him that in 5,300BC these groups disappeared and all moved to the Isle of Oronsay. The number would be in the hundreds, not thousands, and they lived there for 1,000 years.

Their diet changed to a completely marine diet, and an analysis of hu-

man remains and shell middens are proof of that.

There are no obvious reasons why this happened or indeed why 1,000 years later Oronsay was abandoned.

There were by now Mesolithic chambered tombs, pottery vessels and immigrant farmers from Scotland at this time started to appear.

These new folk ate no marine life and grew cereal crops which could be used for a basic but unappetising bread, but more excitingly in Carl's view, beer!

These changes heralded the age of Neolithic man, a very different individual with a very different lifestyle.

Carl, a keen cyclist, left us that afternoon to cycle back home to Islay, with Jan awaiting him at the ferry at Lochranza using more conventional transport.

The next meeting of the Arran Antiquarians will be on Monday 20 May, when David Walker of Kilmacolm will be talking about and showing pictures of 'Glasgow's Hidden Treasures'.

Affordable housing 40 year problem

One of the biggest issues facing Arran in the 21st century has been the question of affordable housing for those who wish to live and work here.

But it would seem that this is not a new phenomenon – in fact it is a problem that first began to rear its head on the island 40 years ago.

In a report from The Glasgow Herald on August 19, 1964, the issue was remarked upon by one of the island's District Councillors, Neil Clark from Lochranza.

The report focuses on the rejection by the council of plans for a £1m holiday camp on the island.

Mr Clark is reported as saying that dozens of houses had been sold in the past few years in Arran to people who can afford 'both a city home and a holiday house'.

This he said had been 'the ruination of Arran' as now no local person could compete for houses coming up for sale.

The council rejected the holiday camp plans because others agreed a holiday camp would be busy in summer but deserted in the wintertime.

Arran Brewery launches twelve new beers

The Arran Brewery has launched the first of a series of 12 new cask ales.

The beers are all themed around star signs and the character of the beer has been designed by our artisan brewers to reflect the classic personalities of people born under that constellation.

The beers will only be available for the period of the birth sign and will not be available again until next year.

Arran Aries is a light red ale with an alcohol content of 3.3% ABV.

It has a fresh grapefruit aroma and malt body with a bitter hops finish.

Arran Taurus will be out on general release from April 20.

Meals on wheels helpers wanted

Two volunteers are required for the meals on wheels service on Arran.

One is needed on a Tuesday and one on a Thursday to deliver meals in Brodick. It takes just one hour and on a rota of once every five weeks.

Anyone able to help should contact Alison Bilsland on 302272 daytime or 303505 at night.

THE ARRAN BANNER

Super summer timetable

The second summer ferry service between Brodick and Ardrossan has proved to be a valuable tool in getting as many tourists to the island as possible in recent years.

For the first time the island is to have a second summer ferry for five months which effectively will give the island the best service it has ever had.

Despite constant laments that Arran's ferry service is not up to scratch, the new summer timetable means the island will have more boats than ever before sailing between here and Ardrossan.

Unlike last year when the MV Isle of Arran's capacity was restricted to freight allowances only, there will be no restrictions this year.

Some of the features of the timetable include a 7am sailing from Brodick on Monday,

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, an 8pm sailing from Ardrossan on Saturdays and Sundays, and a 9.05am sailing from Brodick on Sundays.

Also highlighted is a 7.20pm departure from Ardrossan on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday.

Trains now serve Ardrossan harbour every hour so there should no longer be the usual gripes about transport links at the other side for foot passengers.

This is a super service and one that hopefully will be used as much as possible by both locals and visitors to the island. The only problem that we can see with this service is that it does not appear in the CalMac summer timetable for Arran.

Despite plans for it to begin on May 23 and run until September, anyone picking up a timetable to book a summer holiday will not know that these extra sailings exist.

And if The Banner had not highlighted the second service this week it is unlikely that locals would know of the imminent new timetable either. As far as we can see the timetable cannot be found anywhere in the public domain – we have had an exclusive look at it.

In order to get as many tourists to Arran as possible they need to know that the island has two ferries.

The whole point of the second ferry is being undermined by the fact that like last year, it has not been advertised.

With less than a month to go until the MV Isle of Arran arrives, CalMac needs to work quickly to make sure people know about the service and promote it as widely as they can. This fantastic second summer ferry will be wonderful for locals but there is a danger the boat could be left empty much of the time if tourists are not aware of it.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.' (Micah 6:8)

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



Drinks treaty?

Sir,
On a recent visit to Arran I decided to venture further than the bright lights and hedonistic pleasures offered by the capital village and spent the day in Kildonan.

After a pleasant walk to Loch Garbad via the only 'library' in Scotland that doesn't provide internet access (also very few books), I called in at the Kildonan Hotel for a quick drink.

It was extremely kind of the Arran tourist board to provide the rowing boat moored at the loch, however, oars would be a helpful addition.

Whilst enjoying my drink and admiring the view of Alisa Craig eclipsed by the standing stones in the hotel grounds, I was disturbed by a conversation the bar maid was having with a trainee barman. She was explaining the till system and how to ring up (I know that's not the right term but I'm old enough to remember having to press keys) the prices of different drinks.

Don't worry, the point of this letter is coming soon, now in fact. She told the trainee how to ring up the drinks for the locals at their 'discounted prices', warning him that the locals would be expecting this and would not be happy if they were overcharged.

This to my mind does not seem either fair or sensible. Surely to attract more tourists it would make sense to price the drinks as competitively as possible.

Furthermore given the fact that the Kildonan Hotel is the only bar for miles; do they really need an incentive for the locals?

For ordering my next round I considered putting a knotted hanky on my head and adopting a broad Yorkshire accent. I have since pondered this strange situation and decided that there may be something more sinister at work here.

After in-depth research including such weighty tomes as the Doomsday book and Tom Weir's walks on Arran, I have been unable to discover any mention of the aforementioned standing stones. I have come to the conclusion that the drinks discount enjoyed by the locals is merely a ruse to maintain their silence as to the truth of the imposter stone circle.

Yours,
Kenny Beattie
49 Stuart Road
Carmunnock
Glasgow

Brave Couple
Sir,
I applaud the couple that have been brave enough to come into the open and highlight their dealings Miller Stewart Arran Properties.

I am amongst the many who have cause to regret any dealings with this company, if you also have a story to tell, I am sure the very slim pages of our Banner will be bursting at the seams.

Yours,
Eleanor Hamilton
Strathwhillan Road
Brodick

Wrong speed
Sir,
Whilst I am pleased that you have printed my letter about Arran's broadband upgrade as requested in last week's Banner, you have actually printed the wrong speed in paragraph three.

I wrote 0.5mbps, and I meant 'point five', i.e. half a meg, not 5mbps!

We'd be over the moon in Slidery and Machrie if we had 5mbps, which would be the same speed as most of the rest of Arran!

Yours,
E Coral Smith
Slidery

Glasgow Airport coach
Sir,
With the news of new daily flights operating by Lufthansa Airlines between Glasgow and Dusseldorf, it seems to me that there is a golden opportunity for Arran tourism to benefit from an increase in German visitors.

My suggestion is that by rigorous co-ordination from Arran businesses, hotels, VisitArran etc and quality

advertising in Germany it is very possible to persuade our German guests to travel to Scotland in Miniature.

Arran is not too far from Glasgow Airport, which brings me to my main suggestion – a luxury coach service between Arran and Glasgow Airport. This coach would travel on the ferry with the main idea of collecting foreign visitors from international flights.

Then it could return to Arran to either offer a day tour of the island or take visitors to their chosen hotels. Of course, such a service could also be used by locals travelling on holiday.

I am not suggesting that a coach simply travel to Glasgow Airport in the hope that visitors might want to come to Arran. But the island tourist bodies will have done their homework and obtained solid bookings for Arran.

Such a coach service should also have a courier, preferably who could speak several languages and who would enter the airport building to meet incoming guests.

Arran is a great place for visitors and what I am suggesting is about go-getting enterprise and an increase in customers which in these testing time would be most welcome.

Yours,
Colin Thomson
350 Ruchazie Road
Glasgow

No access for two months
Sir,
The road works starting on Tuesday 7 May in the Kilpatrick area will continue to 28 June.

For two months there will be no access 24/7 between Corriecrievie/Slidery and Blackwaterfoot.

This road reconstruction is to facilitate timber transport which already damages the road surfaces all over Arran.

We who live in Corriecrievie and Slidery are therefore to be cut off from medical facilities, shops and garage services for no eventual benefit to the island. Residents in

our area will need to make a 60-plus mile round trip to access these services where at present the round trip is just 10 miles.

At present the road through Kilpatrick to Corriecrievie is quite adequate. Only minor repair work is required for the general public.

Does North Ayrshire Council expect us to be pleased and grateful for this work.

Yours,
Michael Campling
Whitefield Cottage
Slidery

Tennis season starts again
Shiskine Golf and Tennis Club will resume their club nights next week.

The Junior Tennis will begin on Wednesdays (term time only) from 4.30pm to 5.15pm for Primary 1-3 and from 5.15pm to 6pm for Primary 4-7.

The emphasis is on fun with some games and coaching.

Adults will meet on Thursdays from 6pm.

Non-members are welcome to join in; there is a fee of £1 per session for juniors and £3 for adults.

Balls will be provided and there are a few extra rackets for juniors.

For more information contact Shiskine Golf and Tennis Club on 860226 or Sheila Gray 07833 010599.

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Impressive exhibits at 2013 Spring Flower and Bulb Show

'The quality and number of exhibits is very impressive under the circumstances this year'



Annie McKelvie won first prize in class 24 with this scarecrow. 02_b16bulb07

The 2013 Isle of Arran Spring Flower and Bulb Show attracted a surprisingly large number of entries.

The show had been postponed for a couple of weeks because of the particularly cold spring, but Arran Horticultural Society president John Sillars said: 'The quality and number of exhibits is very impressive under the circumstances this year.'

Best Exhibit in Show was a vase of Banker and Ouma daffodils, shown by Todd Frost of Whiting Bay.

The Neil McLean Cup for Best Exhibit entered by a School was won by Corrie

School. Mairi Thompson of Brodick won the new Spring Photography class with her photo of snow-covered daffodils in her garden.

Her trophy was a new one, expertly made by local wood-carver Marvin Elliott.

Kathryn Stefanuti won the R W McKelvie Cup for the best exhibit in section one, bulbs, with a bowl of mixed daffodils.

Kathryn also won first prize for her stunning Amaryllis in section one, class six. Rosie Cook won first prize in section three, floral art with an imaginative display in an old suitcase.



Todd Frost's daffodils won the Royal Bank of Scotland Cup for best exhibit in show. 02_b16bulb03



Kathryn Stefanuti's bowl of daffodils won her the R W McKelvie Cup. 02_b16bulb02



Rosie Cook's floral display in a suitcase. 02_b16bulb06



Kathryn Stefanuti's prize-winning Amaryllis. 02_b16bulb05



A display of floral art by the Garden Club in a wheelbarrow. 02_b16bulb04



Mairi Thompson with the new Marvin Elliott trophy for photography. 02_b16bulb01



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Zulu Warriors run in a try against Arran. 02_b16sev02



Murray Picken of Arran. 02_b16sev03



Ben Tattersfield of Arran looks for a way past Ardrossan. 02_b16sev08



The Arran President's sevens team. 02_b16rug04

Ardrossan en success at ru

Ardrossan rugby team won the 2013 Arran Rugby Sevens tournament at Ormidale Park last Saturday.

They repeated their success of last year with a powerful performance, scoring 207 points and conceding just 37 in their five matches.

The Zulu Warriors team from Glasgow University won the 2013 Plate final, beating Arran by 38 points to 35 in a very close encounter.

Eight teams competed in two mini-leagues of four.

In the cup s
ran President's
strong Greeno
one-sided fina
ock 56 - 7.

In the Plate :
team 38 - 14,
34 - 5.

A good crow
which had bee
power crisis of

HECTOR WAS GETTING CROSS, THE POSTIE SHOULD HAVE BEEN BY NOW WITH HIS NEW SCOTTISH FIELD!



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Stuart McMaster evades a tackle against Greenock 2. 02_b16sev01



The Arran first team. 02_b16rug03



Ardrossan, winners of the 2013 Arran Rugby Sevens. 02_b16rug01



Ardrossan on their way to a 47 - 10 victory over Arran. 02_b16sev04



Ardrossan run in one of many tries against Greenock in the final. 02_b16sev09

Enjoy repeat rugby sevens

In semi-finals Ardrossan beat the Arran Sevens by 43 points to nil, while the Arran first team beat Irvine 46 - 38. Arran also saw Ardrossan overwhelm Greenock.

In the quarter-finals, Arran beat Greenock second round, and the Zulu Warriors beat Mutts.

It was a day to turn up to enjoy the competition, which was re-arranged because of the recent weather on the island.



Jamie Picken is tackled by two Ardrossan men. 02_b16sev07



Robbie Bayne of the President's Seven is held up by two Irvine players. 02_b16sev05



A clean break by Stuart McMaster for the President's Seven. 02_b16sev06



Two of the Ardrossan camp followers having a great time. 02_b16sev10

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Banner on the piste at Kitzbuhel

Michael Kearns went skiing in Austria last week, and he didn't forget to pack his Arran Banner for a good read.

Michael is from Kilwinning but has been working at Brodick Co-op for the last year.

He said: 'I couldn't resist the temptation to ask my friend to get this snap of me catching up on island news at the summit of the Passthurn area

on a holiday last week to the Kitzbuhel Ski Resort in Austria, for your famous and fun Banner on Holiday feature.

'Although resident in Kilwinning, I consider myself a pseudo-islander on account not only of my family's caravan at Park Avenue in Lam-lash but also as an employee of the big Co-op in Brodick.'

Michael reading his Banner at Kitzbuhel.

Arran livestock at Stirling Agricultural Centre

United Auctions had forward 2,261 store cattle, 86 cast cows and 7,236 prime and store sheep at their Stirling Agricultural Centre on Wednesday 3 April.

Arran prices:

Bullocks: Hawthorn (Charolais) £910, 241p, Balgowan (Limousin cross) £760, 246p.

Heifers: Hawthorn (Charolais) £765, 207p, Balgowan (Limousin cross) £650, 200p.

Sheep: Bridge (Texel cross hogs) £79, Bridge (Texel cross ewes) £78.50, Bridge (Blackface tups) £63.50.

United Auctions had forward 2,016 store cattle, 106 cast cows, 5,126 prime and store sheep on Wednesday 10 April.

Bullocks: Creagraineach (Limousin cross) £690, 251p,

Heifers: Creagraineach (Limousin cross heifer) £590, 227p, Creagraineach (Charolais cross heifer) £670, 220p.

Cast cows: Kilpatrick (Limousin) £1070, 194p, Clauchlands (Holstein) £735, 114p. Sheep: Moor (Texel cross ewes) £114.50.

New sporting opportunity

The governing body for squash and racketball in Scotland is delivering a brand new vision for the sports right here on the Isle of Arran.

Scottish Squash and Racketball - having already introduced a new format to the island's primary schools - has now installed exciting new racquet wall playing surfaces at Arran High School.

The racquet wall markings turn an unused gym wall into a playing surface on which to play racketball - one of the great rebound racquet sports.

Racketball builds on the basic backhand and forehand

skills being taught to children through the Mini Squash programme, which is already available in all of the primary schools in Arran.

Active schools co-ordinator for North Ayrshire, Tim Allan, said: 'I'm really pleased to have played a part in giving the children on Arran every chance of getting the most out of these fun and active sports.'

'Racketball can now be played in the secondary school and I think that will be massively beneficial for the children here. It's a very accessible sport - suitable

for all ages, both sexes and all abilities - and it's a great aerobic exercise.

'Once they've mastered the basic racquet skills and ball control I'm hoping to take the children to the squash court in the Kinloch Hotel at Blackwaterfoot, where they can really let themselves go with four walls.'

Blackwaterfoot boasts a top of the range glass-back squash court and Scottish

Squash and Racketball has supplied the Kinloch with a range of different balls so that beginners can choose the ball that best suits them.

Robbie Crawford, proprietor of the Kinloch Hotel, said: 'This is a really interesting initiative. Formerly the club had over 40 members but it's been a little quieter of late. We are happy to welcome new players to the court, be it for racketball or for squash.'

LAMLASH BOWLING CLUB OPENING DAY

SATURDAY 4 MAY 2013

at 2pm

Raffle

ALL WELCOME



ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER SC002089

Rosaburn, Brodick, Open daily 10.30am to 4.30pm.

Come along and wander down 'Memory Lane'

Constantly changing displays of Archaeology, Geology, Arran at War, Social History, Children's Quiz and Play House, Clearances and Emigration, Farm Impliments, 19th Century Cottage, 1940's Schoolroom, Original Blacksmith's Forge, Early Photography, Villages Then and Now, Riverside Picnic Area and Gift Shop with Unique Presents for all the Family.

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WITH LEADING UK HERBALISTS MAUREEN & KEITH ROBERTSON

WE WANT YOU!

**Do you want a good night in pleasant company?
Do you have an interest in any aspect of Drama?**

Then you will be made very welcome at Whiting Bay Drama Club.

If you would like to meet us all, please come along to the A.G.M on Tuesday 30th April @ 7.30pm in Whiting Bay Hall. Remember you don't just have to be a resident of Whiting Bay

For more information please contact Helen Macfarlane, Secretary on 600807

the National Trust for Scotland
a place for everyone

BRODICK CASTLE, COUNTRY PARK & GOATFELL

**Thursday 25th April
BRONZE AGE ROUNDHOUSE EXPERIENCE**

10.30am-12 noon & 2pm-3.30pm

Explore our newly built replica roundhouse and discover what life was like on Arran during the Bronze Age. Hands-on fun for all!

Adult £5 (with Country Park entry);
Child £2.50 (with Country Park entry)
Limited spaces, booking essential

**Friday 26th April
CASTLE SECRETS TOUR**

11.30am-1pm

A special tour of the Castle, revealing unseen areas that are not normally open to the public and access to the battlements (weather permitting).

Adults £5 (with entry to the Castle & Country Park)
Only suitable for over 16s

Tel: 0844 4932152 email: brodickcastle@nts.org.uk

THE ARRAN

BANNER

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Saturday 24 April, 1993

Olive branch

In three weeks time His Holiness the Dalai Lama will visit Holy Isle – an occasion equalled only by a Royal visit.

Aware of its significance the Buddhists have been drawing up a list of 20-odd Arran people to attend – an olive branch for some.

For first on the list are the four Church of Scotland min-

isters even although a year ago not one of them accepted an invitation to attend an interfaith service which marked the Buddhists coming to Holy Isle.

Preparing for sea

There is just a month to go until the launch of Arran's new ferry the MV Caledonian Isles and she is getting nearer to completion every day.

Looking now like a real ship,

the enormous bridge and bow section have been added since the last pictures we printed.

Clearly a big painting job is to be done but she will receive her full CalMac livery by the time she is launched on May 24.

Church future

The future of Pirmill Church has been under consideration now for some time and it seems the end may not be far away.

The Ardrossan Presbytery have given the church until the end of June to come up with proposals to keep it going.

The Reverend Andrew Barrie said: 'The Presbytery want us to close the building but we are arguing against that but I think we are close to the end.'

Third time lucky?

Creelers' new chef Sam Carswell will not be preparing food at Home Farm this Monday.

Instead he will be cooking in Glasgow as he takes part in the Scottish Masterchef of the Year competition.

This will be the third time the chef from Kilwinning has competed.

Perhaps it will be third time lucky!

Farm, Kilmory has submitted plans for an off road vehicle track at Butterhill, towards the forestry track.

He believes it will be a totally different form of entertainment and mainland motor dealers have already been in touch about sponsorship and providing a Landrover.

Prison riots

Prison riots in the Ohio Correction Facility, Lucasville, Ohio last week made waves on Arran this week, as it was just recently that The Banner featured one of their inmates and his connection to the island.

Fiona Simpson of Lamblash recently visited Percy Hutton, a prisoner on death row at the penitentiary, after writing to him for over a year.

Seven dead inmates, two dead guards and 19 others badly injured but thankfully Percy is safe in another part of the prison.



Right: It is five years since Celia Butler and her daughter Sandra bought Whiting Bay Hotel and turned it into Cooriedoon Nursing Home. b16twe01



Jenni Turnbull tries out the latest product from Alice Anderson's Brae Salon – the universal contour wrap. b16twe04

Rough ride

John McBride of Kilbride



At a wet Sandbraes on Saturday the Hospital Supporters League held a charity hockey match which saw St Trinians facing up to the SAS! b16twe02



Arran's golfers enjoyed the annual Licensed Trade competition on Saturday. b16twe03

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

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Everyday

Trout Fly Fishing
Brodick Castle, Garden Open
Arran Heritage Museum

Saturday 20th April

Army Cadets
Over 21s Disco
Karate
Family Games
Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
Arran Trust Gala Dinner
Lawn Bowls
Bingo
Junior Open Day

Sunday 21st April

Alcoholics Anonymous
New Al-Anon Meeting
Family Games
Fun in the pool
Folk Music Session
Folk night
Cocaine Anonymous (& all other drugs)
Open House

Monday 22nd April

Quiz
Outside Boot Camp
Over 50s Badminton
Badminton
Citizens Advice
Morning Fitness
Breathe Walk Class
Table Tennis
Badminton
Volleyball Club
Arran Junior Football Club
Lunch Club
Summer Bridge Tournament

Tuesday 23rd April

Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Youth Club
Rotary club
Streetly Dance pre school
Streetly Dancing Classes P1-S7
Youth Club
Rowan Singers
Weight Watchers
Junior Hockey Club
Healthy Outdoors
Cricket Practise
Scottish Country Dancing
Run Arran (intermediate)
Lawn Bowls
Feis Araninn AGM

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

Auchrannie Road 11am – 1 pm.
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Arran High School, 10am
Brambles, 7 for 7.30pm
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 1.45pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 7pm
Brodick Golf Club, 10am

Church Hall, Brodick, 4.30pm
Call 601206 for details
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 2pm
Ormidale Hotel, 8.30pm
Ormidale sports pavilion, 2pm – 3.30pm
Fellview, Brodick, 11am-4.30pm

Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm
Whiting Bay Park 6am
Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30-1.30pm
Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
Kinneil, Lamlash, 5.15pm
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 7-8pm
Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm
McKelvie Road, Lamlash 12noon
Arran High School, 6.30pm for 6.45pm

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
Kildonan Hall, 7pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.45-2.30pm
Auchrannie Gym Hall, 3.45pm – 6pm
Brodick Hall, 6.30 – 8pm
Lamlash church hall, 7.30-9.30pm
St Molios Church Hall, 6.30-7.30pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6-7pm
10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7pm-9pm
Brodick Church Hall, 7.30-9.30pm
Auchrannie Spa, 5.30pm
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 1.45pm
Arran high School, 7.30pm

Wednesday 24th April

Hockey
Tae Kwondo
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Senior Badminton
Yogalates
Aquafizz
Music Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service
Run Arran (Advanced)
Northend Football Training
Outside Boot Camp

Thursday 25th April

Morning Fitness
General Knowledge Quiz
Lochranza Craft Club
Youth Club
Live Country/Folk music
Auchrannie Winter Bowls
Ladies Netball
Lunchbox
Weight Watchers
Lawn Bowls
Whiting Bay Hall AGM
Arran Viking Longship AGM
Arran Garden Club
Bronze Age Roundhouse Experience

Friday 26th April

Aqua Fizz
Yogalates
Arran Youth Foundations
Lochranza Kids Badminton
Lochranza Adults Badminton
Disco
Outside Boot Camp
AYF AGM
Castle Secrets Tour

Saturday 27th April

Army Cadets
Over 21s Disco
Karate
Family Games
Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
Grand Spring Ball
House contents sale

Auchrannie Games Hall, 6.30-7.30pm
Arran high School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7.15pm
Arran High School, 8-9pm
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am
10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30
Auchrannie Spa Car Park, 5.30pm
Lochranza, 7pm
Whiting Bay Park, 6am

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Lochranza Hall, 2pm
Youth Cabin, Lamlash, 7-9pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay 8.30-10.30pm
Auchrannie, 7pm-9pm
High School sports hall – seniors, 7.30-9pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 12.30-2.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 5.30pm
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 6.45pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7.30pm
Corrie Hotel, 6pm
Brodick Ranger Centre, 7.30pm
Brodick Castle, 10.30am - 12noon and 2pm - 3.30pm

Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
Church Hall, Brodick 7pm-9pm
Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm
Lochranza Hall, 8pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Whiting Bay Park 6am
St Brides Church Hall, Brodick 6.30pm
Brodick Caslte 11.30am - 1pm

Auchrannie Road 11am – 1 pm.
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Arran High School, 10am
Kilmory Hall, 8pm
12 Murray Crescent, Lamlash 11am-4pm

ISLE OF
ARRAN
BREWERY

www.arranbrewery.com



Property



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BANNER

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Public Notices

EDUCATION AND SKILLS

MEETINGS TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF AN EDUCATIONAL CAMPUS IN ARDROSSAN BY THE AMALGAMATION OF AUCHENHARVIE AND ARDROSSAN ACADEMIES AND HAYSHOLM AND JAMES MCFARLANE SCHOOLS

A series of meetings are to be held to discuss proposals on the future of Auchenharvie Academy, Ardrossan Academy, Haysholm School and James McFarlane School. These meetings will be held for parents/carers and those interested in the proposals at the following venues:

School; Date; Time
Haysholm School; 7 May 2013; 7pm
Ardrossan Academy; 9 May 2013; 6.30pm
Auchenharvie Academy; 14 May 2013; 6.30pm
West Kilbride Primary School; 15 May 2013; 6.30pm
James McFarlane School; 16 May 2013; 10.30am

The meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss the proposal and hear the views of the wider community.

The Scottish Government announced in September 2012 that North Ayrshire Council had been successful in securing funding support towards a proposed development of an educational campus by the amalgamation of Auchenharvie and Ardrossan Academies, and Haysholm and James McFarlane Schools.

A report outlining the background and benefits of these proposals has been issued to all parents/carers and interested parties. Copies of this consultative document are available from Education and Skills, 4th Floor, Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE. The document can also be viewed in local public libraries, community centres and health centres and on the North Ayrshire Council website, www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk.

Interested parties are invited to make written submissions on the proposal to the Corporate Director (Education and Skills), North Ayrshire Council, Cunninghame House, Irvine KA12 8EE or e-mail to campus21@north-ayrshire.gov.uk no later than 12 noon on Friday 14 June 2013.

CAROL KIRK
Corporate Director
(Education and Skills)

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

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined at Development Planning Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine*, between 9am-4.45pm weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk *and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

Written representations may be made to the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 10.05.13. Any representations received will be open to public view.

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

Format: Application No; Address; Proposed Development
13/00177/PP; Eas Mor Waterfall, Kildonan, Brodick, Isle of Arran; Siting of caravan incorporating office use.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



WHITING BAY CLUB OF DRAMA & MUSIC

Notification of A.G.M of the above Club is hereby given Tuesday the 30th April at 7.30pm in Whiting Bay Hall.

Please come along – ALL WELCOME

Kenneth Gibson MSP will hold advice surgeries at the following times and locations. No appointment necessary.

Monday 22 April	
Whiting Bay Village Hall	11.15-12.15
Kilmory Village Hall	13.00-14.00
Brodick Health Centre	15.00-16.00
Monday 13 May	
Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall	11.30-12.30
Shiskine Village Hall	13.15-14.15
Lamlash ACVS	15.00-16.00

To contact Kenneth outside these times, please contact his constituency office:

15 Main Street, Dalry, KA24 5DL Tel: 01294 833 687
Email: Kenneth.gibson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

BANNER BANNER
PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES

Arran Youth Foundations

AGM

Friday 26th April

6.30pm

St Bride's Church Hall, Brodick

Lamlash Mooring Association

AGM

Tuesday 30th April 2013

At 8pm in the Glenisle Hotel Lamlash

Drive Times

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1.3 GSI 2003, 75,000 miles. Tax & MOT
Excellent condition, low running costs

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£1000 o.n.o.

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ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT x 2

We are looking for two motivated and enthusiastic individuals to join the Arran Medical Group team. You will be based mainly in Brodick and Lamlash surgeries but may be required to work across any of the island sites.

You should possess strong communication, interpersonal and organisational skills and be proficient in the use of Microsoft Office packages. The successful candidates will also be required to become proficient in using our specialist software systems for which training will be provided.

Hours per post: 35 per week

For informal enquiries/application pack, please contact Joyce Beasley on 01770 600516 or Jenni Turnbull on 017770 302175 by 5pm on Friday 26 April 2013.

Closing date for applications 5pm Friday 3 May 2013.

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Applications in writing please to:

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Isle of Arran, KA27 8NB

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Co-operative food store
Isle of Arran

We have vacancies for the following positions

- Customer Team members
- Team Leaders
- Team Managers

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Hours and money by arrangement

Please call 600268

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Free old fibreglass punt length 8'6 beam 4'6. In need of some TLC, to arrange pick up phone 600601	Age 4 and up trek tag along very good condition £30 Tel:01770 870316
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Computer Desk Tel: 01770 600331	Brand new car ramp for older dogs – dog wont use it £25 Tel:302153
OVER £30	M&S Mahogany bedroom suite dressing table, mirror and stool, chest of drawers 2 bedside tables £75ono, Berry hole in the wall electric log effect fire £50ono Tel: 07894662008 or 07752776092
Sale of Birchvale, brodick necessitates selling of high quality furniture including lounge, dining room and bedroom suites and many other items. If interested call 302392 or 07941 798125	BANNER CLASSIFIEDS
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HOUSE CLEARANCE

Contents of 3 bed bungalow for sale @ 12 Murray Crescent, Lamlash Saturday 27th April 11am – 4pm

Small dining tables & Chairs, 2 & 3 seater dark blue leather sofas. Coffee table, Kitchen items, Bedding, double bed etc

Plus handmade bird and squirrel boxes and misc items

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Mob: 07733 738127

Email: john@
thornbankwoodcraft.co.uk

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rwalkinshaw573@btinternet.com

BANNER
CLASSIFIEDS



Lamlash Ladies play for the Magill Cup

After a brief delay due to some snow and power issues the winners of all medal competitions during the previous year competed in the Medal Final on a beautiful sunny day!

After a close finish, honours went to Clair Barclay (one of our off-island members) with a gross of 77, net 66. This was also lowest gross. Second was Sheena Murchie with a gross of 80 and net of 67.

Congratulations to Clair and all competitors who were all winners through the year.



Clair Barclay with the Magill Cup.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday 14 April. Due to the heavy rain the Wolfie and Gege Kroner Stableford was postponed and will be played at a later date.

Fixtures: Sunday 21 April, Gents counting medal from the white tees. Wednesday 24 April, Richard Parfitt Trophy (Stableford). Sunday 28 April, TorAlvey Greensome, one draw for partners at 10am.

Shiskine Golf Club

Ladies 18 Hole Medal Thursday 4 April CSS 67, 14 played. Silver 1 P Adamson 87-18=69, 2 & Scratch A Anderson 86-16=70. Bronze 1 S Hill 92-24=68, 2 L Murray 98-25=73. Congratulations to Steph on winning the Medal.

Ladies 12 Hole Medal, Thursday 11 April, seven played. 1 S Hill 60-14=46, 2 & Scratch C

Maxton 53-5=48(BIH).

Gents: Daniel Ferguson Trophy, Wednesday 10 April. 18 played. 1st Class, 1 & Scratch A Napier 45-3=42, 2 J Faulkner 49-5=44, 3 D Price 52-7=45 (BL3). 2nd Class, 1 J Simpson 52-10=42, 2 C Rutherford 53-10=43, 3 M Hesp 57-12=45.

18-hole Medal, Sunday 14 April. 1 J Morrison 85-8=77, 2 and scratch B Paton 84-6=78, 3 A Bannatyne 99-20=79. Magic two, A Bannatyne.

Congratulations to Joe Faulkner on winning the Daniel Ferguson Trophy.

Arran Ladies Golf Union (ALGU)

Drumadoon at Whiting Bay.

At the third time of asking,

(due to rain or snow) the last of the Drumadoon series was finally held at Whiting Bay on Saturday 13 April. The weather held and we all got round dry. Once again some great scores were submitted.

Second place went to Jenni Turnbull 66 (15), on the BIH against Mary Jo Tod also 66 (34). First place and indeed Scratch went to Susan Butchard with a 65 (13), 78 respectively.

There was also a magic two at the 17th (almost a hole in one actually!) - by Elizabeth Kelso.

Well done to everyone who came along and took part. Thank you to John and the team at the clubhouse for the soup and rolls.

Brodick Men's Golf

Wednesday 10 April Summer Cup, 44 played, CSS 64. 1 J Beattie (22) 60 (acb), 2 G Sillars (24) 60, 3 G Hendry (5) 62. Scratch G Hendry 67. There were 13 twos and Robbie Duncan got two. Sunday 14 April British Legion 36 Hole, winner L Hartley 75 + 67 = 142, runner up D Robertson 74 + 70 = 144.

Fixtures: Sunday 21 April British Legion Cup (Stableford) draw on Sat 20 April 12noon. Saturday 27 April Centenary Exhibition match. Not to be missed.

Sunday 28 April Belhaven Medal. Draw on Saturday 27 April 12 noon.

PLEASE NOTE that with effect from Sunday 28 April and for the rest of the summer all Sunday competitions will commence at 12.30pm instead of 1pm.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday 9 April Peter Sutton/Lady Mary. 1 Campbell Laing 66, 2 Brian Sherwood

68, 3 David Price 70.

Fixtures: Tuesday 23 April, Arran Grouse Foursomes Qualifiers tee off 12.30am/5.30pm.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday 13 April Millennium Trophy 21 played. Sweep 1 A McDonald 65-10=55, 2 S Beardsley 65-6=59, 3 C Pattenden 70-9=61. (bih over S Beardsley).

Best scratch A McDonald 65, bih over S Beardsley, also 65. Magic twos A McDonald 2, R Logan, J McConnachie, H B McKinnon, B Sherwood, C Pattenden, P Bremner and J McGovern. Excellent scoring for this time of year.

Monday Cup 15 April, yellow tees, sweep. 1 I McMillan 67-11=56, 2 P Moran 75-17=58, 3 E I Cannon 75-16=59. Best scratch I McMillan. Magic twos T Kerr, P Moran, G King, H Taylor, A McDonald, T Cotton and J McGovern.

Fixtures: Saturday 20 April Jubilee Open, start time 8.30am and 1pm. Monday 22 April, Monday Cup 1pm - last game. Wednesday Night Medal all summer.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday 11 April, Summer Cup, CSS 64. 1 Todd Jameson 67-5=62, 2 Neil Young 70-5=65, 3 Stuart Campbell 72-6=66. There were no twos.

Best Scratch Todd Jameson. Sunday 14 April, Hugh Hutchison Trophy. 1 Alan Winship and Raymond Burke 71- 11.4=59.6, 2 Andy Smith and Mark Wren 75-12=63. There were no twos.

Fixtures: Sunday 19 April, Arran Grouse Qualifier (Foursome) choose own partner. Draws at 9.30am and 12.30pm. Thursday 23 April, Summer Cup. Make up own groups and see starter for times.



David Price is pictured with the Machrie Bay Golf Club Winter Cup that he won last week.

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Ronan Rafferty will be playing an exhibition match at Brodick.

European Tour professionals in exhibition match

As detailed in last week's Banner, an exhibition match will be played over Brodick Golf Course on Saturday 27 April.

This is part of Brodick Golf Club's course centenary celebrations, and the match will start at 9.30am.

European Tour professionals Ronan Rafferty and Stephen McAllister will be joined on the course by Stewart Smith and James Browning from the Brodick professional's shop.

Ronan Rafferty is a former British Boys champion and Walker Cup player.

During his professional career, which included winning the European Tour Order of Merit, he won 13 tournaments including the Volvo Masters when Nick Faldo, Jose Maria Olazabal and Sandy Lyle were second, third and fourth!

He represented Ireland in eight World Cups, nine Dun-

hill Cups and played in the 1989 European Ryder Cup team.

Stephen McAllister won two European Tour events and represented Scotland, along with Sandy Lyle and Sam Torrance, in the Dunhill Cup.

Brodick Golf Club has a long history of holding exhibition matches with top Scottish amateurs, amongst them Ronnie Shade and Charlie Green, but this is the first time that European Tour players have featured, and everyone is welcome to come along and see how they handle the course.

The exhibition match will be followed by a Question and Answer session with the professionals.

Full details of other 'Centenary...back to Brodick' events will be announced at a later date.



Brodick Golf Course with Goatfell in the background.

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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(in full communion with the Church of England)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 21st April
Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
Mrs Janis Gallagher. Coffee after service.
ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Parishes of North Arran:
Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine
Independent but working together.
Minister: Rev Angus Adamson,
Parish Assistant:
Mrs Jean Hunter.

Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times, to which all are invited.
Sunday 21st April
Brodick Church, 10.30am, Morning Worship.
Corrie Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.
Lochranza Church, 9.30am Morning Worship
Pirmill Church, 10.45am Morning Worship
Shiskine Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.
A Service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 21st April
Kilmory 10 am
Lamlash 11.30 am
In both churches:
Mr. Tony Butcher
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Sunday 21st April
Sunday Morning Mass 11am
Vigil Mass 7.30pm

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(Charity Number: SC014005).
Sunday 21st April
Worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am.
All most welcome.
Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service and there will be a sale of Traidcraft goods.
All most welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday 21st April
Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick
11am Morning worship
Tea/Coffee after the service
Home Fellowship Group meets on Wednesday at 7.30pm
For details telephone 860 232
Everyone very welcome.

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Services as follows
Shiskine 11.00am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)
Ernest Brown
All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(continuing)
Sunday 21st April
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge
Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
Prayer Meeting
Wednesday 24th April
at 7pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
All welcome

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS
Quakers meet every Sunday at 11am.
For meeting venue ring 830622, 820223 or 302779.

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

DEATHS

JOHN CONNOLLY - Peacefully, at Arran War Memorial Hospital, on Monday, 15th April 2013. John, well known local artist, beloved husband of the late Janice, loving and dear father of Annette, Elizabeth and Ian. Funeral service in Lamlash Church on Tuesday, 23rd April, at 11:30am and thereafter to Lamlash Cemetery, to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited.

MILLIGAN - Margaret. Peacefully after a short illness at Crosshouse Hospital on Saturday 13th April. Margaret, aged 80 years, a very dear 'Aunt' to Isobel and Lesley. Fondly remembered by her many friends. Funeral service at St.Molios church on Friday 19th April at 11:30am and thereafter to Clachan Cemetery to which all are invited.

REID - Ian. Peacefully after an illness, patiently borne, at St. Vincent's Hospice on Wednesday 10th April 2013, Ian much loved husband of Janet, loving father of Isobel, John and Moira, father-in law of Fiona and proud papa of Gail, Graeme, Matthew and Marcus.
Funeral service to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited at Woodside Crematorium Paisley on Monday 22nd April at 12 noon. Thereafter a Service of Celebration of Ian's life at Houston & Killellan Kirk PA6 7AS at 1P.M.

ROBERTS - Lilian. Passed away aged 93 on 11th April in her sleep at the Arran War memorial Hospital. Richard, Elisabeth and Donald and Lilian's family wish to thank everyone who has helped Lilian in the past particularly Carewatch, the District Nurses, the hospital and all at the Brodick Health Centre. Her last years on Arran saw her very well looked after and enabled her sunny disposition to shine through. We know that she would have wanted any tributes to be made to Alzheimer Scotland, registered office at 22

Drumsheugh Gardens - number SC022315. The funeral will be held on Monday 22nd April at the Holmsford Bridge Crematorium, and afterwards for a wee swalley to celebrate her life at the Douglas Hotel from 4.30pm.

THOMSON - Margaret Twaddle. Suddenly but peacefully, on Friday, 12th April 2013. Margaret, aged 76 years, beloved wife of Hamish and devoted mother to Alistair, Archie, Elma, Shona and nephew David, Dearly loved Gran/Nana to Nicola, Cameron, Sinead, Christopher, Marybeth and great Grandmother to baby Charlotte. Funeral took place on Thursday 18th April

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

CAMPBELL - Armit. Rose and family would like to thank everyone concerned for support during Skit's illness from medical teams to Rev Adamson, Alistair Hume, Hendry's Funeral Services, Brodick Golf Club and Tommy Gilmour. Skit was a loyal character and will be missed by all who knew him.

BANNER BANNER
ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS
BANNER BANNER
ANNOUNCEMENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU

THANK YOU
I would like to thank everyone for coming to my surprise 30th birthday at the Douglas Hotel on Friday night. Thank you for all the lovely presents and for everyone who made it so special!
Love Faith x

Thank you
Tim Pomeroy would like to sincerely thank all those who have sent kind wishes of condolence and support after the very recent deaths of his mother and father. These wishes and sentiments have been a great support at a difficult time.

THANK YOU
William and Faye Little, on behalf of the family of the late Ritch, hand their sincere thanks to all emergency services who attended the sad passing away of Ritch while on holiday in Corrie. The family are saddened by the sudden lose of Ritch, but are comforted that Ritch passed away in a place he loved.

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Ardrossan and Zulus pick up the prizes at Arran Rugby Sevens

Ardrossan RFC successfully defended their Arran Rugby Sevens title after winning it for the second year in a row on Saturday.

The 2013 Sevens went ahead last weekend, some two weeks later than planned. The event had been postponed due to the power crisis that affected the whole island after the previous week's heavy snowfalls.

Ardrossan won the cup for the second year in a row, with six players from their team in 2012.

The Zulu Warriors team from Glasgow University took the Plate final in a close victory over the Arran first team. The Zulus had three Arran men in their team, Charlie Boal, Donald McEachern and Sam Tattersfield.

For full report and photos see pages 10 and 11.



The Zulu Warriors team, 2013 Plate winners. 02_b16rug02



Trophy winner Joe

Joe Faulkner is pictured with the Daniel Ferguson Trophy, which he won at Shiskine Golf Club on April 10. For the full report and all the golf results see page 19.

Leading yoga teacher comes to Arran

One of the Glasgow area's leading yoga teachers is bringing her talents to Arran.

Carol Ramsay, who has built up an army of followers and devotees in and around the city, will hold her first class on the island next Friday, April 26.

Having recently established links with Arran, she is hoping for a healthy turnout at Corrie and Sannox Village Hall between 5.30pm and 6.30pm.

And depending on the response and potential demand, she is hoping to hold regular classes there and other island venues.

Carol said: 'I am looking forward to welcoming islanders and visitors of all ages, all shapes and sizes and all levels of yoga experience.'

Less active

'Please bring a non-slip mat if you have one, along with a warm item of clothing (fleece or similar) to wear during the less active moments during the class.'

Carol, from Uddingston, Lanarkshire, is also currently organising a residential yoga retreat weekend at Millport on the Isle of Cumbrae.

Her hope is to arrange similar events on Arran in future months.

Summer Bridge results

The results of the tournament on Monday 15 April were: N/S 1 John and Mary Dick, 2 Helen Boyd and Jean Murchie, 3 Eendy McNiven and Brenda Livingstone.

E/W 1 Margaret McGill and Evelyn Sillars, 2 Margaret and Douglas Bruce, 3 Janette



McBride and John Barraclough

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