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SATURDAY, 19 APRIL 2014

No 1957 60p

Tenants' anger boils over as housing office shuts

REPORT

by HUGH BOAG
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Tenants have reacted with anger at the proposed closure of the Isle of Arran Homes office in Brodick.

They are furious that there has been no consultation and fear the service they receive will be diminished. Four jobs are also to go when the office closes.

But the Trust Housing Association says it is not a change in service, just a different way of delivering the service.

As reported in The Banner last week, the association is to transfer all administrative and clerical support functions to the mainland for nearly 300 homes in a bid to save money.

Tenants from all over the island have expressed their concerns, but for Gemma Blythe and her partner, John Ferguson, the closure is a double blow.

Gemma, who is eight months pregnant and has worked for IoAH for two years, has lost her part-time clerical job.

The couple, who already have a daughter Rosie - three years next month - are also IoAH tenants.

She said none of the staff had any idea of what was to come when they were called into an

HR meeting last week.

Gemma said: 'I was very upset, it wasn't the nicest experience.'

Gemma also said she was told she would not get her full maternity leave entitlement after the office closed but the trust back-tracked the following day.

John said: 'I think it was a disgusting way to treat a pregnant woman in such a fragile state and leave her in limbo for 24 hours.'

He said the move could not have come at a worse time for them as they would have to survive on his wage with a second baby on the way.

Tenant Linda Armit, Corrie, said: 'It is an absolute disgrace, nobody told any of the tenants this was happening before we got the letter saying it was closing.'

Isla Blair, a tenant in Brodick for 11 years, said: 'They could have let us know before they took their decision.'

Jean Gardner, 83, has lived in the former Kirk Care homes in Lochranza for eight years.

She said: 'I don't want to have to phone Edinburgh when I have a problem.'

'They will have no idea what it is like.'

Gail Young, a Brodick tenant for four years, said: 'It is bureaucracy gone mad.'

'I appreciate they have got to save money but we have had enough services taken off the island without shutting down such a facility which is second to none.'

A spokeswoman for trust housing said it understood the concerns but it wasn't possible to consult on all its strategic decisions and this was not a housing management issue.

'We are not changing the services delivered to tenants, but delivering them in a different way.'

'Tenants will get exactly the same services when paying their rent, getting repairs and receiving other services, and will still have face-to-face contact with staff based on the island.'

She confirmed all calls would be diverted to Edinburgh using a local number.

She added it was an unavoidable decision that was not taken lightly.

The trust declined to comment on Gemma's maternity leave mix-up saying it was 'not appropriate to comment on individual cases'.



Pregnant Gemma with partner John and daughter Rosie who have been hit by a double blow. 20_b16tenant01

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Arran firm says couriers 'make up' delivery figure

'Mark-ups can be as much as 50 per cent'

New research has revealed that Arran is not alone in being subjected to unfair delivery charges, with an estimated 15,000 firms across Scotland having to deal with punitive extra fees.

Tales of people living in rural areas paying over the odds for items arriving by courier are well known, but Citizens Advice Scotland (CAS) has published new research showing the impact of the unfair charges on commercial life.

Some 90 per cent of the near 250 businesses which responded to a CAS survey reported they were charged extra for having items delivered just because of their postcode and 76 per cent felt this had a substantial impact on their business.

About eight out of 10 regularly encountered misleading claims of 'free delivery',

when surcharges were actually imposed because of their location.

A majority of sellers were also unwilling or unable to depart from their standard carrier arrangements.

One of the companies which responded was an Arran construction business.

They stated: 'We live on an island which we understand has additional costs but the couriers just seem to make up a figure for delivery.'

Keith Dryburgh, Citizens Advice Scotland's policy manager, said the Postcode Penalty: the Business Burden report showed it was a problem across Scotland, not just in the Highlands and islands.

He said: 'What we have found is that businesses across Scotland are very badly hit by this problem, and it is a serious burden on them.'

He added: 'We have found in previous research that many companies base their delivery fees purely on postcodes, rather than on the actual cost of delivering an item.'

'Mark-ups can be as much as 50 per cent, which can be devastating to a small business which has to buy in stock.'

Among CAS's recommendations are that wherever possible, retailers should offer delivery by Royal Mail and if delivery by Royal Mail is not possible, retailers should give customers a clear reason why this is the case.

Sellers and carriers should offer alternative points as options for delivery, working in conjunction with the Post Office and local community hubs such as shops to facilitate this.



Members of AMRT practising a complicated tree rescue.

Ropework and rigging exercise for Arran Mountain Rescue

The weather may not have been on their side last Sunday but that didn't stop the members of Arran Mountain Rescue Team (AMRT) taking part in a rope work and rigging exercise.

The team had planned to head up to the Glen Rosa slabs but the weather wasn't suitable for such exposed terrain.

Decision

As a result they made the decision to head to a nearby woodland area which was ideal for a few incident scenarios.

Kirstie Smith, spokesman for the AMRT, said: 'The area had some good large trees and a deep gorge so we were able to practise a tree rescue by setting up appropriate rigging and then getting team members safely up the tree

to assist the casualty who had been involved in a felling accident and become stuck.

'After a successful rescue we then moved over to a steep banking where a casualty had slipped and fallen down into the gorge below.'

She added: 'Again a rigging system was set up as a lower to get team members down and then reversed to pull them along with the casualty back up.'

'Thanks to a new piece of harness rescue equipment the casualty was able to sit in this and be comfortably and quickly evacuated to safety.'

'It was a very wet but successful day going over skills and allowing every team member to have a go at all the techniques.'

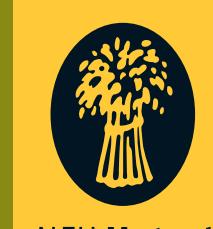
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Garden table stolen

A small round aluminium outdoor garden table was taken from outside a house in the centre of Lamlash.

If anyone happens to see it in a garden, driveway or just on the street, please telephone 601225.

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String Road open for Easter Weekend

Preparations are being made to open the String Road over Easter weekend, as improvement works continue to make good progress.

Work will be suspended and the road was to be open 24 hours a day - under traffic lights and speed restrictions - from 5pm on Thursday 17 April to 8am on Tuesday 22 April.

Overnight access between 7pm and 8am will continue when work recommences between Tuesday 22 and Sunday 27 April.

The road will also open, under convoy, from 12.30pm to 1pm during this period.

From Monday 28 April, reconstruction work will be undertaken and this is anticipated to finish by Wednesday 7 May. The opening hours from Monday 28 April to Wednesday 7 May will be between 7am and 8am, 12.30pm and 1pm and 7pm and 9pm, all under convoy.

The final phase - resurfacing work - is expected to begin on Wednesday 7 May through to the anticipated completion date of Wednesday 22 May.

The road will be open 24 hours a day under traffic lights during this period.

A spokesman for North Ayrshire Council said: 'We appreciate that work on Arran's roads can be disruptive and would like to thank local residents for their patience and co-operation.'

'We are making good progress and are very hopeful that the work will be completed before the Spring Bank Holiday.'

'This is a significant piece of work and one which will benefit islanders and visitors alike.'



Retired physiotherapist Alison Keir tries out the new treadmill in front of hospital staff, from left, Deena Dean and Jane Sloan alongside Jim Arnold, Sheila MacLeod and Sandra Hall of the hospital supporters league and 'Fred' the skeleton. 20_b15tread01

New treadmill will help cut waiting times

A new treadmill has been donated to the Arran War Memorial Hospital to help with the recovery of patients.

The Isle of Arran Hospital Supporters League raised more than £2,500 for the new treadmill along with arm weights and exercise pedals for the physiotherapy department. They also bought a training skeleton for staff.

Physiotherapist Deena Dean said the treadmill was a tremendous addition to the equipment of the department

and said it would be of benefit to both in-patients and out-patients.

The waiting time for physiotherapy on Arran is between two and four weeks compared to 15 weeks on the mainland of which the hospital is rightly proud.

Significantly shorter

Supporters league treasurer Jim Arnold said: 'We are pleased to know that our fundraising is helping to make the waiting time for physiotherapy on Arran significantly shorter than it is on the mainland.'

Ms Dean said the physiotherapy department planned to expand its services further when it moves into a larger space in the hospital.

There she would like to see the development of exercise groups for heart and lung patients, for joint and back problems and even preventative classes.

'We are grateful for the continued support of the supporters league,' she added.

Lost binoculars

A woman is appealing for help after she lost a pair of compact Nikon binoculars while on a bird-watching trip up North Glen Sannox.

She lost them sometime between 2.30pm and 7pm on Tuesday 15 April between the car park and the top of the woods.

Anyone who can help can call: 07957 287346.

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Art, tea and cake raise significant funds for charity

An afternoon tea organised recently by the Machrie Ladies' Art and Craft Group in St Molios Church, Shiskine raised the amazing sum of £379.

More donations have been received since the event and along with funds from the on-going sale of their hand-made cards, a donation of £500 will be made to The Teapot Trust.

This charity provides Art Therapy such as painting, collage and clay-modelling, for chronically or terminally ill children in the Royal Hospital for Sick Children Yorkhill in Glasgow, The Royal Sick Children's Hospital in Edinburgh and at a centre in Dundee.

There is also a bereavement support service at Rachel House in Kinross. The Teapot Trust was founded by the parents of a little girl who spent much of her short life in hospital and who loved 'art, tea and cake'.

An afternoon tea, organised by the ladies' art group, seemed a very appropriate way to raise funds - and awareness - of this trust. Machrie Ladies Art and Craft Group is very grateful to all who supported this event so generously.

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302142**

Human remains found in the cliff hanging cists of Sannox

Human remains from the early Bronze Age have been discovered in a cist found on Arran.

A two-year forensic archaeological study has dated the remarkable find to the years 2154-2026BC and helped provide a window into the complex and varied mortuary practices of the ancient time in Scotland.

The cist was one of two found at a disused part of a quarry in Sannox in March 2012.

The second cist was empty but a charcoal fragment from it was radiocarbon dated to 3520-3368 BC, which is said to be extremely early for such cist burials and may instead correspond to earlier activities in the area.

The story began when Arran Estates and local resident Jamie McKinnon spotted a short stone cist exposed in the quarry cliff face in Sannox.

They alerted the West of Scotland Archaeology Service, which prompted His-

toric Scotland to commission Guard Archaeology to undertake a rescue excavation.

An archaeology team, led by Iraia Arribalzaga, were sent to investigate the site which was not an easy task given the high exposed location of the cist.

The first thing the team did was to clean the exposed section of the eroding face of the sand cliff using a mechanical cherry-picker. This revealed not just the one but two cists.

The subsequent excavation of the cists required the archaeologists to wear harness and be tied to a fixed point at all times. However, the team successfully recovered and recorded the archaeological remains and brought them back to their laboratory in Glasgow for specialist analyses, which has only just been completed.

Iraia, who is also an osteoarchaeologist, revealed that human remains belonged to an adult of indeterminate sex.

The texture, cracks and



Archaeologists used a cherry-picker to reach the cliff face cists.

warping of the bones suggested that the body was still fleshed when cremated and it is likely that the cremation occurred soon after death. The weight of the cremated bone was smaller than the average weight of a complete adult cremation, which implies either that not all the cremated bone had been collected and moved from the original pyre site before burial, or that a substantial amount of it had been lost during the erosion and collapse of the quarry cliff face.

However, the smaller weight of the bones, as well as the absence of the axial bones, is a common trait in many Bronze Age cremation burials, according to Iraia.

The cremated bone was accompanied by a tripartite food vessel and scale-flaked flint knife.

Bronze Age cremation burials in Scotland are said to

have often been accompanied by a pottery vessel and a flint knife.

The food vessel is said to be especially noteworthy be-



One of the recovered cists.

cause its decoration is most closely comparable with vessels found in the eastern parts of Scotland and England. One of the questions that the east coast associations of the food vessel and flint knife pose is why they were buried here on the west coast of Scotland?

Concluding her study, Iraia

said: 'While the second cist was empty, both cists, the human remains and grave goods found provide a window into the complex and varied mortuary practices of early Bronze Age Scotland.'

'The ritual of cremation was an important rite and the one most frequently practised during the Bronze Age.'

'The increasing reduction of woodland that started in the Neolithic and continued through the early Bronze Age meant that wood was scarce.'

'A tonne of wood was necessary in order to fully cremate the bones. The use of this scarce and therefore valuable object indicates the importance that Bronze Age society gave in providing the deceased with a 'good ceremony', which could reinforce the deceased's status or that of the community where they resided.'

'The inclusion of grave goods with clear associations with the east coast, and therefore most likely relatively valuable items, emphasises the significance given to the burial.'

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HAVE YOUR SAY COME ALONG TO THE LOCAL HOUSING FORUM

North Ayrshire Council, Housing Services are holding the next Local Housing Strategy Forum on Friday 25 April 2014 at Arddeer Community Centre.

The twice-yearly forum provides local residents and stakeholders with the opportunity to discuss, agree or comment on a range of housing issues.

The forum is free to attend, is open to everyone and will run from 9.30am until lunchtime (lunch will be provided).

Housing Services can also help individuals with travel arrangements.

If you wish to join the hundred or so tenants, residents, volunteers and professionals who attend the forum, please contact the Development & Strategy Team on 01294 324031 before Friday 18 April.

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Arran man behind new inspirational nursery school in Gambia

There is an inspirational school in a small African country which boasts the name of Arran in its title.

And it is thanks to the charity work of Kildonan campsite owner Maurice Deighton that a new school is being built in a small community in the south of Gambia which is now known as the Isle of Arran Inspiration Nursery School.

He has just returned from 19 weeks there where he has been overseeing the building of the school in the town of Sukuta.

He has been doing volunteer work in the Gambia for 10 years and five years ago started his own educational programme, funding remedial building works in some smaller schools, which had missed out on government funding.

One project

Maurice said: 'Last year I decided to put all my eggs in one basket and just help one project rather than doing little bits for different places.'

'The Inspiration Nursery School was just one room in a rickety old building which I came across three years ago.'

'I'd been helping them with materials and I'd been very impressed with the teachers.'

'They were excellent, seemed committed and the school was always spotless.'

'I also noticed that the ma-

terials I gave them were still there, cared for and looked after, and were being used on a daily basis, which I have found isn't always the case.'

Firstly he did up the roof, the windows, and the floor of the original school building but has now bought a plot of land nearby where he is funding the building of a new school. After a lengthy planning process the site was

secured, the foundations dug and work started on the first classroom.

Window level

'By the end of my stay in March, and the end of the money I had raised last year, we have built up to the top of window level,' Maurice said.

Next year the classroom will be finished, rendered and painted, with tiled floors and a verandah. Also there will

Maurice gets started on the foundations for the school.



The children of the nursery school.

be toilets for boys, girls and staff.

He added: 'I purchased the land out of my own money, but all work to date, including labour and materials, cost £2,800 which was raised by the charity jar at the Seal Shore campsite reception, along with the odd barbecue.'

To finish the whole project will take probably three years, and will cost approximately £8,000.

'Eventually we want to have another two classrooms, an

office and storeroom, kitchen and possibly a little shop in the compound which can be rented out to raise on-going funds.'

Funded

Maurice has also funded new school uniforms for the 40 pupils which now has the Isle of Arran name included on the school badge.

'Of course any donations would be gratefully received and because I'm directly involved and hands-on, I can guarantee that every penny goes to the nursery school.'

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Barbour



The Arran Bridge Club prize winners with their trophies. They are, standing left to right: Janette McBride, Linda Trickett, Janie Maclure, Anne McKelvie, Douglas Bruce, Margaret Bruce, John Baraclough, Alison Bilsland, Jessmay Peacock and Jennifer Wales. Seated: Tricia Martin, Pat Adamson (President) and Douglas Hamilton.

First prizegiving for newly formed Arran Bridge Club

The first prizegiving of the newly formed Arran Bridge Club took place on Thursday 10 April in Brodick Golf Clubhouse.

After being welcomed by the President Pat Adamson the 30 club members present enjoyed an excellent buffet meal. Trish, aided by Rosie and Stacey, provided them with a wide choice of delicious food in what was a magnificent spread. Douglas kept everyone well supplied with accompanying drinks. After drawing for partners members played bridge and this

was followed by the prizegiving for 2013-4.

The prize winners were: 1 Monday Aggregate Competition, Adam Morrison Cup: Alison Bilsland and Tricia Martin. Runners up and Millband Tray: Anne McKelvie and Janie Maclure. 2 Monday Match Points, The McConnell Tray: Alison Bilsland and Tricia Martin. Runners up: Jan and John Beattie. 3 Thursday Aggregate Competition, The Duncan Cup: Douglas Hamilton and Tricia Martin. Runners up: Helen Boyd and Jean Murchie. 4 Thursday Match Points, The Boyd Trophy: Douglas Hamilton and Tricia Martin. Runners up: Anne

McKelvie and Janie Maclure. 5 The Peggy Currie Cup (teams of four): Tricia Martin, Douglas Hamilton, Margaret and Douglas Bruce. Runners up and winners of The Anne Cook Tray: Janette McBride, John Baraclough, Linda Trickett and Jennifer Wales. 6 Pairs, The Adam Morrison Cup: Anne McKelvie and Janie Maclure. Runners up: Douglas Hamilton and Tricia Martin.

The winners of the evening's bridge were: N/S Jean Barclay and Margaret Bruce and E/W Tricia Martin and Jennifer McArthur.

After congratulating the prize winners on their success, Pat thanked Trish and Douglas for giving everyone such a great meal and for their help in so many ways throughout the year, which all contributed to the success of the club.

Young people ready for their first ever vote

Young people in North Ayrshire have been given an insight into the world of politics ahead of the independence referendum later this year.

A total of 1,800 pupils took part in a series of workshops which were held during March at all secondary schools in the area including Arran.

The hour-long 'Your Vote, Your Voice' sessions were organised by the Youth Services team at North Ayrshire Council in preparation for the referendum in September.

It will be the first time ever that people aged 16 and 17 years will be eligible to vote in a national election.

The school workshops, which involved groups of S4, S5 and S6 pupils, required the participants to act out election scenarios.

Young people had to design their own political party, decide on the kind of politician to lead them and then agree on the policies which would address the needs of their local community.

They also had to produce a party political broadcast to sell the party's ideas and ideals before the virtual election itself.

The workshops were organised in conjunction with the Ayrshire Valuation Joint Board which carries out elec-

toral registration on behalf of the three Ayrshire authorities.

Great emphasis was placed on the need to register to vote so that as many young people and new voters as possible are engaged in the democratic process.

Greater opportunity

The Returning Officer for North Ayrshire at the Scottish Independence Referendum in September is Elma Murray, the council's chief executive.

She said: 'Today's young people will have a greater opportunity than ever to shape their country's future.'

'It will also have encouraged them to learn more about the voting process and to understand how vital their contribution is to the outcome.'

'This will encourage youngsters to feel connected with society and show them that they, and their opinions, are valued.'

'It is important that we do not simply hand over voting rights to 16 and 17 year olds without equipping them with the information that will allow them to play a meaningful part in the referendum.'

'I am pleased that this exercise will have introduced young people to a good voting habit at an early age.'

'It will also have encouraged them to learn more about the voting process and to understand how vital their contribution is to the outcome.'

Island branch prepares for Save the Children week

Save the Children week will take place in April and in the past there has been a house-to-house collection by committee members and volunteers from the branch on Arran.

This year, however, instead of a collection, there will be either a coffee morning or a 'Soup and Sandwich' lunch in most of the villages around the island.

Those who have attended any Save the Children events will know that the committee provide an excellent spread and if anyone likes food (and who doesn't), they should enjoy themselves at one or more of these events.

Some of the committee will also be collecting outdoors in Brodick on Friday 2 May - they would urge people to be as generous as possible.

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This year's special displays are on the theme of World War One and Arran at War.

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Eco Savvy shop to open

Eco Savvy is pleased to welcome everyone to the opening of the 'Waste Not Want Not Shop' in Whiting Bay on Saturday from 10am.

Eco Savvy will explore the reuse of anything - yes anything - which is clean and domestic before it becomes rubbish and ends up in land fill.

The shop sells second hand items in good working order and items that are tired or damaged and in need of upcycling.

Resell

This offers people the chance to repair, improve or completely reinvent items and then bring them back to the shop and resell them upcycled.

As well as accepting dona-

tions the shop is acting as a second chance helping people to receive a share of the final selling price.

This will enable anyone to sell items in the shop and make money back for themselves.

As a not-for-profit group all surplus funds raised go towards Arran Eco Savvy Community projects to progress self-sufficiency and waste reduction on Arran for the benefit of the community.

To be a shop volunteer, up-cycler or second-chancer come along and fill out a membership form and help make Arran a greener cleaner place.

Eco Savvy said: 'We'd love you to join us for a few hours

once in a while or for a regular slot - everyone is welcome any time.

'Help us get started and begin your own spring clean by bringing in unwanted things to the shop.'

Bring it along

'If it is bigger than a chair get in touch first by phone or email but if it is the size of a chair and you can carry it just bring it along.'

He added: 'We have talented crafts people who can make use of your tatty or damaged things and we will find a use for anything you can think of.'

'If you are looking for a creative project to up-cycle then come and see if something catches your eye.'



The Arran Parkinson's Group enjoyed a day out at the distillery. 20_b15dist01

A day out and a dram for Arran Parkinson's Group

Members of the Arran Parkinson's Group enjoyed a day out last week to the Isle of Arran Distillery in Lochranza.

Joined by family and friends the group enjoyed lunch in Casks cafe bar before having a tour of the whisky-making process.

It was an occasional outing for the support group which meets once a month in Lamlash Fire Station.

Co-ordinator Donald McNiven said the group had been going for two years and was aimed at helping people with Parkinson's Disease and their families.

And he urged anyone interested to come

along and meet with others, chat, and share experiences and advice.

'Our door is always open to anyone who wants to come along,' he said.

The group is supported by Parkinson's UK whose Scottish branch and volunteer support officer Chloe Macmillan joined the group on their distillery tour.

She said: 'Knowing where to find answers to your questions or having someone outside the family to talk to can often make a real difference to life with Parkinson's.'

The Arran group meets on the first Wednesday of the month from 2pm to 4pm.



Course leader Laura Aitcheson with, left to right, Lispeth Kirsop, Suzi Sell, Janelle Paton, Fiona Robson, Mairi Inglis and Ann Gray.



Lynne gives Kate a piggy back to celebrate their success.

Run success for Lamlash ladies

This group of ladies are jumping for joy as they have just completed their jogscotland 10-week beginners' course arranged by RunArran.

And a second course has just finished in Brodick which saw Lynne MacVicar and her colleague Kate Jenks put through their paces.

Brilliantly

Course leader Laura Aitcheson said: 'All of them did brilliantly and most are carrying on and intend to participate in the Castle Gate to Gate 5K Fun Run in June.'

Lynne said: 'It was a challenge but Laura provided good inspiration.' She is running the 5K for Ovacome, the ovarian cancer support charity.



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THE ARRAN BANNER

Invasive species need to be tackled

Japanese Knotweed - no other plant on this island has ever caused so much consternation.

This invasive, non-native plant, was probably washed down the Clyde onto our shores and in the past 20 years it has managed to take-over much of the island.

Householders dread it, gardeners fight a constant battle against it, and the council spends hours trying to remove it - but still it rears its ugly head every spring.

Knotweed is one of the few topics which also consistently sprouts debate at the community council meetings and despite years of planning to try and eradicate it from Arran the plant is still rife in gardens and on shorelines here.

This week calls have been made on the UK government to introduce new legal powers to tackle plant and animal species that are invading Britain at a rate never seen before.

Japanese knotweed has found its way to Arran but thankfully other invaders such as the North American signal crayfish, killer shrimp, zebra mussels and grey squirrels have so far eluded us.

These invasive animals and plants not only have an impact on biodiversity by supplanting native species, but affect human health and the economy.

Ten new alien species are arriving in Britain each year and many cause catastrophic problems.

The Environmental Audit Committee published a report on the problem this week, which shows it is costing the economy hundreds of millions of pounds a year.

Some 1,875 non-native species were counted in the UK in 2012, of which 282 had become 'invasive', the report found.

Existing laws prohibit the release of non-native animals and plants into the wild, but have never been used to prosecute anyone and is unlikely to provide the level of protection needed.

Thankfully here in Scotland, legal powers have already been introduced to take quick action when invasive species are identified as a threat using species control orders.

The red squirrel population is thriving on Arran because it has so far escaped the risk of disease spread by its grey cousins.

But Japanese Knotweed, Giant Hogweed and Himalayan Balsam have all found their way to Arran and continue to thrive here.

The community council is attempting to map the affected areas with an aim to spray the plants and eliminate them from the island.

But the clock is ticking and as we enter yet another summer, sadly these plants will be spreading even further.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In His great mercy He has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.' (1 Peter 1:3)

press policy

WE AT *The Arran Banner* do our utmost to make sure that all our reports are fair, accurate and balanced, but we accept that, on occasion, mistakes can occur in the hectic process of producing a local newspaper.

It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print. If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to The Editor, *The Arran Banner*, Brodick, Arran giving your day-time telephone number where possible.

This statement of policy will appear on this page every week along with any corrections or clarifications.

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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

Trust Housing challenged

Sir,
Bob McDougall, CEO of Trust Housing has written to all Isle of Arran Homes (IOAH) tenants saying there will be three remaining employees on the island once the area office closes.

What he doesn't say is that two of them will have nothing to do with tenants whatsoever as they deal only with owner occupiers and private tenants.

Your article on IOAH last week cites 'economic pressures' as the reason for the area office here closing.

Nowhere is it suggested that the Arran Homes stock runs at a deficit? Don't bosses usually attempt to apportion blame when trying to shut something down?

The truth, I submit, is that Trust Housing is under 'economic pressure' because its sheltered housing operations on the mainland do not receive enough funding from the councils concerned. Nothing to do with Arran tenants.

I further submit that Arran tenants, through paying their rent, and now through losing their office are in reality being taxed to pay for things that they certainly didn't want. It is incredibly undemocratic and grossly unfair. I invite Bob McDougall through these pages to quantitatively prove my assertions wrong.

Yours,
David Patterson
Benlister Terrace
Lamlash

CalMac staff praised

Sir,
On March 28 I travelled with a group of students to the Isle of Arran for an undergraduate geology field course.

Unfortunately, technical issues with the ferry service to the island earlier in the day meant that we were severely delayed.

CalMac telephoned me in the morning whilst we were driving to Ardrossan Harbour to inform me of the problem and I received regular text

Yours,
Lenny Hartley
Brathwic Place
Brodick

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East, west divide

Sir,
Will the person or people responsible for the complete debacle occurring on the String please stand up and answer: Why the closure was allowed in the first place (without notification to some of the businesses on the west side) when a convoy system should have been run at least every two hours?

Why the men finish at tea-time and do not work weekends and yet people still have to wait for the 7pm to 8pm convoy to get home in the evenings?

Why the timing of the whole event is totally ludicrous - the beginning of the tourist season, causing distress and family hardship to businesses on the west of the island?

After a quiet winter those people look forward to this being a busy period.

I realise that all the island is affected to some extent by the closure and this will certainly deter tourists if they cannot access the places they wish to go to directly.

Tourism as a whole has suffered in this economic climate without the added 'help' of the North Ayrshire Council which obviously has no thought for the dire straits it has put people in.

For my own experience my four-year-old grandchild, who lives about half a mile from the roadworks, has to be literally pulled from her bed every morning at 6.30am to be ready for the convoy to bring her to us in Brodick as she attends nursery there.

This is causing her to be tired and fractious as many a time she has to wait until the 7pm convoy to go home as the cost of fuel and time means we cannot always take her back the long way.

This is having a big effect on her and all the family.

Spare a thought for all the other people in similar situations.

This road must be opened as soon as possible to get the island back to normal.

The road must be made passable at least on a two

hourly convoy basis during the week and as work is not carried out at weekends it could be open from 8am until 8pm on Saturday and Sunday to help alleviate the anxieties of the businesses involved.

This situation would never have happened on the mainland as the public outcry would have been heard in parliament. People on the island should get together and refuse to let this fiasco continue as livelihoods and jobs are being threatened.

Yours,
M King
The Paddock
Brodick

Yes to homes

Sir,
As a resident of Saltcoats, I'm concerned about the lack of serious local debate on the homes we need in our community when there's clearly a big problem.

Many of us are finding it really hard to save enough money to get on the housing ladder, or are struggling with increasing rents while our salaries are staying the same.

I am part of the 'Yes to Homes' campaign which is helping to create a lifeline for the people who are renting, trying to get on the housing ladder, and stuck at home with only dreams of moving out.

We all need to be prepared to join in the local debate with our local councillors to tackle this problem, and think about how we can get the right homes in the right places at prices that are affordable for everybody. But our community leaders can only deliver those homes if more local people speak up and tell them things must change.

The community must join the 'Yes to Homes' campaign - together we can make them listen.

Please sign the petition for more of the right homes, in the right place, at the right price at www.yestohomes.co.uk. Yours,

Bryan Morgan
Catacol Avenue
Saltcoats

Craftswomen out to uncover Shiskine's hidden talents

A new arts initiative plans to show that Shiskine has some hidden talents.

Fed up being the forgotten side of the island two crafts-women have got together and come up with an event planned for later in the year to be known as Shiskine Valley's Hidden Talents.

Susie Thompson from Shiskine and Coral Smith from Sliddery came up with the idea a couple of months ago and after sounding out the craft community have come up with a firm plan.

There are already nearly 30 people who are keen enough on the idea to want to take part and the numbers continue to grow. But they want everyone to get involved.

Hidden Talents, to be held at the Kinloch Hotel in Blackwaterfoot at the end of October, will be a free entrance exhibition and there will be no charge to exhibitors either.

There will be no selection, no winners, no losers, no prizes, no judging and no competition.

'If it's good enough for you,

then it's good enough for us' said Susie, 'that is the only criteria. The best thing of all will be the fun and surprise of sharing what we can do with our friends, neighbours and community.'

Nothing will be on open sale at the exhibition. If any visitors ask for information, contact details can be given to them, if the individual exhibitor wishes.

And unlike other exhibitions, Hidden Talents is definitely not limited to brand new work.

Proud of it

'Anything that anybody has made that they are proud of and would love the rest of us to see is very welcome. It doesn't matter if it was made this year, five, 10, 20 years or even more years ago. If you made it, and you're proud of it, I hope you will be willing to let us share it,' Coral added.

'There are a lot of people in the community who are shy and reserved yet incredibly talented and we want to encourage everyone to take part

whether it's professional, amateur or a hobby,' Coral said.

For Hidden Talents purposes, the Shiskine Valley extends as far as Machrie in one direction, Sliddery in another and lastly to Glenloig. This should give the widest possible Shiskine Valley area, without going too far in the direction of Lochranza, Whiting Bay or Brodick, who all have their own distinct communities.

Both Susie and Coral will be exhibiting at the show. Susie with her well known ceramic dragons and Coral will be exhibiting her cards, jewellery and silk fabric painting.

'The entire island knows that it's true that it's much further from Brodick to Shiskine than it is from Shiskine to Brodick, though the map does say differently.'

'Why can't we who live in the Shiskine Valley put on our own local, southwest corner of Arran exhibition to show our own community just what we can do? Maybe the Shiskine Valley, as a group, can even tempt the strangers from the other side to come and look - for once,' said Susie with a smile.

'Who knows what treasures there might be in Shiskine Valley hidden away, just awaiting to see the light of day and surprise us all?'

The exhibition will be held at the Kinloch Hotel from Friday 31 October to Sunday 2 November.

Anyone interested in finding out more can contact Susie Thompson on 860463 or at susie@susithompson.co.uk or Coral Smith on 870287 or at ecoral.smith@btinternet.com.



Susie with one of her ceramic dragons. 20_b16hidden02

Islanders urged to join Arran Community Land Initiative

The Arran Community Land Initiative is urging Arran residents to join as members.

Membership will give them the right to vote on agenda items at future meetings and to receive regular updates on the community project's news and events.

The committee is waiting to hear if their bid to the Scottish Land Fund to cover the cost of purchasing the 80 acres of disused farmland in Whiting Bay has been successful and hope to hear within the next month.

Treasurer Juliette Walsh said: 'We have received much support and enthusiasm so far for our bid to purchase land for community use.'

'The community has come up with a variety of possible uses which would fit the group's

main purposes of encouraging fitness, health and education.

'We now need formal written evidence of a membership base of at least 20 Arran residents so our Scottish Land Fund application for funding can progress further towards a positive outcome.'

Membership form

The membership form is available by phoning 700508 or leaving a message on their Facebook page.

The £10 membership fee is voluntary and refundable should the application be unsuccessful.

Juliette added: 'We would urge all Arran residents to support this exciting and worthwhile Arran community project.'



Hidden Talents organisers Susie Thompson and Coral Smith with Robbie Crawford of the exhibition venue the Kinloch Hotel. 20_b16hidden01

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Lesley Riddoch, talks about her new book at the
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FREE ENTRY



One of the trees being planted. 20_b16white02

Endangered trees planted to conserve Arran whitebeam

'It is hoped the new collection will act as a seed bank'

A collection of endangered trees, found nowhere else in the world apart from Arran, have been planted in the grounds of the Arran Outdoor Education Centre, in Lamlash.

The trees were propagated from seed collected by the Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh from the endemic Sorbi species which grow on the island.

Staff from the botanic garden joined members of North Ayrshire Council to plant the endangered Arran whitebeam (*Sorbus arranensis*), Arran service tree (*Sorbus pseudofennica*) and their parents (rowan and rock whitebeam).

The rare Arran whitebeam is a hybrid between the rowan (*Sorbus aucuparia*) and the rock whitebeam (*Sorbus rupicola*) which, thanks to subsequent hybridisation, has given rise to the Arran service tree.

Both the Arran whitebeam and Arran service tree have been officially listed as 'threatened'

by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), making last week's planting a significant occasion.

The planting of these rare trees comes from the council's collaboration with the Royal Botanic Garden.

They are specialist growers of the species and are currently working on a project to conserve and increase the population of the Arran Sorbi on the island, including the newly discovered third Arran whitebeam, *Sorbus pseudomeinichii* (Catacoal whitebeam).

Genetic makeup

A council spokeswoman said: 'Because of the unusual reproduction and genetic makeup of the trees, the collection will be of great interest to those studying ecology, biology and botany.'

'It is hoped the new collection will act as a seed bank for future years which will increase the opportunity for the species, that is in danger of becoming extinct, to be conserved.'



Countryside ranger Joanne Johnstone plants one of the endangered trees at the Arran Outdoor Centre watched by Royal Botanic Garden staff and North Ayrshire Council officials including island officer Brodie Pearcey and former outdoor centre manager Nigel Marshall. 20_b16white01

Fairtrade walk raises much-needed awareness

Members of Arran Fairtrade completed an epic walk around the island last week to highlight the businesses serving Fairtrade produce.

Starting in Lamlash last Monday they made their way around the island in six days before finishing with the Corrie to Lamlash section on the Saturday.

The businesses visited included Cafe Thyme at Machrie, the Sandwich Station in Lochranza, The Co-

operative stores, The Kinloch Hotel in Blackwaterfoot, Coast in Whiting Bay and The Lighthouse in Pirnmill.

Jan MacGregor of Arran Fairtrade said: 'Using Fairtrade products makes a big difference to the lives of the producers, as not only do they get a guaranteed price for their product, they also receive a Fairtrade Premium, which they can use for schools, clinics, water pumps etc. to improve the life of

their community.'

'Actually, there are so many businesses on Arran that do serve Fairtrade produce, we did not manage to visit them all during the walk, but we will be in touch with them in the next few months before we produce a new leaflet.'

'Once again thank you to them all, you are making a difference.'

The island's Fairtrade status has to be renewed every two years, and this requires a report on the achievement of five goals.

1 The local council has to have passed a resolution supporting Fairtrade and agree to serve Fairtrade products in meetings, offices and canteens.

2 At least four Fairtrade product ranges are readily available in a significant percentage of local shops, and

at least two product ranges served in local catering outlets.

3 Local workplaces and organisations, such as schools, churches, medical centres use Fairtrade produce whenever possible.

4 Media coverage of local events raising awareness and understanding of Fairtrade across the community.

5 There is a local steering group in existence seeking to achieve all of these goals and keeping records of activity.



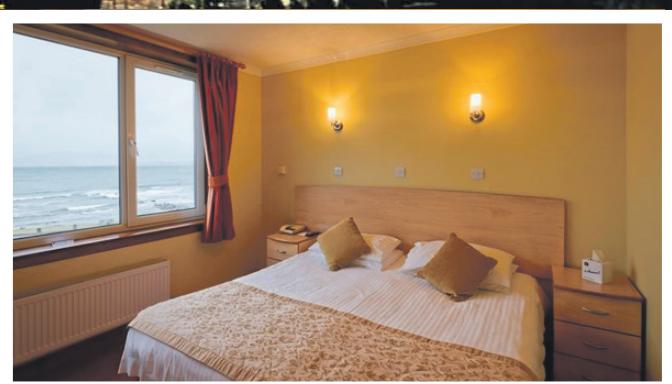
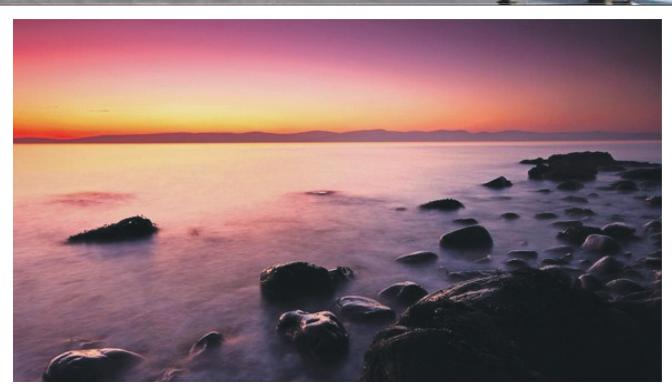
Ute Locatelli chats to Bryan Lewis owner of the Sandwich Station in Lochranza.

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Cheers

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Sixty glorious years



The second and third generations of the Crawford family are ensuring that the Kinloch Hotel lives on. Back row: Stevie Crawford and his brother Robbie with his wife Barbara, front row shows Jan Crawford, centre, with four of her grandchildren; Jordan, Cara, Lucy and Lois. 20_b16kin01

When Lawrence Crawford and his mother rented The Kinloch Hotel in Blackwaterfoot in the spring of 1954 he almost certainly

had little idea that 60 years later it would become not only one of Arran's biggest hotels, but also the heart and soul of the community.

Expansion

The original hotel building has gradually been expanded and what we see before us today is one of Arran's largest hotels catering for many thousands of visitors each year, as well as a major local employer and the hub of the community. The Crawford family name is now synonymous here on Arran with great hospitality and kindness, and The Kinloch Hotel remains one of the most welcoming places you will ever visit.

Lawrence's son Robbie Crawford and his wife Barbara have now been at the helm for 15 years and the business continues to

grow and be one of the island's most iconic family success stories.

Humble beginnings

In 1954 Lawrence and his mother May Henderson Crawford bought The Kinloch Guest House and brother Robin joined them in the business, which they ran together for over 40 years until Robin's untimely death in 1999.

Gradually the hotel grew, first by adding a dining room and then by buying the next door guest house and incorporating it.

Lawrence was a forward thinker and it was he who built the hotel swimming pool in 1970 - the Kinloch

was only the third hotel in Scotland ever to install a pool.

This was an important addition to the local community and many people on the island learned to swim because of that pool.

He was also ahead of the game when it came to green technologies, installing solar panels and heat pumps more than 30 years ago - a legacy that continues very

much to this day. Throughout his life Robin Crawford was actively involved in tourism, local politics and enterprise on the island, while still managing to help run the island's largest hotel and find time to devote to his wife and two daughters. Robin saw the promotion of Arran as being vitally important to the development of the business and with like-minded people throughout the island played a major part in increasing membership and activity of the Arran Tourist Association which eventually led to the destination management company VisitArran which is leading the way today.

Local Hero

In the 1980s Lawrence was named Scottish Brewers Local Hero.

Some say this had nothing to do with the quality of the beer but more down to him



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Happy 60th birthday to the Crawford family's Kinloch Hotel, great supporters of The Arran Trust



Isle of ARRAN Cheese Shop

Well done The Kinny!

Robbie, Barbara and staff, you run a first class community minded establishment.

What's not to like!

Thanks for all the good times, and best wishes for the future, from Gordon, Margo and everyone at the cheese shop.

for the Crawford family

helping so many of the local men find a wife by bringing in plenty of female summer staff.

Involving all the family

For the first 40 years or so Lawrence's wife Jan and Robin's wife Fiona both proved to be the perfect partners and helped contribute to the businesses success.

Lawrence and Jan have four sons Robbie, Gavin, Stevie and Jamie and in 1999 Robbie took charge of the hotel with his wife Barbara. Stevie has been working in the Kinloch kitchen for many years, and now the third

generation - Lois, Fraser, Jordan, Stuart, Kirsty, Lucy and Cara - are also working for the company proving that this is a family business to its core.

Last year the community was deprived of the second Crawford brother when Lawrence sadly died at the age of 83.

Both Lawrence and his brother are remembered with great fondness by the island community - not just those in the Shiskine Valley. Both men loved their hotel, the island, its people and those who came to visit and it is this legacy that Robbie and Barbara and the rest of the Crawford family continue with today.

Keeping it green

With a setting as beautiful and unique as Arran, for many years now the Kinloch Hotel has been keen to be as green as possible to ensure a cleaner, greener environment for the future. From re-cycling and reusing waste, using local suppliers and tradesmen where possible to donating used furniture to local charities and replacing all lighting with low energy versions, the hotel strives to be as energy efficient as possible.

Keen to be green, the hotel is also the proud owner

of a biomass woodchip boiler.

This eco beauty produces all the heating and hot water for the hotel, meaning you can sleep, swim and shower safe in the knowledge that it isn't costing earth.

And as if that wasn't enough, the island's first public electric car charging station went live outside the Kinloch back in early 2013 and since then other stations have sprung up on the island.

Award

This addition upgraded

the hotel's Green Tourism Business Scheme (GTBS) Award to gold - a massive achievement.

'We are passionate about the Kinloch's green credentials and take our role in the island community very seriously,' said owner Robbie Crawford.

'The GTBS has provided invaluable advice and support and by far the most successful energy efficiency measure has been the installation of our 400kw biomass boiler fuelled by Arran's own sustainable supply of carbon neutral timber.'

'We will receive a guaranteed 20 years of subsidy payments for the biomass boiler through OFGEM's Renewable Heat Incentive scheme.'

'Key to the success of this has been the comprehensive involvement from conception of Duncan Mullholand of Arran Wood Fuels.'

'If any Arran business or home owner would like to significantly reduce their energy bills and carbon footprint then I would strongly recommend Duncan as your first point of contact.'



Robin Crawford was actively involved in tourism, local politics and enterprise on the island. b16kin01



Lawrence Crawford with his son Robbie, right, who now owns and runs the Kinloch Hotel. b16kin02

THE ARRAN BANNER

The Arran Banner takes great pride and pleasure in supporting The Kinloch and wishes them all the best for the future.

Wyx Media, Brodick, Isle of Arran
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Head chef Tony Morrison, left, with kitchen porter Rodoslav. 20_b16kin05



Gina Thorborn is the hotel's accounts manager now but she started aged 16 as a waitress before leaving the island for university. 20_b16kin04

One big, happy family

As well as being a family business, the staff are also a very

For 60 years the hotel has provided beds, meals, weddings, dinner dances, beetle drives, and many other functions inside what has become the entertainment centre for the west of the island.

Devotion

But none of this would

have been possible without the dedicated team of staff that have come and gone in the past 60 years. The hotel as it stands today did not come about without the devotion of many hours over and above what many would call a normal working day.

The Crawford brothers worked very hard in developing their business as an integral part of the local community and a favourite holiday spot for countless generations. During its 60 years a huge proportion of the people in the Shiskine Valley have worked there at one time

or another, so they know it from behind as well as in front of the counter. The staff in the hotel, which number well over 60 in summer, are mainly local youngsters, home on holiday from university, or young people from further afield looking for a taste of Scottish island life.



Nancy Garraway has been working in the Kinloch laundry for more than 20 years. 20_b16kin08



Gary Scott has one of the most important jobs in the hotel - maintenance. 20_b16kin02



Pastry chef Adele McKinley has been at the Kinloch for six years with her partner, and head chef, Tony Morrison. 20_b16kin06

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'We can all sit in the kitchen and it's just like a big family really and I think that helps to create a family atmosphere in the hotel,' explains owner Barbara.

Robbie refers to another way which ties them to the community: 'We've provided quite a few wives

for the local community.' And, referring to Barbara herself coming with a friend to be a waitress at the Kinloch in 1987, he adds: 'myself included'. Many of the permanent members of staff have been long established with the business, often serving more than 20 years or

more each within the team. In truth, baker Phil Judge, department heads Marj Currie, Nancy Garraway, Eleanor McAllister and managers Fraser Hendrie, Gina Thorborn, Robert Waine and Tina McNeice have amassed over 150 years of dedicated service between them!



Many of the Kinloch's staff have been with the family for more than 20 years, like housekeeper Marj Currie. 20_b16kin09



Front of house staff include Jordan Crawford, Lauren Downing, Jenna Campbell, Lois Crawford, Trina McDonald and Struan Robertson. 20_b16kin03

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Heart of the community

It's no ordinary hotel, the Kinloch. It is of course a business, a very successful one too, and it is Arran's second biggest hotel.

Community spirit

But it is not just a hotel, it is the heart of the Blackwaterfoot community and a much-loved venue for those in other parts of the island too.

This community spirit has

earned the hotel many awards including Family Hotel of the Year and BEST WESTERN Employee of the Year, in addition to nominations for Fraser Hendrie as SLTN Bar Manager of the Year, Marj Currie for AA House-Keeper of the Year and the hotel for Best Family Business. More recently accounts manager Gina Thorborn was officially named the best carrot cake baker following the bake off at the local primary school!

When asked about the hotel's awards and nominations Robbie said: 'Flattering as it is to be recognised and put forward, for us the real pleasure is in providing a unique service, something special that guests remember.' But its importance to the community was demonstrated in full last March when the west coast of the island was blanketed in deep snow drifts and the electricity was cut off for five days.

For the vulnerable in the community the Kinloch became a lifeline. Because if its generator, it was a place to get a warm meal and escape a cold house. It also became the nerve centre of Social Services on the west of the island as they set-up a makeshift response centre within one of the meeting rooms. In addition the hotel became the hub for emergency services and any local residents who were in difficulty or struggling to

cope. Barbara Crawford said: 'We had been the only place set up with a generator in the west coast. So we had electricity and became the hub for people to come and get some food and keep warm. 'We were completely shut off, with the roads to get here impassable. But we got a helicopter delivery of blankets, flasks and torches to the hotel. 'We opened our shower facilities for people in the

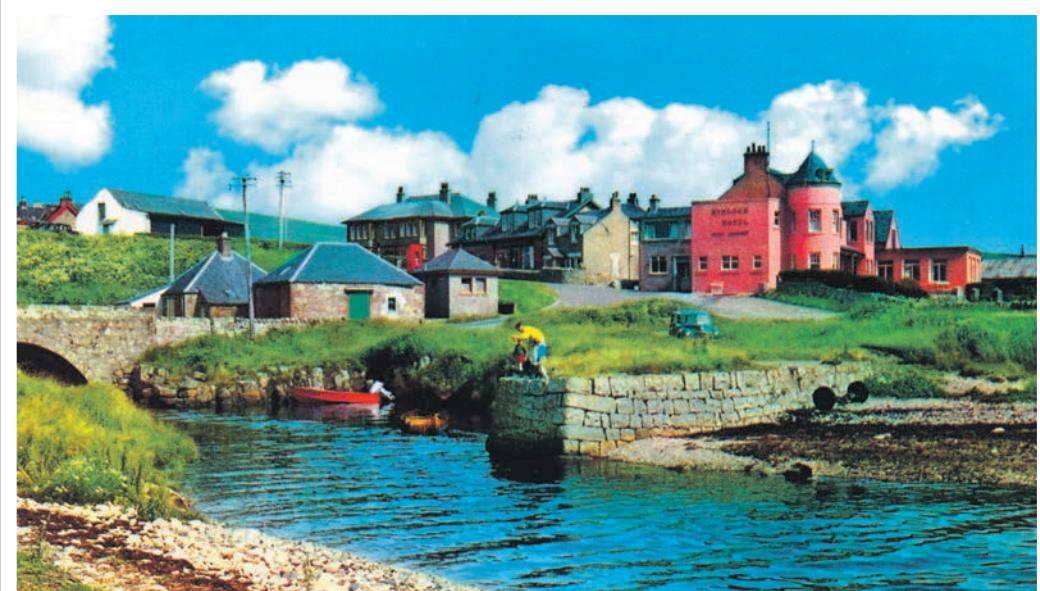
local community to use and the mountain rescue team were co-ordinating from here.

'We also had a team of doctors and care workers here so that people could come to the hotel to see them.'

At a time when the island was facing the financial losses from a near non-existent Easter weekend due to the weather, it really was an extraordinary thing that Robbie and Barbara and their team did.



The original Kinloch Boarding House in Blackwaterfoot. b16kin06



The 'Pink Palace' as the hotel became known in the 1960s and 1970s was a famous island landmark. b16kin07

12 Hole Course
Shiskine Golf Club

Congratulations to the Kinloch Hotel on their 60th Anniversary. Our best wishes to Robbie, Barbara and all their great staff from Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club

THE ARRAN BUTCHER

Happy 60th Anniversary
to Robbie, Barbara & all the staff at the Kinloch Hotel.
From everyone at The Arran Butcher xx

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BLACKWATERFOOT
TELEPHONE: 01770 860215

All at the Harbour Shop would like to congratulate The Kinloch Hotel and wish them all the best as they celebrate 60 years at the heart of Blackwaterfoot life

FORTH WINES

It has been a privilege to work with the Kinloch hotel, a family run business for many years and we at Forth Wines wish them all the best for the future.

County Carpets (Arran) Ltd

Tim & Jill Wilkinson and all the team at County Carpets, congratulate The Kinloch Hotel for their achievements over the last 60 years.

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Above: The Kinloch as it is today.

The Kinloch Guest House was bought in 1954 and gradually expanded to become the hotel we see today.
b16kin05



Looking to the future

When The Banner interviewed Robbie Crawford for this feature he was characteristically modest about his family's achievements. Instead of talking about the hotel's glorious past and the future for the business, he wanted to get back to work hoovering the dining room. And that shows exactly why the Kinloch Hotel is so much loved and respected by the community because the owners Robbie and Barbara are not afraid to get their hands dirty.

'Lead by

example' is the motto here.

Sense of pride

'I mean I am very proud of the hotel,' said Robbie. 'But it's all I've ever known so its hard for me to look at it from an outsiders point of view. 'To us it's still just a wee family business but it is reassuring to know that other people recognise our achievements.'

So what does the future hold for the Kinloch, we asked?

Robbie pauses to think: 'Making people happy. Happy staff and happy guests, that's always what we strive for.'

'I'm never content to stand still, a family trait I think, so its always 'what next'.'

'We are hoping to introduce superior suites, additional self-catering accommodation and new swimming pool and leisure club.

'There is a five-year plan but at the heart of that will always be service and standards.' As we chat two bus loads of students

descend the stairs. The hotel is booked with school parties until the end of May - and it is busy with other guests too. 'You need to adapt and diversify, that's all there is to it,' Robbie adds.

Keeping it in the family

One thing both Robbie and Barbara do seem very happy about is that the children are now part of the working team.

The older siblings working in the restaurant and bars and the younger members assisting behind the scenes helping with switchboard and topping up the infamous sweetie machine!

'I'd be delighted if they wanted to join the business in the future,' said Robbie, 'isn't that what it's about. I am sure they will all want to venture off, do their own thing, but Kinloch will always be home.'

Best Western

Richard Lewis, chief executive of Best Western

Great Britain, said: 'Sixty years is an incredible achievement and we are lucky to have such a diamond in the Best Western brand!'

'The hotel embodies our spirit. Family working together to provide outstanding service, differentiated travel experiences and amazing memories.'

'Many many congratulations to Robbie and to all the team, past and present, who have contributed towards the exceptional Best Western Kinloch story.'

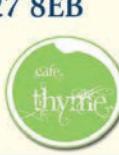
Local venue

With another great beer festival to look forward to this summer as well as lots of other community events like the Mackerel Lottery and numerous weddings, the Kinloch is still very well-used local venue. And there's no doubt that Robbie's attitude seems to be the right one to ensure that this favourite holiday destination, thriving family business, and beloved pub survives for at least another 60 years.

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Hamza, Lorna and everyone at the Old Byre Visitor Centre wish Robbie, Barbara and all staff past, present and future sincere congratulations on their 60th birthday and wish them continued happiness and success

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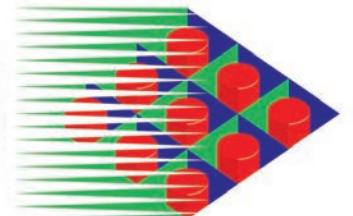
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Turn eggsplorer with us as you follow the trail, collect the clues, solve the puzzle and win a Cadbury Egghead! Each of the trails is different – a great excuse to try your hand at more than one!

Near here, trails are taking place at:



**Brodick Castle,
Garden & Estate**



**Robert Burns
Birthplace Museum**



**Culzean Castle &
Country Park**

For dates, times and info on the trails at all 45 places visit

www.nts.org.uk/Easter



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OBITUARY

Donald Bannatyne

February 1, 1926 - January 19, 2014

Donald Sillars Bannatyne, who has died aged 87, was a former fighter pilot who for many years ran a haulage business and car dealership on Arran.

He was raised at Balnacooie on the island, where his father Donald farmed a 40-acre small holding; his mother Catherine ran the Montana Hotel in Blackwaterfoot. The family had lived in America for 12 years and Mr Bannatyne's siblings Sandy, Janet and Elise were born there, but they returned to Arran after Janet died at the age of four.

Older brother, Colin, was like Donald born in Shiskine after the return from the States and he recalls that right from the offset his wee brother was something of a tearaway.

At the age of five DS, as he became known to his friends, insisted that he would make his own way from Blackwaterfoot on his tiny cycle the two miles to attend his first day at Shiskine School and he later learned to drive his Uncle Nazer's baker's van before secondary school age.

The young Donald did his share of agricultural chores on the farm, but was mostly interested in anything mechanical. He received his secondary education at Keil School but was not academically inclined and after Keil secured an apprenticeship with the car manufacturers Hillman.

During the Second World War, he volunteered for active service in the Fleet Air Arm and trained as a fighter pilot in Canada. On his return he was posted to the Machrahanish base on Kintyre which was lucky for him, but not for the inhabitants of Shiskine who were subjected to a reign of terror as he flew unauthorised low-level sorties in his Seafire fighter up and down the valley.

His most daring exploit was to fly low up the bakery brae in Blackwaterfoot, causing his uncle Sandy to fall off his bike. However, a high ranking RAF officer on holiday in

Former pilot and businessman who lived life to the full

Blackwaterfoot happened to witness some of these daredevil antics and reported them to the commanding officer at Machrahanish. Mr Bannatyne was promptly reprimanded and grounded.

The war over, Mr Bannatyne returned to Arran, bought his first lorry and entered the haulage business as Bannatyne Motors in partnership with his cousin Donald.

They acquired the Blackwaterfoot garage from the bus operator Ribbeck's and took over haulage contracts from Donald Robertson at Harbour View.

In the 1950s they extended their business to haulage to and from the mainland, with a depot in Glasgow.

Successful

Besides managing the haulage side of the operation, over the years Mr Bannatyne also established a successful car dealership: 'Only one careful owner, who only used it to go to church on a Sunday,' he would sometimes say, or on seeing a sale slipping away: 'Aye it's a really good car I was thinking of keeping it for myself.'

In the early days of Bannatyne Motors, life flourished in other ways. At a dance in Kilmory Hall he met a trainee teacher Jean Gilbert, then working for the season at Lagg Hotel.

Their summer romance blossomed and they were married in Glasgow in 1956, setting up home initially in Davaar and then at the well-visited Queenscliff.

Shortly after marriage, Mr Bannatyne was crippled with MS and hospitalised in Killearn Hospital. The outlook was bleak, but a new drug trial resulted in a recovery and lasting remission.

Jean was not so fortunate, as her mobility began to suffer and after a period of misdiagnosis she finally underwent surgery to remove a brain tumour. Regrettably, at the age of only 51 she died in 1988.

This was a particularly low point for Mr Bannatyne and his sons Donald and David.

He had to come to terms with his loss while also occupied with the merger of Bannatyne Motors and Arran Transport to form Arran

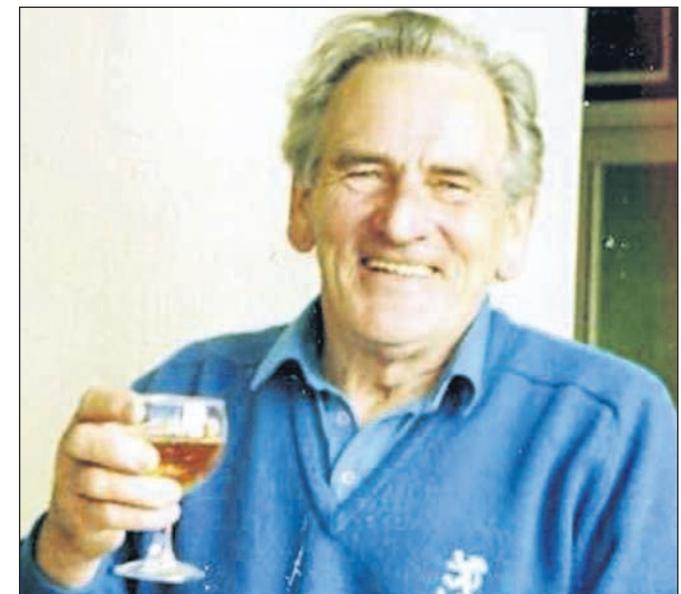
Haulage Services. At least in that task son Donald, who was by then a capable partner in the business, was able to assist.

Mr Bannatyne retired at 65 as chairman of Arran Haulage but retained an interest in the business as a director.

Retirement meant a share in a small boat, a daily delivery job taking bloods from the local surgery to the ferry and more time for golf at Shiskine where he enjoyed his tenure as captain.

After earlier heartbreak, Mr Bannatyne found a second true love in Margo. They married in 1997 and together enjoyed visiting his younger son David in Australia as well as many holidays to Spain.

Serious illness, this time



DS Bannatyne.

bowel cancer and complications during life-saving surgery, again laid Mr Bannatyne pretty low and his health and memory began to deteriorate.

His driving was becoming more erratic and precarious, but taking his licence from him proved testing to say the least. When a doctor at one point broached the subject he was met with: 'Listen sonny I was flying Spitfires before

you were even thought of.'

Life for Mr Bannatyne became more difficult and loving care from Margo enabled him to remain at home; she died in 2012. Mr Bannatyne was then admitted to Cooridoron care home.

He is survived by his sons Donald and David.

His usual welcome of 'Aye you're there' will be missed by many.

NA

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



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- 2. Those who make sport happen, including volunteers.**
- 3. Those who make a contribution to their communities, through volunteering or other means.**
- 4. People without the opportunity to experience the games, and those from disadvantaged groups or those with a disability.**



Nominee's name
Nominee's telephone number
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My nominee should win a Legacy Ticket because

(please submit up to 500 words on a separate sheet and attach this form. Please provide as much information as possible. The more details we have about your nominee the more the panel has to help aid their decision. The judges involved will not be able to research or get in touch for further information).

Your name

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

Pirnmill Primary School Spring Fair

**Saturday 26th April 12-2pm
Everyone Welcome**

Riddoch to host book talk

Broadcaster and journalist Lesley Riddoch is a national treasure and is coming to Arran.

Lesley will be at the Community Theatre in Lamlash next Friday (25 April) at 7.30pm to speak about her challenging book: 'Blossom - What Scotland needs to Flourish'.

Blossom is a historical and contemporary account of Scotland through the stories of people Lesley has met. Talented and resilient people who have struggled against the odds to improve and transform their communities, often without help from the authorities.

People who all have something in common, they know what it takes to make Scotland flourish.

Feisty, fun and immensely entertaining, Lesley has been, in her time: president of the Oxford Student Union; contributing editor to the Sunday

Herald and assistant editor of the Scotsman and shortlisted for the Orwell Prize for making political writing an art form.

She is the presenter of BBC Scotland's Speaking Out and The Lesley Riddoch Programme; a presenter of Radio Four's You and Yours and BBC Two's The Midnight Hour; and a chair of the Celtic Film and Television Festival. She was also involved as a trustee in the buy-out of the Isle of Eigg; a member of the Scottish Prison Commission; given an Honorary Doctorate from Glasgow Caledonian University; a co-founder of the think tank, Nordic Horizons which has brought Nordic experts and specialists to Scotland to share social policy insights and experiences and an established author.

Everyone is invited to join Lesley for an evening of entertaining lively discussion and provocative thought.



Co-op staff hand over the TV to the delighted youth group.

Youth group in the picture with new TV

An Arran youth group has benefited from the local Co-op's generosity after the store donated a new television to the club.

Team manager Sarah Smith and team leader Carol Harwood from the main Co-op in

Brodick handed over the TV to Arran Youth Foundations after funds were raised in the island's stores.

Youth worker Graeme Johnston said: 'Our old TV went on the blink and as the kids use it a lot, I started shopping

around to try and find a good deal on a new one. However, when Liz and Carol at the Co-op heard, they offered to give us a brand new HD television to replace the broken one.'

'They seem to really believe in what we are doing with the

young people. They sound very keen to get involved more and help as much as they can. On behalf of all the young members of the group, I just wanted to say how very grateful we are to the Co-op,' Graeme added.



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Rotary keen to find new members

Strong feelings of optimism and unity

At a very lively meeting of Arran Rotary Club in the Glenloy Suite of the Auchrananie on Tuesday night there were strong feelings of optimism and unity as many important topics were discussed and debated.

Present at the meeting as guests were assistant district governor David Campbell and his wife Barbara from Stranraer, who seemed to thoroughly enjoy the atmosphere and banter which went back and forward all evening.

Everyone was agreed that the primary concern was to recruit new members to keep the club viable and ease the load a little from the willing,

but ageing, club members.

Arran has just four founder members left now, which is not too surprising as the club is now 18 years old.

It has a membership of 17 at present and has just a trickle of new people each year.

If anyone would like to come along and join a meeting one evening, just to feel the sense of friendship and commitment to fund raise to help others, both on Arran and all over the world, they would be warmly welcomed.

It is an organisation which never stands still being hard at rewarding work in many places, for example, assisting polio eradication which has almost been achieved.

Anyone interested should contact membership officer Joyce Millard on 820391

During the meeting the news about the introduction of RET fares for ferry travel was received with great delight as the prices were read out and a party atmosphere seemed to break out.

A lengthy discussion followed on how the club would run its burger stall at the farmers show.

It will mean all hands on deck and very long hours but, as always, all who could help offered. It is always a great day out and well supported.

There will also be a Rotary presence at the Highland games as usual.

THE ARRAN BANNER

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Saturday 16 April, 1994

New forest walk

The latest project by Forest Enterprise on the island is a 'doggy walk', a 40 minute walk from the Dyemill car park in Lamlash up one side of the burn towards the Urie Loch, over the bridge and down the other side.

Now head forester Kerr Robertson plans to put a loop on the top of this walk, to double its length and to take it up to the derelict and overgrown hamlet of Lagaville, which was abandoned at the turn of the 20th century.

The location is presently completely overgrown and will be cleared by forestry workers and a small lochan created in a windblown clearing below the hamlet.

Helping the forestry workers with their tree felling work is an Arran invention, the Gordon Mulholland self releasing lock.

Bus station plans

A new bus station is to be built at Brodick Pier. Strathclyde Regional Council is to pay around £100,000 for the facility after reaching an agreement with CalMac.

Since the new pier building opened in December, the area from the pier to the mouth of the burn has been like a waste lot.

Some Brodick residents are anxious that, due to the restricted space, part of the harbour area at the burn mouth will be built over 'destroying part of Brodick's heritage'. Villagers have been assured the plans will be available for inspection on the island.

Pot hole woes

Arran's roads manager Geoff Norris has admitted that Arran's roads are in a poorer condition than usual.

It has been a worse than usual winter and the constant freeze-thaw action has left the

roads in a state of disrepair. The edges of the roads are breaking away in parts too and some people suggest that Western buses may be the culprits.

Mr Norris discounted this. He said: 'We've a lot of potholes. I think it's the weight of traffic generally,' as, he said, prior to 1969 the biggest lorry on the island was 10 tons, now they can be up to 40 tons.

Steamer to visit

Lamlash Pier was closed in 1955 but on 14 May the pleasure steamer Balmoral will berth at the old jetty in Lamlash. Part of a special cruise from Greenock via Helensburgh, Largs and Brodick, she will call at Lamlash at high tide and sail round the Holy Isle.

Lamlash Pier was closed in 1947 but later reopened while Brodick Pier was being completed, then finally closed in 1955 and demolished a few years later.

Bottled water only

The committee of Kildonan Hall decided this week that it would not allow EU regulations to curtail its operations.

As a result when an event is held in the hall it will buy bottled water for drinking - despite having perfectly good water coming out of the taps.

It is over a year since, due to inspections and new regulations concerning private water supplies, it was obliged to put up signs in the hall saying that all drinking water should be boiled.



Tommy Taylor with the self releasing lock. b15twe02



National Trust for Scotland head of gardens Duncan Donald plants a prunus serrula below Brodick Castle to mark the first point of a new tree walk in the castle grounds. Holding the tree is head gardener Nigel Price and looking on are administrator Olive Raymond with gardeners Claire Reaney, John Sillars and Norman Paton. b15twe03



The forestry workers clearing the new path from left: Tommy Taylor, John Allen, Allan Gray-Stevens and Mark Bunyan. b15twe01



The Arran Paragliding competition took place this week and despite bad weather one day of flying was completed from the Cock of Arran. The winner was Ian Blackmore from Sussex. Here one of the competitors prepares his paraglider. b15twe04

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com



Everyday

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

Saturday 19th April

Army Cadets
Over 21s Disco
Karate
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Live Music from David Redfern
Open Garden
Auction of promise
Ruby 7s
Daffodil Tea
COAST Beach Scavenger hunt

Sunday 20th April

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

Monday 21st April

Quiz
Over 50s Badminton
Badminton
Citizens Advice
Senior Fitness
Table Tennis
Aerobics (low impact)
Badminton
Arran Junior Football Club
Yoga
Yoga - Arran
Bridge Club

Tuesday 22nd April

Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Youth Club
Rotary club
Streetly Dance pre school
Streetly Dancing minis P1-3
Streetly Dancing Juniors P4-7

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

Auchrannie Road 11am – 1 pm.
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Douglas Hotel Bar, 9pm
47 Murray Crescent, Lamlash 10am - 5pm
Whiting Bay golf club, 7pm
Ormidale Park from 12noon
Lochranza Hall, 2-4pm
Lamlash beach, 10am

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
Ormidale sports pavilion, 2pm – 3.30pm
Brodick church hall, 4pm - 6pm
Kinloch Bar, 5pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 2pm-5pm
47 Murray Crescent, Lamlash 2pm - 5pm
Brodick Castle, Brodick, 11am - 4pm

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

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, 4-4.45pm
Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4.45-5.30pm

Streetly Dancing Seniors
Junior Hockey Club
Healthy Outdoors
Scottish Country Dancing
SFA Mini Kickers
SFA Early Touch Football
Jnr Badminton
Metafit
Arran Food & Craft Market

Auchrannie Gym Hall, 5.30-6.15pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6-7pm
10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre
Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
KA Campus, Lamlash High School, 5pm - 5.45pm
KA Campus, Lamlash High School, 6pm - 7pm
KA Campus, Lamlash High School, 7pm - 8pm
KA Campus, Lamlash High School, 6pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 11am - 3pm

Wednesday 23rd April

Hockey
Tae Kwon Do
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Yogalates
Aquafizz
Music Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service
RunArran mixed ability
Running Coaching
Yoga-Arran
Drift Inn Quiz
Beavers
Back to the Bronze age

Auchrannie Games Hall, 6.30-7.30pm
Arran High School Kids 6.30-7.30pm Adults 7.30-8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm
Brodick Church Hall, 7-9pm
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am
10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30
Auchrannie car park, 5.30pm
Auchrannie car Park, 5pm
Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm
Lamlash, 9pm
KA Campus, Lamlash High School, 6.15 - 7.15pm
Brodick Castle, 2.4pm

Thursday 24th April

Senior Fitness
General Knowledge Quiz
Lochranza Craft Club
Live music
Weight Watchers
Yoga
Bridge Club
QuiltArran
Garden Club
Open Music session
Ladies Hockey
Cubs

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Lochranza Hall, 2pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay 8.30-11.00pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 5.30pm
Corrie Village Hall, 6pm - 7pm
Brodick Golf Clubhouse, 7pm
Fire Station, Lamlash, 2-4pm
Brodick Ranger Centre, 7.30pm
Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30-8.30pm
KA Campus, Lamlash High School, 6.15pm - 8pm

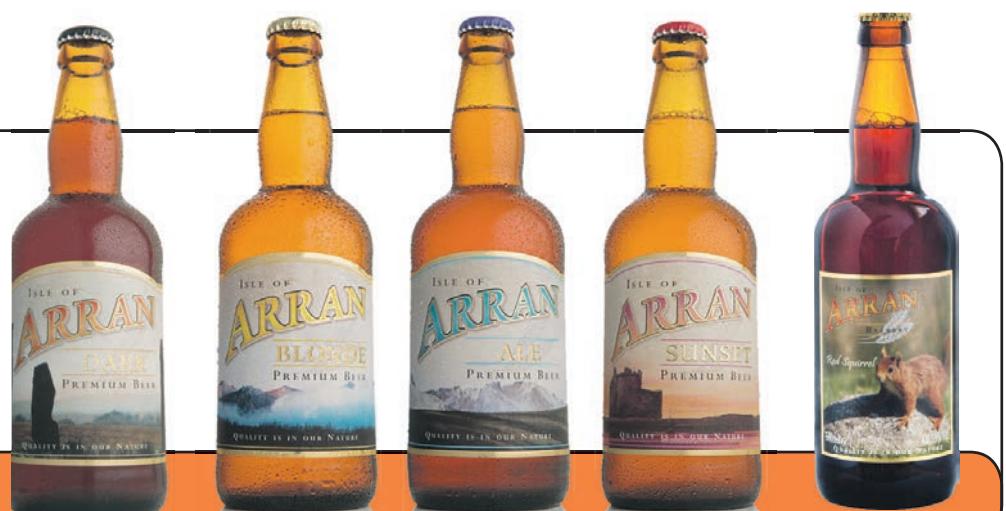
Friday 25th April

Aqua Fizz
Yogalates
Arran Youth Foundations
Lochranza Kids Badminton
Lochranza Adults Badminton
Lesley Riddoch
Castle Secrets Tour

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
Community theatre, Lamlash, 7.30pm
Brodick Castle, 11.30 - 1pm



www.arranbrewery.com



Public Notices

HARBOURS ACT 1964

PROPOSED CALEDONIAN MARITIME ASSETS (BRODICK) HARBOUR REVISION ORDER 201[x]

1. Notice is hereby given that Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited ("CMAL") has applied to the Scottish Ministers to make a harbour revision order ("the proposed Order") under Section 14 of the Harbours Act 1964 ("the Act").

2. The objects of the proposed Order are to empower the Company to construct, maintain and operate in the Firth of Clyde and on land at Brodick in the Island of Arran, a harbour with harbour works and harbour related facilities known as Brodick Harbour ("the Harbour"); to specify the limits of the Harbour, within which CMAL may exercise jurisdiction as harbour authority under powers to be granted by the proposed Order; and to repeal superseded, obsolete or otherwise unnecessary statutory provisions and local applications affecting the Harbour.

3. No land is proposed for compulsory acquisition.

4. The works proposed to be authorised comprise: the formation of an open jetty structure, forming the berthing and mooring line, and incorporating a fixed and adjustable passenger access gangway; reclamation and infilling of an area of the bed of Brodick Bay and the levelling of that area together with the levelling of the adjoining land (providing access, for the marshalling and parking of vehicles) to be retained on the seaward limits in part by rock armoured reverments and, as to the remainder, by a solid faced quay wall; a mechanically operated single deck linkspan, providing access to and from vessels including supporting piled bankseat and lifting frames with supporting dolphin structures; a two storey terminal building to be constructed over reclaimed land to be used for passenger and baggage handling, sales areas, management offices, staff welfare facilities and stores areas; a single storey split level building being the building to be used as ticketing and check-in facilities for passenger and freight vehicles; a water storage tank and pump house building to be used for ship supply; lighting columns not exceeding 15 metres in height; and demolition of existing pier and other structures.

5. The Scottish Ministers have by letter dated 13 September 2013 informed CMAL that they have decided in accordance with paragraph 4 of Schedule 3 to the Act that the application relates to a project which falls within Annex II to Council Directive 85/227/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (as relatively amended by Council Directive 97/11/EC and Council Directive 2003/35/EC) because the project falls within paragraph 10(e) of that Annex as it relates to a harbour installation; that it is not a relevant project in terms of Schedule 3 to the Act; and that, accordingly, an environmental statement is not required in terms of the Act.

6. Paragraph 16 of Schedule 3 of the Act (which requires information to be supplied concerning a project which is likely to have significant effects on the environment in Great Britain and in another European Economic Area State) does not apply to the application.

7. The application to the Scottish Ministers comprises:

- The application letter;
- A copy of the proposed Order;
- The deposited plans and sections as referred to in the draft of the proposed Order;

All of these materials together with the letter of 13 September 2013 giving the Scottish Ministers' decision as referred to above are referred to in paragraph 8 of this notice as "the Application Papers".

8. A copy of the Application Papers may be inspected at all reasonable hours until the expiry of the forty-two days' period specified in paragraph 9 of this notice at:

- Arran Library Brodick, Isle Of Arran, KA27 8DL
- The offices of CMAL at Municipal Buildings, Fore St, Port Glasgow, PA14 5EQ;
- The offices of DWF LLP, Solicitors at Dalmore House, 310 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5QR.

9. Any person desiring to object to the application or make any other representation in respect of it should do so in writing to the Scottish Ministers, addressed to N Gosling Esq, Transport Scotland, Ports and Harbours Branch, Area 2FN, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh. EH6 6QQ, or by email to harbourorders@scotland.gsi.gov.uk, before the expiry of the period of forty-two days starting with Friday 11 April 2014 (being the date of first publication of this notice) stating the grounds of the objection or representation. Any objector or person making representations should note that all responses will be treated as public documents.

10. If an objection to the application is made and not withdrawn, the Scottish Minister may before making their decision (i) cause an inquiry to be held, or (ii) give to the objector an opportunity of appearing before and being heard by a person appointed by them.

Dated this 11th day of April 2014

DWF LLP Solicitors, Dalmore House, 310 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, G2 5QR

Lamlash Moorings Associations

AGM

Tuesday 29th April 2014 at 8.00pm

Glenisle Hotel, Lamlash

All members Welcome

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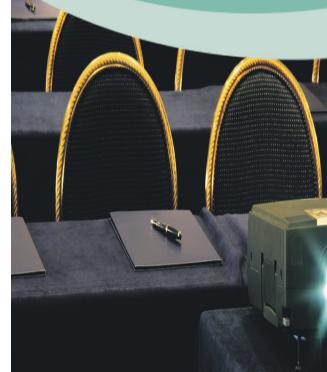
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**NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL
TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (SCOTLAND)
ACT 1997 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND
CONSERVATION AREAS)(SCOTLAND) ACT 1997**

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined at Development Planning Services, Cunningham House, Irvine*, between 9am-4.45pm weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk* and at The Council Offices, Lamalsh. Written representations may be made to the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 09.05.14. Any representations received will be open to public view.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT
MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS
2013 REGULATION 20(1)**

Format: Application No; Address; Proposed Development 14/00185/PP; Site To North Of Springfield, Shannochie, Brodick; Erection of one and a half storey detached dwelling house for an agricultural worker.

**TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008
NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED
NORTH AYRSHIRE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN POST
EXAMINATION MODIFICATIONS**

North Ayrshire Council intend to adopt the Proposed North Ayrshire Local Development Plan Post Examination Modifications in the form as modified following receipt of the Report of Examination from Scottish Ministers. The plan, together with the modifications, may be inspected free of charge at all public libraries within the North Ayrshire Council area or at The North Ayrshire Council Headquarters, Cunningham House, Irvine, KA12 8EE, during normal opening hours from Tuesday April 22. Copies can also be viewed on the planning authority's website at: <http://www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/localplans>

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunningham House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



ARRAN MEDICAL GROUP

Easter 2014

**The island GP surgeries will
be closed on Monday 21 April**

If you need to contact a doctor urgently
when the surgeries are closed please
phone NHS 24
08454 24 24 24

In an emergency you should phone 999

**PLEASE NOTE THE SURGERIES
WILL BE OPEN AS NORMAL ON
GOOD FRIDAY 18TH APRIL**

BANNER
PUBLIC NOTICES

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Call 01294 608222

or email jobs@inacs.co.uk

www.carewatch.co.uk/jobs



FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME BUS DRIVERS REQUIRED

PSV licence and CPC card preferred.

Please apply to Guy Bodie,
Stagecoach, The Pier, Brodick,
KA27 8AU

VACANCIES

LGV Drivers Class I & II
Experienced Plant Operators
Storeman/Yard Attendant

Telephone: 01770 600242
John Thomson Construction Ltd
Lamlash Isle of Arran, KA27 8NB

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Cladach Sawmill
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CARE 4 UR GARDEN
9 years established
Regular/reliable grasscutting
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Chainsaw work
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Jamie Stewart:
600969 or 07983 624634

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Mobile
07733 738127
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thornbankwoodcraft.co.uk

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GARDEN LANDSCAPING FENCING DRAINAGE WEED CONTROL MOSS CONTROL FRUIT ADVICE/PRUNING	PADDOCK HARROWING ROLLING TOPPING STRAYING FENCING
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CONTACT:- Gavin Mutch
01770 700743 or 07786 980873
www.arranlandmanagement.co.uk
Email: info@arranlandmanagement.co.uk

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS

YOUR attention is drawn to the following terms and conditions which relate to the placing of advertisements in all publications owned by Wyvex Media Limited. Parties to this agreement are the Publisher, Wyvex Media Limited Limited on the one part and the Advertiser on the other part. The Publisher publishes newspapers, magazines, books and provides advertising space therein or provides for the delivery of advertising materials to the public within these publications.

1 Advertising copy shall be legal, decent, honest and truthful and comply with the British Code of Advertising Practice and all other codes.

2 The Publisher does not guarantee the insertion of any particular advertisement.

3 The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.

4 An order for an advertisement shall be deemed to be made on acceptance of the advertisers' order by the Publisher whether placed by telephone, mail, fax or in person.

5 Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.

6 The parties submit to the jurisdiction of the Scottish Courts and Scots Law. In the event of any dispute or action by the Publisher to recover payment from an advertiser, it is agreed that matters will be settled in the Oban, Argyll Sheriff Court or such other Court as the Publisher may choose.

7 The Publisher shall not be liable for any loss or damage occasioned by any total or partial failure (however caused) of publication or distribution of any newspaper or edition in which any advertisement is scheduled to appear. In the event of any error, misprint or omission in the printing of an advertisement or part of an advertisement, the Publisher will either re-insert the advertisement or relevant part of the advertisement, as the case may be, or make reasonable refund or adjustment to the cost. No re-insertion, refund or adjustment will be made where the error, misprint or omission does not materially detract from the advertisement.

8 Errors must be notified to the Publisher in writing within fourteen days of publication. In no circumstances shall the total liability of the Publisher for any error, misprint or omission exceed the amount of a full refund of any price paid to the Publisher for the particular advertisement in connection with which liability arose or the cost of a further or corrective advertisement of a type and standard reasonably comparable to that in connection with which liability arose.

9 The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.

10 Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.

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

12 A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

Private Classified

UNDER £30

4 new black fitted car mats for Volvo XC60 £25 Tel: 810620
1x2 bike capacity spare wheel mounted bike carrier £25 Tel: 600688
Dawes large frame gents cycle £25 Tel: 700532

OVER £30

Martin OMC-160GTE guitar, Yamaha APX 700 guitar; Marshall AS50D amp (new) plus stand; Carlsbro 4-channel PS system; all leads included £1400 total, will sell items separately Tel: 302196

Oil filled radiator - fully working order £15 Tel: 601269
Combi microwave - grill, microwave and oven - 900w e rated £20 Tel: 601269

Washing Machine, excellent condition £80 Also dryer £80 Tel: 07910394431

Volvo 540 Diesel MOT Sep 14 Tel: 820306

ST-5 Mobility Scooter top of the range, tough. Good as new £400 Tel: 07845 610025

Interspersor combi dingy launching trailer £175 Tel: 700532

WANTED

Lawnmower 18inch cut in good condition Tel: 302179
Small table top fridge and microwave oven Tel: 07718005688

BANNER CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSE CLEARANCE

HOUSE CLEARANCE IN BRODICK EVERYTHING MUST GO

White Goods (all freestanding)
Hotpoint Large Fridge Freezer £175.00 ono
Hotpoint Small Fridge Freezer £150.00 ono
Hotpoint Tumble Dryer (needs new door catch) £25.00
Hotpoint Electric Cooker £225.00 ono
Hotpoint Dishwasher £150.00 ono
Furniture
Large Ikea double sliding door wardrobe £OFFERS
Carpets £OFFERS
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01294 461554**CHURCH NOTICES****SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

(in full communion with the Church of England)

St Margaret's, Whiting Bay Easter Sunday

Sunday 20th April

Holy Communion, 11.00am

The Rev Canon

Dr Michael Kitchener

Coffee after service

Wednesday 23rd April

Holy Communion, 12.15pm.

ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Parishes of North Arran

Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza,

Pirnmill 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 20th April

Brodick Church, 10.30am,

Easter Sunday Worship

Corrie Church, 12noon,

Easter Sunday Worship

A Service of Worship for Easter Sunday will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

Lochranza Church & Pirnmill Churches, 10.15am,

Easter Sunday Worship in

Lochranza Church including

Sacrament of Baptism with

praise led by local string group ARCO.

Shiskine Church, 12noon,

Easter Sunday Worship including

Sacrament of Baptism with praise led by local string group ARCO.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash

"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"

Sunday 20th April

Easter Sunday

Kilmory 10am

Lamlash 11.30 am

Both Churches:

Mrs. Sharon MacLeod

All welcome, including families; children's area

Scottish Charity SC015072

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings

Sunday 20th April

11am Morning worship in the Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick

Tea & Coffee after the service.

Wednesday at 7.30pm

Home Fellowship Group for

Bible Study and Prayer.

Contact phone no 600222

Everyone warmly invited

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(Charity Number: SC014005)**Sunday 20th April**

Easter Sunday:

There will be a sunrise service at the Viking Fort, Kingscross at 5.50am for an expected sunrise at 6am, then breakfast in the Church Hall immediately afterwards.

All most welcome to this short service to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ early on that first Easter morning.

Family Worship for Easter Sunday will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am.

Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service.

All very welcome to celebrate this most wonderful of days.

There will be a service in Cooriedoon at 2.30pm.

All welcome.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Sunday morning masses 11am Good Friday Arran Churches Together Witness Walk 2pm

Evening Liturgy 7pm

Holy Saturday: Polish Easter Blessing of food 11am Easter vigil service 9pm Easter morning masses 9.30 and 11am

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(continuing)**Sunday 20th April**

Morning Service, 11am Trust Housing Lounge, Glen

Estate, Brodick

Evening Service 6-30pm

5 Glen Road, Brodick

Prayer Meeting

Wed.23rd, 7pm

5 Glen Road,

All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 20th April

Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)

Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)

Rev Jim McClatchey

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS

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

SALVATION ARMY

House Group/Bible Study. Mondays 2.30pm.

If you are interested in joining us please ring 810251 for more information.

DEATHS**MUNN - Marion**

Peacefully at Arran War Memorial on Wednesday 9th April 2014. Marion, aged 84 years, beloved wife of the late Ian and loving mum of Donald. Funeral service in Whiting Bay and Kildonan church on Tuesday, 22nd April at 11:30 am and thereafter to Lamlash Cemetery to which all are welcome.

NELSON - Georgina Gillian (nee Colquhoun)

Peacefully at Montrose House, Brodick, Isle of Arran on Friday 11th April 2014. Beloved wife of the late Donald Nelson, much loved mother of David and Kenneth, mother-in-law of Marjorie and Debbie. Loving grandmother, great grandmother, sister and aunt. Service to be held at Holmsford Bridge Crematorium Dreghorn, Ayrshire at 1.00pm on Tuesday 22nd April. Thereafter at Lauriston Hotel, Ardrossan. Family flowers only, donations to Red Wings Horse Sanctuary.

SUTER - Francis Duncan

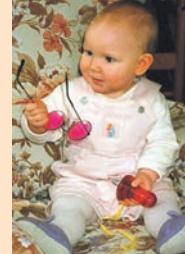
Duncan passed away suddenly April 3rd in Bradford. Visitor to the island for 47 years. Mass will be offered Friday April 25th at Holy Cross Catholic Church, Brodick at 11am, followed by interment at Brodick New Cemetery.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The family of Jean Rory would like to thank all friends and relations for cards and sympathy, parish assistant Mrs Jean Hunter for the moving service, Clair and David Hendry for the funeral service arrangements, Doctors and staff at Lamlash medical centre and especially staff at Corriedoon Nursing Home for their much appreciated care of mother during her 9 year stay.



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18TH BIRTHDAY**Happy 18th wee Hazel!**

Love from
Jemima, big Hazel,
Daniel and mum xx

**Machrie Bay Golf Club**

Tuesday 8 April, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary: 1 David Price 63, 2 Elizabeth Kelso 70 BIH, 3 Mark Sherwood 70 BIH. Scratch - Mark Sherwood and David Price 75.

Fixtures: Tuesday 22 April, Peter Sutton/Lady Mary tee off 12.30/5.30pm.

Lamlash Golf Club

Ladies: Wednesday 9 April. Medal 1, nine played, CSS 65, SSS 65. 1 Ann MacVicar 67(16)BIH, 2 Sheena Murchie 67(13). Scratch - S Murchie 80.

Gents: Thursday 3 April, Summer Cup, CSS 63, Par 64. 1 Norrie MacIntyre 70-8=62 BIH, 2 Stuart Campbell 68-6=62, 3 Ian Bremner 69-6=63 BIH over Mark Wren, best scratch Dougie Macfarlane 64. Twos - Neil Young and Dougie Macfarlane both at the 16th.

Sunday 6 April, Carpenter Rose Bowl, CSS 66, Par 64: 1 Ian Bremner 73-6=67, 2 Andrew Smith 85-15=70 BIH over Iain Murchie. Best Scratch - Ian Bremner 73.

Thursday 10 April, Summer Cup CSS 64, Par 64. 1 Jon Smith 76-15=61, 2 Ian Bremner 69-6=63, 3 Norrie MacIntyre 71-7=64. Best Scratch Dougie Macfarlane 66. Magic twos from Dougie Macfarlane at the 13th, Todd Jameson at the 5th, Iain Murchie at the 15th and Graeme Andrew at the 16th.

Yellow Medal, CSS 61, Par 61. 1 Jim Gibson 73-12=61, 2 Ian Heron 81-16=65. Two from Ian Heron at the 5th. Sunday 13 April, Hugh Hutchison Trophy: 1 Alan Smith and Scott Campbell 72-12=60, 2 Todd Jameson and Paul Jameson 70-7.8=62.2.

Fixtures: Easter weekend

21ST BIRTHDAY**Happy 21st**

Lots of love from
everyone x

**The 4th hole at Machrie Bay Golf Club.**

Saturday 19 April, Glenisle (+1)65, 3 G Hendry (5)67 acb. Scratch - E McKinnon 64.

Sunday 13 April, British Legion 36-Hole Round 2, 11 played, CSS 67.

1 E McKinnon (+1)64, 2 A Dobson (8)69 acb, 3 N Hume (13)69. Scratch - E McKinnon 63.

Trophy Winner - Ewan McKinnon 129 net. Runner up - Alastair Dobson 136.

Congratulations to Ewan McKinnon - to shoot 64, 63 scratch on a day of strong winds and driving rain showers on a wet course with early season greens was truly outstanding.

Fixtures: Sunday 20 April, British Legion Cup, Stableford, draw on Saturday 19 April at noon. Sunday 27 April, Belhaven Medal, draw Saturday 26 April at noon.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday 7 April, Wednesday Cup: 1 A Crawford 72-16=56, 2 R Burke 74-16=61 BIH, 3 J McConnachie 67-6=61.

Best scratch J McConnachie 67. Congratulations to John McGovern on a hole in one at the 10th.

Fixtures: Saturday 19 April, Grouse qualifier and Leathery Cup, pairs at 8.30am and 1pm. Wednesday night medals, make up own games starting at 5pm.

50TH BIRTHDAY**EDDIES 50TH BIRTHDAY****Kilmory Hall on 26th April****B.Y.O.B****All Welcome**

Key players missed but Arran finish season in positive mood

Arran has faced a tough year on the rugby field but, despite early fears of relegation after losing their first six games, the club turned it round in 2014 and finished the season in mid-table with plenty of positives to take forward to the next campaign.

While last season the club came within a whisper of promotion, when they were frequently able to field 90 per cent of their strongest team, they knew that this season would be very different.

The team were without several of their best players for much of the season for the usual reasons which affect Arran rugby.

The Bayne twins and Jack Barbour are at tertiary education, while Australia saw a great deal of Lachie Jones, Gregor Adamson and Danny Head, and is still in possession of the latter two. Then there is the availability of players in mainland employment.

It is a great credit to many of these boys that they made a point of travelling tiring distances just to join their mates in playing, when they could, in the interests of Arran rug-

by. The club are very grateful to them - and hope they have remembered to claim their expenses!

A club spokesman said: 'These remarks are neither complaints nor excuses. It is an ongoing situation on an island which has a high school roll of only 270 and which is our sole source of recruitment.'

'It is one with which we must deal on an annual basis and are quite used to.'

'However it has to be said that this year, many of the old heads at the club were already whispering the dreaded word relegation. In fact, having been promoted two years ago, this season had to be one of retrenchment.'

But, what of those players who were left? Firstly, the club say that no praise is too high for the effort which they put in.

After losing the first six games, they could have been excused for becoming demoralised and just giving up but not a bit of it.

The first months of the season in 2013 saw a record of eight losses and one win. But 2014 saw a turnaround with



Last season the club came within a whisper of promotion, but they knew that this season would be very different. 20_b16rug01

two losses and three wins. Significantly though, bonus points had been earned at a steady rate throughout the season, seven in total, which when added to the points gained, saw the club finish fifth out of eight, a remarkable achievement and one of which all those who contributed can be justifiably proud.

Tribute

To illustrate this, the points scored for and against difference was -26 whereas the three teams below Arran were -245, -124 and -320, a tribute to the guts and tenacity of the defence.

A really strange aspect of the first half of the season was that although Arran found great difficulty in winning in the league, they had no trouble in the bowl and reached

the regional final but were thumped by Uddingston on their own ground.

The club were fortunate that they could field a standard front five, the Boal brothers in the front row with Donald Murchie and the McMasters in the boilerhouse.

Jamie Picken at eight was a model of consistency and the wing forward saw a superb example of dedication from Donald (Addy) Adamson who, at the age of 51, played the full 80 minutes on several occasions.

Behind the scrum the club found out, what they already suspected, that without Lachie Jones they had no capable replacement, though all who were tried there gave it their best shot.

Iain Keen was an able

scrumhalf as was Ben Tattersfield. Ben, who led by example, played in every position he was asked, was always superbly fit and demonstrated yet again what a real team player he is.

The discovery of the season was Fraser Thomson on the wing. He has blistering pace and is a match winner who the midfield backs need to use more effectively. He also has that instinctive team spirit which distinguishes the Arran lads and which carried them through many a tricky patch.

At one of the away games which they lost fairly heavily, one of the supporters was heard to say: 'They gave it everything, played their hearts out and I was just full of pride.' A fitting tribute to a great bunch of boys.

10K training tapers off towards the race

Can you believe it - this is the last week of training before the 10K on Sunday 27 April.

If you have followed The Banner's 12-week training programme, you should be fit for the course, whether you intend to walk it or race it.

Most training plans advise tapering off the training in the last week before a race.

The muscles should have more 'oomph' in them and the body should be raring to go at the start, because your glycogen stores should be brimming full.

Similarly your cross-training should be more relaxed to save energy in the last week before the race. Conversely, don't relax on your stretching exercises.

Training Plan - last week before the race

On Monday and Wednesday run 8 x 0.25 miles at your anticipated race pace. Jog easy for 0.25 miles in the seven intervals.

On Friday you should be jogging three miles at an easy pace with 100m sprints at the end of each mile.

On Saturday, the day before the race, take it easy.

New bowls pavilion planned

A bowling club is planning to build a pavilion for spectators at its green.

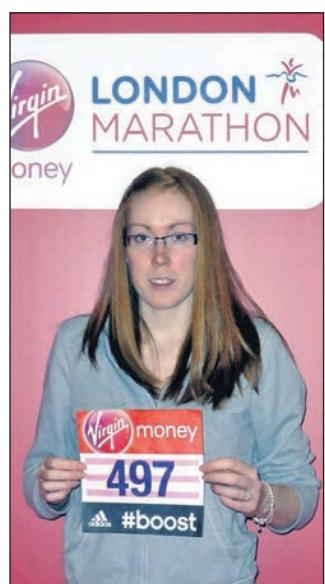
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club has applied to North Ayrshire Council to remove two small wooden storage sheds and a rain shelter.

They would be replaced by a glazed wooden pavilion with a sheltered seating area for bowlers and spectators and two storage rooms for bowling club equipment.

Planning officials have visited the site and advised that planning permission would be required.

The application has now been submitted and is being considered.

Island runner impresses in London Marathon



Jennifer Emsley finished the London Marathon in just two hours 46 minutes.

Runner Jennifer Emsley looked delighted as she completed the 2014 London Marathon, a gruelling 26-mile slog that takes participants from Blackheath to The Mall on Sunday.

The 27-year-old from Whiting Bay completed the race in an incredible two hours and 46 minutes and was 22nd out of 13,000 women.

Jennifer told The Banner: 'I felt pretty good in the first half.'

'I'd cut back my training a lot in the two weeks before the race from my usual 90-100 miles per week to about 50, so I was well rested.'

'It felt like jogging for the first part of the race but from 16 miles on it got re-

ally tough, partly due to how warm it was.'

Jennifer said that the crowds were amazing and really did motivate her to finish.

She added: 'Someone shouted 'Jenn, you're my hero' at 24 miles and that kept me going!'

'Also, having Lucozade handed to me by Chris Robshaw at 23 miles was nice.'

'This was my second marathon and I improved my time by almost 12mins.'

'Next up are some 10ks in May before getting ready for my next marathon, Loch Ness in September.'

'My dad was in London with me at the weekend and it was great to have him there supporting me.'



Jenn (in the yellow vest) said the crowds really kept her going.

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Incredible trophy haul for PT1934



Robert Davidson, Stuart McMaster, Niall McMaster, Tommy Mulholland, Eddie Picken, Vicki Sturgeon, Alan Picken, Max Worthington and Dennis Smith show off PT1934's amazing haul of pool prizes.

The Kilmory pool team PT1934 swept the boards on finals day recently with a huge clutch of prizes.

All seven trophies - singles, doubles, champions of champions, open, knockout shield, second chance salver and league champions

- went to the team who play at Kilmory hall.

After years of missing out on the top prize until last year, Dennis Smith successfully defended his singles title with a 4-1 defeat of his league teammate Alan Picken.

Dennis has now managed to win the prize two years in a row.

In the final of the doubles competition Stuart McMaster and Robert Davidson beat Rebecca Lacey and her partner Steve 4-2 to claim another trophy for

PT1934.

Earlier in the season Max Worthington won the open championship and Robert Davidson was named champion of champions.

A successful season also meant that PT1934 claimed the league title.

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