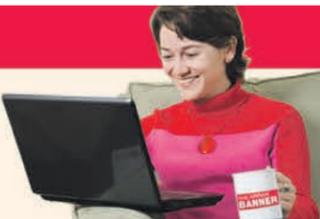


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Arran's Weekly Newspaper SATURDAY, 3 MAY 2014 No 1959 60p

'Small' Lamlash hotel named best in Scotland

Arran establishments bring home awards



Owners Timothy Billings, left, and Geoffrey Dallamore celebrate after the Glenisle was named Scotland's 'Small Hotel of the Year' 20_b18jih01

REPORT
by JENNIFER LYON
editor@arranbanner.co.uk
A small Arran hotel triumphed in one of the biggest categories at the Scottish Hotel Awards in Edinburgh on Sunday night.
The Glenisle Hotel in Lamlash was named 'Small Country Hotel of the Year 2014', beating off competition from all over Scotland. The judges said that the former Island Hotel of the Year-winner 'just keeps getting better'. Owners Geoffrey Dallamore and Timothy Billings were over the moon. 'This is such a competi-

tive market so awards of this kind mean so much to us,' said Timothy. 'We recognise that nowadays people will research hotels before they stay in them to check out reviews so awards are such a great selling point for us.'
Geoffrey added: 'We were so excited when they read out our names to discover that we'd won. 'This award shows how hard our staff have worked over the past six years to make the Glenisle one of Scotland's best hotels. We're absolutely delighted.'
Kilmichael Hotel in Brodick was regional winner for Restaurant of

the Year and the Auchrannie Resort picked up Informal Dining Restaurant of the Year 2014.
At The Douglas Hotel in Brodick marketing manager, Elaine Campbell, was given a Dame of Hospitality award for her contribution to the industry.
Head chef Gregg Russell receiving a Chef's Gold Medal and David Jenkins received a Hospitality Gold Medal for the hotel's bar and restaurant. The hotel also won the regional award for Boutique Hotel of the Year. See P3.

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New free NHS 24 number launched

People on Arran can now call NHS 24 free, simply by dialling 111.

The new and easy-to-remember telephone number was launched on Tuesday and means that people throughout Scotland will no longer be charged when calling the national telehealth and telecare service from a landline or mobile.

NHS 24 will continue to deliver the same high quality service for anyone seeking advice and support within Ayrshire and Arran during the out of hours period when their GP surgery is closed.

Health Minister Alex Neil said: 'I strongly believe that our NHS should be free at the point of care for all, and this new number will help to protect these founding

principles of the NHS. The new number is easy to remember, and free to call, which will ensure everyone across Scotland can access support and advice from NHS 24 whenever they need it.

Quality service

'NHS 24 already provides a valuable service to patients across Scotland when their GP surgery is closed, and there will be absolutely no change to the high quality service provided through this new number.'

NHS 24 will continue to be contactable via the old number (08454 24 24 24) for a limited time.

Call volumes to this number will be closely monitored and a decision to close the line will be taken at an appropriate time.



Ann gets bowling season underway

Last season's ladies singles winner Ann Whattam has the honour of throwing the first jack at the opening of Brodick Bowling Club on Saturday. The sun shone after a damp start to the day and there was a good turnout of members for the inaugural triples match of the season. 20_b18bowl01

Dismay as second ferry is delayed

Arran's second ferry which was due to come into service this week has been delayed due to technical problems within the CalMac fleet.

The MV Isle of Arran should have been on the Ardrossan to Brodick route from Thursday 1 May until 30 September but CalMac now says it cannot commit to a start date.

A spokesman for the ferry operator said: 'We anticipate that Arran services will be reduced to a single vessel service this weekend due to a delay in returning the MV Finlaggan to service as a result of essential

technical work taking longer than expected. It has also been necessary to cancel Ardrossan-Campbeltown services this weekend.'

He added: 'We cannot say for certain when the MV Isle of Arran will be able to pick up the Arran service until after extended sea trials have been completed later this week, but assuming these are successful, it is the intention that she will be ready to fulfil her duties on the Arran service on Monday morning.'

'If there is any way of resuming services sooner than this we will do so and

if, following the sea trials, these proposals require to be changed, customers will be notified through the usual channels.'

'We are confident that the MV Caledonian Isles can cope with the projected traffic over the weekend, but as a precaution we have reluctantly cancelled Campbeltown services this weekend to give ferry travellers the time to make alternative arrangements if they wish.'

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson fought for the date for the second ship to be brought

forward this year to include the May Bank Holiday and he said that after all the difficulties in recent months, this is a disappointing start to the summer season.

He told The Banner: 'One would have thought that servicing the MV Finlaggan would have been carried out earlier rather than so close to the commencement of the Arran summer run.'

'Hopefully not too many islanders or visitors are inconvenienced and that there are no further 'glitches' over what promises to be a bumper summer season.'

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Awards for Arran hotels

Arran's tourism sector was given a welcome boost - just as the season gets underway - with a whole host of prizes at the Scottish Hotel Awards on Sunday night.

At The Douglas Hotel in Brodick the team were celebrating after marketing manager, Elaine Campbell, was given a Dame of Hospitality award for her contribution to the industry.

Head chef Gregg Russell was also a winner on the

night receiving a Chef's Gold Medal and David Jenkins received a Hospitality Gold Medal for the hotel's bar and restaurant.

The Brodick hotel also won the regional award for Boutique Hotel of the Year.

Elaine told The Banner that they were delighted with the awards, not just for The Douglas but because Arran has once again done so well.

'We are very proud that our head chef Gregg received

a Gold Medal, he has been with us since the start and the judges comments were so positive,' said Elaine.

'The Hospitality Gold award for David Jenkins and the bar and bistro team was wonderful too, like a lovely pat on the back, as all of our staff who work so hard, so really these 'People of Excellence' awards mean a lot to us.'

Kilmichael Hotel in Brodick was named regional winner of the Restaurant of the Year at the awards.

Owner Geoffrey Botterill said: 'Arran first again!

'This represents a tremendous achievement for everyone involved, especially as it covers restaurants throughout all the Scottish islands.

'Our thanks go to everyone who nominated or voted for us, the judges, of course, and our small but dedicated staff.

'Congratulations to the other Arran hotels who also won awards on Sunday night.'

And the Auchrannie Resort also picked up a coveted award after being named Informal Dining Restaurant of the Year 2014.

Richard Small, general manager at Auchrannie, said: 'The entire team are delighted that eighteen69 has been recognised as the best informal dining experience in Scot-



Ailsa Barr and David Jenkins received a hospitality gold medal on behalf of The Douglas Hotel's bar and bistro.

land.

'Being able to wow the judges after being open for just a few weeks is a huge achievement for everyone involved. It is also a great testament to the hard work that we have put into making this new Scottish tapas concept a success.'

Linda Johnston, executive director, at Auchrannie told

The Banner that once again Auchrannie and other hotels on Arran have demonstrated their ability to deliver outstanding hospitality on a par with the very best in Scotland.

She said: 'These latest awards for the island can only enhance further Arran's reputation as a leading tourist destination.'

Scotland's culture and heritage to be explored

The Saltire Society is paying a visit to the island on Thursday 15 May.

Jim Tough, executive director, is coming to Arran to talk about the origins of the society and how it has expanded in recent years to celebrate Scottish culture, history and heritage through its architecture, civil engineering and music, as well as literature and the arts.

All are welcome to come along to this meeting which starts at 7.30pm in the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick.

Rural boost for defib fund

On Easter Saturday the ladies of Lamlash SWRI held a coffee morning in the high school. A sum of £200 was raised for the Lamlash defibrillator fund. On a beautiful sunny day with so many other events on this was a very satisfactory sum.

A very big thank you to all who joined them for morning coffee, bought from the tasty display on the cake stall, gave their time to manning the tearoom and contributed such a delicious array of home baking.



The Douglas Hotel's Elaine Campbell was made a 'Dame of Hospitality' and head chef Gregg Russell was given a chef's gold medal.

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Council seeks legal advice as anger mounts over housing office closure

Bosses at North Ayrshire Council are furious Isle of Arran Homes took the decision to shut their Brodick office in 'secret'.

Now councillors have ordered officials to seek an urgent meeting with housing chiefs to try to reverse the decision.

And they are consulting the council's lawyers to see if the decision taken was even legal under the terms of housing legislation.

Arran Homes' parent company, the Trust Housing Association, announced last month it is to shut the Brodick office with the loss of four jobs and all clerical and administration work transferred to a call centre in Edinburgh.

At the council cabinet meeting on Tuesday, councillors, led by Arran councillor John Bruce and the three other councillors who have Arran as part of their ward, gave solid backing for action.

It was agreed that chief executive Elma Murray should write to the trust chief executive Bob McDougall asking for an immediate meeting.

Legality

Councillor Bruce said: 'We are also looking at the legality of the situation as we believe the trust may have acted in haste.'

The council is also 'annoyed' that the trust went ahead with the closure announcement without informing them, despite the council paying for part of the care and repair service, and accused the board of the trust of 'secrecy'.

After the meeting Councillor

Bruce said: 'I am delighted to have secured the support of the other Arran councillors and the backing of cabinet. You can't get stronger support than that.'

At Arran Community Council this week chairman John Iglis said: 'It was a disgrace the way the office was closed, suddenly and out of the blue. There should have been six months of discussion.'

'Arran Homes must have known something like this was coming up.'

'There has been no decent explanation of the decision and I would like to know about their financial situation.'

Shiskine representative Barbara McNeice added: 'The loss of the office will have a huge impact on island services for tenants. It also houses the food bank.'

Intransigence

Meanwhile, Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson has accused the trust of 'intransigence' after it refused to budge on the decision to shut the Brodick office.

It told Mr Gibson that as far as it is concerned the board's decision was final and would not be reversed.

The issue was taken up by Mr Gibson, who has been discussing the changes with the trust senior management to try to persuade it to reverse or ameliorate its decision.

Mr Gibson said: 'It is deeply disappointing at the way the trust has handled this matter, as is their intransigence.'

Trust finance director Jack Marshall readily admitted to Mr Gibson that costs were the issue but said the model now being imposed on Arran as



Councillors have ordered officials to seek an urgent meeting with housing chiefs to try to reverse the decision to close the Isle of Arran Homes office in Brodick. 20_b18shut01

the one they already operated on Coll, Lewis and Mull. Mr Marshall did concede that Arran was different with more properties but the trust's board believed the principles were the same, with Arran to be administered in a call centre way like their other island properties.

He said that the board believed that the remaining island-based staff could visit

tenants as necessary about repairs and other matters and insisted the service would not be diminished.

Mr Gibson said that the chief executive Bob McDougall was currently on leave but intended to speak to him upon his return.

The Trust Housing Association said it did not wish to make any further comment at present.

Coffee morning for RNLI

The Arran branch of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) is holding a fundraising coffee morning in the Ormidale Pavilion in Brodick on Saturday 10 May from 10.15am to 12noon.

There will be the usual home baking, raffle and tombola stalls. The RNLI is funded entirely by donations and is of particular significance to the island.

All money raised at the coffee morning will go to the charity.

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Salmon firm to increase promotion of Arran farm

One of the country's leading salmon farming businesses is keen to promote its work on Arran, as overseas exports of the fish continue to rapidly grow.

The Scottish Salmon Company (SSC), which has a farm in Lamlash Bay, produces

around 1,400 tonnes of fish each year in Arran's waters, and more than 20,000 tonnes nationwide.

There are six members of staff working in Lamlash Bay overseeing all the elements of fish husbandry that take the salmon from small hatchlings

through to full-growth during a three-year cycle.

With more than 400 staff at 60 separate sites across the Highlands and Islands and West Coast, the company is now a large Scottish employer.

And in recent months SSC

has seen overseas exports increase with more than 40 per cent of its sales going to high-end retailers and restaurateurs in France and the US and also the emerging markets of Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Japan, Taiwan and China.

Managing director Craig Anderson says he is keen to promote Arran's salmon all over the world by working closely with Alistair Dobson at Taste of Arran.

'We are extremely proud of the salmon that we produce for our customers here on Arran,' said Mr Anderson.

'Because we are the wholesaler we don't market our salmon as necessarily being from each specific farm in Scotland but we recognise the importance to customers of knowing exactly where the fish has come from.'

'Arran is becoming famous around the globe as a world-class producer of quality food products and we are keen to have our salmon recognised alongside those.'

In the past there had been concerns expressed by some on the island about the environmental impact of fish-farming.

But Mr Anderson believes his company is actually helping with regeneration and sustainability in Lamlash, and all over Scotland.

'Our method of farming has very little impact on the seabed so in actual fact the No Take Zone in Lamlash is not affected in any way by our farm,' he said.

'We are absolutely dedicated to providing the best possible care for our fish - be-

cause we know that a healthy fish, reared in optimum conditions and harvested in the most humane and stress-free circumstances, produces the very best in terms of a quality food product.

'We are committed to a standard of fish-farming which never impacts on the environment in any way that can't be reversed and we leave a fish farm site in at least as good a status as it was and we often do much to rejuvenate sites, and leave them better than we found them.'

Look out for a fantastic competition in next week's Banner to win some of the Scottish Salmon Company's top quality produce to sample.

Spring coastal foraging - what can you find on Arran's shores?

Former Arran resident and now Scotland's only full-time foraging tutor, Mark Williams of Galloway Wild Foods.com, discusses some of the wild foods that can be harvested free around the coast of Arran this spring.

Most wild habitats are crammed with tasty, health-giving wild foods if people know what to look for. But the greatest abundance of wild ingredients is found around the coast. This may seem surprising, as the shores take the brunt of biting, salty winds but the very hostility of the habitat has forced coastal plants into some ingenious adaptations that suit human tastes very well.

Take sea beet for example - a coastal spinach that produces large, edible, glossy leaves all year. Look for it above the strand line on shingle beaches and coastal defences, and take a few leaves from well established plants.

Other coastal delicacies include sea aster (a succulent member of the daisy family loved by top chefs) and sea arrowgrass, which has a surprising kick of coriander.

Below the high tide line, seaweed is Britain's single largest relatively untapped food resource. Lost traditions of seaweed consumption in the UK are being revitalised by the esteem with which it is held in eastern cuisines.

Pepper dulse has a remarkable aromatic flavour that earns it the name 'truffle of the sea' and laver is synonymous with the nori found wrapped around sushi.

The warming effect of the sea means even plants that aren't specifically adapted for the coast can thrive in frost-free conditions. For the earliest, biggest, juiciest, tastiest and most blackberries and sloes - head for the coast!

If anyone would like to learn more, join Mark as he teams up with Arran Bushcraft for a guided coastal foray followed by wild cook-in and beach fire at Sannox on Saturday 10 May, 1pm-5pm. Contact Mark Bunyan on 07876405080 for more details and to book. No-one should eat a wild plant unless they are 100 per cent sure of its identity and edibility.



Mark Williams of Galloway Wild Foods is an expert forager.



Dover sole with greens - just one example of the vast amount of food to be found on the coastline.

Summer Bridge

The results of the tournament on Monday 28 April were as follows: North/South 1 Margaret and Dougie Bruce, 2 Tricia Martin and Jan Beattie, 3 Ellie Jones and Jennifer McArthur. East/West 1 Elizabeth McKellar and Linda Trickett, 2 Libby Alexander and Jenny Macintyre, 3 Jennifer Wales and Margaret Macgill.

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Brass musicians to stage tour finale on Arran

A group of talented musicians will perform two concerts when The Scottish Brass Band Trail hosts its grand finale on Arran on Saturday 10 May.

The travelling group of esteemed musicians are visiting the island as part of the nationwide celebration of brass music, The European Festival of Brass 2014.

The first of the two performances will be an informal concert/workshop to be held at 2pm in The Glenisle Hotel, Lamlash.

This will be followed the same evening with an exciting joint concert with Arran Brass, commencing at 7.45pm at Whiting Bay Hall.

The visiting musicians will be conducted by Andrew Duncan and Dave Payn will conduct the Arran musicians.

Clair Tomalin of The Scottish Brass Band Association said: 'This is a rare opportunity to enjoy the musical talents of the talented visiting players, and with an easy listening and entertaining programme planned, the events are open to everyone to come and enjoy a unique musical treat. So, come along and enjoy this Scotland-wide musical celebration and be part of The European Festival of Brass.'

The Scottish Brass Band Trail involves an enthusiastic group of brass musicians who are undertaking a week-long tour of a variety of Highland and island venues, including Stornoway, Kinlochleven, Lochgilphead, Campbeltown, and then bringing the tour to a grand finale when they visit Arran.



The front cover of the 2013 bird report.

Keeping in touch with Arran's birds

Last year almost 300 contributors submitted more than 7,500 records on 160 species of bird, including one which had never been recorded before on Arran, for The Arran Bird Report 2013.

This annual report is a must for anyone interested in the birds of Arran.

Summary

It includes information on all species seen on Arran, a month by month summary of what was around last year, the impact of weather on birds, information on ringed birds and reports on some of Arran's bird projects.

The uniqueness of Arran is reflected throughout the report, including the number of UK protected birds that share the island, as well as the differences between Arran and even the adjacent mainland.

Only a limited number have been produced.

This latest version is now available from shops and other outlets throughout the island for the price of £4.

It can also be purchased directly from Alan and Jill Hollick of High Kildonan at alanandjillhollick@gmail.com.

The Scottish Brass Band Trail Band Musical Director Andrew Duncan in concert with Arran Brass

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Pier work halted as jinxed barge breaks down again

The £18 million Brodick ferry terminal redevelopment is facing further delays before the work has properly got underway.

Work has halted again on the marine site investigation after the jinxed jack-up barge, brought in to carry out surveys and drilling, broke down again.

As a result the rig, 'Proteus', which finally arrived after a long delay two weeks ago, has now left Brodick again for repair.

Now harbour owners Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) have admitted that this latest delay is a setback to the pier redevelopment due for completion by early 2016.

Head of engineering at CMAL, Ramsay Muirhead, said: 'The results of the ground investigation are key to the design of the pier, the reclaim areas and the building foundations, so this further delay is having a knock-on effect to the overall redevelopment programme.'

'Until we get the works back on track, we cannot assess fully how much of a delay this will cause.'

As reported in The Banner last week the long-delayed drilling rig finally arrived off the island on April 15 and was expected to stay for up to eight weeks carrying out preparatory work for the new two-berth pier and ferry terminal, but disappeared at the weekend. It is believed to be back in port in Fairlie.

The contractor, Glasgow-based Structural Soils, is

said to be currently assessing the fault on the barge, as well as looking at potential alternatives.

One source said: 'The drilling rig is now back at Fairlie and serious delays are now expected. The job is now months behind schedule at a time of year when real progress is absolutely essential.'

The £225,000 contract was the first visible sign of the start of the redevelopment work.

The barge was first due to arrive nearly three months ago to carry out a one-week hydrographic survey followed by the drilling of eight exploratory boreholes which was expected to take six to eight weeks.

The barge arrived in Brodick two weeks ago with the company blaming delays on wintry weather and rough seas, followed by a serious technical fault.

Mr Muirhead said: 'The barge being used for the ground investigation has had to leave Brodick before completing the works due to a technical fault.'

'CMAL and our design team are working with the contractor to get the works back on site at the earliest opportunity, with a view to minimising any further delay to the project.'

The Harbour Revision Order (HRO) for the redevelopment works has now been formally submitted to Transport Scotland and is available at Brodick Library until 23 May.

OLDER PEOPLE HOUSING EVENT

North Ayrshire Council Housing Services are holding their first Older People's Housing Event and invite you to The Ardeer Neighbourhood Centre, Stevenston on Friday 16 May 2014.

This annual event will provide local residents and stakeholders with the opportunity to discuss, agree or comment on a range of housing issues which affect older people within North Ayrshire.

The event is free to attend, is open to any older person living in North Ayrshire and will run from 9.30am (lunch will be provided).

Come along and listen to talks on Dementia, Personal and Home Security and general advice on preparing a Will.

The afternoon session will consist of various interactive activities ranging from beauty therapies, chair exercises and Internet awareness.

There will also be a range of information stalls from various organisations across North Ayrshire.

Housing Services can also help individuals with travel arrangements.

If you have any questions or wish to register your attendance, call the Older People Housing Team on 01294 324031 before Wednesday 7 May 2014.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE

NORTH AYRSHIRE
Local Housing Strategy
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WEDNESDAY 7th MAY Back to the Bronze Age
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Adults £8 u16 £4 + Park Entry Booking Essential

FRIDAY 9th MAY Castle Secrets Tour
11.30am – 1.00pm Call the Castle for more information
£8 + Castle Entry Booking Essential

SATURDAY 10th MAY Early Birds & Bacon Butties
4.00 – 6.00am
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Call the Rangers for more information
Adult £15 U16 £5 (b/fast incl.) Booking Essential

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(Wednesdays only 10.30am to 12.30pm
and 1.30pm to 3.30pm. or by appointment)

Stock in tremendous fettle at Ayr sales

Messrs Craig Wilson Ltd in Ayr sold 231 cattle from Arran consignors at their annual spring sales in Ayr. They gave great credit to the farmers on the island who produced the stock in such tremendous fettle, resulting in a hearty response from the many buyers present who were looking for top quality animals for prime finishing.

Prices

Principle prices (per head) were: Steers: Limousin Cross: £1,180 Craigview, Aberdeen Angus Cross: £1,160, £1,000 Cairnhouse, Charolais Cross: £1,090 (x2) £1,030 Auchenhew, £1,030, £1,000 Craigraineach £990, £980 Moor, Simmental Cross: £1,020, £985, £950 Birchburn, £990 (x2) £890 Belleview, Black & White: £830 Tigheanfraeoch.

Principle Prices (per kilo) Steers: Simmental Cross: 253.8p 250.7p Belleview, 243.5p Birchburn. Charolais Cross: 260.7p 259.5p 244.9p Auchenhew, 238.5p Moor, 238p 231.5p Craigraineach. Limousin Cross: 240.8p Craigview. Black & White: 159.6p Tigheanfraeoch.

Bullock Stirks (per head): A/Angus Cross: £875, £745 Birchburn, £830 Belleview, £740 Braehead. Char Cross: £860, £800, £740, £700 Glenree. Sim Cross: £815,

£810 Springfield. Lim Cross: £805, £700 Springfield.

Bullock Stirks (per kilo): A/Angus Cross: 238.7p Braehead, 237.3p Belleview, 229.2p Birchburn. Char Cross: 290.9p, 273p, 269p Glenree, Sim Cross: 258.7p, 234.8p Springfield. Lim Cross: 251.5p Springfield.

Heifers (per head): Lim Cross: £1,150 Auchenhew, £1,115, £1,045 Craigview. Char Cross: £1,075, £945 £910 Auchenhew, £905, £820 £815 Craigraineach, £830 Moor. Sim Cross: £1,040 Glenree, £845 Birchburn.

Heifers (per kilo): Lim Cross: 234.7p Craigview. Char Cross: 230.5p, 228.8p, 224.7p Auchenhew, 232.1p, 223.3p Craigraineach, 218.4p Moor. Sim Cross: 222.3p Birchburn 212.2p Glenree.

Heifer Stirks (per head): Lim Cross: £780 Springfield. £700 Ceitheir Goaithe. A/Angus Cross: £710 Belleview, £695 Birchburn. Sim Cross: £705 Springfield. Char Cross: £700, £645 Glenree.

Heifer Stirks (per kilo): A/Angus Cross: 289.8p Belleview. Char Cross: 259.3p, 230.7p Glenree. Lim Cross: 232.8p Springfield. Sim Cross: 223.8p Springfield.

Cast Cows (per head): Sim: £1,180 Belleview. Black & White: £960 Tigheanfraeoch. Luing: £780, £730 Altgolath. Shorthorn: £730 Braehead. Saler: £720 Braehead.

Cast Bulls (per head): Char: £1,130 Craigraineach.

Sheep (per head): Texel Hoggs: £89, £88, £81.80 Springfield. Blackface Tup Hoggs: £75, £67.50 Glenree. Blackface Ewe: £61.50 Glenree.

The Black Eagle has landed!



The Black Eagle was re-launched for the season at Lamlash pier.

Arran takes great pride in its Viking ancestry and last Saturday the island's famous longship, the 'Black Eagle' was re-launched for the summer season.

Not only that, but on Tuesday the ship was used in filming by a London production company which is working on a television documentary about ancient civilisations.

'It's great to get her back into the water,' said Mark Brown, chairman of the Arran Viking Longship Society.

'The boat will be on its mooring in Lamlash Bay for most of the summer and will be available for interested locals and visitors to see and use. Last year the ship was transported all the way to Ireland where it was used in filming of the TV series 'Vikings'.

'That generated a lot of interest so another company contacted us and were here filming off Corrie and Sannox last week, including a beach landing with members of the Glasgow Viking group attending.'

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Cyclists - saving drivers' lives

Ever wondered why cyclists can usually be found riding in the middle of Arran's roads? Because apparently they're allowed to!

The Banner knows that this topic is often discussed amongst the island's drivers so we've been doing a bit of research.

See those pesky potholes? Not good for your car suspension, are they? Well to cyclists, they're not just inconvenient, they could be lethal.

The cyclist up ahead might be in the middle of the road for a few seconds to avoid a big hole in the ground. Cyclists are expert pothole-spotters so it can be useful to use this inside knowledge to prevent costly damage to your car's suspension.

Some cyclists take what's called the 'primary position'.

This is cyclists' semaphore for 'don't pass me just yet there's an obstacle ahead', and 99 times out of 100 they will tuck back into the side of the road and the motorist can then safely overtake.

As operators of vehicles, cyclists have as much right to the whole lane as a motorist.

Most of the time cyclists, quite sensibly, allow motorists to pass because that's the safest and nicest thing to do. But it's not a legal requirement.

There's no such thing on the road as a 'car lane'. The only roads that motorists can call their own are motorways - the clue is in the name.

So how about those cyclists who block the road by riding two abreast. That's also perfectly legal as it's in the Highway Code. The Highway Code states that cyclists should not ride more than two abreast and should ride in single file on 'narrow or busy roads and riding round bends'.

However, the Highway Code doesn't define what it means by 'narrow' or 'busy' or quite how rounded the curve has to be before it's considered a 'bend'.

Club cyclists, who often ride in packs, will ride two abreast to chat and will thin out when necessary, but two riders will often 'take primary position' before bends. It is reasonably obvious why.

Far too many motorists take bends, even blind ones, fast, and cyclists do not want to be squished when an overtaking driver realises they've overcooked the corner and has to dive back in to avoid a head-on smash.

So next time you curse at a cyclist for 'blocking the road' just remember they may be doing it to save their lives, and possibly yours too.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

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

press policy

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

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

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

The Arran Banner adheres to the Press Complaints' Commission's Code of Conduct. The views expressed in *The Arran Banner* are not necessarily those of the The Oban Times Group.

your letters

THE EDITOR welcomes letters of approximately 200 words in length for publication on this page. The editor also reserves the right to shorten, to amend or to refuse to print them. Names and postal addresses must be supplied, including on e-mails, to indicate good faith. A daytime telephone number is also required for verification. Anonymous letters or those supplied without a contact telephone number will not be printed. Please write or fax to: Letters Page, *The Arran Banner*, Brodick, Isle of Arran. E-mail editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Letters to the Editor



Great appreciation

Sir,
As a new listener to The Banner I would like to thank the lady reader who on 20 April read the obituary of Donald S Bannatyne in the 'Talking Banner'. It was greatly appreciated.

Yours,
Mrs I S Rankin
The Haven
Pirnmill

Less selfishness needed

Sir,
How refreshing it was to read Dr Lee's letter telling us of her journey to Arran with a group of geology students on 28 March. They experienced nothing but help, guidance and sympathy from CalMac when there was a considerable delay in ferry departures, caused by an accident to the early ferry from Ardrossan necessitating the *Isle of Arran* coming from Islay to replace her.

No preferential treatment was given to this group as my nephew and his wife visited me that weekend and had only good reports of the event.

One does get tired of the letters complaining about many things in Arran and, I believe, not enough thought is given to the pros and cons of living on an island before moving here.

I have lived here for 26 years and consider it a great privilege to do so. Yes, there are disadvantages but the advantages far outweigh them.

Many of the complaints are unjustified, eg CalMac take the brunt of much criticism especially for the many restricted sailings during our recent winter when wind and gales reached record speeds. Would these people prefer to be complaining about a ferry at the bottom of the sea with about 300 people dead (mostly children) as in South Korea. Safety must be paramount.

Then there are complaints about the closure of The String for road repairs and the widening of the road and more complaints about slow work compared to four years ago.

But there has been little publicity given to the fact that this time the road is being considerably widened and drainage put in place, all to cope with the large timber lorries taking out the harvested wood and timber companies subsidising the cost of the work.

Now this week I was amazed to see the whole front page of The Banner given to reporting the closure of Arran Homes office in Brodick; leaving one representative in Brodick; with Edinburgh handling the rest of the necessary administration work.

Well what is wrong with that if it is going to save money when economies are having to be made and jobs lost everywhere. If one rented privately would one get the attention that Arran Homes provides? In this electronic age I don't see why having staff in Edinburgh instead of Brodick should not work.

Of course, all is not perfect in Arran or elsewhere in Scotland and never will be; but let's have a more balanced report of what is going on and a lot less selfishness.

Yours,
Maira Dick
Blackwaterfoot

Remembering old

Arran

Sir,
My good friend Jean Bowden has just given me a year's subscription to The Banner and the 19 April edition gave me particular pleasure.

It contained three items of personal interest - the fine obituary of D S Bannatyne, the Kinloch Hotel feature and the letter from Dr Sarah Lees of the University of Leicester.

D S was a cousin of mine and I am named after his mother, Kate. She and Uncle Dan bought a boarding house which they named after their sojourn in Montana, USA.

She was so kindly and such a good cook that Montana flourished. It became part of the Kinloch Hotel, which in my youth was owned by another Bannatyne, Duncan.

Blackwaterfoot was sometimes referred to as Port Bannatyne because of the

many Bannatyne businesses. Nezer(???) of the bakery and bakers shop was another.

Lawrence Crawford married Janice, my 42nd cousin, and Robbie's son Fraser is a grandnephew.

The Leicester connection goes farther back, as I discovered when in 1947 I joined my husband, who was on the staff of the then university college. I was made welcome by the principal, Mr Attenborough, father of the boys, Richard, David and John, and by the vice principal Dr Pat Brian, who had married the same year as my parents (1919) and spent his honeymoon at the Hamilton Arms in Shedog. His subject was geography and he took his students to do their field work in Arran, lodging in these days with another kinswoman Marjory Bannatyne at Fairhaven in Catacol. The geology students still do their fieldwork in Arran during the Easter holidays and lodge at the Kinloch Hotel.

I still have cousins resident in Arran but we are all now very ancient.

Yours,
Mrs Kathryn Jane Humphreys
St Marys Road
Leicester

Despicable roads

Sir,
Due to the works being carried out on the String Road I have been unfortunate to travel by bus to Brodick and back either by the northend or the southend of Arran on what I can only describe as totally unsatisfactory, uncomfortable and tortuous journeys.

This is in no way due to the bus drivers or the conditions of their buses, but solely because of the deplorable and disgusting state of the roads with broken edges, quite often lacking support foundations, unevenness and potholes that are left unrepaired or, if they have been attended to, appear to be very questionable as to whether they comply with codes of practice as set down by the government.

Potholes are not trimmed to regular shapes or sealed with liquid tar before patching

with Bitmac, so this allows rainwater to penetrate and soften it up, and then they are consolidated by the wheels of the lorry, or levelled with and banged down with the back of a shovel. Is it any wonder then that the roads are soon in the same state, or worse, with patch on patch?

I wonder if our councillors and their officers at North Ayrshire Council who comprise the Highways Committee ever travel on buses?

Perhaps they should change the habit of a lifetime and experience for themselves what it is like to journey around Arran on what should otherwise be pleasant experiences in taking in the beauty of this island.

Have they ever been to Arran, I ask myself? But then I expect that is too much of a forlorn hope!

Yours,
Colin Mills
Shiskine

Empty promises

Sir,
Based on their comments reported in the Banner on 26 April, it would seem all the local politicians are pledged to reverse the decision to close the Brodick office of Isle of Arran Homes.

It remains to be seen how influential these representatives really are or if their pledges are as empty as the Arran Homes office is destined to be.

Arran is watching.

Yours,
Albert Edward
By e-mail

First class visit

Sir,
We have just returned from a fantastic weekend in Arran staying at the Invercloy B&B where the owners made us feel very welcome.

The B&B was spotlessly clean and the breakfast was fantastic - just what my husband needed before running the Arran 10k road race.

We also ate in Fiddlers, Brodick, where the food and service were first class.

Yours,
Angela Mason
Shetland Drive
Glasgow

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Fun for all at Pirnmill spring fair

There was fun for all the family when Pirnmill Primary School held its annual spring fair on Saturday.

There were games, stalls and contests for kids and adults alike.

The tombola and baking stalls did a roaring trade while the guess-the-weight-of-the-cake was popular.

Coconut shy

There was face painting for the kids and outdoor games

including a coconut shy and a football contest.

While there were burgers outside for all and teas, coffee and cakes for grown ups.

The event raised an excellent £512.10 for school funds.



Two youngsters try their luck at the tombola stall. 20_b18pirn02



Mandy Aitken paints a design on Nicol Weir's face. 20_b18pirn04



Lewis Jeffrey and Hannah Lord with their faces painted. 20_b18pirn05



Jon Baker kept the burgers coming on the BBQ. 20_b18pirn03



Eileen Jeffrey tries her hand at guessing the weight of the cake. 20_b18pirn01

Places limited for kids' golf camp

Another children's summer golf camp is being held this year but places are limited.

After running camps for the past two years Shiskine Golf and Tennis Club, in association with the Arran Driving Range, are once again preparing for a fun-filled week of coaching, games, competitions and prizes.

The camp will run from Monday 7 July to Friday 11 July and the lead coach is PGA-professional James Browning, supported by PGA trained coach Gordon Stewart and other volunteer qualified coaches.

Registration is through Clubgolf Scotland's website www.clubgolfsotland and, at the

time of going to press, seven of the 12 places have already been booked. So if anyone would like their child to enjoy the benefits of the week they should register as soon as possible as the limit is strictly 12 places.

Barbeque and prizegiving

The first four days will be at the driving range and the final day will be at Shiskine Golf Club where a Ryder Cup style competition will round off the week followed by a barbeque and prizegiving.

Anyone with any queries can contact either James Browning at Brodick Golf Club on 302349 or Gordon Stewart on 860530.



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Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, Cocktails, Coffees, Cakes & Takeaway every day early 'till late

auchrannie road, brodick
 (just 1 mile from the ferry terminal)
www.auchrannie.co.uk
 telephone : 01770 302234



The gardens have three national collections of rhododendron. 20_b17garden04

The two Revs tell of garden delights

Every day is different in the castle grounds

They are known as the two Revs. Former ministers who have swapped their white collars for green fingers.

And these two retired clergymen have found a new vocation teaching visitors to Brodick Castle about the delights of the famed gardens.

Weekly walks

For the 12th year Jack Paterson and John Potter will be hosting weekly walks around

the sprawling grounds, passing on their knowledge of how the gardens have developed over the years and centuries.

Retired

Former Church of Scotland parish minister Jack and John, who was an industrial chaplain in the west of Scotland, both retired to Arran, where they both had holiday homes, Jack to Whiting Bay and John to Lamlash.

Now the keen gardeners are using their gift of the gab to enlighten visitors to the delights of the castle gardens as volunteer guides.

They say they have learned a lot over the years from head gardeners like John Basford and Nigel Price.

Magnificent

John said: 'The castle and estate is magnificent in its own right, but the gardens don't



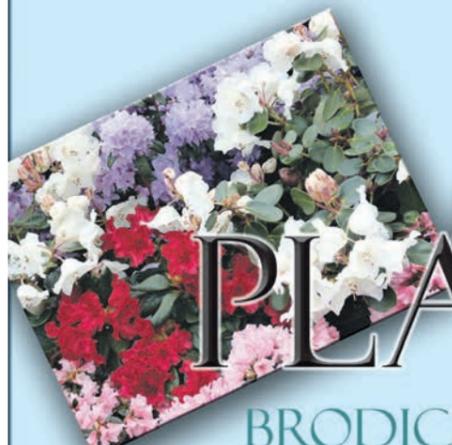
John and Jack beside a newly planted palm tree in the walled garden. 20_b17garden02



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Inspirational 'Rising Stars' from A

An annual awards event aimed at recognising and rewarding inspirational young people in North Ayrshire got underway this week.

North Ayrshire Rising Stars Awards celebrate the talents of young people aged 18 and under and encourage others to follow in their footsteps.

This will be the third year of the event which comes to a climax in June when the winners will be announced.

Special young people

The organisers would like to hear about special young people who deserve to be commended for their achievements or contributions to the community.

Ideal candidates would be a youth group that

has helped to improve their local area, a community champion who has inspired others or a popular classmate who has overcome adversity to get on in life.

There are sure to be many examples of enthusiastic and committed young people who are worthy of an award.

A judging panel will then consider the final group of nominations and choose the winners.

The categories are: Creative Achievement; Sports Achievement; Outstanding Contribution to the Community; Personal Achievements; Outstanding Academic Achievement; and the Group/Club Award. In addition, two specialist award winners will be decided by the judging panel.



John (left) and Jack with the castle walled garden behind them. 20_b17garden01

stand still. They are living gardens and must change with the seasons and the years. They must evolve and not become just a maintenance job.'

Although the walled garden was first built in 1710, Jack said the gardens layout had not changed since the Edwardian/Victorian design of the Duchess of Montrose in the early 20th century and the other 'strong women' who helped develop them including Princess Marie of Baden.

They used plant hunters, many of whom were from Scotland, who roamed the globe in the dangerous search for new plants.

But John also said it was important to 'acknowledge the ordinary gardeners who were not 10 a penny, but 10 a farthing, for their remarkable work in giving us the gardens that exist today'.

Praised

He also praised the National Trust for Scotland for thinking about 'the day after tomorrow' in the development of the 70 acres of garden grounds around the castle for future generations.

The gardens have three na-

tional collections of rhododendron and an enormous range of flora and fauna from all over the world including Chile, New Zealand and China.

The walks, which take around 90 minutes, started last month and will be held every Tuesday till September.

Develop

But Jack said: 'We would like to develop the walks over the course of the year and diversify them into walks like 'The Plants of Chile' and other themes, but that will require more than two of us.'

Both said that the gardens were now recovering from fighting the notifiable disease Phytophthora which has led to the removal and replacement of hundreds of trees within the gardens.

Jack said: 'The NTS and Brodick Castle are to be commended for responding to the problem in a responsible way to the nightmare of the disease, but now it must be seen as a new opportunity with a lot of new planting having been carried out.'

John said: 'Former head gardener Nigel Price was once asked what is your favourite

day in the gardens and he replied 'every day' and that sums up the gardens as they vary so much from day to day, season to season.'

He said the gardens were for the whole community to enjoy adding: 'You don't have to be a gardening buff to appreciate the explosion and vitality of garden in the spring and the autumn.'

Jack added: 'We are not professionals, we are just ordinary people with a special interest in the gardens.'

Donations

Jack and John do not charge for their tours but ask for donations which go directly to identifiable short term projects in the gardens.

Jack said: 'We leave it to goodwill and people are very generous and kind.'

One brother and sister from Uddingston have been coming to the gardens since 1953 and they come on every walk when they are over.

'I use them as my guide assistants as they know more about the gardens than we do.'

*The garden walks are held every Tuesday until September at 2pm from the visitor centre.



Both men believe that the gardens are for the whole community to enjoy. 20_b17garden03

Arran and North Ayrshire sought

Nominations from those under 18 must be supported by an adult (teacher, social worker, youth worker or play worker) who knows the person or group. A signature from the supporting adult is also required.

Nominate others

Young people can't nominate themselves but can nominate others, provided the nominees are of secondary school age up to 18 years.

Mary Docherty, head of education at North Ayrshire Council, said: 'There are many inspirational young people out there who give us good reason to be confident for our future.'

'These enthusiastic and committed individuals help to enrich the lives of those around them and instil a strong sense of community spirit.'

'This is an ideal opportunity to recognise and reward the very special young people we have among us.'

'I would urge the residents of North Ayrshire to join us in showing appreciation of our young people and their efforts by completing a nomination form.'

An application form is also available on the council website at www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk/resident/your-community/rising-stars-awards.aspx

Applications should be sent to Mary Docherty, Education and Skills, Cunninghame House, Irvine, KA12 8EE.

The email address is mdocherty@north-ayrshire.gov.uk

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MAKING OUR COMMUNITIES BETTER PLACES

Be aware of breeding birds at this time of year

Bird notes

by Jim Cassels

APRIL

It was a lovely day in the early summer but on the shore an over-excited dog was running about with a young oystercatcher chick in its mouth.

The person in charge of the dog was dismayed. Onlookers were distraught.

If the dog had been on its lead, the death of the bird

would have been avoided.

This is just one of too many disturbing incidents, in more senses than one, that has led me to repeat the message to be aware that, in spring and early summer, birds are attempting to breed.

It is the time of year to enjoy the activity of breeding including courtship and display, nest building and feeding young.

It is a time to marvel at the efforts being made by our feathered friends to raise their young but from the latest Royal Society for the Protection of Birds national surveys a lot of even our common birds are in decline. You can help.

Be aware

If you are walking in the remoter parts of the island and



Ringed plover young. Photo Arthur Duncan



Blackbird on nest. Photo Dennis Morrison

Scottish Field
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a bird suddenly appears in the air or on the surface of a loch, be aware that there may be a nest on the ground near by.

Your presence has put the bird off its nest and the eggs or young are exposed to predators like gulls and crows so move away promptly.

On our shores and beaches, if you are being scolded by flying birds and there is a great racket all around, be aware that birds are nesting on the ground above the tide line.

Alternatively birds calling in a distressed way or feigning a broken wing are trying to lead you away from a nest or young which are close by.

Their eggs and young are superbly camouflaged to avoid detection and may be easily

trampled upon so again move away. Walk close to the water's edge and keep your dog on its lead.

Closer to home, be aware that birds may be nesting in your hedges and bushes and cutting these could expose the nests to predators.

Check before you even trim. House martins and swallows travel thousands of miles in some cases from South Africa to nest on our buildings.

Taking a hose to remove their accumulating droppings below their nests may be a good idea but be aware that taking a hose to a nest even when it is being constructed is an offence.

Criminal offence

Be aware that under the Na-

ture Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004 it is a criminal offence to intentionally or recklessly damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is being built or used. If you notice any disturbance to nesting birds please report it to the local police as soon as possible.

Enjoy your birding. Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or email me at: james.cassels@virgin.net. I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Report 2013 and visit the website: www.arran-birding.co.uk.



Oystercatcher in flight. Photo Carl Reavey



Broadcaster and journalist Lesley Riddoch was discussing her book 'Blossom'.

Photo by Andy Surridge

Journalist and broadcaster enthralled Lamlash audience

Lesley Riddoch, the respected Scottish journalist, broadcaster, land reformer and riveting speaker, held a large audience spellbound in the Community Theatre in Lamlash, on Friday night.

Lesley was talking about her book 'Blossom' which was published last year and is now on its third reprint.

She has been touring Scotland, not only to promote her book, but to promote her ideas about the future of Scotland.

Her stance on this is neither pro or anti-in-

dependence, it is about recognising both the strengths and weaknesses of the Scots and offering real solutions so that Scotland can flourish as it moves into an important time in its history.

The audience were enthralled as Lesley explained how land initiatives, empowerment of local people and a changing attitude towards community could transform Scotland. Many in the audience said that it was refreshing to hear a plan for Scotland which did not come with a party-political agenda.

New garden to open for charity

A new garden is to be opened to the public by the charity Scotland's Gardens.

The small seaside garden at Hazelbank in Pirmill will be open on Friday 9 May and Saturday 10 May from 11am to 4pm and delicious teas will be available all day. Next month Dougarie gardens will be open on Sunday 29 June.

The charity will donate 40 per cent of the takings at these two gardens to the Pirmill Village Association.

But before then Brodick

Castle gardens will be open under the scheme tomorrow (Sunday) and again on Sunday 5 July.

Charity

Scotland's Gardens is a charity which raises funds for Maggie's Caring Centres, The Queen's Nursing Institute Scotland, the Gardens Fund of the National Trust for Scotland and Perennial. Both small local charities and the large well known ones benefit from the substantial sums distributed.

Rotary club goes on the wild side

It was a very unusual Arran Rotary Club night last Tuesday when the members boarded the off-road Moga-bout outside the Auchrannie Spa and set off on an adventure.

The excursion had to be in the early evening, which meant some members missing out because of work commitments, but all those on board would not have missed the trip for anything.

The vehicle was designed and built by Alex Dickinson with a view to being able to transport passengers to places which would be difficult, if not impossible, to reach on foot or by car. Usual trips last three or four hours, however the Rotary trip was just a taster to show what a real tour would be like. On board the seats are very comfortable, high up and, of course, there are seatbelts. Huge windows

give panoramic views from all angles.

The trip was the circular forest track above Clauchlands, accessed from the Brodick to Lamlash road. The vehicle roared up the steep track till it stopped above Clauchlands where members got off and went up a short path to look around. They were high up looking down at Reid's farm and on a much better evening the view would have been spectacular.

From the time they set off, Alex had been using his microphone to give a history of Arran and also spoke of the

flora, fauna and bird species they could be expected to see. He said that birds of prey were a big feature of these trips into the wild. On board he provided his passengers with binoculars to keep an eye on what was around and at the end of the trip a wee nip to warm them up.

Members said it was a fantastic experience making all aboard want to do a real walk on the wild side and spend more time on what they said was an amazing vehicle.

Alex was thanked sincerely for making the evening so very enjoyable. GB

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North Rona is an island of dreams

A rough guide to a deserted place

On a beautiful Easter Monday afternoon 55 members of Arran Antiquarians met to hear George Geddes speak to us about one of his favourite places, North Rona.

About a year ago George came to speak to us about St Kilda and North Rona, but as the former was so interesting and provoked so many questions, time ran out. But the group didn't let him depart until he promised to come back this year with part two.

George is based in Edinburgh and works for the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland, soon to come under the aegis of Historic Scotland.

His subtitle was: 'A rough guide to a deserted place'. The island is hard to access and this has to be done by individual chartering of boats or helicopter at great cost.

There are two other Rona's, one near Skye and one near

the Isle of Lewis, not to be confused with North Rona. It is archaeologically famous for having the best preserved early Christian building in Scotland, a monk's cell and adjoining church dating back to the 6th or 7th century. It is still well preserved.

Scientific interest

The island is T-shaped and is roughly one by one mile in area. The island is abandoned and uninhabited except for around 60 sheep who graze there unattended. It is now owned by an estate on Lewis and managed by a number of bodies. It is a National Native Reserve (NNR), an Area of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), an Area of Conservation (SAC) and a protected area (SPA). George's employers are also involved in its management.

George has researched some of the history of North Rona and told of an event in 1680 when the Steward of St. Kilda

with a boat crew en route to Harris were shipwrecked in a storm and managed to land on Rona. They salvaged what they could from the boat - food, tools, etc, and headed towards the village and chapel. They found most cottages deserted, but in one there was a dead mother clasping a dead baby, and the father was dead in the fields. They buried the people, repaired the boat, and seven long months later sailed into Stornoway to the surprise and delight of all as they were assumed to have perished.

Rona is almost equidistant between Lewis and Cape Wrath. It had lush pasture for sheep and black cattle. The highest point of the island is 600 feet. Much later in the 1980s a lighthouse was built there. There was one township and landing was possible in two rocky bays. It had no trees or peat, so the only wood was driftwood and turf



Chairman Harry Davidson with speaker George Geddes.

was burned as their fuel. The fires were never let to go out as rekindling was a major problem.

Theirs was a maritime culture and they were well supplied with sea birds, their eggs, seal meat, cattle and sheep, and there were fresh water springs.

All remote islands were suitable as religious retreats, and Rona was no exception. A holy man left his settlement in Lewis due to troubling in Lewis due to troubling dreams, went to the beach and together with his sister climbed onto a mythical sea creature which took them to Rona where, legend has it, they fought off savage dog creatures and went on to build

the cell and oratory. Possibly this was St Ronan, but there is no proof of that.

Later, by the 13th century, there was a church adjoining the cell. There was a population of 30 - five families - until about 1690, and later a single family until 1844.

Plague of rats

Why did the Steward MacLeod find the township empty? Theories are that a plague of rats ate their crops and they starved, or an outbreak of disease killed all 30, as the outbreak of smallpox on St Kilda had done, or there was a sea disaster causing all the men folk to perish and the women and children eventually starved.

The island was surveyed by the Ordnance Survey in 1850, T S Muir the ecclesiologist surveyed it in 1887, and excavation and restoration was carried out by Frank Fraser Darling the naturalist. There is a long house, 'Iain Buidhe's house' from pre-1700, ruins of five family homes in enclosures and the 1,400 year old oratory and church which contains an early Christian stone depicting a naked man.

They were Gaelic speakers, and the men hunted guga (the young of the gannet). They did this on Rona and Sula Sgeir, five miles away. This was done in the 16th century and is still carried on today.

Present day North Rona has a sea bird habitat, a lighthouse, historic ruins, sheep pasture and a research station studying grey seals. Cruise ships pass by and view it, ornithologists visit to observe and ring the storm petrels and see the gannets and bonxies. It has no power supply.

Sadly, there is only one book about the island and the future of the island is in limbo. For 300 days of the year there is no-one there. George, though, impressed upon us what a magical and wonderful place it was, perhaps because it is so untouched by modern man, and it was obvious it is his own personal paradise. Members were spellbound and only wished they could share in its magic. In a small way George helped them to do just that.

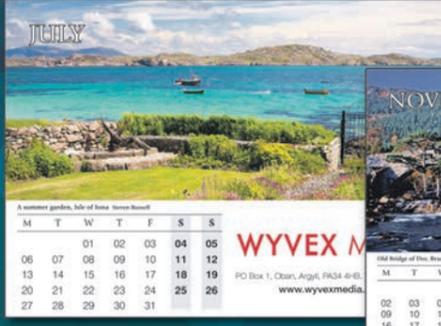
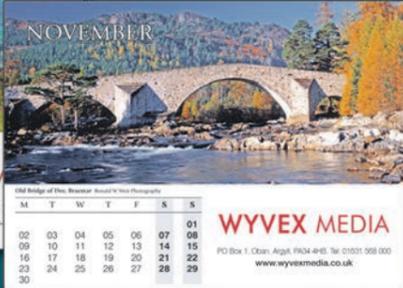
Our next meeting is on Monday, 19 May, when Valerie Reilly of Paisley will talk on her subject of 'Women in War: from Boudicca to Flappers'.

ND

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Courses planned for May

(dates to be confirmed)

- 1 Day Emergency First Aid at Work, HSE Approved
- 2 Day First Aid Refresher, HSE Approved
- REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene 1 day course
- SCPLH Personal Licence 1 day course
- SCPLH Personal Licence refresher half-day course – running on Wednesday 4th June

Other courses taking place at our centre:
 Beginners & Intermediate Spanish evening classes - running from now until 24th June on Tuesdays.
 Basic Computing – a short 5 week course covering the basics of internet and emails.
 The course will run during May subject to demand and will cost £26 per person.

For more information and to book a space on any of the above courses please get in touch with Maureen McKenna on 600 152 or by emailing maureen.mckenna@uhi.ac.uk

THE ARRAN

BANNER

TWENTY
YEARS AGO

Saturday 30 April, 1994

Gone fishing

A new fishing attraction has opened on the roadside between Kilpatrick and Blackwaterfoot.

The Port-na-Lochan Fishery is the creation of George Bannatyne of Farihaven, Pirnmill and this week was stocked with its first rainbow trout. In October of last year he set about making the fishery in the boggy field with civil engineer Roger Bull.

The very name 'Lochan' suggests, at some time in the past, there had been a pool on the land. George said: 'We tried to use the natural contours,' pointing to two islands in the Lochan and mounds of earth on one side. 'They are for protection from the north west wind. It should give some shelter to the fishermen,' he added.

The Lochan has been stocked with rainbow trout ranging from 1lb to 5lb which were brought by truck from Loch Sween, Lochgilphead.

Driving lessons

Peter Mackay has been running the Arran Driving Centre for eight months and is being kept busy full time at it.

He's had over 20 tests and just under half of these have passed first time. He said he is surprised just how tiring it can be, but that it is very satisfying too.

Asked who are the best students, he said: 'Probably youngsters at school, they're dead keen and they're just 17.'

He is the first to acknowledge that these same youngsters, at least the male ones, can be over-cocky, especially if they pass first time.

'The test is just the first part of becoming a driver,' Peter said. 'You're now allowed out unsupervised, but some people think they've reached a peak'



John Robertson tips in the first rainbow trout into the new Port-na-Lochan Fishery.

b18twe02

Glue sniffing fears

Suggestions of glue sniffing among first year pupils at Arran High School this week have resulted in substances being taken from children and letters sent home to their parents.

Rector David Oakes said he thought that the substances were 'cleaning agents'.

He said: 'We were alerted to it, we investigated, but we have no direct evidence. Just how far this smelling went we cannot say.'

One incident is believed to have taken place on school premises and another, the following day, at Cordon. The substances are believed to be commonly used solvents. The police have not been involved.

Buses of yesteryear

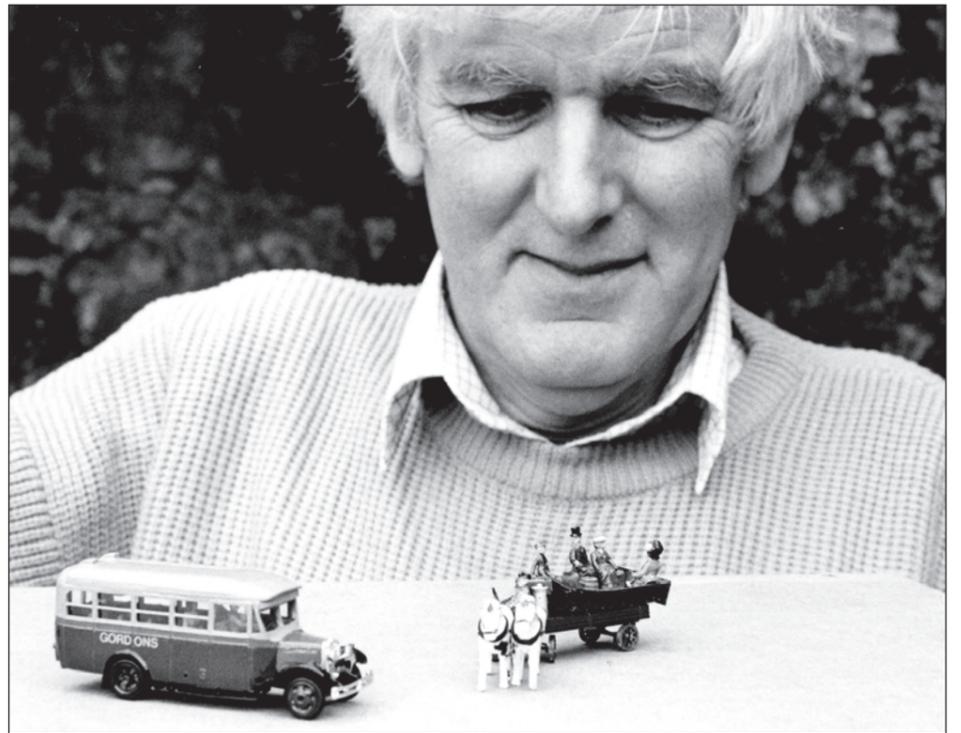
Berni Mitchell-Luker, who ran the transport museum at Cladach, is working on a new project which he hopes to have up and running very soon.

It is another transport display based at his 1950 omnibus at the Anchor Hotel in Brodick. The main feature will be dozens of perfect miniature buses, all exact replicas of Arran's buses from yesteryear.

They range from horse drawn carriages of charabancs, through the 1950s, to the present day Arran Transport and Western Scottish coaches.

Arran rehearsal

Kirsty Wark is to host a BBC debate on censorship in Lamlash on 27 May. This debate will not be televised but will be a rehearsal for the programme Axiom which will record a similar studio debate in Glasgow. They are hoping for a good turnout and several of the Arran audience may be picked to attend the Glasgow debate.



Berni Mitchell-Luker with two of his models. b18twe03



More models of Arran buses from the collection. b18twe04



Driving instructor Peter Mackay in Brathwick Place, Brodick where he takes his pupils for manoeuvres. b18twe01

What's on

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Every day

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

Loch Garbad, boat & bank fishing
 9am-Dusk
 Open Mon, Wed, Fri & Sat 10 - 5pm
 Open Tue, Thu & Sun 12.30pm - 5pm
 2pm
 Rosaburn, Brodick, 10.30am - 4.30pm

Junior Hockey
 Streetly Dance pre-school
 Garden walk
 Arran Food & Craft Market
 Feis Arainn AGM

Ormidale Pavilion, 6-7pm
 Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.45-2.30pm
 Brodick Castle 2pm-3pm
 Ormidale pavilion, 11am - 3pm
 Arran High School, 7.30pm

Saturday 3rd May

Army Cadets
 Over 21s Disco
 Family Games
 Fun in the pool
 Brodick Bowling Club Rink game
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1 pm.
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa pool, 4-5pm
 Brodick Bowling Green, 2pm
 Whiting Bay Bowling Green, 2pm

Wednesday 7th May

Tae Kwondo
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Arran Brass Rehearsal
 Yogalates
 Aquafizz
 Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service
 RunArran mixed ability
 Running Coaching
 Yoga-Arran
 Drift Inn Quiz
 Beavers
 Back to the Bronze age
 Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game
 Mixed Hockey
 Coffee Morning

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
 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
 Brodick Bowling Green, 6.45pm
 Auchrannie Sports Hall 7.30-8.30pm
 Lamlash Church Hall 10.15 - 12noon

Sunday 4th May

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

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
 Brodick Castle, all day

Thursday 8th May

Morning Fitness
 General Knowledge Quiz
 Lochranza Craft Club
 Live music
 Weight Watchers
 Yoga
 Bridge Club
 QuiltArran
 Open Music session
 Ladies Hockey
 Cubs
 Lunchbox
 Pilates
 Citrus Energy Event
 Sensory event

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
 Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 7.30-8.30pm
 KA Campus, Lamlash High School, 6.15pm - 8pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 12.30 - 2.30pm
 Auchrannie gym, 6-7pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 11am -2pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 11am - 2pm

Monday 5th May

Quiz
 Over 50s Badminton
 Badminton
 Citizens Advice
 Morning Fitness
 Table Tennis
 Aerobics (low impact)
 Badminton
 Arran Junior Football Club
 Yoga
 Summer Bridge
 Brodick Bowling Club Rink Game
 Circuit Training

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
 Arran High School, 6.30pm
 Brodick Bowling Green, 6.45pm
 Auchrannie Gym, 6-7pm

Tuesday 6th May

Pop Quiz
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Youth Club
 Rotary club
 Healthy Outdoors
 Scottish Country Dancing
 SFA Mini Kickers
 SFA Early Touch Football
 Jnr Badminton
 Metafit

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 2pm
 Kildonan Hall, 7pm
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm
 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

Friday 9th May

Aqua Fizz
 Yogalates
 Arran Youth Foundations
 Lochranza Kids Badminton
 Lochranza Adults Badminton
 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
 Brodick Castle, 11.30 - 1pm

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The AGM of

Sannox Christian Centre

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All are welcome to attend.

Public Notices

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May Day Holiday

The island GP surgeries
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Monday 5 May

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111

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BANNER BANNER
PUBLIC NOTICES PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents may be examined at Development Planning Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine, between 9am-4.45pm weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk *and at The Council Offices, Lamlash. Written representations may be made to the Corporate Director (Development & Environment) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 23.05.14. Any representations received will be open to public view.

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

14/00228/PP; Brodick Nursery, Brodick, Isle of Arran; Continued siting of three residential caravans for staff accommodation serving adjacent Douglas Hotel for a further 3 years.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



FÈIS ARAINN

AGM

DI MAIRT (TUESDAY)

6 AN CEITEAN 2014 (6 MAY 2014)

at 7.30 in

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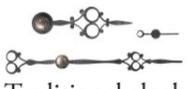
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BRODICK CASTLE CONSERVATION TEAM

We are looking for additional members of our conservation housekeeping team.

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Closing date 09/05/2014

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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(in full communion with the Church of England)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 4th May
Holy Communion 11.00 am. Mrs Janis Gallagher.
Coffee after service.
Wednesday 7th May
Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Parishes of North Arran Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine
Independent but working together
Minister:
Rev Angus Adamson
Parish Assistant:
Mrs Jean Hunter
Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.
Sunday 4th May
Brodick Church, 10.30am, Morning Worship.
Corrie Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.
A Service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.
Lochranza and Pirmill Churches, 10.15am, Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Pirmill Church.
Shiskine Church, 12noon, Sacrament of the Lord's Supper.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Kilmory linked with Lamlash "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 4th May
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30 am
Both Churches:
Sacrament of Communion
Rev. Dr. Ian Macleod
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(Charity Number: SC014005)
Sunday 4th May
Worship will be conducted by Mrs Sharon MacLeod at 10.30am.
Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service.
All very welcome.
There will be no service in Co-riedoon

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 4th May
Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)
Rev Jim McClatchey
HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Vigil Mass 7.30pm
Sunday morning masses 11am

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 4th May
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

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(continuing)
Communion Weekend
Saturday 3rd May
Preparatory Service 7.30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
Sunday 4th May
Morning Service 11am
Glen Estate Lounge
The Lord's Supper will be administered at close of morning worship.
Evening Service 6.30pm
5 Glen Road
Monday 5th May
Thanksgiving Service 7pm
Hazelbank, Pirmill
Services taken by Rev James Macinnee
All welcomes

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.

DEATH

BOYD - At Crosshouse Hospital, Kilmarnock on 24th April 2014, Helen of Brodick, Isle of Arran and formerly Strathaven, wife of the late Archie and mum of John and Alison.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

NELSON - The family of Georgina Nelson would like to thank all friends and relations for cards and sympathy, the Rev Angus Adamson for his moving service and Clair and David Hendry for the funeral arrangements. Doctors and staff at Lamlash hospital, and especially all staff at Montrose House who looked after Mum with loving care during her time there.

SLOSS - The family of Harvey Sloss who passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday 9th April would like to thank Clair and David Hendry and Mrs Jean Hunter for funeral arrangements,

David lifts 10K title as more islanders take race challenge

There was a big turnout of runners for the Arran 10K on Sunday.

This year 69 entrants took part in the race, a big increase on last year, and runners from Arran made up a large contingent of competitors.

After a damp start to the day conditions were dry and sunny by the time the race started at Ormidale Park in Brodick, and just a little too hot for the runners.

Dozens of people watched from the pavements as the runners headed out of the park and up the Knowe Road before turning and heading out to Merkland Point and back.

The race was won in a time of 33mins 24secs by David Simpson from Musselburgh, running the race for the fourth time, but it was not a course record. Second was Michael Diver, from the Clydesdale Harriers in a time of 36.05 and in third place Euan Webster from Aberdeen AAC in a time of 36.43.

The first of the 29 Arran runners home was Paul Hewie in a time of 41mins 51secs, while the first woman was Linsey Mackintosh from Lamlash in a time of 42min 37secs, who lifted both the



The winners with their trophies (l to r) first Arran man Paul Hewie, Linsey Mackintosh, with her two trophies, and winner David Simpson. 20_b18run10



The winner David Simpson crosses the finish line. 20_b18run05

overall and Arran winners trophies.

A good crowd gathered to welcome the runners home and there was enthusiastic encouragement as runners crossed the line from the first to the last of the runners, before each collected their individual medal.

During the presentation of trophies to the overall champions, Arran beer was also handed over to all the winners in the age group categories.

Organiser Tommy Gilmore said: 'It was great to see so many runners out there today and I think everyone had a good time. The turnout of Arran runners was excellent and hopefully we can build on this for next year. I'd just like to congratulate everyone who took part.'

Mr Gilmore thanked the members of Brodick Improvement Committee and others for providing the stewards, ArranShand for donating the medals, Paul and Jan Emsley of Arran Runners for recording the results, the Co-op for donating bananas and the police for their traffic management.

Full results and times for the Arran runners were: Paul Hewie 41.51, Linsey Mackintosh 42.37, Jon Smith 44.03, Ally Thomson, 46.59, David Lennon, 48.52, Lorraine Hewie 49.02, Garry Tulloch 51.00, Kay Boal 51.16, J Christophe Demazeux 51.57, Frances Coyle 54.08, Donald Roberts 54.49, Nigel Armstrong 55.22, Kirsty Popplewell 55.37, Emma Popplewell 55.37, Naomi Paul 56.37, Alastair Paul 56.37, Andrea Hammond 57.20, Victoria McNicol 58.35, Carol Brown 58.54, Jayne Faulkner 59.54, Doug Auld 1.01.07, Anne Tulloch 1.01.29, Lorna Logan, 1.02.52, Annie Roberts 1.03.39, Michael Jackson 1.05.24, Emma McNeil 1.06.00, Emma Campbell 1.09.44, Jennifer Lyon 1.10.03, Karen Adams 1.26.21.



And they're off ... runners set off on the Arran 10K. 20_b18run01

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Shiskine in 10th Kiscadale win at favourite Corrie course

Shiskine lifted their 10th Kiscadale trophy after a dramatic final round of games on Saturday. And they won it at Corrie on the course where they had their last triumph six years ago.

The final four golf matches played on Saturday 26 April were Whiting Bay v Lamlash

and Shiskine v Machrie. With Brodick not playing on the final day, having secured 11 points at the end of the second week, there was nothing more they could do but watch and wait for a nail biting finish between Shiskine and Machrie.

Shiskine was the only team

that could beat Brodick with 9 points at the end of the second week. Sadly, Whiting Bay lost both their matches to Lamlash although in the second game it went all the way to the 18th. Shiskine won both their games resulting in the extra four points, required to steal the win from Brodick.

This was Shiskine's 10th win since the competition started in 1973 - albeit that they started under the name of Blackwaterfoot. Corrie is lucky for Shiskine as that was also the course they last won it on in 2008.

The final results, were Shiskine 13 points, Brodick 11 points, Lamlash 10 points, Machrie 4 points and Whiting Bay 2 points.

Arran Ladies Golf Union president Lynn Walker said: 'We would like to thank Cor-



The Shiskine Kiscadale winning team team, from left: Carole Stewart, Fiona Crawford, Keema Ganda, Elizabeth Kelso (captain), Sheila Gray, Alice Anderson.



Arran Ladies Golf Union president Lynn Walker, third left, presents the Kiscadale trophy to the winners, from left, Susan Butchard, Mary Jo Tod and Fiona Crawford.

rie Golf Club for allowing us to host the Kiscadale on their course this year.

'Thank you to Pablo Moran for looking after the greens and keeping the hole posi-

tions challenging. Thanks to Claire and her team in the tea room for ensuring we had warm food to return to in our evening matches and to the spectators who really give

the players a boost, the caddies for keeping the players on track, and finally to all the teams who took part in making the 2014 Kiscadale another success for the ALGU.'



Golf

Whiting Bay Golf Course

On Wednesday 23 April, 25 played in the third round of the Summer Trophy, SSS 63, CSS 63. 1 Jamie McKechnie(7)60, 2 Jamie Stewart(5)62 acb, 3 Dave Hackett(12)62 acb, 4 Stephen Judge(11)62. Jamie Stewart won scratch with 67(acb) and there were magic twos by Dave Hackett, Nicol Auld, Stan Rainey, Ryan Armstrong and Stephen Judge.

On Sunday 27 April, 20 played in the Wolfi and Gege Kroner Stableford in beautiful conditions from the yellow tees. Many thanks go to Wolfi and Gege for their generous hospitality before and during the round, and for the very generous prizes. Cunningly the top prize was kept in the family as Markus was the runaway winner with 42 points, 2 Jack Simmons 38pts, 3 John Pennycott also with 38pts, 4 John Simmons 37pts. There were magic twos from John Taylor, Jamie McKechnie, Adam Burke, Markus Kroner,

Gus MacLeod, and Wolfi himself.

Fixtures: Friday 2 May, AGA Seniors Bowl at Whiting Bay, 5pm. Sunday 4 May, AGA Spring Handicap at Brodick. Wednesday 7 May, Summer Trophy.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday 22 April Peter Sutton competition. 1 John Pennycott 68, 2 Campbell Laing 69 BIH, 3 Brian Sherwood 69. Scratch Brian Sherwood 76. Fixtures: Saturday 3 May, Hugh Steel Cup O/60 and open sweep 2pm tee off. Tuesday 6 May, Lady Mary/Peter Sutton, tee off 12.30pm and 5.30pm.

Brodick Golf Club

Ladies: Tuesday 29 April, St Elmo Cup and CCQ3, 16 played, CSS 70, RO. 1 Fiona Crawford 85(14)71, 2 Trish Martin 99 (27) 72, 3 Gege Kroner 96 (23) 73. Nine-hole Stableford, 4 played. 1 Jennifer McArthur 16pts, 2 Pam Holmes 15pts.

Fixtures: Tuesday 6 May, medal and CCQ 4. Tuesday 13 May, Club Trophy first round

Gents: Wednesday 23 April, Summer Cup, 38 played, CSS 64. 1 M Keir (7)59, 2 I McDermid (13)60, 3 R Duncan (10)62. Scratch M Keir 66. There were seven magic twos, but Robert Waine scooped the pool with a hole in one at the 4th.

Sunday 27 April Belhaven Medal 17 played, CSS 67 reduction only.

1 B Jenkins (7)61, 2 I McDermid (12)68 acb, 3 B Walker (17)68. Scratch B Jenkins 68. There were two magic twos.

Fixtures: Sunday 4 May, AGA Spring Handicap, draw Wednesday 30 April. Sunday 11 May Brandon.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday 23 April medal, 17 played, CSS 61. 1 P Logan 70-10=60, S Beardsley 69-7=62, 3 M Elliot 76-13=63. Best scratch S Beardsley 69. Magic twos D Logan 2 at the 10th and 18th, M McDonald at the 1st, B Lewis at the 14th, D Crawford at the 17th and J McGovern at the 10th.

Fixtures: Friday 2 May, AGA Seniors Bowl, first round at Whiting Bay. Saturday 3 May, Millennium Trophy, 8.30am and 1pm (open competition). Sunday 4 May, Arran Golf Association, Guy Spiers 18 holes at Brodick. Late entries accepted. Friday 9 May, AGA seniors bowl second round at Whiting Bay.

Lamlash Golf Club

Sunday 20 April, Texas Scramble, 27 played. 1 Iain Murchie, Alan Smith, Willie Currie and Shona Nicol 54-5.4=48.6, 2 Paul Jameson, Andy Smith, Dougie Macfarlane and Trish Martin 55-6.3=48.7, 3 Ian Bremner, Scott Macfarlane, D Robertson and Laurie Ann Gibson 56-6.6=49.4. Thursday 24 April, Summer Cup,

CSS 64, Par 64. 1 Jon Smith 73-13=60, 2 Graeme Andrew 71-9=62, 3 John O'Sullivan 85-22=63, 4 Ian Bremner 68-5=63. Best Scratch Dougie Macfarlane 66. Magic twos Jon Smith at the 13th, Allan Winship at the 16th, Alan Smith at the 16th. Yellow Medal, CSS 63, Par 61. 1 Neil Mitchell 82-16=66.

Sunday 27 April, Drift Inn Quaiach, CSS 64, Par 64 stableford. 1 Todd Jameson 38pts, 2 Iain Murchie 35pts, 3 Paul Jameson 35pts. Best Scratch Todd Jameson 33pts to stableford. Magic twos Iain Murchie and Ian Bremner both at the 16th.

Fixtures: Sunday 4 May, Spring Handicap at Brodick, no medal at Lamlash. Thursday 8 May, Summer Cup, make up own groups.

ALGU
Fixtures: Flockhart held at Brodick on Saturday 10 May from 12.30pm. ADM held at Brodick Golf Club Monday 19 May 7.30pm

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Fixtures: Flockhart held at Brodick on Saturday 10 May from 12.30pm. ADM held at Brodick Golf Club Monday 19 May 7.30pm

Arran Golfers Association

Fixtures: Seniors Bowl at Whiting Bay Golf Club, first round on Friday 2 May from 5pm, Draw: Shiskine v Machrie (winners play Whiting Bay), Lochranza v Lamlash, Corrie v Brodick.

Guy Spiers Spring Handicap at Brodick Golf Club, Sunday 4 May

Fixtures: Flockhart held at Brodick on Saturday 10 May from 12.30pm. ADM held at Brodick Golf Club Monday 19 May 7.30pm

Junior Handicap at Brodick Golf Club on Monday 5 May from 4pm.

Junior Match Play (top eight scores qualify from the Junior Handicap) at Brodick Golf Club, first round by Sunday 11 May, semi finals by 18 May and final on 26 May at 5pm. First round and semi finals can be played at an agreed course if no agreement then play at Brodick. Final has to be played at Brodick.

Shiskine Golf Club

The winners of the Murray Cup at Shiskine Golf Club were Willie Kelso and Jimmy Morrison. They beat Brian Sherwood and Billy Paton in the final, where they played some great golf.

Sunday 27 April, Stableford, 17 played. 1 W McNally 27pts, 2 D Jeffrey 24 pts BIH, 3 D K Hender-



Willie Kelso and Jimmy Morrison with the Murray Cup.

son 24pts. Nearest the pins at the 4th Colin Rutterford, at the 10th Allan Napier. Magic twos: Gordon Stewart at the 3rd and Colin Rutterford at the 4th.

Fixtures: Thursday 8 May, Ladies Club Championship qualifier. Sunday 11 May Gents 12 hole medal.

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