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Arran's Weekly Newspaper SATURDAY, 24 MAY 2014 No 1962 60p



Rain fails to dampen Arran Mountain Festival success

Lovers of the great outdoors descended on the island's peaks last weekend for the annual Arran Mountain Festival. Read all about it on page 17. Photo by Andy Surridge

Biomass plant scrapped

EXCLUSIVE
by HUGH BOAG
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

The controversial plan for a biomass plant in the forestry above Lamlash has been scrapped.

In a victory for people power the developers of the proposed wood fired power plant at the Dyemill have confirmed to The Banner that they will not be proceeding with the project.

They said the persistent opposition from 'a section of the community' had led to them walking away.

It marks the end of an often bitter two year fight after Northern Energy Development Ltd (NEDL) first submitted its application for a bi-

omass plant to North Ayrshire Council in June 2012.

The proposal attracted huge controversy and more than 700 objections have been made to the two applications in that time.

Opposition came from a wide range of the community and politicians of all persuasions. The Arran Energy Action Group was also set up to argue the case against the plans, although, controversially, Arran Community Council backed the proposal.

Objectors believed the plant would hit the vital tourism trade on the island and there were concerns at the impact of the plant on the landscape, the height of the flue and emissions from the wood burning, to name but a few.

Victory for people power as developer quits

The efficiency and the plant was also questioned as was the amount of lorry traffic there would be to and from the Dyemill site.

Despite offers by NEDL to change the design earlier this year, this had little effect on objections.

Managing director Fergus Tickell told The Banner he was 'disappointed' but confirmed that the company 'wouldn't progress' with a third planning application for the development site, after the second was withdrawn in January.

However, Mr Tickell said: 'I still believe it is a good location and a good site for a biomass project.'

'Many people have been supportive but there has also been an ongoing small group of people dedicated to opposition of the project which we saw nothing would change.'

'We believed it would be a benefit to the island economy but some people decided they didn't want to see a development of this kind and were very active in expressing their opinions. It is a legitimate point of view, even if I

don't agree with it.'

Asked if he blamed the objectors for the project being scrapped Mr Tickell said: 'I don't do blame'.

But he added: 'I am disappointed that a fairly small section of the island community was opposed to any form of the project and as a result we have decided not to take the project forward as there were too many issues.'

He said that in a bid to be open and transparent the company had carried out a lot of public consultation exercises which were well supported but which 'only saw the number of objections rise'.

Mr Tickell admitted the preparatory work for the project had cost the company money but said he could not give a

figure but added: 'That is the risk you take.'

He said he had always had a good relationship with Arran Community Council and added: 'We would be very happy to make any environmental studies or other work we have carried out in connection with the project, available to the council for its own community energy plans and provide it with any other assistance we can.'

Mr Tickell, who has family connections on the island, said he hoped he was not walking away from the island for good.

But he said: 'Given the projects we are involved in I do not see anything in the foreseeable future that would we would consider on Arran.'

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Arran Youth Foundations receives £2,000 from STV appeal

Arran Youth Foundations (AYF) has received £2,000 from the STV Appeal.

The grant from STV will allow the organisation to provide more opportunities for young people on the island, including trips designed to encourage and increase participation in sport.

In 2014, AYF is planning trips to the Commonwealth Games for the badminton bronze medal event, the Youth Active festival, as well as various outdoor activities on Arran. Graeme Johnston, youth work project manager at Arran Youth Foundations, said: 'It was such a lovely surprise to hear that STV Appeal wanted to support the work of AYF.'

'Funding will go towards our summer and October trips which will benefit the young people of Arran enormously, with the opportunity to learn new sports, take part in different experiences, see top athletes in a live environment and make strong connections with other groups of young people on the mainland.'

'Our teenagers love these trips and in providing them we help to address feelings of isolation and exclusion by engaging young people, showing that there is an organisation which cares about them, and connecting them with the chances that they often otherwise miss out on.'

Team starts work on coastal path improvements

Funding secured from Coastal Communities Fund

A project which will considerably improve the Arran Coastal Way has started.

A four-strong team has been hired after funding of £170,000 was secured by the Arran Access Trust from the government.

It is hoped, when the two-year project is complete, the 100km (63-mile) route will

be considered the finest circular long distance footpath in Scotland.

The staff with the responsibility for the work are part-time project co-ordinator Rachel Sedman, footpath team leader Scott Murdoch and path trainees Brian Amsing and Stuart Mahony.

They are based in an office

being provided by the Forestry Commission in Brodick.

As reported in The Banner in March the funding was secured from the Coastal Communities Fund.

The Arran Access Trust, which inherited management of the Arran Coastal Way in 2012, had spent several years trying to secure funding to



The footpath team planning works for a section of path on Newton Shores, near Lochranza.

upgrade the path and create new sections.

Mrs Sedman said: 'The project aims to make the trail a real asset for residents and to attract more people from further afield to boost tourism and spend with local businesses.'

'After the two-year project is complete we hope to gain a reputation for being the finest circular long distance footpath in Scotland and to be a recognised as part of 'Scotland's Great Trails'.'

Among the works to be carried out will be path improvements, fault repairs, better signage and improved promotion of the walk, which at the moment can be tricky in sections.

Footpath trainee Stuart Mahony of Brodick said: 'I'm delighted to have the privilege of working with Arran

Access Trust on the coastal way. We will be making some great improvements that will benefit the local communities and the island as a whole.'

'On a personal level it's something I will be proud to say I was part of in years to come.'

The Coastal Communities Fund grant is paying for the four jobs and is also funding much of the project running costs, along with generous contributions from the Arran Access Trust, the Arran Trust, North Ayrshire Council and the Forestry Commission.

If anyone wants more information about the project or would like to get involved, please contact Rachel Sedman (project co-ordinator) on 303926 email arrancoastalway@outlook.com or find them on Facebook (Arran Coastal Way).



Getting down to work are, left to right, project co-ordinator Rachel Sedman, footpath trainees Brian Amsing and Stuart Mahony and footpath team leader Scott Murdoch.

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'Demand management' concerns as RET gets closer

'It was agreed to look at more efficient use of the mezzanine deck to allow greater car carrying capacity'

CalMac, the island's ferry operator, has been exploring the need for 'demand management' measures to persuade visitors to travel at quieter times when RET is implemented on Arran later this year.

CalMac says that managing the increase in passenger numbers could be a problem when Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) is introduced to the two Arran routes in October.

The scheme will see ticket prices considerably reduced.

Arran's MSP Kenneth Gibson said that for him this 'immediately set off alarm bells' as it suggested a 'dilution' of RET at weekends.

He told The Banner: 'RET is expected to deliver 40 per cent more visitors to Arran, boosting jobs, businesses and the island economy by £16 million a year, so if not fully implemented the benefits will not be fully realised.'

Keith Brown MSP, minister for transport and infrastructure, waded into the argument stating that 'demand management' techniques will only be used when deemed necessary by CalMac.

He said: 'In the ferries plan we are very clear that demand

REPORT
by JENNIFER LYON
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

management will be introduced only where the projected demand on a particular route, as a result of the introduction of RET, indicates that that is necessary.

'Crucially, from Kenneth Gibson's point of view, demand management techniques will be introduced only if they are agreed by the community.'

Total opposition

At a meeting at Brodick Castle last week with representatives from the Isle of Arran Ferry Committee as well as North Ayrshire Councillor John Bruce, CalMac accepted Mr Gibson's total opposition to anything other than the full implementation of RET at all times.

'Many people have no choice but to travel at peak times and if someone works all week and can only come at weekends it isn't right that they should be financially penalised,' said the MSP.

'With ferries expected to run with 65 per cent uptake of capacity following RET's introduction, there will still

be demand management issues at peak times.

'To this end, again after detailed discussion, it was agreed to look at more efficient use of the mezzanine deck in relation to freight on the MV Caledonian Isles to allow greater car carrying capacity on more sailings and also look at the booking system.'

A similar issue of passengers booking vehicles on more than one sailing in one day was also discussed.

In the past this has resulted in people being told the ferry is fully booked when - on the day - it ultimately sails with spaces on the car deck.

As not everyone cancels their 'extra' bookings and there is no penalty for not doing so, this has become a problem.

CalMac will therefore look at the extent of this, with a view to possible charges for non-cancellation, to allow for improved efficiency and more visits to Arran.

Securing additional capacity earlier and later in the year where CalMac believes there are bottlenecks will also be looked at, although it said it may be difficult to deliver this as early as next year.



Dawn, right, with a model showing off the winning hair style she created for the regional heat with two of the judges.

Dawn proves she's a cut above the rest

An Arran hair stylist has beaten off allcomers in one of the hairdressing industry's most prestigious competitions.

Dawn Anderson is one of eight Scottish competitors to make it to the final of the Wella TrendVision Awards 2014 in London later this year.

Dawn, who was brought up on the island and attended Arran High School, left to pursue her career three years ago and now lives in Dumfries.

She works at Brown's of Lockerbie as salon co-ordinator and was 'thrilled' at her win in the regional competition, held at the Corn Exchange in Edinburgh, and now goes through to the national finals at the Roundhouse in Camden, London in October.

'I am absolutely thrilled to be heading to London, there was such great competition in Edinburgh so it was a shock to hear my name announced as a finalist.'

Dawn has followed in the footsteps of her hairdresser mum Alice, who runs the Brae Salon in Blackwaterfoot. She said: 'I couldn't be any more delighted with her success.'

And proud boss Nelson Brown added: 'I still can't believe it. Dawn deserves this so much, she is a credit to me and my salons.'

The regional heats are presently taking place across the country at four venues following Edinburgh - Manchester, Nottingham, London and later Ireland.

Regional heats

From over 900 entries 180 entrants were selected to be present at the regional heats and only 36 finalists will go on to fight to win the chance to represent the UK at the TrendVision Award International Final.

Entrants are required to interpret one of the trends defined by Wella Professionals - this year being urban native and borderline beauty - in either the young talent or color category. Dawn was one of four Scots to progress in the young talent category.

The entries were judged by some of the most highly regarded industry experts including: Linda Stewart of Rainbow International, Kay McIntyre of McIntyres, Steven Goldsworthy of Goldsworthys and Mark Creed of Philosophy.

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Royal Marines board ferry during exercise

There was a bit of excitement on the MV Caledonian Isles on Wednesday morning when the Royal Marines decided to use the vessel for a training exercise.

The elite fighters from the British Army used a number of different boats as they came alongside the ferry

which was on its way from Brodick to Ardrossan.

Boarded

They then boarded the vessel as it made its way across the Clyde.

David Kelso from Sannox sent us these fantastic pictures taken on board the 'Caly Isles'.



Final push for land buy support

The Arran Community Land Initiative has made a final plea for public support.

The initiative is trying to buy disused farmland above Whiting Bay for a range of community facilities.

However, it needs the support of residents across the island and particular in Whiting Bay if it is to succeed.

Treasurer Juliette Lewis said: 'The latest news from the Scottish Land Fund is that it requires to see a really good show of support from the community, and in particular the Whiting Bay community, in order to reach our required 10 per cent membership level, so please sign up. Many thanks to those who have already joined our cause.'

Membership is a voluntary contribution of £10 a year, which allows voting rights at meetings, and to join you need to be 18 years old or older, live on Arran and be registered to vote on the island.

Junior membership for 12 to 17 year olds, who live on the island, is also available at no cost.

Forms are available to collect from Bay News, where they can be handed back, or given to Juliette.

There is no need for people to pay the £10 joining fee until the first AGM of the initiative.

Cash raised by pop-up shop

A pop-up 'Depressed Cake Shop' held at Arran Library in Brodick earlier this month raised a total of £80.

Organised by Toni Goodstein the shop, held for Mental Health Awareness Week, did a roaring trade. The money raised will be split between Arran-based Art in Mind and BEAT.

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New officer joins the Arran police ranks

Arran has a new police officer.

PC Colin Haddow has joined the Police Scotland force on the island.

Previously based in Maryhill, Glasgow, he admitted that Arran was a welcome change.

He and his wife and two children will be living in Brodick. 20_b21pc01



PC Colin Haddow

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SSE engineers praised for weathering the snow storms

Engineers from Scottish and Southern Energy Power Distribution (SSEPD) have been praised by an influential committee of MPs for their response to the severe weather in Arran and Kintyre last year which affected both the transmission and distribution networks.

In its report into the storms of March 2013, the House of Commons' Scottish Affairs Committee singled out the work carried out by SSEPD engineers, linesmen and support teams.

'We heard many glowing tributes to the efforts which the electricity companies, and SSE in particular, made to restore the supply to the communities in Arran, Kintyre and Wigtonshire,' the report said.

'We are encouraged that so much was able to be done so quickly, and that SSE displayed such ingenuity in addressing the myriad challenges facing them.'

The storms and heavy snowfall wreaked widespread devastation to power lines and towers, with teams working in extremely challenging conditions to restore

customers' supplies. SSEPD used a network of 280 mobile generators around Arran and Kintyre to provide 30MW of energy until the network was fully restored.

The operation was fraught with logistical problems caused by inaccessible roads, snow storms and ice.

Helicopters and a specially chartered CalMac ferry were used to overcome these challenges. The operation cost the company £11m. The report also highlighted the collaboration between SSE and local councils, which allowed the business to identify vulnerable customers and sites for food vans for those without power.

Elma Murray, chief executive of North Ayrshire Council, said: 'I am pleased to see that the work of the council, the community and our partners has been recognised.'

'We all pulled together in some of the most treacherous weather conditions to hit Scotland in recent years. To have witnessed this commitment firsthand at the time and now to have this recognised by an influential committee of MPs makes me really proud.'



Water feature causes quite a stir in Claunchlands Road

A burst water main in Lamlash caused quite a scene on Friday afternoon.

The 20ft pillar of water on Claunchlands Road was photographed by a number of passers-by before Scottish Water was able to deal with the problem.

A spokesman for the water company said: 'We had a burst water main that led to a loss

of water supply to about 100 properties for between one and two hours from about 5pm to when the burst was repaired and normal supply being restored.

Apologise

'We apologise to affected customers for any inconvenience. We repaired the burst as quickly as possible.'

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Fundraising ceilidh to secure Waverley's future

'It remains a constant challenge each year for funding to pay for repair and running costs'

A ceilidh to raise money for the world's last ocean going paddle steamer is to take place in Lochranza Village Hall.

Hazel Gardiner, who has a life-long association with PS Waverley, is organising the event to raise much-needed funding to keep the vessel afloat. She told The Banner that there were few people on Arran whose lives had not been touched by an encounter with the beautiful vessel.

She said: 'Whether it is the sight of the paddle steamer drawing gracefully to shore as we stand in a queue of excited passengers, the sound of her as her distinctive greeting announces arrival or departure to Brodick or Lochranza piers, or the experience of being on board, the decking softly vibrating to the constant whoosh of her paddle wheels turning and the familiar spaces both outside and in that make up her landscape, whenever our thoughts turn to her they raise a smile.'

She added: 'Yet despite the thousands who go aboard this unique vessel, it remains a constant challenge each year for funding to pay for repair and running costs.'

Supporters are being urged to come along to the Waverley Ceilidh on Friday 6 June, at 7pm in Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall to hear renowned Waverley speaker, Iain Quinn, tell her story together with first hand accounts from one of her most beloved captains, Captain John Cameron.

The evening features the island's wonderful Jazz Cafe Band, a Waverley quiz, raffle, supper and a rarely seen Waverley exhibition.

There is also an opportunity for an impromptu traditional ceilidh to round off the evening so participants are advised to come ready to play if they have the talent or enthusiasm! Tickets available from The Book and Card in Brodick, or Castlevue, Lochranza (830635).



PS Waverley, seen at the rear, will sail from Lochranza pier this Sunday. 20_b33wav01

Special bank holiday cruise for Waverley passengers

The much-loved Paddle Steamer Waverley returns to Arran this May Bank Holiday weekend as she prepares for another busy summer season.

Sailing from Lochranza Pier on May 25 she will steam across the Kilbrannan Sound and up the famous Mull of Kintyre peninsula to Skipness Point with views of the 13th century Skipness Castle.

The Waverley will also sail this summer from Brodick Pier every Tuesday and Thursday from June 24 to August 21 and Lochranza Pier July 6 and 20 and August 24.

There will also be a number of special Sunday sailings – steam round Ailsa Craig on June 29 or cruise around Arran on August 2 and 10.

New faces

Andy O'Brien, Waverley's captain, said: 'We are looking forward to welcoming our regular passengers from Arran on board for a sail and hope to see some new faces this year.'

'We are delighted to be able to continue offering sailings on the Clyde aboard a traditional Clyde steamer.'

Association working hard for Lamlash

Lamlash Improvements Association has been bringing residents up to date with its plans for the coming year.

In a newsletter, sent to every household, it has asked the public to continue to support its efforts to make Lamlash a more beautiful place in which to live and visit.

And it is encouraging all residents to get involved as it says it is a community group and that everyone is welcome.

Priorities for the coming year include, working with North Ayrshire Council to improve the footpath to Cordon and path flooding near the public toilets.

Signs

It also plans a Lamlash photo trail, improved signs and are updating the village map.

The first beach clean was held this month and there will be two more in July and October.

The association will also again be staging a bonfire and fireworks display on Saturday 8 November, erecting a community Christmas tree and supporting Santa's Sparkle.

To help finance the cost of activities the association runs a 50-50 club in which a £20 annual payment gives those involved the chance of a monthly £100 prize.

Half of the money is used by the association and half goes to the prizemoney.

Anyone interested in getting involved should go along to the one of the meetings held on the second Thursday of each month at 7pm in Lamlash Fire Station.

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Summer bridge results

The results of the Arran Bridge Club summer meeting on Monday 19 May were: N/S 1 Tricia Martin and David Campbell, 2 John Baraclough and Janette McBride, 3 Elizabeth McKellar and Linda Trickett.

E/W 1 Margaret and Dougie Bruce, 2 Sheila Logan and Anne McKelvie, 3 Mel and Ellie Jones.

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ADVERTORIAL

New name in home improvements

There is a new name in building services making their mark on Arran.

G Adams Home Improvements is a family run business based in Hamilton, South Lanarkshire with over 15 years' experience in different aspects of the building trade.

The company is run by George Adams, who is a joiner to trade and his business partner and surveyor Stephen Lamb.

Prestige project

For the past two weeks they have been carrying out a prestige project on the island, recoating the famous frontage of the Gordon Brothers Ship House in Lamlash.

The work is being carried out using Murfill Coating which George says is ideal for using on the island where many properties are near the sea.

It is not paint but a rubber film which is microporous to

ensure that the base is constantly able to breathe

'It is like putting a Goretex jacket over your house or roof to protect them from the elements,' George said.

The firm are also carrying out similar work on two homes in the village.

G Adams offers a wide range of building services and work all over the west of Scotland offering free quotations on all aspects of their work.

George said: 'All of our installers are trained to a high standard with many years' experience in the building trade. Every job will be inspected to ensure the customer is happy. We believe that one happy customer leads to another and this is very important to us.'

Proprietor Jimmy Gordon said: 'It is 15 years since the shop front was refurbished. I was very impressed by the Murfill product and I think the firm have done a very professional job.'



The third year pupils who attend an Argyll College course on Skills for Work and Construction Crafts re-mortared the base of the monument in Lamlash.

Pupils help refurbish Lamlash monument

The Lamlash Improvements Group has been once again helped in its refurbishment of the island's clearance monument in Lamlash by Arran High School pupils and staff.

Last May, deputy headteacher David Fyffe arranged for a group of fifth and sixth year pupils to help with the preparation and the re-planting of the monu-

ment in the centre of the village. Lamlash Primary School pupils also helped with the re-planting.

Re-mortar

This year on Wednesday 15 May Steve Garroway brought his third year pupils who attend an Argyll College course in the high school on Skills for Work and Construction Crafts to re-mortar the

base of the monument.

All the pupils involved worked extremely hard and did a brilliant job for which Lamlash Improvements Association is most grateful.

The committee said: 'Our thanks once more go to all the pupils and staff at Arran High School who are a credit to Arran.'



G. ADAMS

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Good old-fashioned people power

It came as rather a shock this week that the controversial plan for a biomass plant in Lamlash has been scrapped.

Fergus Tickell and his team from Northern Energy Development Ltd (NEDL) have invested two years and no doubt a great deal of money into these plans - so it's a surprise to see them withdrawing the application.

Ever since the plans were revealed two years ago for a woodchip biomass plant at the Dyemill forestry there has been persistent opposition from the island's community.

The proposal attracted huge controversy and more than 700 objections were made to the two applications in that time.

Opposition came from a wide range of the community and a number of politicians of all persuasions also joined the fight.

The Arran Energy Action Group was set up to argue the case against the plans, despite the Isle of Arran Community Council backing the proposal.

Objectors believed the plant would hit the vital tourist trade on the island and there were concerns at the impact of the plant on the landscape and the height of the flue.

And despite offers by NEDL to change the design earlier this year, this had little effect on objections.

Interestingly when asked if he blamed the objectors for the project being scrapped, Fergus Tickell said he didn't 'do blame'.

So is this a victory for good old-fashioned people power? It certainly may stop other possible developers from attempting a similar scheme in the future.

RET niggles

What didn't come as a shock this week is that CalMac are exploring various 'demand management' techniques for the Arran routes when RET comes in later this year.

The new ferry fares system will be introduced in October and there has been much debate about how it will affect our island.

CalMac is obviously anticipating a huge rise in cars crossing - and the problems that this will create - as people take advantage of much cheaper fares.

Arran will be easier and cheaper to get to than ever before and it is bound to make a difference to the commercial landscape.

But unfortunately there are also going to be niggles so it is probably a good idea to try and sort those out now before the island gets absolutely swamped!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control. Against such things there is no law.' (Galatians 5:22-23)

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

Valid reason for parking

Sir,
I am writing to you with regards on last week's article about my car which was described as the 'car that sat for several days with its back wheel removed and its axle propped up on a slab of concrete'.

As stated the wheel was removed which was because of a puncture and therefore led to my car having to stay in that car park for a number of days.

I personally feel this is a valid reason as to why my car was parked there - unlike some cars which are parked there every day and have been for years whilst people are working nearby.

I am sorry if you felt my car was of 'indiscriminate parking' but I really had no choice unlike other cars that have all four wheels in place.

Apologies to all those my car affected, if it happens again I will be sure to push my car on three wheels to another area to park and think about the impact my behaviour has had on others.

Maybe if the roads were in a better condition than they are this puncture would never have happened in the first place and my poor car could have saved itself some humiliation.

Yours,
**Lois Griffin
Brodick**

Mountain Festival thanks

Sir,
On behalf of the organising committee, I would like to thank all participants and everybody involved in this year's Arran Mountain Festival; a truly established event with many repeat visitors.

With the increased local support received this year, we can be very positive about its future.

The Arran Adventure Company again provided a festival hub, an excellent booking system and professionally covered logistics.

Numerous local businesses and individuals supported the

festival by sponsoring walks, signing up as 'supporters', helping with publicity, providing venues, and donating raffle prizes.

A special mention to Al-tachorvie Island Retreat for providing us with a venue and the most amazing curry at the 'Craghoppers Best of Kendal Film Night' which was enjoyed by more than 90 visitors and locals.

However, the biggest thank you has to go to all our volunteer leaders - without you the festival would not be possible!

All walks are led by qualified Mountain Leaders (and above for the A'Chir), supported by experienced assistants.

The positive feedback from participants once again shows that it is these leaders who make the festival such an overwhelming success.

Lastly, but not least, thank you to everyone on the volunteer organising committee for your hard work.

In August we hope to welcome Doug Scott back to the island.

And next year, the Festival will be 15-18 May, let's hope for some prolonged sunny weather this time.

I hope we can count on everyone's support to deliver an even better Arran Mountain Festival in 2015!

Yours,
**Jo Totty
Chairman
Arran Mountain Festival**

Race memories

Sir,
Reading *The Banner* today reminded me that it was 20 years ago in 1994 that Gordon Allsop and I, both Arran runners, ran in the Scottish Islands Peaks Race.

There was something in *The Banner* at the time.

The photos show me taking a turn at rowing with Gordon and the crew and Gordon and me being rowed back to the boat in Lamlash bay having just finished all the running.

We came about tenth position as I recall.

Yours,
**Dave Freeman
By e-mail**



Dave Freeman pictured taking part in the Scottish Islands Peak Race in 1994.

The Arran Banner on holiday

Since 'The Banner on Holiday' feature started six years ago, we have been absolutely overwhelmed by the number of fantastic photographs of our readers that have come through the doors.

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

This week we have a great picture of Janice Miller, Alison Howie and Gillian Taylorson at the Calgary Flames ice hockey game in Canada - unfortunately the flames lost 6-5 to Nashville. Please send us your Banner on Holiday snaps either by email to editor@arranbanner.co.uk or to *The Arran Banner*, Douglas Centre, Brodick KA27 8AJ.



Arran Deliveries

**Glasgow Depot
Arran Deliveries
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Glasgow G14 0HB**

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Accepting goods destined for the island

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North Ayrshire
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Enchanting artwork to be unveiled in woodland glade

An enchanting outdoor art installation will be launched at Brodick Country Park tomorrow (Sunday 25 May).

The unique piece is a combination of an altered natural setting, created by renowned visual artist Karen Rann and a new site-specific story written and read by author Sara Maitland.

Karen has been working as the artist-in-residence at Brodick since the end of last year, and has taken inspiration for the project from a tree only found on Arran: Sorbus Arranensis - a cross between whitebeam and rowan - as reported in The Banner last month.

Using the changes in leaf shape as a start point she has transformed the secluded Cnocan Glade by hand-cutting selected leaves of the existing self-seeding rhododendron magnificum. Other features within the glade have also been 'altered' and the whole process took about 10 days in total. The result is a captivating and slightly unreal space.

Called the Nature of Change project, Karen said: 'The starting point for this

work was the location, which was suggested by a ranger. I was interested in this idea of the 'escapee' from the garden - the Rhododendron magnificum and how it had come to thrive in this spot. On the one hand the glade appears both 'natural' and beautiful; with mature native trees and the sound of the Cnocan Gorge. But the rangers put in a lot of work to manage the space and maintain the 'natural' appearance by cutting back and poisoning invasive species.'

It was this human intervention in a seemingly wild place which influenced other themes of the work which explores the idea of natural beauty and how, often unseen, maintenance and human influence alters these places.

She continued: 'It is amazing how natural the cut leaves look. The transforming effect is quite subtle within the glade. People might assume it is two plants growing together, but then on further inspection see that it's one plant with differing leaves, encouraging them to look twice and perhaps reconsider

the notion of what is 'natural'.'

The living artwork will evolve through the seasons and over a few years the plants will eventually revert back to their original leaf shape.

Karen asked writer Sara Maitland, who is well known for her interest in fairytales, to write a piece specially for the project.

Karen explains why she asked Sara to get involved: 'It was the site-specific nature of her writing that first interested me - her descriptions of walks through different woods and connecting stories to the specific features and history of the place, the types of trees and nature of the surroundings.'

'Now that she has visited the site and watched me working, and is beginning the writing process, it is fascinating being party to her thoughts and approach, her 'reading' of 'place' is so different to mine - as a visual person.'

The full piece, complete with a live reading by Sara of her work, will be unveiled at the glade, which is a 15-minute walk from the visitor centre, at 2pm.



Using a blow torch Karen changes the look of a dead shrub by burning the branches. 20_b21art02



Karen with some of her hand cut rhododendron leaves. 20_b21art01

auchrannie
resort

With three restaurants, a fully equipped leisure centre with 20m pool, destination spa, children's play facilities and an adventure centre - Auchrannie Resort is much more than just a hotel. Open seven days a week to resort guests, island residents and visitors.

This weeks Auchrannie highlights...



Cruise - eclectic dining for all the family

Try out our innovative, modern menu with traditional favourites and freshly prepared homemade pizza and pastas.

Soft play, internet and games room available to keep kids of all ages entertained.

Open daily for breakfast, lunch, dinner and drinks.

Bookings only required for groups of 10 or more.

Takeaway menu also available.

Arran Adventure - outdoor action!

If you fancy trying your hand at some kayaking, gorge walking, rock climbing, mountain biking, archery or abseiling? You'll discover that we offer it all!

Our friendly, professional instructors will ensure you have a great time no matter what activity you choose.

Activities are available for adults, children (6+) and independent teenagers.

For more information, just give us a call on 01770 302 234 or drop in and pay us a visit.



Swimming pool open daily to non residents | 1am-4.30pm & 7pm-9pm

The ASPA open daily from 9am till late

The Playbarn open daily 10am - 6pm

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

Koffee for Kalimpong

The Friends of Dr Graham's Homes will be holding a fundraising 'Koffee for Kalimpong' in Corrie Hall on Saturday 24 May between 10.30am and 12noon.

There will be a veritable feast of homebaking, a fabulous raffle and bric a brac stall.

Please go along and support the children of Dr Graham's Homes, the organisers would love to see everyone there.

Auction sale

United Auctions in Stirling had forward 2,116 store cattle and cast cows, 3,315 prime sheep and ewes with lambs at foot.

Bullocks, Knockankelly (Galloway cross) £845 186p/kg. Heifers, Craigview (Limousin cross) £795 240p/kg. Cast cows, Cairnhouse (Limousin) £765 125p/kg, Cairnhouse (Hereford) £755 110p/kg.

Hoggs, Altgolath (Black Face) £94. Ewes, Bridge (cross) £75, Bridge (Black Face) £59.50.

Arran exports poets work

Three Arran poets are heading down south early next month as guests of a writing group. David Underdown, Cicely Gill and Tim Pomeroy are travelling to read at the Storey Auditorium in Lancaster on Thursday 5 June as guests of the April Poets, a writing group from Lancashire, one of whose members, Ron Scowcroft, was a Mclellan poetry-competition winner last year.

The expected audience of some 50 plus will hear a warm up of local Lancastrian poets.

Following a musical interlude the Arran poets will take the lion's share of the evening.

In September the April Poets will come to Arran as part of the Mclellan Festival.

Tim said: 'This initiative is an attempt to connect with other writers' groups and organise exchanges. A wide range of subjects and three distinct voices form part of this Arran export.'

The poetry scene on Arran has been burgeoning in recent years. The Mclellan Festival has played no little part in this verse renaissance running poetry workshops and a competition every year as part of the overall festival.

Further, a loose association of poets who meet and discuss their own and others poetry, also try to organise poetry events whenever there is an opportunity.

David's collection Time Lines was published in 2011 and he was shortlisted for two significant poetry prizes last year alone. Cicely very recently published a crime-novel 'Ivory' and Tim's joint collection of 2007, 'Their Proper Names' has sold out. See: www.arranpoetry.co.uk



Poets Tim, Cicely and David are taking their poetry to Lancaster.

Arran Blue bidding for top award

Bellevue Creamery was going for glory on Thursday night, as the Banner went to press, at a leading Scots food event.

The Scotland Food and Drink Excellence Awards, run in partnership with the Royal Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, have been recognising and rewarding the very best in Scottish food and drink for many years.

Arran Blue cheese was flying the flag for Taste of Arran which was nominated in the Foodservice Product of the Year category. Cheesemaker Calum Chaplin was

at the award ceremony with creamery owner Gordon Kinniburgh and Taste of Arran chief Alastair Dobson

They were up against Iain Burnett, The Highland Chocolatier, from Pitlochry and Aberdeen-based Pulsetta Foods Ltd for the prize.

Mr Dobson said: 'It is great to see Arran products consistently up for awards and shows the hard work being done on the island to produce high quality goods.'

'Awards do not only help promote the product but Arran itself, and anything that does that is good for tourism.'

The Scottish Salmon Company, which has a fish farm in Lamlash Bay, is also nominated in the Investing in People category. It is up against shortbread bakers, Dean's of Huntly Ltd.

Twenty-one awards, which recognise excellence across retail, foodservice and business categories, were up for grabs at the sold out event, which was held in the newly expanded Edinburgh International Conference Centre.

Last year Taste of Arran had success in the dairy section where Arran's Cheese Shop Mustard Cheddar was the category winner.



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Perhaps you've been using the same repeat prescription for a while, so you're not sure how effective it is, or even if it's still required.

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NHS
SCOTLAND



Make the most of
Arran's stunning outdoors
this summer

The Isle of Arran is one of the best places in Scotland to experience outdoor activities.

With its rugged mountains, sheltered coastline, lush forests and green fields, the island is a wonderful natural adventure playground.

With a number of well-established local businesses there is an opportunity to try something new and exciting – sea kayaking, sailing, abseiling and gorge walking to name just a few - as well as the chance to explore some of Arran's most stunning scenery.

Arran Golf Pass

With seven stunning and unique golf courses, Arran is a paradise for fans of the beautiful game.

Arran's courses are all relatively close together but each one offers a very different golfing challenge, set in some of Scotland's most dramatic scenery.

For those wishing to play all of the island's courses the Arran Golf Pass is amazingly good value when compared to the cost of paying to play at each individual course.

It can be purchased from any of the courses and it costs just £99, giving you one round of golf at Lamlash, Brodick, Whiting Bay, Machrie, Shiskine, Lochranza and Corrie as well as the Arran Driving Range at Balmichael.

The pass is valid for a year so simply book your tee-time in advance by phone or online, turn up and play!

ISLE OF ARRAN

SCOTLAND'S GOLF ISLAND



AT ONLY £99 THE
ARRAN GOLF PASS IS THE
PERFECT WAY TO ENJOY
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STUNNING COURSES.
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 Mon - Sat 9.30 – 5.00 Sun 10.00 - 5.00
 Cladach Visitor Centre, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8DE
 Tel 01770 302416 Email: Andrew@arranactive.co.uk
 Follow us on facebook




 www.forestry.gov.uk/arran

Make the most of Arran's wonderful forestry

Arran's great outdoors



Forestry Commission

The first view of Arran most people have from the ferry is of craggy Goatfell towering above the island with the green softness of low-lying forests all around. A quarter of the island is forested and many of Arran's native animals and birds live in the woods. The forests are the perfect place to see red squirrel and you won't be able to miss their busy forest activities at dawn or dusk. Peaceful walks and gorgeous views are guaranteed from the top to the bottom of the island. With ever-changing birdlife and plenty of archaeology to seek out too, you'll need more than a day to traverse all the Forestry Commission paths.

Arran Active

When enjoying all that the island's spectacular landscape has to offer it is important to make sure you have all the correct gear and Arran Active stocks everything from compasses to top-of-the-range walking boots. With its handy location at the foot of the Goatfell path, the shop at Cladach is the perfect stop for castle garden strollers as well as hardy walkers tackling Arran's highest peaks. The island's specialist outdoor shop has continued to expand its range of quality gear for 2014, particularly in footwear, where they are anticipating another hot summer. Sandals from Keen, Teva, Merrell, The North Face and Hi-Tec offer something for everyone, whether

you are hill-walking, kayaking or just out and about. There is also a wide range of walking boots and shoes from the likes of Scarpa, Meindl, Berghaus and Merrell. And the friendly staff can offer great advice to make sure you get what is right for you. There is also great clothing for all weathers, ages and budgets with regular special offers on Craghoppers, Jack Wolfskin and Sprayway. Add to this mix an impressive range of camping gear, rucksacks and accessories and you have everything you need to enjoy the great outdoors on your doorstep.

Lochranza Golf Course
 Lochranza Golf Course is without a doubt in the most idyllic setting on Arran with steep mountain slopes surrounding three sides with the fourth hole opening onto the Kilbrannan Sound. There are spectacular views in every direction down towards the ancient castle. It is also the perfect opportunity to enjoy the company of the local wildlife as herds of deer have been known to spend hours lolling on the greens. This nine-hole pay-to-play course is a Par 34 and just 2,232yards so it is perfect for families and couples and there is no need to book. Trolley and club hire is available as well as changing rooms and a practice area and putting green. With lots of great places to eat and drink in Lochranza plus camping at the course, it is a great place to visit for golfers.

Stagecoach

Arran is an unforgettable getaway where you can relax and enjoy some spectacular scenery. There is no need to bring your car, just take a relaxing journey on the ferry and use Stagecoach's network of buses to explore the isle. Stagecoach can take you around the island and return you to your holiday home or, if you are just over on a day trip, return you to the ferry terminal. You can even buy a seven day bus ticket allowing you to explore the island at your own pace watching the landscape change dramatically and experiencing each village's own character, all from the comfort of a Stagecoach bus. Once you arrive in Brodick why not take a trip on an open top bus which heads north to Brodick Castle and south to Whiting Bay and Lamlash. It leaves from the ferry terminal and winds through Brodick to the spectacular grounds and impressive structures of Brodick Castle. This is an excellent way to see Brodick Bay and Holy Isle as you sit outside on the top deck and enjoy the view!

Arran Outdoor Centre

Action and adventure is available to everyone at the Arran Outdoor Education Centre in Lamlash. The centre's reputation as a top destination for outdoor learning and adventure tourism attracts visitors from all over the country but islanders are also being encouraged to use the top class facilities sitting right on their doorstep. The purpose built Lamlash centre, which opened in 2008, runs a number

of activities from abseiling, climbing and kayaking to mountain biking, sailing and powerboat courses. Throughout July and August this year, the centre will be open fully to the public, as well as the usual summer schools and other activities. The centre is there for islanders to use and Lamlash Sailing Club and island schools are already making good use of the facilities. To find out what is on offer this summer pop in to the Arran Outdoor Education Centre, give us a call or visit our website at www.arranoutdoor.com.

Brodick Castle Country Park

Part of the National Trust for Scotland's role on Arran is to help people to get out there and see for themselves the island's beauty, from the shore to the mountain summits either alone or with the Rangers on their guided walks. Some of the island's most spectacular scenery and most stunning wildlife can be seen within the Country Park. And if you fancy a spot of glamping (glamorous camping) look no further than Brodick Castle and their fantastic camping pods. Recently installed adjacent to the Shore Lodge bunkhouse, just north of Cladach, these lovely timber cabins have the appearance of a Romany caravan without wheels and offer luxury camping at a budget price. Glampers can make use of the showers, toilets and laundry in the adjacent Shore Lodge. Look out for information in The Banner each week about events taking place at the Country Park.

ARRAN OUTDOOR EXPERIENCE WILD SCOTLAND AT ITS BEST



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Activities available:

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All prices on request. Open to adults and children

Tel: 01770 600532

Open Top Bus on Arran



Brodick castle and its woodland gardens is well worth a visit. Hop on to our stylish open top bus and appreciate the scenery as we take you from the ferry terminal right to the gates of the castle.

Summer Holiday Timetable

Every day from Saturday 24th May to Sunday 7th September, then weekends only until the end of September.

Brodick Castle, Lamlash & Whiting Bay.

Whiting Bay, Ashdale Bridge	1145			1425		
Lamlash	1200			1440	1540	
Brodick Ferry Terminal, Stance 1	1055	1210	1310	1340	1450	1550
Brodick Castle	1105	1225	1320	1350	1505	1605
Brodick Castle	1105	1225	1320	1350	1505	1605
Brodick Ferry Terminal, Stance 1	1120	1240	1335	1400	1520	1620
Lamlash	1130			1410	1530	
Whiting Bay, Ashdale Bridge	1145			1425		

Travel on any bus in Arran and you will get remarkable views of the island. For more information on the Open Top and other Arran services call **01770 302000**



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a place for nature

Arran Ranger Service



Get closer to nature by coming on one of our guided walks

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For info and bookings tel: 0844 493 2154



www.facebook.com/ArranRangerService

URGENT APPEAL! URGENT APPEAL! URGENT APPEAL! URGENT



THE ISLE OF ARRAN BRANCH OF CATS URGENTLY NEEDS YOUR HELP

Looking after Arran's cats

From humble beginnings in 1927, Cats Protection has grown to become the UK's leading feline welfare charity. Here on the island, the branch is run completely by volunteers. Linda Hartley is the branch coordinator and is helped by a small team of local volunteers. Linda has long been a lover of cats and it was this passion for felines that led to her joining the charity on the island 14 years ago. Linda works tirelessly to find new homes for all the cats that come into Cats Protection care on the Island. Linda believes that it is important to help the public better understand the needs of cats; as well as the importance of neutering to prevent unwanted kittens and to keep them healthy

and happy. 'It's a wonderful feeling when you find a once unwanted cat a happy, new home,' Linda told The Banner. 'Currently I have five cats desperately in need of someone to love and cherish them. It would be wonderful if we could find forever homes for them on the island.'

Cats Protection never put a healthy cat to sleep and believe that there is a new loving home for each and every cat in their care. Lots of time, love and care can help cats recover from their past and move on with a better chance in life.

The importance of neutering

Cats Protection doesn't just re-home felines it

also champions neutering as the only effective way to reduce the number of stray and unwanted cats on the island and throughout the UK.

Last year they neutered 170,000 cats! Neutering is a safe, painless way of controlling the cat population.

£5 neutering

Cats Protection doesn't just re-home cats it also champions neutering. Neutering is a safe, painless way of controlling the cat population. The Isle of Arran branch can assist you to have your cat neutered for the cost of only £5!

**Please contact
01770 820 611
for more information.**



Penny



Casper



Susie

APPEAL! URGENT APPEAL! URGENT APPEAL! URGENT APPEAL!

PROTECTION TO REHOME THESE CATS

Give a little time, make a big difference!

Every year Cats Protection help as many cats and kittens on the Isle of Arran as they possibly can. The success stories are thanks to the amazing work of Linda and her team of volunteers. The branch are always looking for extra help.

If you are interested in Volunteering and think you can help please email linda@arran-cats.com

For further information please see us at
www.facebook.com/CatsProtectionIsleofArran
www.arran-cats.com



Rosie



DJ

In desperate need of a home

Penny and Casper

These two very different cats come as a very loveable pair. Penny is a beautiful tabby and she has a lovely nature. Appropriately named due to his brilliant white coat, Casper is a little shy but has come out of his shell due to the presence of Penny. The pair would be best suited to a quiet home without children because of their placid and peaceful nature.

Susie

With her striking black and white colouring, Susie is a very attractive cat. She came to the Arran Cats Protection as a pregnant stray and thankfully most of her kittens have now found new homes. She has been neutered and is a very friendly feline that loves being outdoors but also likes her indoor comforts. Susie is a cat who knows her own mind and would thrive with someone who has had lifelong relationships with a feline friend.

Rosie and DJ

It is difficult to tell these two apart but DJ has a little white bib and white whiskers while Rosie is completely black. He is about four or five years old and is very shy and wary around strangers. But he adores Rosie and the pair spend hours lying curled up side by side. That is why it is felt that these two would be happier being re-homed together in a home with no other pets. Rosie is the last of Susie's kittens needing a home of her own and she is a beautiful cat. She could be separated from DJ but it would be wonderful to keep these two together.

From Boudicca to Flappers - Antiquarians explore women at war

Arran Antiquarians were revisited by an old friend on Monday, Valerie Reilly, who, in keeping with the centenary of the First World War,

treated them to her research on women in war. For centuries women followed the armies as cooks, cleaners, nurses and 'com-

forters', but women like Boudicca, Queen of the Iceni who fought the Roman Legions in Britain, and Joan of Arc in France, were exceptional warriors.

Valerie quoted from Kate Adie's recent book, 'Corsets to camouflage', and recommended it to anyone wishing to read more about this topic.

Prior to the 19th century, nuns did the tending of the wounded, but the casualties had to be taken to the convents for treatment.

By the time of the Crimean War military hospitals were appearing, most famously the one at Scutari where Florence Nightingale ministered.

Another remarkable woman was Mary Seacole, a nurse from the West Indies who had nursed cholera victims there and came over to Europe, went to the Crimea and set up the British Hotel, just one mile from the British HQ at Scutari where troops could get help.

Prince Albert designed a medal for these exceptional women which was presented by the Sultan of Turkey.

After the Crimean and Boer Wars several nursing services were founded; the Nightingale School of Nursing at St Thomas' in London, the Queen Alexandra Imperial Nursing Service, the FANYs - First Aid Nursing Yeomanry, who were nurses on horseback, quite often rather aristocratic young ladies.

Converted
By 1909 VADs (Voluntary Aid Detachment) nurses were working with the Territorial Army and the FANYs had converted to ambulances and when the war began in 1914 they won many decorations including the first Military Medal awarded to a woman.

Civilian women were also much involved in war work, supplies for refugees, catering, making bandages, knitting and sewing for the troops.

These were things the oldest and youngest could do. The able bodied young women became signallers, caterers, dispatch riders, working in the Women's Forage Corps and the Women's Land Army where they were employed



Valerie Reilly, right, with Nirval Murray of Arran Antiquarians.

on equal pay to their male counterparts.

Russia even had a women's division, the Death Battalion, of some 20,000. Initial enthusiasm waned and despite fighting on the Austrian front, was eventually disbanded by the Bolsheviks when its number had decreased to 250.

By 1917 the WAAC (Women's Auxiliary Army Corps), although still technically civilians, had their own uniforms and served as cooks, drivers and mechanics. Red Cross workers also entertained the troops and kept up morale.

Nineteen-eighteen saw the formation of QMAAC (Queen Mary's Auxiliary Army Corps) who had several members killed in France. There were the WRNS - who were mostly from Naval families - and worked on communications, and the WRAF who worked on aircraft maintenance. By the end of that war there were 100,000 women in the services.

Civilian women increas-

ingly had to do men's work as the men were conscripted. It was a challenge to the girls who had toiled for years as domestic servants. Ladies of the nobility created and worked in convalescent hospitals. Many more women were able to train as doctors, and the ambulance trains and advanced dressing stations were increasingly staffed by women.

Next meeting
At the next meeting there will be a presentation by Antiquarians' member, Angela Cassels, along with Ian Marshall, entitled 'Two Deserted Kilpatrick Settlements'. This is a result of their own local researches.

It was also announced that the Arran Antiquarians' annual outing will be to Paisley Abbey on Friday 20 June.

Those wishing to join the visit to the fascinating and historic Paisley Abbey and other places of interest in the town, please contact Harry Davidson on 30203 or Margaret Bruce on 700787.

NB



The First World War saw many changes for women in the workplace.

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Sailing from BRODICK PIER	
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Dunoon Cruise Lochs & Castle	EVERY TUESDAY June 24 until August 19 Leave 11.30am back 6.10pm Fares: Visit Largs £17 SC £15 Dunoon or Blairmore £25 SC £23 Cruise Loch Long & Carrick Castle £29 SC £27
Cruise Round Arran	SATURDAY August 2 Leave 1pm back 5pm Fare: Cruise Round Arran £27
Holy Isle & Pladda	THURSDAY June 26 Leave 2pm back 3.30pm EVERY THURSDAY July 3 until August 21 Leave 3.30pm back 5pm Fare: Cruise Holy Isle & Pladda £17 SC £15

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Lovers of Arran's outdoors enjoy mountain festival

'The festival offers walkers the opportunity to enjoy some of the island's most stunning walks in the safe hands of experienced leaders and wildlife enthusiasts'

Lovers of the outdoors rarely allow the weather to dampen their enjoyment.

And those taking part in the



Organisers said that this year's festival was a great success.

Arran Mountain Festival certainly didn't allow the torrential rain to spoil their fun last weekend.

From wildlife-watching walks along the island's coastline to airy scrambles on towering granite ridges, this year's festival proved to be a great success.

With names to inspire the imagination, such as Ceum na Caillich (Witch's Step) Caisteal Abhail (Castles) and the Sleeping Warrior, the mountains of Arran are some of Scotland's most amazing landscapes.

The festival offers walkers the opportunity to enjoy some of the island's most stunning walks in the safe hands of experienced leaders and wild-

life enthusiasts. The festival started on Friday with four very different walks and a social gathering in the evening.

On Saturday there was the annual Goatfell race as well as six walks at different places around the island.

At night more than 90 locals and visitors enjoyed the 'Craghoppers Best of Kendal' film and curry night.

Quiz and talk

Sunday and Monday followed in a similar vein with walks during the day and a quiz and a talk about 'Gaelic in the Mountains' in the evening.

Jo Totty, chairman of the Arran Mountain Festival organising committee, said: 'I would like to thank all

participants and everybody involved in this year's Arran Mountain Festival; a truly established event with many repeat visitors.

'With the increased local support received this year, we can be very positive about its future.'

She added: 'Numerous local businesses and individuals supported the festival by sponsoring walks, signing up as 'supporters', helping with publicity, providing venues, and donating raffle prizes and we couldn't do it without them.'

Next year the festival will take place from 15-18 May.

For more information visit www.arranmountainfestival.co.uk



Scrambling across some of Arran's towering granite peaks. Photos by Andy Surridge



With the reassuring presence of experienced mountain leaders, walkers were able to explore some of the island's most stunning peaks.



Locals and visitors enjoyed the four-day event.

20th
ARRAN FOLK
festival
6th - 8th June
A weekend of Sessions,
Concerts & Workshops

Fri 6th June:

Welcome Session The Douglas Hotel 12-5pm FREE

Concert Brodick Village Hall 7:30pm £17

Lorne MacDougall Band, Mary Ann Kennedy Trio, Gillian Frame & Findlay Napier

Sat 7th June:

Open Session The Douglas Hotel 12-5pm FREE

Singing Workshop Brodick Church Hall 2-3.30pm £5

Informal singing workshop for all ages & abilities with Gillian Frame

Concert Brodick Village Hall 7:30pm £17

Tim Edey Band, Jenn Butterworth & Laura-Beth Salter, Scott MacDonald

Sun 8th June:

Survivors' Session The Douglas Hotel 12-5pm FREE

Open Mic Night The Douglas Hotel 8 - 11pm FREE

Contact info@arranevents.com to take part in the Open Mic Night

Brochures and further info available from local shops.
Tickets now available on-line and at Brodick Post Office.

www.arranevents.com

Lady Jean Fforde
BOOK SIGNING

'Castles to Catastrophes'

Thursday 29th May 2pm - 4pm

Her oil paintings also on show at Strabane,
Brodick, Nr Arran Aromatics



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WHATS ON AT THE CASTLE

TUESDAY 27th MAY Garden Walk 2.00pm - 3.30pm

Normal Garden Entry. Meet at Reception
Donations welcome. No booking required

WED 28th MAY Back to the Bronze Age 2.00 - 4.00pm

Adults £8 u16 £4 + Park Entry. Booking Essential

FRIDAY 30th MAY Castle Secrets Tour 11.30am - 1.00pm

£8 + Castle Entry. Booking Essential

SUN 25th MAY Pond Dip 2.00pm - 3.30pm

Discover what creatures lurk beneath the surface....

Adults FREE u16 £3 + Park Entry

No need to book Meet at Reception Centre at 2pm

SUN 25th MAY Model Aeroplane Exhibition 12.00 - 3.30pm

Free with entry to the Country Park

SUN 25th MAY Spirit of Change - the Launch 2.00pm

View new work created by Karen Rann,

Artist in Residence at Brodick Castle

Free with entry to the Country Park

Meet at Reception Centre at 2pm

To book places on the tours please contact the Castle

0844 4932152

brodickcastle@nts.org.uk



Home town always in Jamie's heart

Jamie McIvor pictured in the Kintyre hills overlooking Southend.

BBC journalist Jamie McIvor talks of his love and bond with his home town of Campbeltown in the latest edition of the Scottish Field.

Community

Jamie, now education and social government correspondent with Reporting Scot-

land, talks about the area's strong sense of community, adding: 'Even though I'm based in Glasgow, this isolated but thriving community is always in my heart.'

Read Jamie's extensive article on Campbeltown and Kintyre in the Scottish Field's June issue out now.



JUNE ISSUE OUT NOW

INSIDE KINTYRE & ARRAN - Jamie McIvor on his best of the west

Willie McIlvanney - The Godfather of tartan noir

Is public art a waste of time?
The Burrell family feud
 The future of field sports- 10 page focus
Scottish architect to the Czars

10 of the best unsolved Scottish mysteries

WIN A holiday for two on Orkney & Shetland



White wagtail

Bird notes

by Jim Cassels

MAY

The Pied Wagtail (*Motacilla alba yarrellii*) is one of our more widespread and common breeding birds.

An elegant black and white bird, it lives up to its familiar name of Willie Wagtail. The systematic name *yarrellii* is after the nineteenth century English Naturalist William Yarrell.

He aptly wrote 'deservedly admired for the elegance of its form. As well as for the activity and airy lightness exhibited in all its actions.'

'It is ever in motion, running...in pursuit of its insect food, moving from place to place by short undulating flights...alighting again on the ground with a sylph like buoyancy.'

Subspecies

The Pied Wagtail breeds almost entirely within the British Isles and is a subspecies of White Wagtail (*Motacilla alba*) which breeds from Iceland and the Faeroe Islands throughout Europe to the Urals.

White Wagtail can also be seen on Arran.

The spring is a good time of year to look for this species.

It is a common passage migrant in spring and autumn and is most frequently recorded on the shores on the south and west of the island.

The first spring records are often in March with the peak in mid to late April continuing into May.

These are thought to be



White Wagtail can be seen on Arran. Photo: Angela Cassels

birds making their way to Iceland to breed.

Adult males of Pied and White Wagtail are relatively easy to tell apart in their breeding plumage.

The male Pied Wagtail has a black back with the black continuous from the crown to the bib.

In addition in Pied Wagtail, the flanks are dark grey with contrasting white under-parts.

In the male White Wagtail, the black crown and black bib are not joined up. The back of the White Wagtail is a pale ash grey which contrasts with the darker wings. In addition the flanks of the White Wagtail have just a very pale grey wash so the flanks and white under-parts have less of a contrast giving a white

appearance on the side at a distance - check out the photographs.

This said, the differences in the plumage of males, females and juveniles at different times of the year are quite complicated. There is more information on this website http://www.arranbirding.co.uk/white_wagtail.html.

Enjoy your birding. Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at james.cassels@virgin.net

I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the 'Arran Bird Report 2013' and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk



The male Pied Wagtail has a black back with the black continuous from the crown to the bib. Photo: Angus Hogg

THE ARRAN

BANNER

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Saturday 21 May, 1994

Discovery centre

A report into a proposed Arran Discovery Centre has been put out for public consultation.

The proposal is to build a £500,000 visitor centre on the west side of Arran near Drumadoon. Its aim would be to focus on the archaeology and early history of Arran and to show these within a museum context.

Last summer a team of consultants was commissioned by the local authorities to undertake a feasibility study into the centre.

It is envisioned it would include an interpretive centre which would tell The Story of Arran from the early peoples, stone circles, Irish, Viking and Norse influences before bringing visitors up to the present day. It would also have a countryside ranger service.

Secret army

Unexplained flashing lights, UFOs and some mysterious military people in foreign uniforms have been seen around Brodick this week.

And while some residents had just a few queries at the back of their minds it was not until some loud explosions were heard on Wednesday night that there was genuine anxiety.

The Banner established it had been a joint UK and US exercise but neither the police or US military personnel at Machrahanish were able to shed much more light on it.

This was in contrast to other military exer-



The 'Bobby Soxers' of the Arran Gilbert and Sullivan Society's Guys and Dolls production are Shauna Watt and Kerry Cameron seen here dressed for their parts and waving their autograph books. b21twe01



The Corriecravie firefighters ready for action, from left: John Taylor, Grant McAllister, Alastair Linton, Angus Adamson, Charlie McAllister, Alastair Barr and Robin Cook. b21twe02

cises, including Purple Warrior, in which the forces have gone to considerable lengths to keep the public informed.

New fire engine

The firefighters of the south end have a brand new appliance. A sophisticated Volkswagen LT50 turbo diesel vehicle which is the first of its kind on the island.

A new station is also being built at Corriecravie to house the vehicle and provide a base for the local volunteer support unit.

Station officers Jim Clark and Jim Docherty of West Command HQ in Ayr were in Lamlash last Saturday to hand over the new £40,000 vehicle and put leader Angus Adamson and his team through their paces.

Moorland blaze

Between 50 and 60 people were involved in fighting a moorland fire near Kilpatrick on Thursday afternoon.

At one point massive flames were only 10 yards from Forestry Commission land, but an east wind blew the fire away from the trees towards the sea.

The fire began around 2pm near the road as it climbs south of Kilpatrick. By the time it was at its height Lamlash and Brodick fire brigades, plus the volunteer firemen were out. The Brodick Country Park Rangers, several visitors and volunteers from nearby also joined in tackling the blaze.

Head forester Ken Robertson said: 'If it hadn't been blowing towards the sea and downhill it could have been very serious.'

Police are investigating reports of a group of walkers leaving the area where it started in a hurry.



The Brodick football team which won the Arran Haulage Cup. b21twe03



Both The Balmoral and Lamlash Pier were packed last Saturday as the first ship of any size to use the pier for 40 years berthed at high tide. b21twe04

What's on

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

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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

SFA Early Touch Football
 Jnr Badminton
 Metafit
 Junior Hockey
 Streetly Dance pre-school
 Garden walk
 RunArran Beginners
 Arran Food & Craft market

KA Campus, Arran High School, 6pm - 7pm
 KA Campus, Arran High School, 7pm - 8pm
 KA Campus, Arran High School, 6pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 6-7pm
 Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.45-2.30pm
 Brodick Castle 2pm-3pm
 Drift Inn car park, Lamlash, 5.15pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 11am - 3pm

Saturday 24th May

Army Cadets
 Over 21s Disco
 Family Games
 Fun in the pool
 RNLI Shop
 Brodick Bowling Club Rink game
 Whiting Bay Bowling Club
 Roots of Arran AGM & Curry night
 Koffee for Kalimpong
 Bingo Night
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game

Auchrannie Road 11am - 1pm.
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa pool, 4-5pm
 Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
 Brodick Bowling Green, 2pm
 WBay Bowling Green, 2pm
 Kildonan Hall, 6.30pm
 Corrie Hall, 10.30-12noon
 Whiting Bay Golf club, 7pm
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.45pm

Wednesday 28th 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
 Lady Jeans book signing
 Rugby Club AGM

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, Arran 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
 Strabane, Brodick, 2pm-4pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 7pm

Sunday 25th May

Family Games
 Fun in the pool
 Cocaine Anonymous (& all other drugs)
 AA Meeting
 Mackerel Lottery
 RNLI Shop
 Open music session
 Model aeroplane exhibition
 Car boot sale

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
 Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
 Ormidale sports pavilion, 2-3.30pm
 Brodick Church Hall, 4pm - 6pm
 Kinloch Bar, 5pm
 Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
 Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 2pm-5pm
 Brodick Castle, 12noon - 3.30pm
 Lamlash Golf Club, 11am - 2pm

Thursday 29th May

Quiz
 Morning Fitness
 General Knowledge Quiz
 Lochranza Craft Club
 Weight Watchers
 Yoga
 Bridge Club
 QuiltArran
 Garden Club
 Open Music session
 Ladies Hockey
 Cubs
 Pilates
 Lunchbox
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game

Eden Lodge, 9pm
 Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
 Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
 Lochranza Hall, 2pm
 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, Arran High School, 6.15pm - 8pm
 Auchrannie gym, 6-7pm
 Ormidale Pavilion, 12.30-2.30pm
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 6.45pm

Monday 26th May

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

Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 9pm
 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
 Lamlash Bowling Green, 7pm
 Brodick Bowling Green, 6.45pm
 Auchrannie Gym, 6-7pm
 Glen Estate, Brodick, 12.30pm

Friday 30th May

Aqua Fizz
 Yogalates
 Arran Youth Foundations
 Lochranza Kids Badminton
 Lochranza Adults Badminton
 Castle Secrets Tour
 Family fun night
 Coffee morning

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
 Brodick Golf Club 4.45pm
 Corrie & Sannox hall, 10.15am

Tuesday 27th May

Pop Quiz
 Alcoholics Anonymous
 Youth Club
 Rotary club
 Healthy Outdoors
 Scottish Country Dancing
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club rink game
 SFA Mini Kickers

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
 Blackwaterfoot bowling club, 1.45pm
 KA Campus, Arran High School, 5pm - 5.45pm

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visitorcentre@arranwhisky.com



BANNER BANNER RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT BANNER BANNER RECRUITMENT RECRUITMENT

Public Notices

ARRAN MEDICAL GROUP

May Bank Holiday

The island GP surgeries will be closed on

Monday 26 May

If you need medical advice when the surgeries are closed you should phone

NHS 24
On 111

In an emergency please phone 999

Isle of Arran Rugby Club

AGM

7pm Wednesday 28th May
at the Ormidale Pavilion

Ferry Committee

AGM

Monday 23rd June at 7pm
in the Mountain Rescue Hut,
Brodict.



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Bike Shed clearout, due to lack of space

- Planet x wheels: Aero rims & spokes super light planetx hubs £150
- Ageing Borgini cyclocross bike. Useful winter/training bike - new Easton wheels £150
- 'Iceni' Audax/light tourer, steel frame by Wilsons Sheffield. Mud guards etc, triple chainset - choke of wheels £295

Call Chris: 600249 or 600815

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CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH

(in full communion with the Church of England)
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 25th May
 Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
 Mr John Roberts.
 Coffee after service.
Wednesday 28th 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 25th 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 Church, 9.30am Morning Worship.
 Pirmill Church, 10.45am, Morning Worship.
 Shiskine Church, 12noon, Morning Worship.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Kilmory linked with Lamlash
 "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 25th May
 Kilmory 10am
 Lamlash 11.30 am
 Both Churches:
 Mrs Sharon MacLeod
 All welcome, including families; children's area
 Scottish Charity SC015072

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 (Charity Number: SC014005)
Sunday 25th May
 Worship 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.

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH

Vigil Mass 7.30pm
 Sunday morning masses 11am

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS
BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH

Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 25th 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)
Sunday 25th May
 Morning Service, 11am
 Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
 Evening Service 6-30pm
 5 Glen Road, Brodick
 Prayer Meeting
Wednesday 28th May
 at 7pm
 5 Glen Road,
 All welcome

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

Sunday 25th May
 Shiskine 11am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
 Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)
 Rev Ronnie Christie

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.

BIRTHS



INNES - Welcome Jack Innes, born on Sunday 11th May at Arran War Memorial weighing 7lbs 4oz - a wee brother for Natalie, Alastair, Ben, Archie, Daisy and Michael. Special thanks as ever to Donna and Elaine.



FERGUSON/BLYTHE
 To John & Gemma
 A beautiful baby daughter Penny Eve on the 12th May, a sister for Rosie who was 3 on the 18th May. Congratulations to you both.



Arran Golfers Association

The final of the AGA Seniors Crystal Bowl was played on Friday 16 May at Whiting Bay in excellent conditions between hosts Whiting Bay and neighbours Lamlash. The course was in super condition and the sunny, calm weather made for an enjoyable night's golf.

The opening match was between John Taylor and John Pennycott of Whiting Bay, and Mark Wren and Colin Richardson of Lamlash, and after an early exchange of holes the scores were tied after 7 holes, but Whiting Bay won 5 out of the next 6 holes giving them a 5 hole lead they were to keep until the end.

The second match saw John Dick and Stan Rainey of Whiting Bay take on Ian Murchie and Andy Smith of Lamlash in a close match which ended with Lamlash 2 up after 17, but in the overall match 3 down to Whiting Bay, giving Whiting Bay the trophy for the first time since 2006.

Both games were played in good spirit with the right balance of fun and golf and shared hospitality afterwards.

Fixtures: Thomson Cup, Second round by Sunday 1 June, semi-final and final on Saturday 14 June

DEATHS

COOK - Rev. John Weir. Peter, Sarah and Noël lost their beloved father on 15th May 2014. Died peacefully in the loving care of his partner, Dorothy, in Kilmarnock. Grandpa to Sandy, Duncan, Tom, Oliver, Alice and Finlay and husband to Elizabeth, he will be dearly missed by all.

MACNEE - Peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital on Sunday 18th May 2014, Iain, beloved husband of the late Cathy, loved dad of Ewan and Fiona, father in law of Nicola and Davy, and proud grandpa of Ruaridh. Funeral on Monday 26th May, service in **Lamlash Golf Club** at 12.30pm, thereafter to Lamlash Cemetery to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please. There will be a retiring collection for Alzheimer Scotland and RNLI Arran should you wish to contribute. Bright colours to be worn at Iain's request.

PIERCE - Louisa Mary known to her friends as Peggy. Passed away on Tuesday 13th May peacefully at Montrose House. Much loved great grandmother, grandmother and mother will be sadly missed by her family and friends. A commemoration of Peggy's life will be held at Montrose House on Wednesday 28th May at 2pm to which all who knew her are cordially invited. The family would like to express our great appreciation for the love and wonderful care shown to Peggy by all the staff during her long stay at Montrose House.



Finalists, from left: Colin Richardson, Mark Wren, Andy Smith and Ian Murchie, Lamlash, with the runners-up trophy, AGA president Donald Logan, John Pennycott, Stan Rainey, John Dick and John Taylor, Whiting Bay, with the Seniors Crystal Bowl.

at 1pm and 6pm. First two rounds can be played at an agreed course, if no agreement then play at Brodick, semi-final and final at Brodick. maximum handicap of 18 in the matchplay and full allowance of strokes. Any winners unsure of who they play next give Dougie a phone on 600038.

Junior Match Play Final Monday 26 May 5pm at Brodick. Kelso Cup first round at Shiskine Golf Club Friday 30 May, Brodick v Whiting Bay 4.30pm and Lamlash v Shiskine 4.50pm. All matches will be played over 12 holes with two thirds handicaps and 50 per cent of the difference for strokes.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday 14 May, Summer Cup 40 played, CSS 64. 1 R McCrae (7)63(acb), 2 R Waine (14)63(acb), 3 G McCrae (5)63. Scratch E McKinnon 64. There were seven magic twos, John McKean got two.

Sunday 18 May McCarfrae Trophy Round One, 19 played, CSS 67. 1 K McMillan (13)66, 2 G Hendry (5)67, 3 A Dobson (8) 69. Scratch G Hendry 72. There were two magic twos.

Fixtures: Sunday 25 May, McCarfrae Trophy Round 3, draw 12noon. Saturday 24 May, Club Championship. Match Play Rounds Monday 26, Thursday 29 and Friday 30 May. Final Saturday 31 May.

Tuesday 20 May, Ladies Club Trophy 2nd Round, 12 played, CSS 67. 1 Lesley Murray, 93(25)68, 2 Gege Kroner 90(22)68, 3 Ann Hart 93(23)70. Club Trophy winner Gege Kroner 138, 2 Ann Hart 140, 3 Susan Butchard 142.

Nine Hole Stableford, 6 played. 1 Liz Lawrie 13pts, 2 Liz Robertson 12 pts.

Fixtures: Tuesday 27 May 2nd Medal, Tuesday 3 June Medal Final.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday 15 May Summer Cup, CSS 66. 1 Paul Jameson 73-11=62, 2 Neil Young 67-5=62, 3 Alan Smith 77-10=67(BIH). Best Scratch Neil Young 67. Magic two Andrew Smith @ 4th.

Sunday 18 May Jamieson Cup, CSS 64. Winner Graham Tinto 88-20=68.

Magic twos Graham Tinto @ 4th, John O'Sullivan @ 16th.

Fixtures: Sunday 25 May Summer Stableford 9.30am and 12.30pm starts. Thursday 29 May Summer Cup and Medal Shield, make up own groups.

Ladies: Wednesday 14 May, Medal 2, Ann Cook Tray, 12 played,



The Whiting Bay team with AGA president Donald Logan and the winners' trophy.

CSS 65, SSS 64. 1 June Richardson 6=62(BIH), 2 D K Henderson 69-7=62. Best scratch R Logan 68. Magic twos R Logan and D K Henderson.

Shiskine Golf Club

Sunday 18 May, 18 hole medal, nine played. 1 Wallace Currie 91-26=65, 2 Billy Paton 75-6=69. Scratch B Paton 75. Magic two R Crawford

Thursday 14 May, Ladies Club Championship Qualifying Round 2, 20 played, CSS 67. Silver 1 Elizabeth Kelso 87-20=67. 2 Sheila Gray 86-17=69(BIH). Scratch Kema Genda 81. Bronze 1 Susan Murchie 90-24=66, 2 Sally Brookes 92-24=68(BIH).

Fixtures: Wednesday 28 May Dr Adam Cup (Gents), Thursday 29 May Mary Craig Trophy (Ladies), Saturday 31 May Club Championship Qual (Gents), Sunday 1 June Club Championship Qual (Gents).

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday 14 May, Sweep, 17 played. 1 M McDonald 80-23=57, 2 J McConnachie 66-6=60, 3 R Burke 73-11=62. Best scratch J McConnachie 66. Magic twos, J McGovern (2), T Cotton, P Bremner and A Cummings. Well done Mathew for breaking handicap.

Saturday 17 May, Jubilee Sweep, 10 played. 1 R Logan 68-

Brodick triumph in cup matches

Brodick will take on either Southend or Shiskine in the final of the Arran Football League Haulage Cup next Saturday after they saw off their rivals in the first two rounds.

In the preliminary match between Brodick and Lamlash, the boys in blue triumphed with a 6-1 victory.

Brodick then went on to play Northend on Monday night and, not surprisingly, they were celebrating after a 12-0 victory.

Southend will play Shiskine on Monday night in anticipation of the final next Saturday (May 31).

Fixtures: Saturday 24 May, Summer Cup round 2.

Machrie Bay Golf Course

Tuesday 13 May Peter Sutton/Lady Mary. 1 David Price 64, 2 Ron Woods 67, 3 Brian Sherwood 68 (BIH). Scratch Hamish Bannatyne and David Price 76.

Fixtures: Tuesday 27 May Gents and Ladies Club Championship Qualifier 12.30pm and 5.30pm tee off.

Lochranza Golf Course

Competitions start again at Lochranza next month. The highly successful Cabrach Competition begins on Sunday 1 June with tee-off times at 2pm and 5.30pm.

The format is similar to last year; 10 qualifying rounds with the four players recording the lowest six round aggregate going forward to the play-offs.

Visitors may take part on payment of the green fee. The Distillery Texas Scramble takes place on Sunday 29 June and the Lochranza Studio Gallery Cup is on Thursday 10 July at 6.30pm.

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And they are off with eventual winner Finlay Wild (No 93) already out in front. 20_b21goat03

Finlay is king of the hill in downpour Goatfell Race

Finlay Wild proved he was king of the hill as runners braved heavy rain and treacherous conditions in the annual Goatfell Race on Saturday.

A total of 136 entries took part in the gruelling eight-mile hill race and despite the torrential downpour there was good support from the runners at the start in Ormidale Park and on the streets outside, with the biggest cheers for the six local runners who took on the challenge.

Conditions on the course were tricky with driving rain, strong winds and poor visibility in parts.

The way down was extremely slippery and several runners had sore falls that resulted in cuts, bumps and scrapes but there were no serious injuries reported.

The event was won by last year's winner Finlay Wild of the Lochaber Athletic Club, one of Scotland's top hill runners, although with a slightly slower time than last year, because of the conditions.

But he still finished the race in an impressive 1hr 16min 7sec - just 1min 3sec slower. And he completed the



The six Arran runners Kirstie Smith, Iain Keen, Elliot Sedman, Jamie Sillars, Paul Hewie and Michael Jackson. 20_b21goat02

course 6min 4sec ahead of runner up Gwyn Bellamy of Westerlands. Finlay also won the 2012 Glen Rosa Horseshoe Race.

The first local runner home was Elliot Sedman who finished an impressive 18th in a time of 1hr 33min 19sec, just behind David Allsop of Arran Runners, who was brought up on the island but now lives in Glasgow. He finished 15th in a time of 1hr 32min 32sec.

The ladies winner was Sarah Mackenzie of Lochaber who finished the field in 25th

place overall with a time of 1hr 36min 10sec - a 10-minute improvement on her run last year.

The only Arran female in the race was Kirstie Smith who finished a respectable 90th in 1hr 58min 28sec, despite a heavy fall on the way down.

The soggy conditions also wiped out most of the planned games in the park, although the Isle of Arran Pipe Band bravely put on a short performance.

Organiser Paul Emsley of

Arran Runners said: 'Particular thanks needs to go to the Arran Mountain Rescue Team for marshalling the course in horrible weather conditions, plus all the members of Brodick Improvements Association who marshalled the lower sections of the course in the pouring rain.'

'Many other locals helped in a variety of ways - time-keeping, catering, and additional marshalling. Also to the Auchrannie Hotel which provided us with a tent from which to serve refreshments to the runners after the race.'

The top 20 finishes were: 1 Finlay Wild, Lochaber 1.16.07; 2 Gwyn Bellamy, Westerlands 1.22.13; 3 Nigel Wood, Coniston 1.26.08; 4 Nick Sedgwick, Lochaber 1.26.24; 5 Johan Johansson, Trongviken 1.27.48; 6 Callum Smith 1.27.54; 7 Phil Williams, Central AC 1.29.18; 8 Grant Rozga, Jura 1.29.39; 9 Paul MacLean, Lochaber 1.29.50; 10 Alex McVey, Carnethy HRC 1.30.49; 11 Steve Matthews, Dundee Hawkhill H 1.30.50; 12 Christopher Devine, Garscube H 1.31.05; 13 Iain Gilmore, Carnethy HRC 1.31.21; 14, Peter Buchanan, Portobello RC 1.31.30; 15 David Allsop, Arran Runners 1.32.32; 16 Peter Mackie, Shettleston H 1.32.48; 17 Steven Currie 1.33.15; 18 Elliot Sedman, local, 1.33.19; 19 Michael Geoghegan, Portobello RC 1.33.30; 20 Patrick Brennan, Rossendale H 1.33.59.

The other Arran runners finishes were: 47 Iain Keen 1.46.08; 61 Paul Hewie 1.51.48; 90 Kirstie Smith 1.58.28 and 131 Michael Jackson 2.49.00.



Garscube Harriers runner Christopher Devine is congratulated at the finish by his young daughter. 20_b21goat10



Kirstie Smith makes good progress on Goatfell.



Sharon Taylor gives the thumbs up as she turns into the Goatfell path. 20_b21goat08

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The Arran Banner will continue to be independently audited.