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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 6 JUNE, 2009

No 1703 52p

Man accused of glassing attack on stag night is cleared by jury

An Arran man has walked free from court after being unanimously cleared by a jury of a glassing attack on a stag night.

Craig Galloway, 33, was charged after alleged victim Dominic Dixon was scarred for life with horrific facial injuries.

Galloway had been part of a group celebrating in Mac's Bar at the McLaren Hotel in Brodick.

He told Kilmarnock Sheriff Court he was merry but not drunk.

But violence broke out sud-

denly as the group made their way to the Cameronia Hotel.

Mr Galloway said Mr Dixon lunged at him and that he brought up his hand, in which he had a glass, to 'protect me from him headbutting me. It all happened so fast'.

Mr Galloway, of Heatherview, Whiting Bay, had denied assaulting Mr Dixon to his severe injury and permanent disfigurement in Shore Road in September 2007.

Kilmarnock Sheriff Court heard the glass smashed on im-

pact, leaving the victim needing 14 stitches.

Kim Philp, prosecuting, told Mr Galloway: 'You must have hit him with quite some force to cause that injury', but he denied striking the other man.

The court heard there had been

'bad blood' between the pair since 2003.

Miss Philp suggested matters had escalated and Galloway insisted he had never been in a fight. The jury acquitted Galloway with a unanimous not guilty verdict.

What a difference a day will make!

A man is hoping to raise a significant amount of money for children with hearing difficulties by undertaking a cycle challenge from Lamlash to Campbeltown and back again, all in one day.

For Sean Caulfield from Cathcart the cycle has formed part of a novel idea to celebrate his 40th birthday.

On June 27 he will set off from Arran and the plan is to cover a distance of around 175 miles in 12 hours.

Support

Sean's son Louis, aged four, was diagnosed with hearing difficulties at a young age and the West of Scotland Deaf Children's Society was a great support. He said: 'I want to try and repay the help we have received.'

'We realised that Louis' speech wasn't developing at all. At 18 months he still couldn't enunciate simple words but his other skills were okay.'

'We raised our fears with the health visi-

tor and he had hearing tests at Yorkhill.

'A consultant said that he had a bad case of glue ear and they put gromits in but Louis is now classed as moderately deaf. The NHS has provided digital hearing aids for each ear, which would have cost £1,500 each. He follows facial expressions and is catching up now, but will always need hearing aids. He goes to a private nursery two days a week and sees a speech therapist once a week.'

Five pals are joining Sean for the venture and all the money raised from the cycle challenge will go to the charity.

Sean and his wife Claire live in Cathcart, Glasgow, but spend every free chance they get in Arran with the kids.

Claire's family have had a house in Shore Road, Lamlash for 12 years and they come to the island five or six times a year.

It is Sean's love of the island that has prompted him to travel in a kind of roundabout way to Campbeltown and repay some of the help given to the family.



Sean Caulfield with his four-year-old son Louis who suffers from hearing difficulties. b23bik01



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Police files

Whiting Bay vandalism

Police are appealing for information after the window of a property on Shore Road, Whiting Bay was smashed at around 1pm on Tuesday May 26.

The are also looking for witnesses to an incident at the Sandbraes public toilets in Whiting Bay on Thursday May 28 and Friday May 29 when at about 11am each day the toilets were damaged.

No road tax

A 17-year-old man who lives in Lochranza was reported to police for having no road tax last Tuesday night.

ASBOs

A 27-year-old man from Glasgow was issued with an ASBO ticket by police last Saturday lunchtime when he was caught drinking in public.

A 23-year-old man from Brodick was arrested for breach of the peace at 8pm on Sunday night and issued with an ASBO ticket.

Car collision

Two cars collided on the C147 near the south junction of the Kildonan low road on Saturday afternoon. Police are appealing for witnesses as one of the cars failed to stop.

Drink driving

At 11.30pm last Saturday night a 34-year-old Whiting Bay man was arrested for drink driving.

Bomb scare closes Southend road

There was chaos on the roads at the southern end of the island on Saturday afternoon when a live piece of ordnance was discovered close to the road in Kilmory.

Police were called after a homeowner discovered the corroded piece of ammunition that turned out to be live.

The C147 was closed due to its proximity to the explosives.

Sergeant Bob MacKay said: 'The Royal Navy bomb disposal unit was called and they travelled across on the 6pm ferry from Ardrossan.'

'They disposed of the ordnance by controlled explosion at 8pm by which time the road had been closed for four hours.'

At the same time, the road was blocked for two hours close to Auchentreoch Farm after a lorry broke down.



The Emergency Medical Retrieval Service (EMRS) has proved to be a real asset to critically-ill patients from Arran.

Care in the air proves to be a lifesaver

Consultants involved with an emergency medical airlift service based in Glasgow that covers the island of Arran are celebrating its success after operating for a year.

The Emergency Medical Retrieval Service (EMRS) is taking part in an 18-month pilot scheme to see whether it could be incorporated into the NHS. The scheme sees qualified

emergency medical consultants accompanying critically ill patients being uplifted by helicopter.

Dr Andrew Inglis, lead consultant in intensive care medicine at the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow, is part of a team that set up the Emergency Medical Retrieval Service (EMRS). He said: 'It provides rapid

access to the skills of a consultant from intensive care or emergency medicine for patients with life threatening conditions from remote places like Arran.'

This means that the team can perform a wider range of life saving interventions in rural GP surgeries or rural community hospitals.

Ready

Consultants are ready to respond to requests for help by helicopter within minutes and since June 2008, EMRS has retrieved seven patients from Arran and has given advice on the management of other cases.

Five patients were taken to

Crosshouse and the other two were transported to Clydebank and to the Glasgow Southern General.

'The service is working well,' said Dr Inglis. 'GPs on Arran have been absolutely excellent and have used this service whenever they felt it necessary.'

'After operating on a voluntary basis for three and a half years, EMRS is one year into a pilot scheme serving all remote and rural health care facilities in the West of Scotland. It is hoped that we will be established as part of NHS Scotland but to do that we need to make sure people are aware just how important a service this is.'

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Salvation Army is on the march

The Govan Salvation Army Band marched through the village of Brodick on Sunday afternoon under the glorious summer sunshine.

After attending Sunday service at Corrie Parish Church the band were transported back to Montrose House in Brodick by Ian Hendry and Steve Kirk who made sure the band got the full history of the island and its special landmarks on the way.

Lexie Andrade, territorial envoy to the Salvation Army on Arran, said: 'Our visitors were warmly welcomed into Montrose House to conduct worship there. Thank

you to all the staff and residents there for your hospitality.

'The four willing souls who stewarded the march in the afternoon did a great job despite the heat, as did our local constabulary who kindly came along to make sure everyone was safe.'

The McLaren Hotel had refreshments waiting for the thirsty marchers before the outdoor concert, which was much appreciated.

'Thanks must also go to DG, Peter, Elizabeth, Maureen, Julia, Dot, Angus and Jean for their efforts and input,' said Lexie. 'Not forgetting Robert who was

willing to provide cover, with John's help, if it should be needed in inclement weather. So many folks, without whom none of this would have been possible. 'You are all wonderful for being willing to work so hard to bring about a great day in the sunshine. Thank you! If I have forgotten anyone, please forgive me.'

The Govan Salvation Army Band marches through Brodick on Sunday afternoon.

b23sal01



Struan Stevenson MEP samples the new Red Squirrel Ale at the Arran Brewery on Saturday while Philip Lardner (back) and Gerald Michaluk look on. b23mep01

Beer money to help save squirrels

A new drink has been created by the Arran Brewery to help efforts to protect red squirrels on the island.

Part of the proceeds from sales of the Red Squirrel Ale will be donated to conservation projects designed to help the endangered mammals.

Arran is considered to be a stronghold for red squirrels, which have been threatened by competition and a disease carried by non-native greys.

Gerald Michaluk, managing director of the brewery, said:

'One penny from every bottle of Red Squirrel Ale sold will go to the Red Squirrel Action group for the conservation of these animals.

'The beauty of the scheme is that it could go on for years to come. Anyone who is interested in doing any red squirrel projects like a school, for example, can apply to us for funding through this initiative.'

A photograph of a red squirrel taken by local amateur photographer Arthur (Toosh) Duncan was chosen to appear

on the label.

The idea behind the beer came from Conservative Westminster candidate Philip Lardner in October last year as part of his campaign to protect the animals.

Mr Lardner pointed out that it is an offence to release a grey squirrel into the wild anywhere in Britain and it is vital that they do not reach Arran.

Struan Stevenson MEP was at the brewery in Cladach on Saturday to officially launch the beer.

Fears for safety of ruined building in Lamlash

Fears are growing for the safety of a ruined building in the centre of Lamlash this week after youngsters set it on fire last Thursday night.

The Lookout, which is situated across the road from the Old Pier Tearoom, has been in a state of disrepair for some years but there are concerns that the building now poses a serious risk to the public.

The house, which was once used as the Bank of Scotland, is owned by island based company John Thomson Construction Ltd.

Iain Thomson, director of

the building firm, said: 'Police called me out late on Thursday night when they discovered part of the building on fire. It had obviously been started by some kids that had managed to get inside.'

'The building is well beyond repair now but I'm being stopped from pulling it down by North Ayrshire Council.

Risk

'It's become a serious health and safety risk and I want to know how long we'll have to wait before the council see sense and let me pull it down?'

A council spokesman said:

'We have made a preliminary inspection of the building. Although there is some damage there is not an immediate threat to public safety.'

'We have, however, spoken to the owner and asked him to ensure that it is secured against unauthorised entry.'

Inspection

'A thorough inspection by council officers will be carried out next Tuesday. This should give us better picture of the building's condition and what needs to be done to it. The council's first priority is public safety.'

Christian Aid

Southenders from Bannan to Corriecravie kindly donated £443.69 towards recent Christian Aid week. Thanks to all who donated and all the collectors involved.

200 club wins

The winners of the May draw Lochranza and Catacol Village 200 Club Fund are: first Steven Warling, second Jenny Baboolal.

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Walk this way

Sponsor forms are now available at *The Arran Banner* office for a sponsored walk to raise money for the National Association for Colitis and Crohns Disease.

Organised by the Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall Committee, it will take place on Sunday June 21, there will be two different routes on offer so that people of all ages and abilities can take part.

Kate Hartley, chairman of the hall committee, said: 'The walk has been organised to raise money for a charity that has quite a lot of local significance. There are a number of people living in the northend of Arran that suffer from Crohns Disease.'

Routes

'There are two different routes for the walk to suit different abilities. One will go along the Newton Shore to the Fairy Dell and back to the hall and the other will be a bit longer and tougher; up to the Cock of Arran and back.'

The committee are organising a BBQ and family disco to take place that night too.

Anyone who would like to take part in the walks should contact Kate Hartley (830226), Fiona Crawford (830270) or Kerri Traill (830615) for a sponsor form or come in to the *Banner* office as soon as possible.



Harvey Kemp with his radio-controlled car.

Lucky Harvey wins radio-controlled car

Four-year-old Harvey Kemp of Whiting Bay was the lucky winner of a giant radio-controlled car in a raffle organised by Brodick Post Office.

The draw was designed to raise money for a friend of post office owner, Cams Campbell.

Cams said: 'Mervyn Walker, a friend of our family from Cornwall, has cycled from Land's End to John O'Groats and back in aid of the Precious Lives Appeal to build a Children's Hospice in Cornwall.' Mervyn was on Arran back in April as part of his journey from one end of the country to another.

Harry Davidson of the Brodick Improvements Committee kindly drew the raffle, which raised £60 towards the charity.

Tourism awards up for grabs

Tourism businesses in Arran are being encouraged to aim high this year by entering one of the 11 categories in this year's Highlands and Islands Tourism Awards (HITA).

The awards recognise industry players at the top of their game by showcasing tourism businesses, initiatives and individuals who strive to deliver business excellence and quality within the area's tourism industry.

Chairwoman of the HITA Board, Liz Mackintosh said: 'The Highlands and Islands of Scotland are such a unique place to visit, and these awards

acknowledge the people and businesses working within the tourism industry who provide visitors with a quality product, the highest standards of service and a genuine and sincere Highland welcome.

'The awards exist to recognise their efforts, expertise and success in competing in such an important and challenging global marketplace.'

Nominations for the 2009 Highlands and Islands Tourism Awards can be filed online at www.highland-tourism-awards.co.uk.

The closing date for registration is August 31 and for entries

it is September 7.

The shortlisted finalists will be announced in October, and the winning businesses and individuals will be announced at the awards ceremony and gala dinner at the Drumossie Hotel in Inverness on Friday November 20.

2009 award categories are: Best Visitor Experience, Community Tourism Initiative, Customer Care, Dining Out Experience, The Green Award, Most Entrepreneurial Business, Marketing Initiative, Leadership Award, Developing People, Ambassador of the Year, Young Ambassador of the Year.



The Eden Lodge Hotel in Whiting Bay is looking for a new owner after it was put up for sale last week.

Eden Lodge up for sale

The Eden Lodge Hotel in Whiting Bay is looking for a new owner after it was put up for sale last week.

Victoria McAllister, who bought the hotel six years ago, has spent a large amount of money refurbishing the building inside and out. According to Christie and Co, the company who are handling the sale, the last accounts showed a turnover in excess of £380,000 net of VAT.

For the past two years the hotel has operated with limited trading hours for six months of

the year. With seven bedrooms, a bar/restaurant and a function area, the hotel has been an important part of village life for many years.

Jacuzzi

Until recently, the present owner did stay on site using the super king room, which includes a jacuzzi bathroom and has an adjoining bunk room.

If owner's accommodation is required, this area could be completely closed off from the rest of the hotel. Graeme Smith, Christie and Co estate agent, said: 'The hotel is

being offered to the market at offers in excess of £550,000 for the freehold and, in my opinion, should be viewed to fully appreciate not just the trading potential of Eden Lodge Hotel but also what the island has to offer.'

Last year Vicki McAllister and her partner Callum McNicol bought Stalkers restaurant in Brodick.

After a full refurbishment, a dramatic red painted exterior and a change of name, the Eilean Mor has proved to be an asset to the village.

Fuel duty proposals scrapped

The SNP has accused Labour, Tory and Liberal MPs of betraying their constituents after proposals for the introduction of a Fuel Duty Regulator, to provide relief for motorists and industry from soaring fuel prices, were defeated in the House of Commons.

SNP Westminster Candidate for North Ayrshire and Arran, Councillor Patricia Gibson said: 'The SNP focused on protecting jobs in the transport industry and helping motorists and businesses, and it is bitterly disap-

pointed that this opportunity for action has been thrown away.

'Hauliers and motorists on our islands and rural areas have struggled with forecourt prices for some time, but the recession, and now Alistair Darling's plans to increase fuel duty even further are the final straw.'

Recession

'In the teeth of recession the UK government should ease the burden faced by business and households, and a fuel duty regulator mechanism would help do just that.'

'On Arran, households and businesses face some of the highest fuel prices in the world, making island products less competitive.'

The Road Haulage Association has consistently supported the call for a fuel duty regulator.

SNP Treasury spokesperson Stewart Hosie MP said: 'A fuel duty regulator would see any extra cash raised from VAT on higher pump prices go straight back into an equivalent cut in fuel duty.'

Photo Competition 2009

It's that time of year again, when we ask *Banner* readers, locals and visitors, to share with us their photographic gems from the last year.

As in previous years, whether your pictures are magnificent Arran's views, make us roar with laughter or bring tears to a glass eye, we will enjoy seeing them all.

Now in its 29th year the 2009 photo competition will follow the usual highly successful format. It is open to both residents of and visitors to Arran, and entries should be in one of two classes: People (and/or animals) and Places. The only proviso is that all entries MUST have been taken on, or around, Arran after August 2008.

Each year, after the competition has closed, we select as many entries as possible to show in *The Banner* prior to announcing the winners in early October. The *Banner* therefore reserves the right to publish entries.



The closing date is Tuesday 15 September and the decision of the judges is final.

Send your entries to: editor@arranbanner.co.uk, or, if technology is not your thing you can still send us prints of your favourite photos by filling in the address form. Please send a SAE if you would like your pictures returned.

Maximum of 6 photos per entry.

We reserve the right to publish entries in *Arran Banner* publications

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Models strut their stuff at Lochranza

The Isle of Arran's finest catwalk models strutted their stuff down a purpose built runway in Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall last Tuesday night, showcasing some of the latest designs from the Old Byre Showroom in Machrie.

'The idea behind the show was to demonstrate the new, modern collections that we sell, as well as the variety of products that we have in the shops,' said Lorna Mansfield of the Old Byre Showroom. 'We had clothes for all ages and styles ranging from well-known makes like Barbour to knitwear and leisurewear. It was a great night.'

Kate Hartley, chairman of Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall, said: 'It really was a fantastic night. The effort that went into organising it was immense but it was just fantastic to see so many people there from all over the island.'

Youngsters

The night began with local youngsters Archie and Nicol, who at just six and seven years old, have graduated at a young age in to the world of fashion.

The crowd was impressed with their style as they show-

cased lovely little Pirate Pocket sweatshirts and matching swords.

Megan in a daisy fur jacket and hat with an Aran teddy each, before Abbie appeared in an AC stripe polo and navy hoody.



Terry Crawley models an Ireland's eye cherry sweater and woolen steering wheel cover.

Lorna had chosen a fantastic soundtrack to the night, which fitted every style perfectly.

After more children's wear came the ladies and gents, modelling some of the great clothes that are available from the Old Byre.

Fiona Crawford, Marion Gentleman and Jane Miller wore

Alice Collins navy shots with a Tulchan sweater, keyhole stripe t-shirt and Peter Scott merino sweater while carrying leather handbags - and for ladies of a certain age there was a chic leather bus-pass holder.

The show continued with more beautiful clothes that included long wool coats, Alpaca cardigans, trousers, handbags and golf outfits.

Matching

Archie Cumming, Ian Holmes and Terry Crawley were on next with the gents wear which included gorgeous sweaters in angora and lambs wool with matching wallets and steering wheel covers!

The big surprise of the night however came at the end when the 'Last of the Summer Wine' gentlemen stripped off to their underwear in an impromptu Full Monty style striptease.

'I've never laughed so much in my life,' said one audience member. 'My sides are splitting from laughing so much,' said another. 'What a fantastic way to end an absolutely fabulous night,' said another.

Lorna Mansfield worked incredibly hard to make this event a success and her hard



Above: Ian Holmes, Archie Cumming and Terry Crawley modeling their traditional Aran sweaters.

work certainly shone through. She would like to thank all of her staff for their efforts in helping put the show together.

As a result of the fashion show nearly £1,000 has been raised for hall funds and the profile of the Old Byre showroom has been increased throughout the island.

Right: Archie Cumming looking very debonair in a navy coloured fisherman's sweater.



Jane Miller models an Alice Collins kaftan from the collection at the Old Byre Showroom in Machrie.



Marion Gentleman wears a Tulchan frill front cardigan and embellished crop trousers.

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Bird Notes for May

By Jim Cassels

In comparison with May 2008, May 2009 was cooler and wetter.

This may have delayed the timing of the breeding of some of our summer visitors. In particular House Martins and Swallows seem to have been later in establishing their nests.

To find out more I am seeking help. If you have house martin or swallow nests on your property, would you please take a moment to let me know how many occupied nests you had

last year 2008 and how many you have this year 2009, and whether or not you felt these were established sooner or later than in 2008?

In the next Bird Notes I will say a bit more about when birds breed.

Having said that, on Arran breeding is well underway for many species including: a pair of shelduck with 10 young at

Clachlands on 10th; lapwing defending territory in Kilmory on 11th; 24 common gulls on nests in Dougarie on 12th; a pair of common sandpipers on a nest in Pirmill on 13th; seven occupied grey heron nests in Lamdash on 15th; one young greylag goose on Pladda on 18th; a dipper with two young on the Slidderwater on 24th; and three skylarks over Machrie Moor on 26th.

In addition there were lots of reports of garden birds carrying food and, contrary to national reports, from the reports sent to me, there is no apparent shortage of cuckoo on Arran this spring.

In May, summer visitors continued to arrive with the following 'firsts': swift in Whiting Bay on 1st, and spotted flycatcher in Newton on the 10th.

There have been no reports so far this year of common tern, corncrake, lesser whitethroat, nightjar or redstart.

Species who breed further north continued to pass through including: a great northern diver in Whiting bay on the 1st; seven whimbrel in South Feorline on the 3rd; nine sand-erling in Blackwaterfoot on the



Puffins are regular visitors to Arran now since the removal of rats from Ailsa Craig.

8th; two dunlin at Torryllyn on the 10th; two white wagtail at Drumadoon on 14th; and also on 14th three black-throated Divers off Cosyden.

While there were plenty of reports of buzzard, golden eagle, hen harrier, kestrel and sparrowhawk, two other raptors were also reported: a pair of merlin near the Ross Road on the 14th and a goshawk seeing off a buzzard over Kildonan on 19th. These are unusual sightings for Arran.

Over 100 species of birds were reported to me in May. Here are a few more highlights, this time from sea watching during May.

On the 16th off Kildonan, there were two puffins and two pomarine skuas. Since the removal of rats from Ailsa Craig, puffin sightings have increased around Arran.

The pomarine skuas, in typical pirate fashion, were harassing kittiwakes. Pomarine skuas were last reported off Pirmill in October 1991.

On the 17th a sooty shearwater was with the more common manx shearwaters off Thunderguy. The main breeding grounds for sooty shearwaters are off New Zealand, with all breeding areas in the southern hemisphere, but they do migrate across the equator.

Off Arran there has only been one other record in the last 12 years.

My thanks again to the many people, who have been in touch this month to share their sightings, including those who visited the island to enjoy the popular Wildlife Festival.

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 visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk.



Pomarine skuas were last reported off Pirmill in October 1991.

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Great start for 15th Arran Folk Festival

The 15th Arran Folk Festival got off to a great start on Friday with a concert headlined by Eric Bogle and John Munro.

The concert, in three parts, was opened by The Millcats, a Jug band from Pirmill led by Mark Harwood.

They were in complete contrast to what was to follow from Bogle and Munro and certainly ensured that no one was sleeping at the interval.

Musical Treat

From the moment that Eric and John took their places on stage and struck the first chords on their guitars, it was obvious that magic was in the air, and the audience was in for a musical treat.

It was a gentle evening from here on as each song was pref-

aced with an explanation, or anecdote, adding to the appreciation of the music in many different ways.

Naturally they sang the songs for which Eric Bogle is best known, including 'No Mans Land (Greenfields of France)' and 'The Band Played Waltzing Matilda'.

The concert was thoroughly enjoyed by the highly appreciative audience including many folk singers who relished the opportunity to hear songs that have been sung over the years, being performed by the writer and composer, in his unique way.

The only regret of the whole evening was the knowledge that this is the last tour he is doing, and probably the last

chance many of us have of seeing him.

This was an evening of high quality entertainment and a superb way to re-introduce the Arran Folk Festival, which starts on Sunday June 7 and offers a week of great music.

Open Sessions

Concerts by Moses, Esther O'Connor and The Top Irish Band, Lunasa will take place around the island, also a ceilidh with the Bouguille band and an abundance of open sessions at which all musicians will be made welcome.

The week promises to be a special and very welcome return of the festival - tickets are still available on line at www.arranfolkfestival.com or Brodick Post Office.



Iconic folk guitarists Eric Bogle and John Munro played at Whiting Bay Hall as part of their last ever tour. b23bog01

Bumper year for Save the Children branch

The Arran branch of Save the Children raised the magnificent sum of £9,687 last year, it was reported at their AGM recently.

Chairman Kath Turner welcomed all present and in her report expressed her gratitude to her 'hard working' committee,

which had been a great support during her year as chair.

'It has been a very successful year once again,' she said, 'but our efforts must continue as the poverty in our own country and in the disaster areas abroad require our constant support.'

A full programme of events is

being organised for the coming year and the branch are hoping for another successful year.

Following the business part of the proceedings, Kath introduced two guests, Elsie Paton coordinator of the West of Scotland Support Group and Nicola Breem, community fundraising executive.

In a brief address Nicola reminded the group of the presence of Save the Children in most disaster areas in the world like Kenya, Sri Lanka and Burma to name but a few.

She said it is one of the foremost agencies working to relieve the plight of children.

She also outlined the problems in Scotland where 250,000 children still live in poverty.

Nicola stressed the necessity of maintaining fundraising efforts and praised the Arran branch for its variety of events and outstanding contributions.

Elsie and Nicola expressed their appreciation at being invited to attend the meeting and said they look forward to returning in future.

Kath brought the meeting to a close by thanking the guests for coming and the committee and friends for their continuing support.

Office bearers for 2009/2010:
 chair – Kath Turner, vice-chair – Carol Burge, secretary – Margaret Shaw, treasurer – Myrna Boal, trading officer – Barbara Leckey, collecting officer – Vera Cline, press officer – Jean Robertson, artwork – Jean Bowden, school reps – Elinor Kinnaord, Irene Rollo and Aileen Wright, committee – Margaret Auld, Anne Bason, Rosemary Bickerton, Judy McAllister, Dorothy McClelland, Maureen Oakes, Sarah Pierce, Fiona Tait and Claire Underdown.



Verner Small was able to see the Fallen Rocks for the first time in five years.

Fallen Rocks track opens to vehicles

The forest track from North Sannox car park to the Fallen Rocks was open for public vehicle access last Wednesday and a number of people who are less mobile than they used to be were able to visit the site.

For Verner Small of Brodick it was the first time he had been there in more than five years.

'It was lovely to be back and to see the wild flowers, including the early Purple Orchid,' he said. 'The new path is excellent, I don't know if that is thanks to the Coastal Way people or Forestry Commission but we certainly appreciated the opportunity to visit a favourite place once more.'

Arran's head forester Andy Walker said: 'This was particularly aimed at the less able who may not have enjoyed this lovely part of Arran before. You can now walk out to the rocks on a suitable path.'

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Sun can come at a price

With every ray of summer sunshine that blazed down upon us all this week, there was a dirty great big black cloud of warnings from various health experts throughout the country.

Temperatures on Arran soared to 24 degrees Celsius on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday and locals and holidaymakers relished the heat.

The smell of barbeques could be sensed from miles around and the beaches and rivers were full of people cooling off in the midday sun.

The Met Office has forecast a summer with higher than average temperatures and spells when the heat will rise above 30 degrees Celsius. As a result experts have issued health warnings as the country continues to enjoy the strong sunshine.

Doctors say that this long hot summer is going to have a devastating effect on the rise in numbers of skin cancer cases unless sunbathers take care. Most melanoma skin cancers are caused by overexposure to ultraviolet rays given off by the sun.

Every year, 7,000 people are diagnosed with skin cancer, and around 1,700 die from it. Experts fear that diagnoses could top 20,000 by 2035.

If people are careful not to redden or burn, especially if they have that fair, freckly, Scottish complexion, then it has been proved most cases of malignant melanoma can be prevented.

Cancer Research UK has joined medical experts in warning sunbathers to enjoy the sun safely by spending time in the shade in the middle of the day and applying plenty of sun cream.

The truth is that we Brits still have not been programmed properly to recognise the danger posed by the strong summer shine at home as well as abroad.

Few of us will go abroad nowadays and not use sun cream, so why do we insist on boycotting it here?

Just looking around Arran this week there are scores of visitors walking around that have turned a frightening salmon pink colour.

Tradesmen who work outdoors are sporting very sore looking red backs and arms but if you were even to suggest to them that they might benefit from using sun screen they would run a mile.

Of course, there is the added complication that avoiding any sun exposure at all can be bad for your health, as lack of vitamin D, which is a product of sun exposure, has been linked to problems such as osteoporosis, MS and breast cancer.

Experts recommend 10 to 15 minutes a day of 'casual exposure' and for sun protection they recommend a factor 15 cream.

It is true that human beings need a regular dose of sunshine to keep us healthy but until we get away from the 'Oh aren't you brown, you're looking so well' attitude, the number of skin cancer cases in Britain will continue to rise.

The message about the dangers of excessive exposure to the sun has probably been sent out most clearly in Australia, where the slogan 'slip, slop, slap' is known by everyone - slip on a shirt, slop on sun cream, and slap on a hat.

How difficult can it be?

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

We preach Christ crucified: To those whom God has called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ is the power of God and the wisdom of God. (1 Corinthians 1:23-24)

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

What about the horse poo?

Sir,
As a careful dog owner who does pick up poo and disposes of it carefully, I have been reading with interest the letters and articles regarding this issue in *The Arran Banner*.

I would also like to draw readers attention to the horse poo left on the beaches, roads, the village green etc.

Surely horse owners should be responsible for picking up that poo too?

Yours,
Susan Docherty Paisley

Illusive cuckoos

Sir,
While enjoying a sandwich

lunch on Saturday May 30 by the North Sannox car park and reading the *Banner's* report on the cuckoo sightings, right on cue came the song of the cuckoo, repeated several times from nearby woodland.

Amazing timing!
Yours,
Margaret Fowler Lamlash

Sir,
To the cuckoo man of Lamlash - Yes I heard the cuckoo in Lochranza around May 1 but I was too lazy to call the *Banner*.

He usually flies around by my house at North Newton but this year he's way over the other side of the village.

Yours,
Cuckoo mad Reg Morgan The Whins Lochranza

Sir,
There was a cuckoo heard on May 10 by at least three people in Blackwaterfoot.

Yours,
Karen Haggarty Shiskine

Folk scene a credit to the island

Sir,
I want to thank members of the Arran folk scene for the very warm welcome it gave my family and I earlier this month.

We went to three of the four folk sessions at Catacol and Brodick that were available during the week and really enjoyed each one.

It was noticeable that other visitors to the island also went to the same musical evenings,

so word of mouth does seem to work.

The high quality of singing and excellent variety of musical styles of your local performers is a credit to the island.

This was our first visit and the active, friendly folk scene certainly gives even more reason for us and other visitors to return to the Arran.

The local hotels and inns that host these musical events were obviously very supportive and should be congratulated for their good taste and sound business acumen.

Good luck for the Arran Folk Festival and other forthcoming folk events and sessions over the summer.

Yours,
Chris Nash 49 High Meadows Bolton



Seonaid Frame of Brodick, the youngest daughter of Maggie and Iain Frame was married to Mark Daly of Clydebank, Glasgow, the youngest son of Bill and Ellen Daly recently.

The couple live in Glasgow where Mark works as a journalist for the BBC and Seonaid works as the manager of the Glasgow Film Festival.

Jessica Kerr, daughter of Lochranza resident Susan Kerr and the late Robert Kerr was married to Kevin Fearon, son of Rosy and Peter Fearon of Penperlleni, South Wales on Saturday May 23.

Jessica is a nurse working with mentally handicapped patients in Carlisle while Kevin is engaged in national tyre distribution, also based in Carlisle.

The happy couple are honeymooning in the Maldives before returning to their occupations in Carlisle.



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Arran Elderly Forum to meet next week

The next meeting of the proposed Arran Elderly Forum will be held in the Ormidale Pavilion on Thursday June 11 between 2pm and 4pm.

The first meeting held on May 21 in the Ormidale Pavilion went very well with 10 people attending.

They were shown a video showing the history of the West of Scotland Seniors Forum and it highlighted why there was a need for seniors forums.

Jean Kerr the chairperson of the Isle of Cumbrae Elderly Forum then gave a potted history of the forum on Cumbrae.

She talked of their success to date and encouraged those present to get involved and set up a forum on Arran.

There was a good discussion on some of the issues seniors face nationally and locally and it was agreed that a further meeting be called to formalise a forum on Arran.

Ian Wallace, community development worker for North Ayrshire Council, said: 'Elderly Forums are about promoting the interests of senior citizens and we would welcome members of other local groups on Arran who have senior members (55+).

'This would give us a chance to have as wide a representation as possible and to reassure local groups that any new forum would work in partnership with them to maximize the voice of local seniors.

This year the Scottish Government will convene a Scottish assembly of senior citizens, which is the first step in a campaign to get a parliament for senior citizens.

A new Arran Elderly Forum could play a part in shaping the future for Scottish Senior Citizens.



John McFaul and Pat Geddes of Kilmory with the 15 labrador and collie puppies.

Puppies galore!

It could almost be a scene from the much-loved children's classic '101 Dalmatians' but this is not a Disney film; it is a back garden in Kilmory.

For down the south end of the island two dog owners are celebrating the birth of 15 puppies.

John McFaul and his two bitches Storm the labrador and Skye a Border collie were mated with Pat Geddes' two male dogs Tam and Spud, and the result was 15 pups.

'Storm had eight pups on May 14,' explained John, 'then four days later Sky had seven. It's quite amazing.'

Two of the black labrador puppies have already been earmarked to be sent to someone in California and John said he will be keeping one of the labs for himself.

All of the other puppies are up for sale.



BBC One's 'Country Tracks' programme makers filming at Torylinn Creamery back in March.

Arran in the spotlight on BBC1

Torrylinn Creamery in Kilmory featured on BBC One's 'Country Tracks' programme on Sunday morning.

Torrylinn Creamery is the home of the award-winning Isle of Arran cheese, which is hand made in open vats using 100 per cent Arran milk.

The 'Country Tracks' series, visits different parts of the British Isles, unveiling the main attractions along the way.

The episode featured an adventurous journey

around Arran with Torrylinn creamery in the spotlight, with general manager Alex Home and cheese-maker Paul Murray demonstrating the art of cheese-making.

After having a go at making the local cheese, the presenter Joe Crowley also met with landscape photographer Charlie Waite and took a wild quad bike ride.

His journey ended on Holy Isle where he explored the little known Buddhist retreat.

Antiquarians enjoy history of music

Professor John Wallace OBE of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama gave May's lecture to the Brodick Antiquarians.

Although originally called 'The History of Brass Bands', professor Wallace said it was a history of the arts, not just brass bands.

Demonstrated

He said music speaks to us and demonstrated on a trumpet how it went from one note

to the full complexities of music.

The Academy was opened in 1847 and aimed at leading Scotland to pre-eminence in art, especially music.

Then he gave us a spectrum of life at the Academy and slides were shown all through his talk.

Music is very therapeutic and art makes people more 'human'.

He claimed that Italy's uni-

fication came about through music especially that of Verdi.

Some of the oldest music comes from Australian aboriginals and he played a wooden trumpet or 'didgeridoo' to demonstrate.

Industrial World

Music went round the industrial world via brass bands, for example, just three months after Nabucco opened in Milan it was played by an iron works brass band in Merthyr Tydfil.

Professor Wallace interspersed his talk with some wonderful trumpet playing and he finished by rendering some of 'Where are we' from Verdi's MacBeth.

An illustrated talk will be given by Alan Milligan of Brodick whose subject will be 'Were those the good old days?'

It will be in Brodick Hall at 2pm on Monday June 15.

Visitors and non-members are very welcome.

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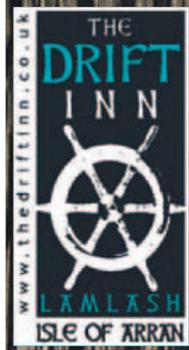
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Islanders flock to Ingliston show

Some of Arran's well-known gardening enthusiasts travelled to the 10th anniversary exhibition of Gardening Scotland at Ingliston in Edinburgh last Friday.

Twenty members of the Isle of Arran Horticultural Society attended the national gardening and outdoor living show, which is undoubtedly one of the most colourful and fragrant events of the year.

They were lucky enough to spot the Princess Royal in the crowd when she visited the exhibition on its opening day.

Anne McLean of Lamlash, secretary of the club, said: 'What a beautiful day it was. There were large crowds purchasing plants and stallholders apparently had record sales.'

'It was lovely to see Princess Anne going around, speaking to the exhibitors.'

'The Arran contingent returned home with many plants, it was a good day out.'

This year the show was not just a celebration of plants and flowers, there was a big emphasis on the 'Grow Your Own' phenomenon that's sweeping the country.

The spectacular floral displays are always impressive and this year they certainly didn't disappoint.



Award winning orchids at the Gardening Scotland exhibition.



The wonderful floral displays attract visitors from all over Scotland.



Neil McLean managed to get a photograph of Princess Anne who attended the exhibition that is marking its tenth year.



Fiona Crawford, Mary McNicol, Elaine Duncan and Alison Bilsland get a helping hand with their purchases.

Right: May McClelland, Sandra Hall and Anne McLean at the Gardening Scotland exhibition in Edinburgh.



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Archie was standing guard outside the Brodick coup last week but very few people got it right. Barry Dobson thought he was outside the fish farm at Kings Cross, a good guess but not quite close enough. The only person to get it right this week was one man on The Arran Banner's community forums, well done to Michael who correctly guessed where Archie was. Does anyone recognise those stone steps that Archie is sitting on this week? b23arc05



Private gardens open to the public

For avid gardeners and fans of the outdoors, last weekend was a dream come true as a whole host of private gardens were opened to the public for one day only.

The garden gates in Lochranza and Catacol were flung open to allow the public in to these inner sanctums.

Underneath glorious blue sky and bright summer sunshine the crowds flocked from garden to garden throughout the day.

Much needed funds were raised for the hall through the sale of tickets which not only allowed visitors to see the nine open gardens but also included a complimentary cream tea in the hall.

A vital facility to the northend of the island, the hall serves as a post office twice a week and saves elderly and infirm people the lengthy journey to Brodick to collect their pensions.

Kate Hartley, chairman of Lochranza and Catacol Vil-

lage Hall said: 'We have been blessed with fabulous weather for this event and I hope that people enjoyed looking around the gardens.'

'I know that everyone has put in a great deal of effort to get their gardens ready for today and all of that hard work has certainly paid off.'

The gardens at Strabane

House in Brodick, the home of Lady Jean Fforde, were also open to the public on Sunday as part of the National Garden Scheme.

The gardens that are tucked away off the beach in Brodick are wonderful with long sloping lawns, a walled garden and a beautiful selection of wonderful plants and shrubs.



The beautiful gardens at Strabane House, Brodick were open to the public on Sunday afternoon. b23ope05



Visitors flocked to Strabane House to see first hand the wonderful plants there. b23ope04



Doreen Cant in the garden at Rose Cottage, Lochranza with a beautiful Japanese Maple in leaf behind her. b23ope02



Kate Hartley in her garden at the Old Anchorage. Despite admitting to not being a great gardener, horticulture runs in Kate's family. In her great-grandfather's time, the gardens at the Anchorage attracted visitors from far and wide. b23ope03



Alan Mitchell and his wife Dorothy in their garden on Newton Shore, Lochranza. Behind them are the rubra grasses that attract a lot of attention from passing motorists. b23ope01

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Fresh from the sea

Harvesting has begun at Marine Harvest's Lamlash fish farm. A year after putting tiny smolts into the metal cages and five months after all the furore over the proposed expansion, grown fish, ready for the table are now leaving the fish farm.

A spokesman for the company said that the fish have done incredibly well in Lamlash Bay and are well above average size and quality.

Ingledeane re-opens

Open again for business this week is the Ingledeane Hotel in Sannox.

It has been closed since Ca-

lum and Susan McAllister Hall sold it earlier this year.

But in that time, new owners Dave and Irene Hodkin have been busy. They have converted the five self-catering flats back into six hotel rooms.

False start for hill race

The Goatfell race was held up on Saturday because the ferry was running late.

The reason for this was that the boat had been diverted on the way over to allow a short funeral service to take place, during which ashes were scattered.

New butcher for Brodick

Donald Mackay is to take over the butcher's shop in Brodick next week.

Donald, who is 27, has been working as a butcher with Watsons in Paisley but he is also the son of Peter Mackay, the island's HIBD man and attended Arran High School for part of his schooling when his dad was the police sergeant here.

Thomson sheds plant hire

John Thomson Construction Ltd is to shed its haulage and plant hire operation, which has traded under the name J Boal and Sons since the two companies merged about two years ago.

Stuart Yates of Kilmory who worked with Boals is buying this section from Thomsons but



Jean Bowden puts the finishing touches to the 'Fiddler on the Roof' billboard in the window of the Ardgowan. b22twe05



The weary toddlers from Brodick Playgroup who took part in a sponsored toddle around the village hall are pictured with their teacher Fiona Mutch. b22twe01

will continue to operate under the name Boal.

Blood Transfusion service visits

The Blood Transfusion Service paid its annual visit to Arran on Monday, setting up a temporary transfusion unit in Lamlash Community Centre.

By the end of the session at 8pm 127 pints of island blood had been collected. 'A very good response,' said Dr Nicola Salmond, one of the team of 13 from Law Hospital, Carlisle.

The qualities donated fell over the past few years due to ignorance and scare stories about AIDS but things are now improving.

'People now realise that the only blood that gets near the needles is their own,' said Dr Salmond.



Vivienne Keir and her horse Secret with the Glenscorradale Trophy that they won last Sunday for being best junior in the Arran Riding Club's cross country event. b22twe02

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ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER SC002089

SUNDAY 14th JUNE
from 1.30pm

CRAFTS DAY

Spinning and weaving, WRI quilting and rug-making demo, Shepherds crooks and wood turning, Gaelic waulking songs, mouth music and traditional dances by children, Butter making with scones and pancakes to taste, Isle of Arran Pipe Band, other musical entertainment, Tombola, and lots, lots more.

There's always something happening at Arran's 'must-see' Four Star attraction



Jane Miller can be found staffing the new Tourist information Centre in a small corner of Lochranza Pier tea-room throughout the summer season. b22twe03



Fiona Lambie with the new 'Auld Arran' whisky being marketed by Alistair Bilsland of Brodick under the name of the Kilbrannan Whisky Company Ltd. b22twe04

Arran's Social Scene

E-mail: editor@arranbanner.co.uk

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John Leckey, Jean Hunter, Barbara Leckey and Marion Logan. b23soc04



Jim Lees with brother Bill and his wife Marie. b23soc03



Rachel Choudhury with her mum Rachel Phillips of Sannox. b23soc02



Doreen and Joe Perkins from Sannox. b23soc07



Betty Kerr and Betty Sillars. b23soc05



Bill Lees has been holding an exhibition of his paintings in Corrie Hall for more than 20 years. b23b101



Eric Sillars and Moira Gray. b23soc06



Benjamin Choudhury with sisters Maya and Sophia. They are the grandchildren of Rachel Phillips of Sannox. b23soc01

Painting Exhibition

Well-known local painter Bill Lees held his annual exhibition of paintings in the Corrie and Sannox Village Hall last week.

Bill and his twin brother Bob have been exhibiting their work in Arran for more than 20 years and there will be more than one island home with a Lees picture hanging on their wall.

In the past exhibitions have been held at the Ingledene Hotel (now Sannox Bay) and in Corrie Hotel.

'We've had a great turnout

this week,' said Bill. 'It has been another successful exhibition and I've sold quite a few paintings.'

Vast Selection

Bill specialises in Arran landscapes and there was a vast selection of different scenes on display.

On Friday locals and visitors gathered in the hall for a 'Coffee and Pictures' morning.

Everyone agreed that Bill's work is superb and there was more than one eye on the lookout for a masterpiece.

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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Thur - General Knowledge Quiz - 10pm
Fri - Over 21's Disco - 10pm
Sat - Over 21's Disco 10pm
Sun - Country/Blues with string theory 9.30pm
Tue - Pop Quiz 10pm

Real Ale (Recommended CAMRA Good Beer Guide)

Arran's batting is unpicked slowly by Glasgow

Arran's cricketers played one of their toughest matches ever on one of the hottest days of the year so far when they played a team from Glasgow Accies on Sunday.

Conditions were brilliant at the Sannox Oval as Accies, who lost the toss, were put in to bat.

Sportingly, Accies had drawn their batting order from a hat and early successes for Dunn and Brookes in the third and the fourth overs with the wickets of Nag and Stodiqui, left Accies on a shaky 2 for 4 start.

Disciplined

The eighth over saw Pomeroy take a neat slip catch that sent Carrick packing for 0. Richard Andrews, Accies captain, looked disciplined from his arrival at the crease and put on 33 before being caught by Pomeroy at slip off Sannox skipper Chris Marriott's bowling.

Stuart Murray was bowled for 17 by Tony Brookes and both McLaughlin and Sadpute fell to Brookes in quick succession.

Brookes ended the Sannox bowling with a 'five-for', Five for 12 but Accies were steadily increasing their score.

Mishra put on another 23 before being bowled by Pomeroy and Murray added a useful 13 as Accies' overs ran out leaving the visitors with a total of 133



Despite the beautiful summer weather, Sannox were no match for the experienced Glasgow Accies side. b23san02

all out with only five balls left to bowl.

Sannox catches were dropped

and mis-fields blemished the recent Sannox form in the field.

Undoubtedly, had the catches been held and the boundaries not allowed through, the match complexion would have changed, as it happened, perhaps not radically.

Tony Brookes and Martin McCartney opened the batting for Sannox and initially looked a sound prospect.

They were over the asking rate by the time McCartney fell in the seventh over to Sadpute's medium pace swing.

Michael Jenks came in at number three and sadly left with no score.

Hopes

Jonathan May, local hero of recent matches, raised hopes at number four but only briefly, being bowled by Murray for one.

Tony Brookes was still battling away for his 20 before McLaughlin tipped his bails in the ninth over.

Another Sannox junior Dan Brobson added a couple before being caught behind but it was a partnership between Martin Kemp and Sannox's third junior, Jake Leese that gave Sannox a glimmer of hope as the middle order attempted to put the Accies bowling attack under wraps.

The partnership put on 29 before Kemp 16, was caught

behind off the varied pace of Nag.

There then followed a sorry procession of batsmen who should have done so much better before traipsing their way out and back for no gain.

Like four roped - mountaineers, pulled down by the momentum of the first one to fall, the last of the Sannox batting order was last seen careering off down the score sheet. Pomeroy, Beardsley, Marriott and Dunn could rightly hang their heads in shame at the quality of their performance.

It was not a demolition by a fiendishly-fast bowling attack but the steady unpicking of a garment by seemingly innocuous flighted slow bowling.

Homework

That homework will have to be done is an understatement. Sannox ended 69 all out.

Practise night is Thursday at Sannox Oval from 6pm and all newcomers, visitors or returning players are welcome.

Sannox would especially welcome any more juniors to their ranks. No experience is needed just enthusiasm. Coaching and advice are given in a friendly manner and all playing kit is provided. Phone 600287 for more details.



Sannox Cricket Club's junior cricketers; Dan Brobson, Jake Leese and Michael Jenks. b23san01

Arran voted perfect place for island escape

People from all across the UK have selected Arran as one of the perfect places for a British island escape.

In a YouGov survey of 2,276 adults from all over Britain, 14 per cent chose the varied and picturesque group of islands that include Arran, Skye, Islay and Mull as their number one destination.

The coordinating author of the new Lonely Planet Guide to Great Britain, David Else, is currently on holiday on Arran. He said: 'The islands are described in our new guide as a great area to visit so we're really pleased that they are getting the recognition that they deserve. With more Brits holidaying at home this year, and many people keen to try somewhere off the beaten track, these islands' popularity may be about to take off.'

Philip Riddle, VisitScotland's chief executive said: 'This is a great boost for the islands on the west coast of Scotland. They have so much to offer - dramatic scenery and wildlife, fantastic food and lots of activities for all ages from walking to wildlife and adventure sports.'

'With more people staying at home for their holidays due to the current economic climate, there has never been a better time to explore the islands and experience something unique.'

Midsummer ceilidh dance

In recognition of the vital role played by the North Arran First Responders, a ceilidh is being organised to raise funds for the volunteer emergency service.

The Corrie and Sannox Wednesday Club will be holding the dance on June 19 in Corrie Village Hall from 7.30pm to 11pm.

There will be something for everyone from Scottish ceilidh and tea dances to ballroom 'experts' and good music.

Come along to this wee bit of mid-summer madness and help a very worthy cause.

Tickets cost £4 and all money raised from ticket sales will go to the volunteer emergency service and a finger buffet will be provided.


BAR EDEN
 Tel 700357
Naked Sunday
 PLAYING LIVE
Saturday 6th June 9.30pm - 12.45am
 Strictly over 18's - ID will be requested

MID SUMMER CEILIDH DANCE
Friday 19th June 7.30pm - 11.30pm
 Disc music by Ian Muir
 Finger buffet - B.Y.O.B
 Dancers/Non dancers £4
 Children - Donations

BANNER**WHAT'S ON...****EVERYDAY**

Brodick Castle, Gardens & Country Park
Trout fishing
Hawk Walks
Fitness Assessments, Gym Induction, Personal Training
Arran Heritage Museum, Rosaburn, Brodick

11am - 4pm
 Loch Garbad, Boat or Bank
 Lamlash
 Auchrannie Spa & Gym
 10.30am - 4.30pm

SATURDAY 6th JUNE

Blackwaterfoot Junior Football
Arran Dancers, Ballet & Jazz, 3 - 18years
Karate
Learn to Salsa
Family Games Kids & Adults
Fun in the Spa Pool
Over 21s Disco
Brodick Bowling Club, Rink Game
Lamlash Bowling Club, Rink Game
RNLI Shop Open
Quiz
Hillbilly Golf Competition
Clr Currie Surgery
Live Music - Naked Sunday

Coaching, 10.30am - noon
 Arran High School 10am - 4pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
 KA Campus, 9.30am - 10.30am
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
 Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
 The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 2pm
 2pm
 Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
 Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm
 Butterhill, Kilmory, From 1.30pm
 Brodick Library, 1pm - 2pm
 Bar Eden, 9.30pm

SUNDAY 7th JUNE

Alcoholics Anonymous
Family Games Kids & Adults
Fun in the Spa Pool
Arran Fiddle Club- Childrens Classes
Arran War Games
Folk Session
Folk Festival Open Session
RNLI Shop Open

St Margarets Church, Whiting Bay, 4.30pm
 Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
 Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
 Library Annexe, 1.45pm
 Arran High School 1 - 4pm
 Kildonan Hotel, 9.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 1.30pm & 7.30pm
 Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm

MONDAY 8th JUNE

Senior Fitness
Over 50's Badminton
Badminton
Cardiac Rehab
Circuit Training
Citizens Advice
AB Attack
Aerobics Class
Weight Wise
Netball
Folk Session
Summer Bridge
Brodick Bowling Club, Rink Game
Kilmory Wildlife Viewing Camera
Folk Festival Open Session

Auchrannie 10am & 11am (Gym)
 Lochranza Village Hall 2pm - 4pm
 Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
 Auchrannie Gym 12.30pm - 2pm
 Auchrannie Spa, 6pm - 7.15pm (Gym)
 Open 10am - 2pm
 KA Leisure, fitness suite 6.30pm - 6.50pm
 KA Leisure, dance studio, 6pm - 7pm
 Hospital Bungalow, 5pm - 5.30pm
 High School Sports Hall - Juniors 7pm - 8pm - Seniors 8pm - 9pm
 Kildonan Hotel, 9pm
 High School, 6.45pm
 6.45pm
 Kilmory Hall, 10am - 5pm
 Kildonan Hotel, 1.30pm

TUESDAY 9th JUNE

Lochranza Swimming Club
Pop Quiz
Arran Civic Trust
Legs Bums & Tums
Army Cadets
Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Citizens Advice
Pulmonary Rehab
Open Music Session
Indoor Bowling
Brodick Toddler Group
Body Conditioning Class
Youth Club
Senior Fitness
Open Folk Session

Kinloch 11am - 12pm
 The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Ormidale Pavillion 7.30pm
 Auchrannie Spa 6pm - 7pm (Studio)
 Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
 Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Brodick Church Hall - 2pm
 Open 10am - 2pm 4 - 6pm (Appointment Only)
 Auchrannie Gym 12pm - 1pm (Gym)
 Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm
 Auchrannie Hall, 7pm
 Church Hall, 10am - 12pm
 KA Leisure, dance studio 6pm - 7pm
 Kildonan Hall - 6pm
 Auchrannie, 10am - 11am
 Bar Eden, 9.30pm

Folk Festival Open Session
Rotary Club
Kilmory Wildlife Viewing Camera

Catacol Bay Hotel, 1.30pm
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
 Kilmory Hall, 10am - 5pm

WEDNESDAY 10th JUNE

Hockey
Core Strength
Jnr Rugby Training
Shiskine Beavers
Aquafizz
Circuit Training
Yogalates
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy
Kickboxing
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Rugby Club Seniors Training
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Whiting Bay Toddler Group
Lamlash Beaver Scouts
Selt Making Class
Brodick Bowling Club, Rink Game
Coffee Morning
Lamlash Bowling Club, Rink Game
Kilmory Wildlife Viewing Camera
Folk Festival Open Session
Ceilidh with The Boguille Band

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm (Games Hall)
 Auchrannie 5.30 - 6pm
 P4 - S4 Ormidale Park, 6pm - 7.15pm
 Shiskine Hall, 6pm - 7.15pm
 Auchrannie Hotel, 9.45am - 10.30am (Hotel Pool)
 Auchrannie, 6pm - 7.15pm (Gym)
 Auchrannie Studio, 10am - 11am (Studio)
 10.30 - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 3.30pm
 KA Leisure, dance studio, 6pm - 7pm
 Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm - 9pm
 Ormidale Park, 7.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm
 Village Hall 10am - 12pm
 High School, 6.15pm - 7.15pm
 Shipfield, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
 6.45pm
 Lamlash Church Hall, 10.30am - 12pm
 7pm
 Kilmory Hall, 10am - 5pm
 Lagg Hotel, 1.30pm
 Kilmory Hall, 7.30pm

THURSDAY 11th JUNE

Senior Fitness
General Knowledge Quiz
Citizens Advice
Lochranza Craft Club
Pilates
Coffee Morning
Cardiac Rehab
Table Tennis
KA Jog
Legs, Bums & Tums Class
Arran Junior Singers Practise
Shiskine Cubs
Scouts
Brodick Toddler Group
Indoor Bowling
Junior Tennis
Cricket Practice
Folk Festival Open Session
Kilmory Wildlife Viewing Camera
Live Music - Moses

Auchrannie 10am - 11am
 The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Open 10am - 2pm
 Hall, 2pm
 Auchrannie Studio, 6pm - 7pm
 St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
 Auchrannie Gym 2pm - 3pm
 Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm
 KA Leisure, front reception 5.30pm
 KA Leisure, gameshall, 6.30pm - 7.15pm
 Whiting Bay School 6.45pm
 Shiskine Hall, 6.30pm - 8pm
 Shiskine Hall 8pm - 9.30pm
 Church Hall, 10am - 12pm
 Auchrannie Hall 7pm
 Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, 5pm - 7pm
 Sannox Oval, 6pm
 McLaren Hotel, 1.30pm
 Kilmory Hall, 10am - 5pm
 Brodick Hall, 7.30pm

FRIDAY 12th JUNE

Arran Pipe Band Practice
Aquafizz
Citizens Advice
Quiz
Adult Tennis
Yogalates
Over 21's Disco
Foundations at the Cabin
Kilmory Wildlife Viewing Camera
Folk Festival Open Session
Esther O'Connor in concert

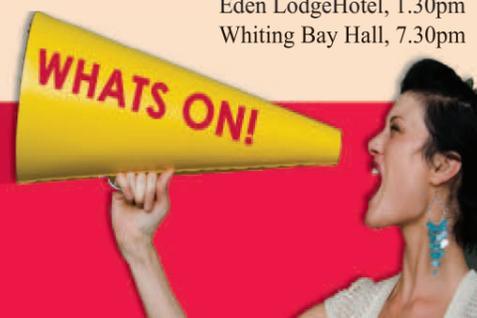
Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
 Auchrannie Pool, 9.45am - 10.30am
 Open 10am - 2pm
 Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm
 Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, 4.00pm - 6.30pm
 Auchrannie 10am - 11am
 The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
 Brodick, 7pm - 9pm
 Kilmory Hall, 10am - 5pm
 Eden Lodge Hotel, 1.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7.30pm

SATURDAY 13th JUNE

Centenary Trophy
A Swan For The 21st Century
Folk Festival Open Session
Luansa in concert

Brodick Bowling Club, 2pm
 Whiting Bay & Kildonan Church Hall, 7.30pm
 Eden Lodge Hotel, 1.30pm
 Whiting Bay Hall, 7.30pm

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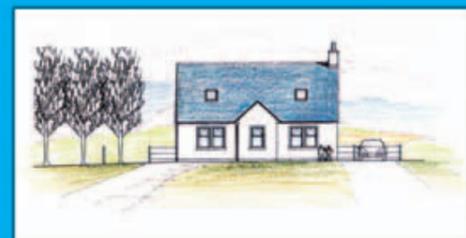
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BANNER

PUBLIC NOTICES

Kenneth Gibson MSP

Surgeries will be held on the following dates, venues and times.

No appointment necessary

Monday 8th June	Whiting Bay Village Hall	11.30-12.30
	Shiskine Village Hall	13.30-14.30
	Brodick Health Centre	15.30-16.30

To contact Kenneth outside these times, please contact his constituency office: 15 Main Street, Dalry, KA24 5DL
Tel: 01294 833 687 Fax: 01294 835 662
Email: Kenneth.gibson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk



SURGERY NOTICES

Councillor Peter McNamara

(Ward 5 - Ardrossan Et Arran)
will consult on the 1st Saturday of every month in Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick, Arran between 11.00 a.m. and 12 noon commencing on Saturday 6th June 2009.



Councillor Margie Currie

(Ward 5 - Ardrossan Et Arran)
will be available for consultation on Saturday 6th June 2009 and Saturday 1st August 2009 in the Public Library, Shore Road, Brodick, Isle of Arran between 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m.



Councillor Currie, however, will NOT be available for consultation during July 2009.

Ian Snodgrass
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

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01294 461554

MEMORIALS

GREEN
 Ralston, a dear husband, dad and papa Ral. Died 5th June 2008 Much loved and always remembered.
 Margaret, Susan, Anne and families.

Minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am
 Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service.
 Service at Cooriedoon at 2.30pm
 Craigielea at 3.15pm

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 (in full communion with the Church of England)
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.

Sunday 7 June
 Holy Communion, 11.00 am.
 Mrs Janis Gallagher
 Coffee after service.
Wednesday 10 June
 Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
 All Welcome.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 Kilmory linked with Lamlash
 "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 7 June
 Rev. Gillean Maclean
 Kilmory 10am
 Lamlash 11.30am
 In both Churches
 All welcome, including families, children's area

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)
 Communion Services
Sunday 7 June
 11am, Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
 Evening Service, 5 Glen Road, 7pm
 Prayer Meeting
 Wednesday 10th, 7pm
 Rev. D. Macleod
 All welcome.

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH.
Sunday 7 June
 10.45 Communion
 Tea and coffee from 11.10
 11.30 Worship and Word
 Speaker: Rev Willie Wright
 All welcome.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quakers)
 will hold a meeting for Worship on
Sunday 7 June
 11am
 Balmichael Bridge Cottage, Shiskine
 Enquiries to Jeny 302779

CHURCH NOTICES

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine.
Independent but working together.
Minister
 Rev Angus Adamson.
Parish Asst
 Mrs Jean Hunter.
 Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times, to which all are invited
Sunday 7 June
 Brodick Church 10.30am
 Corrie Church 12pm.
 Lochranza 9.30am
 Pirmill 10.45am
 Shiskine 12pm Sacrament of Baptism
 A service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 7 June
 (Church is on the road between Machrie & Blackwaterfoot)
 Shiskine 11am
 Sunday School meets in the Church Hall
 Brodick 7pm (Church is behind Post Office)
 Rev David Karoon
 All welcome

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Vigil Mass, 7.30pm
 Sunday Morning Mass 11am
 Mass in Polish 4.30pm

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH
Sunday 7 June
 Worship will be conducted by the

PERSONALS

On Sunday May 10th my mum, Ruth Russell, celebrated her 100th birthday and boy did we have a party. This could not have taken place without the help of many people to whom I would like to convey my heartfelt thanks.

To Alistair Hume for playing the bagpipes, Christine for the superb cake, John Sillars for his wonderful speech, Alistair Grassie for his lovely presentation of the Queens' telegram to Arran Homes, North Ayrshire Council, Brodick School and a great big thanks to Rosie and Kate plus the lady who printed the song sheets, what starts they are. A very special thank you to staff and pupils at Corrie School for coming to wish mum a Happy Birthday and for the beautiful cards that they made, their entertainment was outstanding.

Many thanks to all who attended and for their donation to Hearing Dogs for the Deaf, £330 being the final total.

To my family who kept me sane on the big day and of course to Harry who presented great grandma with her birthday cake. Thanks to my son Gordon who videoed the whole event as he was unfortunately omitted from the first article.

Love to all
 Ruth

Well done to Melanie Whitlow (nee Stranger) on completing the Edinburgh Marathon and raising 16,000 rand for the Angus Buchanan orphanage in South Africa

BANNER PERSONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Lamlash Golf Club

Lamlash Ladies Golf Competitions: The ladies played their Medal Finals on Sunday May 24 in beautiful weather, Ellie Jones won with a 67.

Unfortunately on Monday the Josie Sanderson had to be postponed once again due to very bad weather. This has now been arranged for Sunday August 30 from 2.30pm.

Wednesday May 27, Fleet (2) and first round of the Championship. 1 Morag Gardner 79-17=62, 2 Elizabeth Sinclair 79-15=64, 3 Cath McAdam 85-20=65, scratch Ellie Jones 78.

Gents: Sunday May 31, first round of the Hastings Cup 16 played. Glorious day some excelling with the condition of the course following the Championship final.

Scratch G Andrew with a 68, 1 G Andrew 68-9=59, 2 E Evans 69-6=63 (Scratch sweep)

3 S Cameron 72-7=65. There was one magic two from E Evans at the 16th.

Thursday May 28, Seniors event, off yellow tees, six played.

1 D Crawford 76-16=60, 2 WI Paul 84-21=63. One magic two from P MacKay at the 16th.

Summer Cup 19 played, scratch Iain Murchie with a fine 65. 1 M Wren 73-11=62 BIH, .

2 Iain Murchie 65-3=62, 3 N McIntyre 74-9=65. There were six magic twos from T Jameson at the 5th and 16th, D Macfarlane 4th and 16th, G Andrew at the 16th and Iain Murchie at the 13th.

Fixtures: Every Thursday Seniors game and Summer Cup arranging times with starter.

Tuesday June 9 AGA. Junior

Kelso Cup at Brodick Golf Club.

Sunday June 7, Hamilton Bowl 9.30am and 1pm.

Brodick Golf Club

Tuesday May 26, St Elmo Cup, 24 played, CSS 70. 1 Lesley Murray (28)70, 2 Janette McBride (23)71, 3 Margaret McKay (18)72 BIH.

Scratch Shirley Anderson 85. Magic twos from Shirley Anderson, Fiona Crawford and June Richardson.

Wednesday May 27, Summer Cup, 47 played, CSS 64. 1 A McNicol (8)60, 2 M Dobson (14)61, 3 J Armit (6)61, scratch J Armit 67 (BIH from G McCrae and D Roxburgh).

There were 12 twos, E Thompson, D Roxburgh and I MacMillan all got two.

Sunday May 31, Sweep, 15 played, CSS 64. 1 B Jenkins (10)60, 2 D McKinnie (11)61, 3 A Dobson (7)65, scratch E McKinnon 67.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday May 27, 1 S Beardsley 64-7=57, 2 R Logan 67-6=61.

Saturday May 30, Stableford, 1 E McKinnon 41pts, 2 R Logan 37pts, 3 M Macdonald 35 pts.

Fixtures: Friday June 5, Club Championship and Non Qualifiers Semi Finals from 5pm.

Saturday June 6, Summer Cup, tee off 9am and 1pm. Friday June 14, Club Championship and Non Qualifiers Finals, tee off 6pm.

Whiting Bay Golf Club
Wednesday May 27, another good turnout of 31 players played in the latest round of the Summer Trophy, SSS 63, CSS 63.

1 Ronnie Mann (13)60, 2 Bob Hastings (15)62, 3 Jamie MacPherson (5)64 BIH, 4 Danny Head (5)64. Malcolm Pennycott won scratch with 66 and there were magic twos from Gordon Provan, Gus McLeod, Jamie MacPherson, Danny Head and David Morrison.

Sunday May 22, 22 played in the second round of the McKelvie Cup. The winner of the second round and overall winner was John Simmons (16)58, 2nd was Dave Hackett (24)61, 3 Jamie MacPherson (5)62 BIH and 4th Danny head (5)62.

It was a very good day for Jamie as he also won scratch with a 67 and had three magic twos! David Morrison also had a magic two.

Fixtures: Sunday June 7, Medal. Monday June 8 and Tuesday June 9, Whiting Bay Seniors Open. (Play both days or either day, best score to count.) Wednesday June 10, JC Reid semi-finals and Summer Trophy. Thursday June 11, Club Championship semi finals.

Arran Golfers Association

There has been a change to the Junior Kelso Cup dates. The new dates are now: semi-final, Tuesday June 9 at 5.30pm, final on Friday June 12 at 5.30pm.

Draw: Lamlash v Whiting Bay, Shiskine v Brodick.

Island Thomson Cup dates, second round to be played by June 7.

Semi-final and final on the June 14 June 1pm and 5.30 pm at Corrie.

Shiskine Golf Club

Wednesday May 27, Club Championship Qualifier III.

1 Peter Carne 77-12=65, 2 Graham Andrew 76-9=67 BIH, 3 Graham Martlew 80-13=.

Best Scratch Hamish Bannatyne 72.

Magic twos from Donald Logan (12th), Alan Napier (3rd), DK Henderson (3rd),

Brian Sherwood (4th) and W McTaggart (15th).

Fixtures: Wednesday June 10, Dr Adam Cup. Thursday June 11, Mary Craig Trophy.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday May 26 Lady Mary/Peter Sutton. 1 Mark Sherwood 68 BIH, 2 Hamish Bannatyne 68, 3 Jenni Turnbull 70. Scratch and two Hamish Bannatyne 72.

Fixtures: Saturday June 6, Duncan Sillars and Gents second round Club Championship 1pm tee-off. Monday June 8, Gents Q Final Club Championship 5.30pm tee-off. Tuesday June 9, Ladies 2nd Round Club Championship Qualifier and Gents Peter Sutton 12.30pm/5.30pm tee-off. Thursday June 11, Presidents Cup Quarter Finals Gents 5.30pm tee-off.



Iain Murchie defeated Dougie Macfarlane to be crowned the 2009 Lamlash Golf Club champion on Sunday. b23gol01

Iain is Lamlash champion

A new champion was crowned at Lamlash Golf Club on Sunday when Iain Murchie defeated Douglas Macfarlane to take the coveted trophy.

Blessed with a super day and a course that was in good order, the match was destined to be a great one.

In the end it was Dougie Macfarlane the defending champion who made a few unforced errors.

During the first 18 holes Iain played the best and most consistent golf shooting 64 scratch

to Dougie's 68 to be three up at the half way stage.

When the match resumed Iain won the first two to go 5 up.

Dougie swiftly responded to repair the damage but no matter what he tried could not reduce the afternoon score.

The evening game was all-square with both scoring 62 for the holes completed so Iain took the championship title by 3+2 over 36 holes.

Arran Junior Football

The Arran junior Football Club were scheduled to play Mossspark on Saturday June 6 but unfortunately the mainland team have had to pull out due to league commitments.

Players should still meet at 12pm for some training and matches.

A smaller group of players will be taken for games in Tarbert the following week.

Players wishing to be considered for the trip to Tarbert should make sure that they take part in the session this Saturday.

Free netball coaching session in sports hall

The newly formed Arran Netball Club that meets on Monday evenings in the High School Sports Hall has invited two qualified coaches over to provide a fun introduction to the game on Monday June 8.

Come along and learn something new or refresh your knowledge of the game.

From 7pm until 8pm youngsters from Primary 4 to Primary 7 can come long with a parent or guardian.

High school students and adults will have their own

coaching session from 8-9pm.

Netball is a non-contact team sport originating from the United States that is similar to, and derived from, basketball.

Invented in 1895 by Clara Gregory Baer, a pioneer in women's sport, netball is now pre-eminently played as a women's team sport in Australia and New Zealand and is popular in the West Indies, Sri Lanka, and Britain.

Over 20 million people play netball in more than 70 countries worldwide.



BANNERFORUM
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Bridge tournament every Monday

There will be a weekly bridge tournament every Monday throughout the spring and summer for locals and visitors alike.

Every Monday until the end of September the club will meet at Arran High School in Lamlash at 6.30pm for 6.45pm.

If you would like to play but do not have a partner phone 600900 as far in advance as possible.

The results of the tournament on June 1 are N/S: 1 T Martin and D Hamilton, 2 E McNiven and M Gardner, 3 I McArthur and L McKellar.

E/W 1 M Bruce and D Bruce, 2 L Robertson and J Barclay, 3 A Carr and H Boyd.

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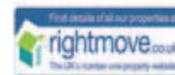
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Murrayfield success for rugby girls

Arran Rugby Club's under 18 girls team won a nationwide competition at Murrayfield in Edinburgh on Sunday afternoon.

A pool of 12 girls was required for each match so the under 15s joined with Crieff and the under 18s with girls from Argyll.

The under 15s played well against strong opposition narrowly missing out on a victory while the older player became a formidable team and won all of their games.

Points were awarded for a win, lose or draw and for fair play on the pitch. No team knew how many points they had been awarded for each game until the results were announced at 4pm.

The girls were awarded a medal each and a silver salver for the winning teams.

Each winning team was then invited to play in the main stadium just before the Scotland v South Africa semi final of the international sevens competition.

Young players, Lynn and Hazel Ramage, said: 'Unfortunately due to restrictions placed on us by the CalMac sailing times we had to



The under 18 girls team: Shauna Jameson, Hazel Ramage, Jenna Wood and Kirsty McBain – with their medals at Murrayfield on Sunday.

leave and missed out on this great opportunity.

'Although disappointed we joined the parade earlier inside the stadium, and made new friends.'

The girls also met the Scotland team and internationals players from other countries.

'It was a wonderful experience,' said the girls. 'Thank you to Paul,

Janet, Fiona, Isabel and Bert for all the organisation involved though he was unable to attend, and Kilmory Community bus, with whom we could never have gone.'



Niall McMaster is awarded the rugby player of the season award by Howard Driver of *The Arran Banner*. b23rug01

Niall is top player

Niall McMaster of Shannochie picked up the Isle of Arran Rugby Club *Arran Banner's* player of the season award at the rugby club's annual general meeting last Wednesday night.

The new trophy is a gift to the club from the newspaper and will be awarded each year to the player deemed to have played the best in the most individual matches throughout the season.

Niall was one of three players who were up for the award but in the end it was the constant danger that he posed to the opposition on the pitch that secured him the coveted trophy.

Niall is one of Arran's top try scorers of the past season and his pace and power have played a key part in Arran's rise up the rankings.

As vice-captain to the senior squad, Niall has proved an inspirational leader for Arran on the pitch – and in the pub too!

'Thank you very much for this award,' said the man himself – relatively few words from one of Arran's most boisterous players.

Congratulations Niall, you deserve it!

Bert stands down as senior rugby coach



Bert Ramage, pictured here in the white shirt, has been a familiar site on the touch line at Arran's rugby games for many years now. b23ber01

Bert Ramage resigned as Arran's senior rugby coach on Wednesday night at the club's annual general meeting.

Anne Tattersfield, secretary of Isle of Arran Rugby Club accepted Bert's resignation and said: 'I think we all want to thank Bert for his contribution and efforts to the team and we wish him well for the future.'

Anne also congratulated the senior team on another great season and wished them well for their second year in the higher division.

Bert Ramage has been involved with the island's rugby club for many years both as a player and a coach.

It was under his leadership

last year that the senior squad graduated to the second division after a nail-biting final game of the season at the Ormidale Park in Brodick.

At the AGM on Wednesday night, Murray Picken, the captain of the senior squad tried to persuade Bert to stay on but it was to no avail.

Chris Marriott and Iain MacDonald have been appointed senior coaches and will take over from Bert at the beginning of the new season.

Bert also coached the girls but this will now be done by Paul Jameson of Lamlash.

'I would like to thank all the senior players and all the girls for their hard work that they

have put in this year and I wish Chris and Iain all the best with the seniors and Paul with the girls,' said Bert. 'I'd also like to thank Liusaidh McMaster for my cake.'

Other new appointments made at the AGM include the election of Murray Boal as president and Bill McLaughlin as vice-president and new subscriptions representative Ben Tattersfield.

Gerald Tattersfield will continue to coach under 16s team and his wife Anne has agreed to stay on as secretary for another year.

Andy Ingham was voted in again as acting treasurer until Margo Wheeler is able to resume the post of treasurer.

Whiting Bay Golf Club
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