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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 29 AUGUST, 2009

No 1715 52p

Police accused of 'not smiling enough'

School welcomes a third generation

Three generations of Thomas Gilmores stood at the door of Brodick Primary last week as the youngest prepared for his very first day at school.

Little Thomas Gilmore is the son of Tom Gilmore and the grandson of Tommy Gilmore from the Ormidale Hotel.

He is the third generation of the family to attend the school and dad and grandpa both agreed that much has changed since their school days.

Tommy Gilmore, aged 60, started at the school when he was four in 1953.

'The first headmaster I had was Mr Brodie and then he was replaced by Mr Mowatt,' said Tommy. 'He was a nice man but as was the fashion of the day the discipline was pretty harsh. We were all belted when we did something wrong. I remember being belted on several occasions.'

Although corporal punishment had been outlawed by the time Tom, aged 30, went to primary school in 1984, he vividly remembers getting a clip around the ear.

'If you were bad then the teacher would quite often skelp you across



Tommy Gilmore, right, with his son Tom and grandson Thomas at Brodick Primary School last week. 01_b35tom01

the head,' he said. 'It was just what the teachers did to make you pay attention.'

'There were a lot of changes in the classroom when I was at school,' said Tom. 'When I was in P5 I remember us being shown the school's first computer. One pupil a day was allowed to have a go on it even although all you could do was play a game called Drover.'

Both dad and grandpa agreed

that school seems much more interactive these days.

'Thomas comes home with so many pieces of paper, showing us what he has done at school. We didn't seem to have that in our day,' said Tom.

After his first week little Thomas appears to be settling in well. When The Banner asked what he enjoyed most, he replied: 'I like drawing the patterns.'

By JENNIFER LYON

Arran's senior police officer has rejected claims that 'over-aggressive policing' has resulted in a loss of public confidence in the island's force.

This week officers came under attack for allegedly:

- pointing their fingers
- not smiling
- and even 'wearing their hats aggressively'

Sergeant Bob MacKay maintained the calm of an experienced officer as he came under attack on Tuesday night – from a retired police inspector.

The retired officer, Campbell Laing, was speaking in his capacity as chairman of Arran Community Council.

At a meeting of the council Mr Laing suggested that there was a problem with the attitude of police on the island.

'People are telling me that the hostile nature of the police and their finger pointing attitude is unwelcome,' he said.

'You know what my background is and I do not think this aggressive style of policing is justified. How hard would it be for your officers to smile?'

Mr Laing also suggested that island officers were in danger of creating the wrong impression with 'the aggressive way they wear their hats'.

At a previous meeting, Mr Laing has also raised the issue of 'over-aggressive policing'.

Complaints were also made by councillors about the 'heavy' police presence at Brodick Pier during ferry times.

Charles Currie, community councillor for Shiskine, compared one of

Officers are also criticised for 'wearing their hats aggressively'

Arran's police officers to an 'SS guard welcoming the tourists to the island'.

Defending his officers, Sergeant MacKay said he knew his personnel well and he could not see an aggressive side to their natures.

'Our job is not to welcome the tourists to the island,' he said. 'We are present when every ferry comes in because we have a job to police this island and make sure that it is a safe place to spend a holiday. We are also a uniformed organisation, but the uniform is not designed to look aggressive.'

Sergeant MacKay added that this was the first time it had been suggested to him that islanders had a wary attitude about the police.

'If people come directly to me with complaints then I will do all that I can to sort it out. I can't work from second hand information,' he said.

Councillor Margie Currie said: 'I have been given assurances that Inspector Ness – Sgt MacKay's senior officer – is very happy with the policing on Arran.'

'I think the argument here is getting taken out of context. The results of the policing on Arran are continually improving and I don't think Sgt MacKay can be criticised.'



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Police files

Fixed penalty

A 30-year-old man from Glasgow was issued with a fixed penalty notice last Thursday when he was caught with no car tax.

On the same day, an 18-year-old Lamlash male was given a fixed penalty for driving without due care and attention.

Drugs

A 23 year-old man was arrested in the Shiskine area last Friday night after he was found to be in possession of controlled drugs. A report has been sent to the procurator fiscal.

Drink driving

A 61 year-old man from Merseyside was stopped for drink driving late on Friday night in Lamlash. Police are awaiting the results of the blood tests.

Car accident

A car was involved in an accident on Shore Road in Whiting Bay on Sunday afternoon. All occupants managed to get out of the vehicle but had sustained minor injuries.

Seatbelt safety

Three drivers were issued with fixed penalty notices for not wearing their seatbelts last Thursday morning. A 55-year-old Corrie man was stopped in Lamlash, a 56-year-old woman from Lamlash was caught and a 50-year-old man from Yorkshire.

On Monday morning three more motorists were stopped for the same offence; a 66-year-old Lamlash man, a 19-year-old woman from Lamlash and a 32-year-old man also from Lamlash.

This was part of a nationwide crackdown on seatbelt wearing.

Speeding

Early on Tuesday morning four drivers were caught speeding in Brodick. A 54-year-old woman from Shiskine was issued with a ticket at 7.25am before a 45-year-old Corrie woman was caught at 7.45am. At 10.25am a 51-year-old Lamlash man was caught and minutes later a 45-year-old man from Birmingham was stopped.

Boy killed by train

A teenage boy died after falling from a bridge and being struck by a train travelling to Ardrossan Harbour on Sunday afternoon.

It is believed the 14-year-old was with friends when he fell through overhead electrical wires near Hillington West sta-

tion in Glasgow. British Transport Police said the train driver had seen someone on the track but was unable to stop in time.

An investigation is under way.

The train that meets the 4.40pm sailing from Brodick was cancelled.



Jacqueline Gosz on stage in Wisconsin, reading the Banner in a play. b34pla01

Arran Banner makes debut in American stage play

The Arran Banner finds its way to all corners of the world and we continue to receive many photographs of local folk on holiday reading a copy of their favourite newspaper.

Now we hear about the Banner being used as a prop in a stage play in the United States.

John and Jean Fitzpatrick of Sliderry recently had friends visiting them from Milwaukee. These friends were involved in the production of Alan Ayckbourn's play 'Communicating Doors' at Concordia University, Wisconsin.

John said: 'In one scene of the play they needed a Brit-

ish newspaper, so our friend Graeme Reid took a copy of the Banner back home with him.'

The play was performed over six nights and the lead part of Jessica was played by Jacqueline Gosz. In each performance, in the scene of the night of her honeymoon Jessica is sat on a couch reading the Arran Banner.

Communicating Doors was written by Alan Ayckbourn in 1994 and is described as a hilarious combination of bedroom farce, heart-warming thriller and silly fantasy.

Summer ceilidh success

The final Summer Family Ceilidh in Brodick Hall took place on Wednesday night.

Attendance has increased throughout the season and Brodick Improvements Committee have been overwhelmed by the number of people packing into the hall.

Harry Davidson, secretary of the improvements committee, said: 'Visitors to the island, as well as many locals who brought their visiting families, have had a memorable, entertaining and sometimes exhausting time dancing to the music of the Famous String Road Potholes Band.'

To allow the dancers to rest the visitors were entertained by the dancing of Fiona Clark, Heather Snowdon, accompanied by piper Ian Clark.

Brodick Improvements Committee wish to thank Lucy and her band of musicians for the success of the ceilidhs, as well as their sponsors, Isle of Arran Distillery, the Co-op and North Ayrshire Council.

They hope to repeat the experience next summer.

Waiting time cut

Arran MSP Kenneth Gibson has welcomed new figures from the Scottish government which show a dramatic reduction in waiting times for cancer patients in NHS Ayrshire and Arran.

Between January and March 2009, 95.6 percent of patients diagnosed with cancer were treated within 62 days of urgent referral. This compares to a figure of 87.1 percent for the health board in the same period of 2007, before the election of the Scottish government.

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Seaplane tickets to be won

After a recent raffle the Lochranza and Catacol Sea Society has been given its seaplane tickets back for further fund raising.

A ticket for two for a scenic flight on the Loch Lomond seaplane is up for grabs.

Please submit your bid by Friday September 4 to secretary of the society, Julie Graham, Hillcrest, Lochranza, Isle of Arran KA27 8HL or e-mail julia74@btinternet.com.

Highest bidder will win. All proceeds to the Lochranza and Catacol Sea Society.

Dougie is a Fringe hit

An Arran based stand-up comedian who left his job as a barman at the Auchrannie to do a 24-day run at the Edinburgh Festival is effectively going from one hotel to another.

Dougie Hastings of Corriegills has been performing his one-man comedy show *Apocalypse Wow* at the Fringe and has been added to the cast of what could potentially be a hit show.

'I'm going from one hotel to another, in sorts, after leaving my post as barman at Auchrannie to join *The Hotel*,' said Dougie. 'It's an incredible idea for a show and is directed by one of the nation's top comedians, Mark Watson.'

The show has literally taken over a disused hotel in Edinburgh and converted it into a comedy installation.

A cast of over 35 of the most talented comics in the country staff *The Hotel*. You are slightly ushered, but left to wander around the many rooms, such as the wellness centre, cabaret room and the kitchen.

Dougie will be one of the two cooks and performing it every day for the rest of the Fringe.

Little Jessica given huge support from islanders

The community of the island of Arran was truly united on Saturday morning in support of a youngster from Lamlash who is battling with leukaemia.

Jessica Reid, aged five, from Clachlands Farm, was diagnosed with the illness in February this year.

A special coffee morning was organised by her aunt Sheena Murchie to raise money for the CLIC Sargent cancer charity, which has been a great support to the youngster and her family.

Within a few days of her arrival at Yorkhill Hospital in Glasgow, CLIC provided her parents Ann and Stuart Reid with a one-bedroom flat just minutes from the hospital.

This was there for them to use free of charge for as long as they needed it.

The coffee morning raised an amazing £2,734 for the charity, which will be used to help other families in a similar situation.

'What a successful fundraiser,' said Sheena. 'This was truly an Arran occasion as people from all over the island came to give their support. Thank you all so much.'

CLIC Sargent provides specialist nurses, doctors and homes from home for the children and families of youngsters with cancer.

CLIC assigned a link nurse to Jessica who helps coordinate the little one's care on Arran as well as providing the family

Sheena Murchie, pictured in green, with, from left to right, Jessica's grandmother Margaret McKay, mum Ann Reid and gran Nan Reid at the coffee morning on Saturday.

01_b35jes01

with holiday homes.

Sheena said: 'Without my many helpers this event could not have run so smoothly. You did a marvellous job.'

Help came not only on the day but also for many days beforehand with people donating tombola prizes and an amazing display of homebaking.

Special thanks have been made to the numerous Arran businesses that donated a superb array of fabulous raffle prizes, which were greatly appreciated.

'The coffee morning had a fairytale ending as Jessica came along to pick the last raffle ticket out of the basket,' said Sheena. 'It was utterly amazing when she drew out her gran, Margaret McKay's number - who was busy calling out the winner. Well done Jess and happy golfing Margaret!'

Little Jessica Reid with aunt Sheena Murchie who is determined to raise as much as she can for the cancer charity.



No Take Zone breach

Police are conducting enquiries into an alleged breach of the No Take Zone in Lamlash Bay.

Reports that a local man was seen fishing in the prohibited area of the bay last week are being investigated.

Sergeant Bob MacKay said: 'In any incident to do with the No Take Zone or any protected area we supply the information to the Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency who will then deal with the procurator fiscal.'

'This is the first case of someone allegedly being caught fishing in the area but I can't comment any further as it is still under judicial review.'

The case has now been taken over by the SFPA.

NHS defended

North Ayrshire and Arran MP Katy Clark has defended the invaluable service that the NHS provides in light of recent criticisms from leading Conservative politicians.

David Hannan MEP has travelled to the United States to take part in the debate over a proposed national health service. During an interview for American channel Fox Mr Hannan labelled the NHS a '60-year mistake' that is outdated, unfair and should be scrapped.

Despite David Cameron insisting that his party stand 'full square behind the NHS' newspaper reports over the weekend highlighted that senior Conservative ministers have described the NHS as 'no longer relevant in the 21st century'.

Ms Clark said: 'I am very proud of the NHS and the great work that its 1.4million workers do. It is an insult that senior Conservative politicians have ridiculed the NHS. The NHS provides quality health care for everybody no matter their wealth.'

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HMS Argyll comes calling

A Royal Navy warship was at anchor in Brodick Bay for 24 hours last week.

She was HMS Argyll, a type 23 Duke Class frigate, built at Yarrow Shipbuilders, Glasgow in 1987.

The Commanding Officer is Peter Olive RN who succeeded the previous captain, Gavin Pritchard in May 2008. Gavin is the son of Kenneth and Gretta Pritchard of Lochranza.

He received the OBE in the New Year honours list and was Commanding Officer of HMS Kent when she visited Arran in April 2007.

Gavin left HMS Argyll to serve in the Antarctic as CO of the Royal Navy ice patrol ship HMS Endurance and he is about to take command of HMS Bulwark, the UK's newest class of amphibious assault warship.

HMS Argyll left Arran waters on Friday morning.



HMS Argyll at anchor in Brodick Bay. 02_b35arg01



Scottish Ensemble play Whiting Bay

The Scottish Ensemble came to Arran on Saturday night. b35ens01NO

The Arran Banner's music correspondent Harry Ross said that hearing the Scottish Ensemble play in Whiting Bay Hall on Saturday night was one of the greatest musical experiences of his life.

Versatile, enterprising and ambitious, the Scottish Ensemble is a group of outstanding string players from around Europe who perform regularly together under artistic director, Jonathan Morton.

Echoing the thoughts of many in the audience, Harry said that Arran's residents were privileged to have such a fantastic classical ensemble playing on the island.

Here he writes a review of the evening and its highlights.

In a programme of great depth and variety, the ensemble performed with great expression and fluidity to the extent that I felt I was a secret observer watching Michelangelo creating a new masterpiece.

This was sheer artistic beauty if you will, and I can only

describe the entire evening as painting with music on a blank canvas with contrasting light, shade, depth and variety.

The Grieg 'Holberg Suite' had a beautiful balance of light and shade with the Allegretto providing a final flourish.

The JS Bach 'Double Violin Concerto' made great demands on the musicians that they surmounted with consummate ease.

Expression

The second movement (largo ma non tanto) was full of expression and passion and completed the first session magnificently.

After the interval the Ravel 'Petite symphonie à cordes' brought out the very best in the ensemble, and this whole piece had a wonderful variety of tempo and rhythm that brought out their astonishing coordination and command of the music.

The Asses vif had three quarter time, 4/5 time (as in Brubeck!) and veered from mel-

ancholic to pizzicato, and the last movement provided a great wild finale to the concert.

Altogether this was a phenomenal performance throughout;

crisp, accurate and marvellously controlled by an ensemble in total command – a brilliant night's entertainment.

Harry Ross

Brodick man bringing diabetes to light

A Brodick man, who is competing in the Loch Ness Marathon on October 4 this year to raise money for Diabetes UK, is calling on people to help raise awareness of the condition.

Michael Jackson of Glen Road is asking for local landmarks to be lit up in blue to mark World Diabetes Day on November 14.

In 2008 the charity led the UK campaign to get as many buildings and monuments as possible lit up in blue as part of the World Diabetes Day monument challenge.

This resulted in the lighting of

more than 25 buildings, including well-known attractions like the London Eye.

Michael is hoping that buildings like Brodick Castle will take part in the event and put Arran on the Diabetes UK map for the day.

If you are interested in taking part, e-mail worlddiabetes-day@diabetes.org.uk and the charity will send you materials to help.

For those interested in sponsoring Michael as he takes part in the Loch Ness marathon, go to www.justgiving.com/michael-jackson0

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Council's new chief executive takes over

Elma Murray, North Ayrshire Council's new chief executive, took up her post on Monday.

Elma has wide public sector experience. She was head of IT Services at North Ayrshire, followed by a stint as computer services manager at Strathclyde Police before becoming depute director of financial services at Glasgow City Council.

She acknowledges that local government is facing tough times but is confident the council will continue to deliver excellent services.

'Building on the good work done so far to improve the quality of life for people in North Ayrshire is paramount,' she said. 'While we can't do this on our own - our communities, the business and voluntary sectors and our partner agencies all have their part - the key element is the council and its staff.'

'I have spent the last couple of months in North Ayrshire getting to know people, inside and outside the council, so I am aware of the challenges ahead. I am confident we can meet them.'

Advice for Arran's Polish speakers

Polish speakers living on Arran can now get advice in their own language at the Arran Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB).

The CAB now has leaflets and DVDs providing information and advice about a range of topics including: employment issues, workers' rights, renting property and aspects of life in Scotland.

The CAB can also provide individual advice on a wide variety of issues including tax, benefits and money.

Sheridan Waldon from the Arran CAB, said: 'We have access to excellent interpreters in Polish who will ensure that advice can be easily obtained and understood by Polish people living on Arran.'

The office is open from 10am until 2pm every day except Wednesday at Park Terrace, Lamlash.

You do not need an appointment. The phone number is 600 210.

Life changing moment for Valdete

Valdete Gjonpalaj, the young Albanian girl brought to Arran for life changing surgery, will soon be able to stand for the first time in years.

She has been in a wheelchair most of her life after a childhood illness robbed her of the ability to walk.

Sue and Julian Davidson from Whiting Bay met Valdete when they were working in Albania two years ago and they are determined to help her walk again.

The 18-year-old was taken to Blackpool by the couple where orthopaedic surgeon Dr Steve Mannion operated on her foot.

For four months the young girl's foot has been encased in plaster, which was finally removed last week.

Valdete shed tears of joy as she saw the finished result of her corrective surgery.

'I felt like I was flying,' she said. 'I couldn't wait to get the cast off and be able to scratch my leg and see my foot.'

'This will change my life and my family's life. It will mean I can do more for myself and

not have to rely on my family all the time.'

When she was just two years old Valdete suffered from an extremely high temperature that caused a small bleed in her brain.

Because of this one of her feet turned in and on the opposite side of her body her hand and wrist are affected.

Exciting

'Valdete cannot remember a time when her foot was straight,' said Sue. 'So this was very exciting for her and all she could think about was being able to wear her jeans and shoes again.'

'When the plaster was removed her foot was perfectly straight. An x-ray confirmed that the bones had fused together well and the operation had been very successful.'

Steven Mannion is already making arrangements to go to Albania next year with a team of health professionals needed to help other young people with physical disabilities.

Valdete will now begin physiotherapy to enable her to walk once again.



Valdete Gjonpalaj with her friend and carer Sue Davidson and orthopaedic surgeon Steve Mannion. b35va01NO

'She is a very determined young lady,' said Sue. 'Even before the plaster was removed she had attempted to walk. This means so much more to her than people will realise and we thank you all again for helping to make this possible.'

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Peace bonfire raises Campbeltown lifeboat

A Banner subscriber in Kent was highly amused by a front page story last month about a bunch of party balloons landing in the Kilbrannan Sound and creating a major incident for the emergency services.

It was a false alarm but lifeboat and coastguards were scrambled because eyewitnesses thought it might have been a paraglider.

This story sparked the memory of a similar incident over 60 years ago for Ena Hibberd

of Birchington, Kent. Mrs Hibberd said: 'When I read it in the Banner it made me laugh. It recalled the time in 1945 after peace had been declared.

'I was about 10 years old and we lived in Glasgow but came to Arran every summer. We took a big house in Blackwaterfoot for all the family.

'The war had just finished and everyone was in a party mood. The locals built a big bonfire on the beach and set off fireworks. It was the first fireworks and

rockets I had ever seen.

'But nobody thought of letting the coastguard know. Before we knew it, the Campbeltown lifeboat was just off the beach.

'They thought it was a ship in distress and had been called out, but no-one had seen a bonfire for six years. It was quite hilarious and everyone took it in good spirit.

'The story in the Banner reminded me of that happy time all those years ago.'



Gabrielle Allison from Lamlash Primary will soon see her poem in print. 01_b35gab01

Gabrielle's a winning poet

A pupil from Lamlash Primary School has been chosen as one of the winners in a nationwide poetry competition.

Gabrielle Allison, aged 10, wrote her poem 'To a Midge' last term when she was in P7 as part of the Home/Hame poetry competition run by Learning and Teaching Scotland as part of the Homecoming 2009 celebrations.

'I really enjoy writing,' said Gabrielle. 'We had been learning about Robert Burns and Scottish

poetry in class and then we had to write our own poem. It was really fun.' As a winner, Gabrielle's poem will be published in a new poetry anthology and she has been invited to the book launch at The Mitchell Theatre, Glasgow where she will be presented with a copy of the book.

Each winner will also be filmed reciting their poem on the day of the launch and the footage will be posted on the Learning and Teaching Scotland website.

Arran livestock sales

United Auctions had forward 766 store cattle, cows and breeding cattle and 3,203 store lambs and feeding sheep at their new Stirling Agricultural Centre.

Cattle prices
Charolais cross bullocks £910, 176p Craighu, £680, 186p Moor.

Limousin cross bullocks £740, 197p, Kilpatrick.

Charolais cross heifers £850, 176p, Craighu.

Limousin cross heifers £630, 161p, Kilpatrick.

Cast Cows
Charolais cross cow £1,095, 124p, Hawthorn.

Limousin cross cow £745, 122p, Auchenhew.

Aberdeen Angus cross cow £795, 102p Hawthorn, £785, 120p Auchenhew, £745, 110p Balgowan.

Saler cross cow £625, 112p, Ceither Gaithe.

Lambs
Auchenhew (Texel) £70, Auchenhew (Suffolk) £63, Kilpatrick (Texel) £58, Springfield (Texel) £54.50, Bellevue (Mule) £44.

Ewes
Auchenhew (Texel cross) £69.50, Hillhead (Suffolk) £69, Auchenhew (Mule) £56.50, Cosyden (Cheviot) £37, Ceither Gaithe (Blackface) £26.

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Stags Pavilion

Louise and Bryan took over the running of The Stags Pavilion at Lochranza earlier this year and have quickly established a reputation for delicious home cooked and freshly prepared food. A loyal customer base and regular clientele of visitors and locals has helped them settle into their beautiful surroundings and they love being part of their new community. Hearty breakfasts are served from 8am, enjoy Scottish porridge oats with milk and honey or a full Scottish breakfast with orange juice, tea or coffee, certainly enough to set you up for the day walking in the hills. Lunches are served from 11am - 4pm and satisfying and tasty selections are on offer. Try the home-made soup, freshly prepared sandwiches or ploughman's lunch served with four types of Arran cheese. Dinner service begins at 6pm and the blackboard displays a mouth watering selection of delicious starters such as fresh scallops and black pudding - follow that with the popular smoked haddock, creamy cabbage and bacon, haddock in batter with Arran ale or steak and haggis from local butcher, HB McKinnon's. Salad leaves and vegetables are supplied by Robin Gray from Whiting Bay who specialises in growing his own. Feel free to bring a bottle of wine to compliment your meal. Arran Dairies provide the fantastic ice cream for the new ice-cream menu - these will tantalise your taste buds and ensure that you return regularly to sample the entire list - The Knickerbockerglory, The Banana Split, Hot Chocolate Fudge Sundae, Ice Cream Sodas and Hot Belgian Waffles will provide you with a lasting memory of a special evening.

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Arran's contentious roads

The single most contentious issue on Arran for the past 10 years has been the deteriorating condition of the island's roads.

There have been many campaigns, mostly by residents, in an attempt to help North Ayrshire Council to access more funding for proper road repairs and reinstatement. On at least two occasions there have been blockades of the public highway by frustrated locals to raise the profile of poor carriageways.

Now Arno Loessner of Kings Cross puts forward some fresh suggestions on how the issue of Arran's roads could be better addressed. Arno works in the United States and has a house in Kings Cross where he spends as much time as possible.

Arno Loessner, Ph.D., is emeritus professor of public administration, University of Delaware. He has consulted on governance practices and public finance with international and national organizations and local authorities in various parts of the world. He told the Banner: 'If someone who teaches budgeting and public administration doesn't speak out then who can? Tough choices are going to have to be made. We need to find a way of coming together in a partnership to solve Arran's road problems.'

When we try to fix something and don't have success, the usual advice is to consult the technical manual.

The situation with Arran's roads may be in that category, so it might help to consult the manual - the roads budget - and related information in considering approaches to fixing the roads.

The Banner (25 July) reported that there will be a £1 million boost in spending on roads in 2010/11. That will be next year and for selected roads used by the Forestry Commission. Where does that leave the pothole repair, the uneven road verges and other needs on other roads? What is the situation this year?

Most local authority funding comes from Scottish

government. A December 2007 'concordat' between local authorities and Scottish Government provides that grants to local authorities will be in amounts sufficient to allow

the general public, Arran Community Council, the MSP for Arran, the responsible NAC officials and Arran's elected representatives to NAC.

The community may well

that well informed communities with regular processes for communication with their local authorities are generally better served than those without these characteristics.

An example of information I have received, combined with a few simple calculations may be helpful in describing the roads situation:

Arran has 16percent of the roads in NAC and in 2008/09 received 24percent of the spending on roads. There are 1,018 kms (632.7 miles) of road surface in NAC, of which 164 kms (101.9 miles), or 16percent are on Arran. NAC total road expenditures for 2008/09 were £4,752,845. Expenditures on Arran's roads were £1,132,873, or 24percent of the total.

The situation changed for 2009/10 as is shown in the accompanying figures provided by NAC. Overall, there is a 20percent budgeted increase in road expenditure on mainland roads (from £3,619,972 in 2008/09 to £4,353,119 for 2009/10), while the budget for Arran for 2009/10 was cut by 12percent (from £1,132,873 in 2008/09 to £1,000,000).

The capital portion of the budget for Arran's roads is cut 70percent - from £445,000 to £135,000.

A representative of NAC reports 2007 population estimates for NAC at 135,800, of which 5,253 or 3.8percent are residents of Arran. The popu-

Arran Roads Expenditure/Estimates 2008/9 & 2009/10					
Prepared by North Ayrshire Council					
ACT CODE	DESCRIPTION	Actual Costs 2008/9		Estimated Costs 2009/10	
		Mainland	Arran	Mainland	Arran
03.01	RESURFACING	£699,167	£80,811	£1,270,000	£240,000
04.01	SURFACE DRESSING	£287,897	£185,322	£270,000	£200,000
05.01	PATCHING	£274,952	£53,013	£380,000	£100,000
05.02	POTHOLING	£429,392	£135,498	£310,000	£110,000
05.03	JETPATCHER	£88,258	£69,180	£100,000	£50,000
05.04	EMERGENCY PATCHING	£17,925	£0	£60,000	£0
10.01	FOOTWAYS - CONTRACT	£90,955	£0	£425,000	£0
10.02	FOOTWAYS - CYCLIC	£5,893	£4,467	£30,000	£0
12.01	RELAY/REPLACE KERBS	£33,413	£0	£40,000	£0
13.01	REMEDIAL EARTHWORKS	£0	£8,482	£10,000	£5,000
14.01	DRAINAGE	£207,053	£87,191	£180,000	£25,000
14.02	CLEARING DITCHES	£80,755	£0	£50,000	£80,000
16.01	HEDGE & TREE MAINT	£7,329	£9,700	£10,000	£10,000
18.01	GULLY EMPTYING	£153,268	£5,979	£190,000	£4,000
1802	HAND CLEAN GULLIES	£91,088	£0	£50,000	£0
2002	BOUND FENCE & WALL	£2,180	£0	£5,000	£1,000
3201	EMERGENCIES	£146,099	£25,348	£160,000	£40,000
8301	RECHARGEABLE	£41,641	£22,882	£25,000	£0
8303	CARRIAGE CROSSING	£45,261	£0	£40,000	£0
8401	STOREMAN DUTIES	£34,877	£0	£35,000	£0
60.01	Capital Road	£883,069	£445,000	£713,119	£135,000
Maintenance TOTAL		£3,619,972	£1,132,873	£4,353,119	£1,000,000

council taxes to be frozen at then-existing levels.

As a result, Scottish Government pays a lump sum grant amounting to more than 80percent of the North Ayrshire Council (NAC) expenditure, and then NAC officials allocate to functions such as social work, schools and roads.

If NAC published the roads budget in The Banner in a format showing Arran and the mainland by object of expenditure, readers could have a better understanding of the amount of roads spending and the specific work proposed. With this information in hand, a public discussion of roads spending priorities on Arran might follow.

Participants would include

benefit from such an open exchange, because experience in working with governments around the world indicates



Arno Loessner

lition numbers in NAC are described as 'static' compared to the 2001 census, while the Arran estimate indicates 4percent growth since 2001.

We hear that hard economic times will require difficult choices. No doubt this is true, but when the roads budget is prepared, it might be helpful to ask some questions:

1 Are the allocations to roads on Arran the kinds that best meet needs?

The mainland received about 19percent of its roads budget for resurfacing, while Arran received 7percent of its allocation for this purpose.

Are there more cost-effective ways to resurface roads on Arran? For example, one person has asked if it is feasible and desirable to locate a small tar macadam plant on Arran.

2 How well does NAC fare in the receipt of Scottish and other resources when compared with other local authorities in Scotland? How well does Arran fare when compared to other island communities in Scotland? How might NAC and Arran join forces to improve funding?

This report presents some information, raises some questions and suggests a need for regular information and consultation on roads spending for Arran to encourage a dialogue on roads.

It is not an assertion that roads are more or less important than other local services, and it is not a criticism of any person or group.

Sincerely,
Arno Loessner
Kings Cross

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Exam results are not worth the paper they are written on

The rather uplifting story on the front page of this week's *Banner* about three generations of Thomas Gilmores attending one school raises some interesting questions about the state of the British education system.

In the 50 years that have passed since Tommy Gilmore senior started at Brodick Primary, the way our children are taught has changed so much that the style of the mid 1950s seems almost unrecognisable.

Teaching in this country has been revolutionised and although it was revealed last week that Higher and Standard Grade pass rates for Scottish pupils have reached record levels, questions have arisen about the level of education youngsters now receive.

A number of leading universities have revealed that students entering their establishments do not have the basic understanding of mathematics and grammar that a student 30 years ago would have needed to get in.

Are the exams getting easier?

At current rates of academic 'improvement', within 10 years no one sitting a Higher exam will actually fail and the number of A grades will rise to a third of all entries.

Questions have been asked about the worth of the modern Highers and in turn the worth of a university degree.

It is unfair to criticise the students who are every bit as intelligent and diligent as their predecessors but one can't help but wonder what this will do to the educational establishment of Britain.

For once it is not the politicians or the students questioning the results - it is the teachers themselves.

It was discovered that among teachers there is widespread disenchantment with the examinations, on the grounds that they do not stretch the brightest pupils and are almost impossible to fail.

Over the past 20 years, the proportion of A grades has risen from nine per cent to last week's 26.7 per cent; a study by Durham University last year concluded that an A grade today is the equivalent of a C grade in the 1980s.

In short, the education system has fallen victim to the Labour government's pledge to put 50 per cent of young people through university.

It has forced the better universities to develop their own admissions criteria, rather than relying on Highers.

Removing the cachet attached to Highers and Advanced Highers has also diminished the value of a first degree, leading many cleverer students to pursue postgraduate studies.

This is such a waste.

From next year, there will be greater emphasis on essay-style answers and an A award will be only be given to the very best papers. At the same time, the Tories have said that, if elected, they will ensure that the more demanding subjects score more than softer options.

Such reform is needed, because in their present form Scotland's exam results are not worth the paper they are written on.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation, the old one has gone, the new one has come. This is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ' (2 Corinthians 5:12-18)

press policy

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

It is the policy of The Oban Times Group to correct any errors in print.

If you find an error of fact on our pages please write to The Editor, *The Arran Banner*, Brodick, Arran giving your day-time telephone number where possible.

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

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your letters

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

Letters to the Editor



Praise for forestry roads

Sir,
This is an open letter to Andy Walker and his team at Forestry Commission Scotland.

I had the pleasure of driving from Lamlash to Kilmory on the forestry road on Sunday.

Even though Rab Logan and Gordon Boyle were very reluctant to let me travel on the road due to my roads campaign (I jest), it was a pleasure to travel on a well-kept road with the ditches cleared and offlets and cundies in fine working order and not a pothole on the entire surface.

I hope some of the North Ayrshire Council officials took the opportunity to do the same.

I hope also that when North Ayrshire place the contract of £1 million, which is going to be spent on the String Road from timber extraction funds, it is awarded to the Forestry Commission.

Yours,
**Ian Small
Millhouse
Glensherraig
Brodick**

P.S: It was also a pleasure to see so many locals out for a drive who stopped me to ask if I had found any potholes!

'Silly season' indeed

Sir,
MSP Kenneth Gibson's peculiar and extended rant in last week's *Banner* appeared to pour scorn and derision on everyone and everything thing, apart from his beloved SNP 'government' whose benevolence, it seems, really does know no bounds.

Clearly, Mr Gibson was unaware that the real 'silly season' was just about to begin, with his colleague Kenny MacAskill's extended TV impersonation of The Rev I.M. Jolly the prelude to Scotland becoming the unwelcome focus of the world's attention due to his and the SNP's decision to release the Lockerbie Bomber on 'compassionate' grounds.

Apparently, according to Mr MacAskill, it is a Scottish tradition to release convicted terrorists if we feel sorry for them - or could that be if we feel sorry that their appeals might show the Scottish justice system to

be a complete shambles?

If the SNP felt Abdelbaset Ali Mohamed al Megrahi had been wrongly convicted (and there may be some genuine concern that he could have been) then they should have launched an investigation or retrial during the two years they have been in power at Holyrood.

They did not. However, assuming then that they do believe he is guilty, then I tend to agree with the United States that it is peculiar and perverse to show compassion to someone who lacked any such an emotion when he handed a death sentence to over 200 innocent people, including those going about their business in Lockerbie.

The SNP's compassion, of course, being dependent on Mr Megrahi dropping his appeal!

Thanks to the SNP, Scotland is fast becoming an international pariah, and stands ready for a United States (and possibly wider) boycott of our goods, services and tourism - is this what we need in the middle of a recession?

Never mind jokes about Alex Salmond's 'arc of prosperity', we could soon be involved in the 'war on terror'!

Alex Salmond and Mr Gibson's SNP have made much of their 'Homecoming' plans. Perhaps the focus should be moved to Libya, as the Saltires being waved so enthusiastically during Mr Megrahi's return may end up outnumbering those being waved by tourists returning here.

Welcome to the real 'silly season' Mr Gibson. To use another political cliché, 'a week is a long time in politics'.

Yours,
**Philip Lardner
Scottish Conservative &
Unionist Party
Westminster Candidate for
North Ayrshire and Arran
52 Princes Street
Ardrossan**

Editorial views

Sir,
I read with some interest your emotive editorial on the recent release of Abdelbaset Ali Mohamed Al Megrahi.

Your distinctly 'pro-American view' on the action taken by Kenny MacAskill and the opinion you hold of Scottish

legal process could almost be regarded as derogatory.

You noticeably fail to make mention of the role in the saga played by Tony Blair or Gadaffi's good chum Gordon.

Given the emphasis of your article and the strength of opinion expressed, I would be interested to discover your views on another air disaster, that of Iran Air Flight 655 on July 3, 1988.

You may remember that Flight 655 was a civilian Airbus flying from Iran to Dubai, in a designated commercial airspace corridor, when it was shot down by Captain William C Rogers 111 of the USS Vincennes, a ship nicknamed 'Robocruiser' by others in the fleet.

The event occurred when the aircraft was in Iranian airspace and the USS Vincennes in Iranian waters.

Two hundred and ninety people including 66 children died that day.

The evidence surrounding this incident, unlike Lockerbie, is not circumstantial but corroborated.

In February 1996, America agreed to pay Iran \$131.8 million in settlement, to discontinue a case relating to the incident brought by Iran at the International Court of Justice.

\$61.8 million was directed in compensation for the people killed. So that's ok?

Upon his return to America

Captain Rogers did not go to jail but was awarded the Legion of Merit for 'exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service as a commanding officer'.

It would seem that, in America, death due to another's gung-ho incompetence is different from that as a result of terrorism. Why am I reminded of playground bullies?

Yours,
**Ian McCallum
Ardtalla
Whiting Bay
Super summer
holiday**

Sir,
I was on holiday in Arran and went to the Brodick Highland Games.

It was great to see the Red Devils and they gave me some stickers and I ran in the 7-8 year old race and came second.

I have asked my mummy and daddy if we can go every year so I can race again.

We then went to Campbeltown so that I could buy a copy of *The Arran Banner* to show my grandfather the results in the paper.

I really wanted it for my scrapbook.

Yours,
**Owen Macgillivray
(aged seven)
Welwyn
Herts**



Jules Fiddes and Tommy Collins of Cumbernauld were married recently at the Kildonan Hotel. Tommy is a catering manager and Jules is the head of post pay. The couple chose to get married on Arran because they plan to move here in a few years time. b35wed02

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Arran's tourist industry outperforming national trend for falling figures

Arran's tourist sector is continuing to grow despite the national trend for falling figures, according to the island tourism group Visit Arran.

The latest figures come from the annual survey commissioned by North Ayrshire Council.

The report shows that although visitor numbers fell from 208,000 in 2007 to 198,000 in 2008, in terms of revenue growth Arran continues

to buck the trend. Tom Tracey, a director of Visit Arran, said: 'In many ways, the tourist industry on Arran is outperforming the industry nationally.'

'This is not accidental or lucky but the result of individuals, businesses and groups, focusing on improving service and value for visitors.'

Tourists contributed £30.7 million to the Arran economy in 2008.

This is an increase four per cent from 2007 and represents nine straight years of revenue growth on the island.

Separate data provided by Visit Scotland shows that there was a national decline in visitor numbers by six per cent.

Day visitors to the island showed the biggest decline while self-catering and short breaks continued to grow.

Anecdotal

'It will be August 2010 before we get this year's statistics,' said Tom. 'However, anecdotal evidence suggests that visitor numbers and spend will be up this year.'

'Good national press and travel guide coverage, Visit Arran participation in off island promotions, excellent visitor attractions and events like the Highland Games as well as the 'new' Wildlife, Folk and Outdoor festivals have undoubtedly contributed to increased visitor numbers but there is no doubt, better weather and a weaker pound has helped the cause.'

The panto is back! Oh no it isn't! Oh yes it is!

The annual Christmas pantomime in Lamlash is returning this year.

The organisers are looking for anyone who may be interested in taking part in this year's performance at the Community Theatre.

A meeting has been arranged for Monday August 31 at 7.30pm at the KA Campus in the High School, Lamlash.

Anyone interested in helping either on or offstage is invited to attend.

This can be a lot of hard work but also a lot of fun. Hope to see you there.

Beach beat for shoreline

A new police campaign called 'Beach Beat' is being rolled out by local sergeant Bob McKay.

He said: 'This initiative is a response to concerns expressed by local residents.'

'It is going to address any issues concerning Arran beaches, such as wild camping, abandoned tents, dog fouling and the protection of SSSI sites.'

'The campaign starts this week and will continue until September weekend or longer if necessary.'

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Homes sought for Springer Spaniels

The Arran branch of the Springer Spaniel Rescue for Scotland are looking for potential foster carers and new homes for dogs that have been left without a loving home.

Instituted last October it is dedicated to the rescue and welfare of Springer Spaniels and in that time it has successfully found homes for four dogs on Arran, with a further two applications currently being processed.

Terry Crawley from Lochranza is the charity's representative on Arran. He said: 'Dogs come to us from various sources; the police, local authority pounds and private owners who can no longer cope.'

Volunteers

'As the dogs come in they are fostered out to volunteers until they can be re-homed. While in foster care the dog is medically checked and thoroughly assessed until we know all the pros and cons of their personalities.'

Terry added that when the dogs are re-homed they are wormed, jugged and micro-chipped at the charity's expense to give the new owners the best possible start.

If a dog is adopted with a pre-existing medical condition the SRS will also bear the cost of all future treatment.

'Some dogs that have been



Jane Miller (left) of Lochranza is a dedicated Springer fosterer while Chris Stirland adopted his dog Max last year. Helene Bearney (right) is pictured with Terry Crawley's dog Spike.

badly abused do have issues but we work with them to try and eradicate any problems,' said Terry. 'Help and advice is always on hand from the charity to make sure the new owner gets the most from their new dog. SRS never re-home and forget.'

Rescuing dogs is a very expensive business, it costs £150 to re-home one dog.

So, while SRS do not ask for payment when they re-home dogs, they do ask for a suitable donation to the funds.

The charity desperately needs potential foster carers and new homes for dogs.

If you would like to make enquiries then please contact Terry on 830 305.

Donations to the charity would also be most welcome.

Notice of Annual Review



The Annual Review of NHS Ayrshire & Arran by Nicola Sturgeon MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing is being held on Monday 12 October 2009 at 2.15pm in the MacDonald Education Centre, Ayr Hospital.

You can submit questions in advance to the Cabinet Secretary and the Chairman of Ayrshire and Arran NHS Board. If your question is not answered on the day you will receive a written response.

Please submit your questions in writing by **Friday 11 September 2009** to:

Margery Ferry
Programme Manager
Policy, Planning and Performance
Afton House
Ailsa Hospital
Dalmellington Road
Ayr, KA6 6AB

Fax 01292 885812

Email Margery.ferry@aapct.scot.nhs.uk

www.nhsayrshireandarran.com



First day at school



Hannah and Harvey Kemp, Albin Robin, Curtis Galloway, Lori Prescott and Grace Crichton with their teacher at Whiting Bay Primary School Mrs Sheila McAllister. 01_b35whi01



Finlay Rayner is the only primary one pupil at Kilmory with his teacher Mrs Karen Barbour. 01_b35kil01



Charlie Aitken, Jemima Currie, Benjamin Demazeux, Tenzin Gautier, Thomas Gilmore, Sean Kyle, Finn McAleer, Freya McNicol, Andrew Milton, Natasha Nelson, Sam Reid, and Zara Wilson with their teacher Mrs Milesi at Brodick Primary School. 01_b35bro01



At Lamlash Primary School Mrs Diana Dunn was joined by new pupils Jay Atkinson, Freya Campbell, Lanna Campbell, Mackenzie Campbell, Thomas Copperwheat, Charlie McAllister, Jessica Reid and Jack Ross. George Fullerton, Pawel Gren and Gen Inglis were absent. 01_b34lam01

Photo Competition 2009

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 posting them to **The Arran Banner, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ** and enclose a SAE if photographs are to be returned. 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

Arran Healing Rooms

On Wednesday September the 2nd at 7-30 pm, in the High School at Lamlash, Arran Healing Rooms will open to the public.

The Healing Rooms movement is a ministry of Christian Healing, with a successful history spanning over a hundred years. The original Healing Rooms were in Spokane, Washington state, USA, led by the visionary John G Lake. After 10 years operation, hundreds of thousands of people had been prayed for, and the number of healings resulted in Spokane being recognised in US government statistics as the healthiest city in America!

There are now over 900 Healing Rooms worldwide, with more than 20 in Scotland. We will pray for healing for anyone who wants to come along on a Wednesday evening, and the service is free, and completely confidential. There have been many healings in Scotland, but we always emphasise that if someone is healed, they should continue to take any medication they have been prescribed, until their healing has been confirmed by their doctor.

Healings can sometimes be instantaneous, or they can take time to complete, perhaps with a second session of prayer. However things happen, we find that most people feel the benefit of being prayed for.

People will receive a warm welcome from the team, and the prayer itself is simple and relaxed, since we know that it is God who heals, not us!

For further information, phone 700644.

ARRAN HEALING ROOMS

Opening Wednesday 2nd September

Prayer for healing by teams of trained volunteers.

No appointment is needed, there is no charge, and everything is completely confidential.

Every Wednesday evening, 7-30pm to 9-00pm, starting 2nd September.
Arran High School, Lamlash

For more information, contact 700644 or 700535
www.healingrooms-scotland.com

Registered as a Charity SC037631

First day at school

Special moment for new primary one pupils

Monday was an exciting day for some of the island's young residents.

All over Arran many children experienced their first day at school and were eager to begin learning new things.

As in the usual Banner tradition, we were on hand to capture this very special moment in the children's lives.

They had all turned out in their brand new uniforms and shiny shoes and were looking very smart and keen to learn.

Friends and families will undoubtedly treasure these pictures for many years to come.

It was only Pirnmill Primary School, which sadly had no intake of P1s this year.

Janine Crisp, school secretary, said that in her 18 years at Pirnmill she had never seen a year without a primary one class, so it is obviously quite a rare occurrence.



Above: James Macis, Euan Kinniburgh, James McCarthy, George Andrews, Morgan Bell and Donald Currie with teacher Mrs Lillian Tod at Shiskine Primary . 01_b35shi01

Left: Gina Boni is all on her own with teacher Mrs Jane Boyle in the primary one class at Corrie Primary School. 01_b35cor01



**LOCHRANZA & CATACOL VILLAGE HALL
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EVENT FEE £5.00

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www.arranmotocross.co.uk

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55p

Explore the beautiful Isle of Arran
A comprehensive guide to attractions, shopping, restaurants, events and experiences.
An island publication from The Arran Banner



Dunno the Clown and children in Kilmory Hall. b34dun01

Dunno entertains at Kilmory Hall

Dunno the Clown made two visits to the island in the last two weeks.

He specialises in entertaining at children's parties and has been coming here for a number of years.

Last Wednesday he performed for a party of 50 children in Kilmory Hall. The fun-filled afternoon was organised by Isobel Mulholland, Lorna McKelvie, Norma Hunter, Lisa Boyd and Linda Wallwork.



Winners of the Shiskine Hall junior quiz; from left Beth Earls-Davis, Ailsa Loane, Thomas Walsh and Louis Walsh. b34quz02

Shiskine Hall quiz raises £300

Shiskine Hall funds benefited by over £300 from the recent quiz night.

Victorious winners of the senior quiz and recipients of Le Penseur trophy were the Shiskine WAGS and the junior quiz was won by the Walsh Twits.

Six step out on the Speyside Challenge

On Saturday June 6, six crazy people, 'The Hot Steppers' took part in this year's Speyside 24 hour challenge. Among them were three Arran folk, Robyn Keen, Shiona Murchie and Graeme Tod.

The challenge involved walking 50 miles non-stop along the Speyside Way route from Boat of Garten to Spey Bay in just 24 hours. Yes, that meant walking through the night!

The Speyside 24 hour Challenge was one of the most difficult events of its kind this year. Robyn said: 'It was a personal challenge, which was both physically and mentally rewarding - improving fitness and raising funds for The Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice.

The Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice is a Glasgow based charity which brings comfort and peace of mind to patients for whom cure is no

longer possible. They take a holistic approach, recognising their patients' emotional, social and spiritual needs as well as practising advanced pain and symptom control.

Emotional Support

They treat the person, not the disease - and also offer practical and emotional support to families and carers in the most difficult of times. All care is free, regardless of patients' circumstances. It costs the Hospice some £3 million each year - and, despite generous support from NHS Greater Glasgow, two out of every three pounds must come from voluntary contributions and fundraising activities.

Collectively, 'The Hot Steppers' raised over £2,000 for The Prince and Princess of Wales Hospice and would like to thank everyone who sponsored them.



The Hot Steppers are, from left to right: Tom McGarrigle of Glasgow (the support driver), Robyn Keen of Brodick, Colin Millar of Glasgow, Graham Souter of Glasgow, Shiona Murchie of Lamlash and Graeme Tod of Shiskine. b35stp01

• Do you have a story? Call
The Arran Banner
reporters on
01770-302142

Nominate volunteers for Queen's Award

The Lord Lieutenant of Ayrshire and Arran, John Duncan QPM, has made a final call for people to nominate outstanding volunteer groups in their area for the 2010 Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

This prestigious honour which has an equivalent status to the MBE, recognises the exceptional contributions made to local communities by groups voluntarily devoting their time for the benefit of others.

John Duncan said: 'I know that here in Ayrshire and Arran there are many volunteer groups who make a huge contribution to the quality of people's lives. I urge people to help ensure that those doing such outstanding work in their local communities are recognised.

'If you know a group that fits the bill, complete a form and nominate them.'

For details of all Queen's Award for Voluntary Service recipients, or to download a nomination form, visit www.queensawardvoluntary.gov.uk Forms must be received by September 30.

Where's Archie?

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If you think you know then post your answer on the website

www.arranbanner.co.uk

Or email us at:

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Last week Archie was taking a rest on the bench outside the office of his sponsors, The Arran Team, in Brodick. This week he is leaning on a white fence, but do you know what is behind that fence? b35arc01



BANNER COMMENT
Tell us your news via the website at arranbanner.co.uk

THE ARRAN BANNER

on holiday



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.

So far *The Banner* has been taken to some remarkable destinations all over the world including, this week, Rotterdam, Port Stanley, Bermuda, Jerusalem and Egypt.

Don't forget to pack your copy of the Banner if you are going on holiday.

It could be from Dingwall or Dresden, it really doesn't matter; we would love to see your photographs.

Please send them to us either by email to editor@arranbanner.co.uk or to The Arran Banner, Douglas Centre, Brodick KA27 8AJ.

Andrea Bond of Catacol Bay Hotel who works at the Arran War Memorial Hospital took her *Banner* on a recent holiday to Sharm el Sheikh, Egypt during a visit to the Valley of the Kings, Cairo. b35ban05



Subscriber Steve Allan of Berkshire reading his *Banner* in the southern hemisphere. He is outside the Cathedral in Port Stanley, Falkland Islands. Steve was on his way back from a trip even further south to Antarctica but said that unfortunately he didn't manage to have a photo taken there. b35ban02

Jenny and Sandy McIlwham took their *Arran Banner* on holiday to Bermuda while visiting their grandsons. In this picture, from left to right are, Jenny McIlwham, Harris Fleming (4 weeks old), Julie-Anne Fleming, Rory Fleming (18 months old) and Sandy McIlwham. b35ban03



Sharon Shenhav of Jerusalem and Hamilton Terrace, Lamlash, reading *The Banner* in front of the illuminated David's Fort in the Old City of Jerusalem. b35ban04



Alice Anderson and Jenni Turnbull from Shiskine took time out to read their *Banner* in Rotterdam while they were on a short cruise on Cunard's Queen Mary II last month. b35ban01

Arran Visual Arts pebble mosaic workshop

Last weekend Arran Visual Arts held a Pebble Mosaic Workshop in Kilmory Hall.

I was particularly interested in this subject because I remember my Dad doing a path with stone, using small stones and gravel to make a circle inside another circle, and I have wanted to have a go myself.

Local pebble mosaic artist Robin Jenks gave us a slide show each morning, showing

us both the indirect and direct methods. He showed us a face and a giant moth that he had made and explained the process. We saw the giant moth being set into Judith Baines garden.

The basic items were laid out on tables in Kilmory Hall, which Robin had carefully prepared with boards and frames, and the classes of young and not so young were asked to

choose their subject. There were books to give us ideas and Robin was always on hand to advise.

There were lots of lovely coloured pebbles, some smooth, some rough, some red or pink and white and black, some

mottled some plain, but plenty to choose from.

AVA would like to thank Robin Jenks and Michael who willingly assisted in the slide show and cement mixing. A great and productive weekend. Ailsa Cowan

ARRAN HERITAGE MUSEUM

SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER SC002089

An ever-changing collection, in peaceful locations of Archaeology, Clearances and Emigration, Farm Implements, Original Smiddy, 1940's Schoolroom, Arran at War, Villages Then and Now, 19th Century Cottage, Children's Quiz and Play House, and lots more. Come along and wander down 'memory lane.'

New for 2009 - A unique and modernised Arran Geology Exhibition Room, Antique costume display, and Homecoming display.

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Brodick 200 Club

Congratulations to Mr Ken Thorburn, Brodick 200 Club's August winner of £50.

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Tel: 700393

Paintings & Prints by Shiela Findlay on display Eat alfresco in our seafront garden

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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

Sun - Homecoming Open Folk Session - 9.30pm
Mon - Icelandic Folk Music - 9pm £5
Tue - Pop Quiz - 10pm
Wed - Country/ Blues Session - 9.30pm
Thur - General Knowledge quiz - 10pm
Fri & Sat - Over 21s Disco - 10pm

Real Ale (Recommended CAMRA Good Beer Guide)

Mountaineer has audience spellbound

Doug Scott, the world-renowned mountaineer, gave a fascinating talk on his adventures climbing the three highest mountains in the world to a packed high school theatre last Thursday night.

Proceeds from the ticket sales went to ROKPA and Community Action Nepal - nearly £3,000 was raised overall.

Arran Mountain Rescue Team also benefited from the night.

Doug's slide show of stunning

photographs and tales of daring held the audience spellbound.

He spoke of being one of the first Britons to scale Everest and then about spending the night sitting for nine hours in a snow-hole at 30,000 feet with no sleeping bag and no oxygen left in his tank.

The temperature touching -50 degrees centigrade and both he and Dougal Haston losing their minds because of the conditions.

At one point Doug said he actually heard his freezing feet complaining to each other about the cold!

The humour was tempered by the tragedy of his friends' deaths on the mountains and there were sobering photos and descriptions of the extreme effects on the human body from black frostbitten fingers to fatal cerebral and pulmonary oedemas.

Because it was a charity

event, he also described the horrendous conditions the Sherpas and Nepalese have had to suffer over the years as citizens of the eighth poorest country in the world.

He showed the schools and homes, which ROKPA and Community Action Nepal have helped to build, and the huge difference these projects have made to the lives of the people there.

Wide Range

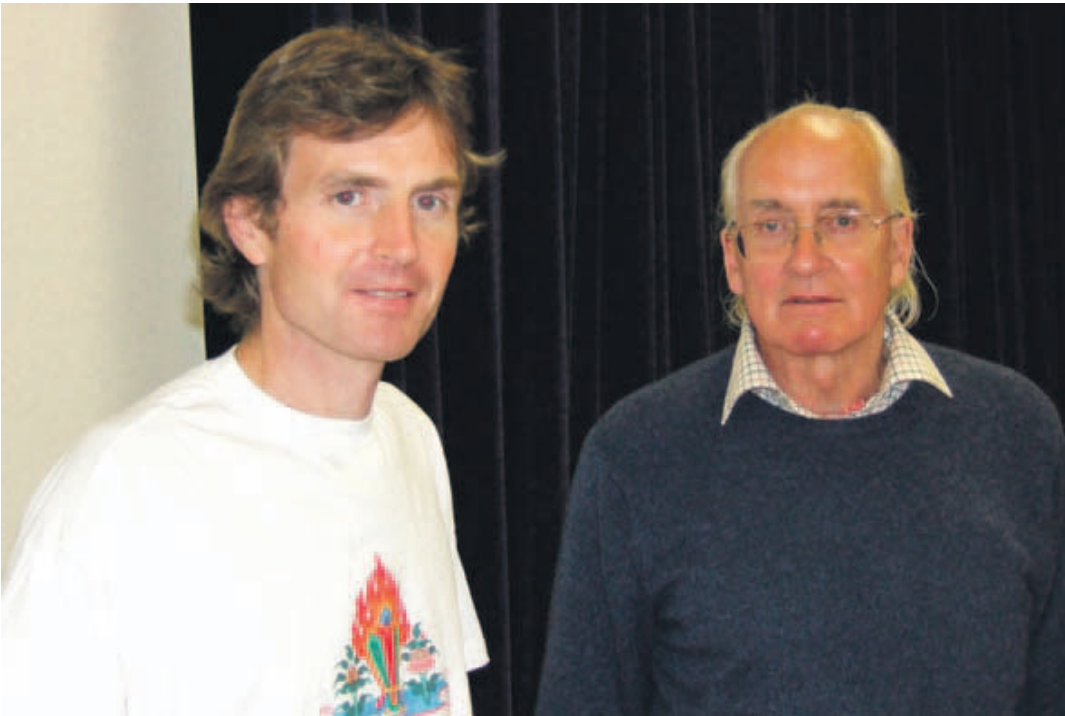
At the interval, there was a wide range of photos, prints and Nepalese products, ROKPA t-shirts and AMRT stall with stretchers, info and their fine new mugs.

Doug signed prints and books and there was huge demand for them.

The raffle for ROKPA raised £280.

The organisers thanked Arran Adventure Co and The Kinloch for their prizes; Arran Active for sponsoring the evening and the efforts of KA Campus staff for their extra efforts, which made it such a successful event.

Thanks go to all who helped support the event, for those who missed out Doug will be giving lectures throughout Scotland this autumn see www.doug-scottmountaineering.co.uk for more details.



Sam Thornley of Brodick with world-renowned mountaineer Doug Scott at Arran high School last week.

ADVERTORIAL

Following the successful introduction of our **Magnum 21 Trimaran 2 years ago with a full range of day sailing options, the Directors of the Arran Adventure Company have further indulged their passion for sailing by joining forces with Ocean Youth Trust Scotland to offer unbeatable adventure holidays in the West of Scotland onboard Alba Explorer, a 72' Ocean Racing Yacht with an awesome pedigree.**

Originally built for the British Steel Global Challenge in 2000, she is one of an identical fleet of 72' steel hulled yachts, which have raced around the world against the prevailing winds - twice! She is fast, stable, easily handled and provides the perfect platform to explore the Clyde, Mull of Kintyre and the West of Scotland - nothing stops

this boat!

Alba explorer is managed by Ocean Youth Trust Scotland, with a full time professional skipper and mates, who are joined by experienced Arran Adventure Company staff to ensure a great fun, relaxed trip on which you can learn as much or as little as you want about about sail handling, fine tuning, helming, navigation and seamanship. Great food, great Company and a little live music on the side!

Clients will be divided into watches, with a watch leader who will encourage you to become fully involved in sailing the boat for which no experience is necessary - we aim to complete the RYA Competent Crew course during the week for novices. If you are an experienced sailor, you will be able to work at your level and receive personal coaching in any aspect of sailing. If you

prefer to take a less active role, simply relax and enjoy the sail - no problem!

Food onboard will be prepared by an experienced chef to a high standard within the limitations of the facilities available onboard! We will aim to have one evening meal ashore towards the end

of the trip, depending on route / weather etc.

The cost of this unique week of sailing from 7th-13th September 2009 is £595 per person with full board included. Further information with online booking also available: arranadventure.com / 01770 302244.



Photograph by Marc Turner

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Ragwort - the yellow menace

Ragwort is a poisonous weed that has become widespread across Arran this year.

The bright yellow flowers can be seen all over the island but particularly in roadside verges and farmers' field round the Southend. It comes up in pavements and is even prevalent in the car park opposite Brodick Primary School. Some years ago North Ayrshire Council parks staff had to remove ragwort from the vicinity of Arran primary schools.

The dramatic spread of the weed is partly due to a change in farming practices with less livestock on the land allowing the invasion of dockens, rashes and ragwort.

Simon Hart, chief executive of the Countryside Alliance said: 'In the right place where there is no risk to animal welfare ragwort plays an important role in the countryside supporting a wide variety of invertebrates and is a major nectar source for many insects, but it must be controlled, especially where horses and livestock are present. The threat ragwort poses to animals cannot be underestimated.'

Brodick Castle head ranger Kate Sampson said: 'If we find

ragwort in the country park we pull it up by hand.'

Community councillor Jenny Meade said: 'I've been on the island for four years and have seen a drastic increase. If a grazing animal takes a liking to it then their liver will be destroyed.'

Under the Weeds Act 1959, enforcement action can be taken against land occupiers, and by law, all local authorities who own land must control their ragwort.



Bright yellow ragwort growing in the roadside verge at Kildonan.

02_b35rag01

Serenading again

Last summer a small group from Ayr travelled to the island to perform a superb musical evening in Brodick.

They are coming back this year and will perform in 'Saturday Serenade' on Saturday 5 September at 7.30pm in Corrie Hall.

Heather Nelson (classical guitar) and Paul Wood (violin) are professional musicians and they will be joined by Sara Christie (vocal).

Tickets are available from the Book and Card Shop in Brodick.

Brodick Nursery Gardens

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

Brodick Castle, Gardens & Country Park 11am - 4pm
Trout fishing Loch Garbad, Boat or Bank
Hawk Walks Lamlash
Fitness Assessments, Gym Induction, Personal Training Auchrannie Spa & Gym
Arran Heritage Museum, Rosaburn, Brodick 10.30am - 4.30pm

SATURDAY 29th AUGUST

Blackwaterfoot Junior Football Coaching, 10.30am - noon
Karate Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
Family Games Kids & Adults Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Fun in the Spa Pool Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Over 21s Disco The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Brodick Bowling Club, Rink Game 2pm
Lamlash Bowling Club, Rink Game 2pm
RNLI Shop Open Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, Rink Game 2.30pm
Arran Dancers (4 years and up) Arran High School, 10am
Coffee Morning Corrie Village Hall, 10am
Farmers Market Kilmory Hall, 10.30am - 2pm

SUNDAY 30th AUGUST

Alcoholics Anonymous St Margarets Church, Whiting Bay, 4.30pm
Family Games Kids & Adults Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Fun in the Spa Pool Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Arran Fiddle Club- Childrens Classes Library Annexe, 1.45pm
Folk Session Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
RNLI Shop Open Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm

MONDAY 31st AUGUST

Senior Fitness Auchrannie 10am & 11am (Gym)
Over 50's Badminton Lochranza Village Hall 2pm - 4pm
Badminton Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Cardiac Rehab Auchrannie Gym 12.30pm - 2pm
Circuit Training Auchrannie Spa, 6pm - 7.15pm (Gym)
Citizens Advice Open 10am - 2pm
AB Attack KA Leisure, fitness suite 6.30pm - 6.50pm
Aerobics Class KA Leisure, dance studio, 6pm - 7pm
Weight Wise Hospital Bungalow, 5pm - 5.30pm
Netball High School Sports Hall - Seniors 8pm - 9pm
Folk Session Kildonan Hotel, 9pm
Summer Bridge High School, 6.45pm
Brodick Bowling Club, Rink Game 6.45pm
Lamlash Bowling Club Rink Game 6.30pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, Rink Game 6.30pm
Quiz Night Eden Lodge Hotel Whiting Bay, 9.30pm
Arran Junior Football Club Coaching & Games Ormidale Park, 6pm

TUESDAY 1st SEPTEMBER

Lochranza Swimming Club Kinloch 11am - 12pm
Arran Civic Trust Ormidale Pavilion 7.30pm
Legs Bums & Tums Auchrannie Spa 6pm - 7pm (Studio)
Army Cadets Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
The Activator Bus Loch & Cat Hall 10am - 1pm & 1.45pm - 3.45pm
Pop Quiz Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Alcoholics Anonymous Brodick Church Hall - 2pm
Citizens Advice Open 10am - 2pm 4 - 6pm (Appointment Only)
Pulmonary Rehab Auchrannie Gym 12pm - 1pm (Gym)
Open Music Session Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm

Indoor Bowling
Junior Hockey Club
Brodick Toddler Group
Body Conditioning Class
Youth Club
Senior Fitness
Rotary Club
Open Folk Session
Kickboxing
Motocross Practice

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm
 Ormidale Pavillion, 6-7pm
 Church Hall, 10am - 12pm
 KA Leisure, dance studio 6pm - 7pm
 Kildonan Hall - 6pm
 Auchrannie, 10am - 11am
 Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
 Bar Eden, Whiting Bay, 9pm
 Auchrannie Spa, 7pm - 8pm
 Southbank Farm track, 6pm - 7.30pm

WEDNESDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER

Hockey Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm (Games Hall)
Core Strength Auchrannie 5.30 - 6pm
Jnr Rugby Training P4 - S4 Ormidale Park, 6pm - 7.15pm
Aquafizz Auchrannie Hotel, 9.45am - 10.30am (Hotel Pool)
Circuit Training Auchrannie, 6pm - 7.15pm (Gym)
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy 10.30 - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 3.30pm
Pre-school Music & Drama Classes Auchrannie Dance Studio - various times
Kickboxing KA Leisure, dance studio, 7pm - 8.30pm
Alcoholics Anonymous Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm - 9pm
Arran Rugby Club Seniors Training Ormidale Park, 7.30pm
Arran Brass Rehearsal Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm
Selt Making Class Shipfield, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
Brodick Bowling Club, Rink Game 2pm
Lamlash Bowling Club, Rink Game 6.30pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, Rink Game 6.30pm
Coffee Morning Lamlash Church Hall, 10.30am - 12pm
Beavers High School, Lamlash 6.15pm - 7.15pm

THURSDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER

Senior Fitness Auchrannie 10am - 11am
General Knowledge Quiz The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Citizens Advice Open 10am - 2pm
Lochranza Craft Club Hall, 2pm
Coffee Morning St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
Cardiac Rehab Auchrannie Gym 2pm - 3pm
Table Tennis Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm
Legs, Bums & Tums Class KA Leisure, gameshall, 6.30pm - 7.15pm
Indoor Bowling Auchrannie Hall 7pm
Cricket Practice Sannox Oval, 6pm
Craft Market Whiting Bay Village Hall, 11am - 3pm
Smoking Cessation Group Ormidale Pavilion, 11am - 12pm
Royal British Legion- Arran Branch Meeting McLaren Hotel, Brodick, 2p
Cams Open Mike Night The Cabin, Brodick 7pm - 9pm

FRIDAY 4th SEPTEMBER

Arran Pipe Band Practice Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
Aquafizz Auchrannie Pool, 9.45am - 10.30am
Citizens Advice Open 10am - 2pm
Quiz Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm
Adult Tennis Shiskine Golf & Tennis Club, 4.00pm - 6.30pm
Over 21's Disco The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
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BIRTHS



MCCUE/WINSHIP
 Brian and Eleanor are delighted to announce the arrival of Ruby Gillian Winship on 15th July weighing 6lb 80z and growing rapidly. We would also like to thank everyone for the many beautiful gifts and cards. We have been quite overwhelmed. A big thank you to you all.

CHURCH NOTICES

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 30 August
 (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 Masses 9.30 and 11 am

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH
Sunday 30 August
 Worship will be conducted by Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am.
 Tea and coffee will be served in the Hall immediately after the service - please stay and enjoy more fellowship.
 All most welcome.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 (in full communion with the Church of England)
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 30 August
 Holy Commion, 11am.
 Revd Dr Hector Soga, Dollar
Wednesday 2 September
 Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
 All Welcome.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
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Sunday 30 August
 Rev. Gillean Maclean
 Kilmory 10am
 Lamlash 11.30am
 In both churches:
 All welcome, including families; children's area

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)
Sunday 30 August
 11am
 Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
 Evening Service, 7pm
 5 Glen Road, Brodick
 Rev. D Mcalister
 All welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH.
 Ormidale Sports Pavilion



Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday August 20, with weather playing havoc with the golf fixture, the course was closed until 11am. Seniors medal, due to weather no one played. Summer Cup/also Jim Young Memorial despite the weather conditions 18 competed mainly in the evening. Scratch D MacFarlane with a 62, back nine - nine consecutive threes. 1 D MacFarlane 62-0=62 BIH, 2 Allan Winship 75-13=62, 3 Peter Smith 83-19=64, there were two magic twos from P Smith and D Wales.

Sunday August 23, Medal and Captains prize. The weather affected the number who participated, only eight played but managed to get round between the heavy showers. Course very playable despite the downpour of the past couple days. Scratch L Girbow with a 69. 1 Lee Girbow 69-5=64 for 36 stableford points, 2 David Ross 89-18=71 for 32 points, there were two magic twos both by Lee Girbow. Winner of the beautiful

Captains prize Lee Girbow.

Fixtures: Sunday August 30, Junior Medal at 11am. Every Thursday Senior medal from box tees and Summer Cup, arrange times with starter. Saturday August 29, AGA Ken Western Greensome at Machrie Bay, 9am and 1pm. Sunday August 30, Hasting Cup final round at 9.30am and 1pm.

Brodick Golf Club

Summer Cup, Wednesday August 19, 27 played, CSS 64. 1 I Pittman (14)59, 2 J Hartley (23)60, 3 B Robertson (10)61, Scratch J Armit 68. There were five twos, Terry Raeside got two. Not a good turnout, as the fair weather golfers stayed away. Iain Pittman showed how it's done, with a great score in the worst of the weather.

Bridge Trophy, Saturday August 22. A good turnout of members and guests and some from other island clubs. The field got round dry, as the forecast rain didn't appear until we were all safely in the Clubhouse. Winners: Margaret and Derek Roxburgh, runners-up: Aileen Latona and Iain Murchie. Trish and Rosie laid on a superb buffet, and everyone joined in the quiz set by Hamish McCrae.

Yet another good Saturday night in the clubhouse.

Arran Golfers Association

Up and coming events: Saturday 29 August, Ken Western Greensome at Machrie Bay Golf Club, ballot at 9am and 1pm, make up own pairings. Thursday 3 September, Autumn Meeting in Brodick Clubhouse at 8pm. Sunday 6 September, Autumn Handicap Drumadoon Cup at Whiting Bay Golf Club (draw takes place at Autumn meeting and club representatives will post on notice boards). Full Hope Cup report will follow on completion of the competition.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday 18 August, Final day of the Lady Mary/Peter Sutton. Sweep 1 David Price 67, 2 Mark Sherwood 72, 3 Brian Sherwood 74 BIH, Scratch Mark Sherwood 78. Winner of Lady Mary Cup Jenni Turnbull, Eclectic Score 48, runner-up Alice Anderson 50. Winner of Peter Sutton: Mark Sherwood 381, runner-up Hamish Bannatyne 392. Annual Eclectic winner Mark Sherwood 47 BIH, runner-up Denise Sherwood 47. **Fixtures:** Tuesday September 1, Sweep, tee-off 12.30pm.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday August 19, only five played in the latest round of the Summer trophy on a very wet and blustery day. 1 Eddie (Steady) Hope (16)62, 2 Tam young (21)68. Sunday August 23, Captain's Prize was postponed due to severe weather. This will now be played on Sunday September 13.

Fixtures: Sunday August 29, Aitken Rosebowl, two-ball foursomes. One draw for partners at 11am. Wednesday September 2, Bannatyne Cup. Sunday September 6, Autumn Handicap at Whiting Bay. Sheet up on notice board for names.

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday August 19, 1 D Logan 69-9=60, 2 R Logan 67-5=62. Saturday August 22, Summer Cup. 1 M Macdonald 69-14=55, 2 D Price 69-12=57, 3 D Logan 68-9=59.

Fixtures: Saturday August 29, No Game at Corrie due to the AGA Ken Western at Machrie Bay Golf Club. Saturday September 5, Whisky Cup, draws at 9am and 1pm.

Arran Ladies Golf Union

The final of the ALGU Island Championship was played over Lamlash on Tuesday, August 25 between Fiona Crawford, a past winner and playing in the final for the second successive year and Ellie Jones, a winner of the championship on nine previous occasions! After all the recent rain, it was lovely to see the game being played in beautiful sunshine and being followed by a good group of spectators who were treated to a very tight, sporting match with some lovely golf being played by both ladies. Ellie won the first hole and Fiona the second and third. The fourth was halved and Fiona won the fifth to go two up. Ellie immediately hit back taking the sixth and seventh holes. The eighth was halved and Fiona won the ninth to be one up at the turn. Again Ellie struck back playing beautifully and taking the tenth and eleventh holes with back to back birdies. The next few holes were halved with Ellie eventually winning three and two.

The ALGU would like to thank Lamlash for the courtesy of the course which was presented in very good condition despite all the recent rain.

Back in the clubhouse, and in the absence of ALGU President, Elizabeth Ross, who was away on holiday, the presentation was made by vice president, Sheena Murchie who gave the vote of thanks.



Fiona Crawford and Ellie Jones at the first tee of the final of the ALGU Island Championship.

PERSONALS

Look who's turned forty! She's fit and she's sporty, A bit of an entrepreneur.

She's recognised wherever she goes Especially with those long, monkey toes!

Her style has improved over the years, But look at this photo, It brought us to tears!

Happy Birthday Zoe Lots of love from all your family and friends



PUBLIC NOTICES

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

Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at Legal and Protective Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine between the hours of 9.00am and 4.45pm on weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) excepting Saturdays and Public Holidays or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Written representations may be made to the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Protective Services) at the address below by 18th September 2009. Any representations received will be open to public view.

*and at The Council Offices, Lamlash

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

Notice of application to be published under regulation 20(1)

Application No: 09/00536/PP Address: 6 The Row, Catacol, Lochranza, Brodick Isle Of Arran KA27 8HN Proposed Development: Erection of detached annexe to rear of existing dwelling house

Application No: 09/00527/PP Address: 8 Ladeside Place, Shiskine, Brodick, Isle Of Arran KA27 8EG Proposed Development: Erection of two solar panels and flue for woodburning stove (retrospective)

Application No: 09/00550/PP Address: Mill Cottage, Shiskine, Brodick, Isle Of Arran KA27 8EW Proposed Development: Erection of 1 1/2 storey extension to rear and side of cottage

Application No: 09/00559/PPP Address: Site To North Of The Steading, Corrie, Brodick Isle Of Arran Proposed Development: Erection of detached dwelling house

Ian Snodgrass
 Chief Executive
 Cunninghame House
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Hannah and Hazel finish the season as champions

Hannah Bone and Lori Young finished the season as they started as champion and reserve champion at the Arran Riding Club's annual show jumping event.

Throughout the day points were being tallied to find the junior and senior champions for 2009.

These honours were awarded to Hannah Bone as junior champion, with Lori Young reserve champion, and Hazel Ramage as senior champion and Megan McAllister reserve champion.

Held after the Arran Farmers' Show at Glenkiln Farm by kind permission of Mr and Mrs Kenny Bone, there was a disappointing turnout for the event because of the many other events being held that day.

However, the 13 riders were none the less enthusiastic as they got to grips with the course, cleverly designed by Yolly Campbell.

Pairs were drawn from the hat for the second class, and the combination of Hazel Ramage, riding Sally Hunter's Fran, who was jumping out of his skin, and Hannah Bone on her own pony Lily, recorded a flying time of two minutes 18.3 seconds, more than half a minute ahead of the chase.

Nine riders were up for the mini challenge where each fence jumped clear carries a number of points – the rider with the most points taking the prize.

Again, Hannah and Lily were



Champions and reserve champions at the Riding Club's annual show jumping show, from left to right, Megan McAllister and Ali, Hazel Ramage on Fran, Hannah Bone with Lily and Lori Young on Dreamer. b35rid01

in top form jumping 11 fences and notching up a score of 585 in the one minute allowed.

In the maxi challenge it was Diane Lewis' Corrie, ridden by Jenna Wood (both still smiling from success at the Farmers' show), who came home with a top score of 500 points.

The Chase-me-Charlie (mini) class was definitely not for the faint-hearted (mother included) as Lauren MacAllister and Fudge took the honours, closely followed by Hannah and Lori Young. Lauren topped the bar at an approximate height of four feet!

The maxi Chase-me-Charlie saw Megan McAllister and Ali,

who was jumping for fun, claim the red rosette.

Liz Kennedy of the riding club said: 'Thank you to everyone who helped before, during and after the event, making it such a wonderful, fun day for both riders and horses! Special thanks, again, to Kenny and Eleanor Bone and to Bert Ramage for helping transport the jumps.'

Upcoming dates: Sunday September 6 and Sunday September 20 (TBC), Doreen Mathie Training Day contact Clair (302 233). September 25, 26 and 27, Pony Club Camp, places limited, names to Liz please (700 552). October 10

and 11, Aileen Craig Training Weekend, places limited, contact Janis (860 200).

Full Results

Pairs: 1 Hazel Ramage (Fran) and Hannah Bone (Lily), 2 Lori Young (Dreamer) and Janis Murchie (Ross), 3 Caitlin McVicar (Tilly) and Megan McAllister (Ali), 4 Isla Yuill (Velevet) and Emma Hill (Louis). Mini Challenge: 1 Hannah Bone, 2 Lauren MacAllister (Fudge), 3 Lori Young, 4 Emma. Maxi Challenge: 1 Jenna Wood (Corrie), 2 Megan McAllister, 3 Hazel Ramage, 4 Janis Murchie. Mini Chase-me-Charlie: 1 Lauren MacAllister, 2 = Hannah Bone and Lori Young, 4 Isla Yuill. Maxi Chase-me-Charlie: 1 Megan McAllister, 2 Hazel Ramage, 3 Janis Murchie, 4 Jenna Wood.

Champions Brodick knock Northend out of cup

League champions Brodick took on Northend Thistle in the first match of the Arran Knockout Cup on Tuesday night.

Despite Northend scoring the first goal of the night – a very rare occurrence – the league champions went on to defeat them 10-2.

The semi-finals will take place this Saturday with Brodick playing Shiskine and Lamlash taking on the Southend.

The last two league matches of the 2009 Arran football season were played on Saturday night despite Brodick already celebrating victory.

Lamlash played Brodick and were defeated 2-0 by the league champions while Northend took on Southend in Lochranza.

Southend ran away with victory scoring an impressive 11 goals to nil.

The very first goal of the night was an amazing overhead kick from Euan Ingram which found the back of the net effortlessly.

Unstoppable

After that, despite the efforts of Northend's goalkeeper Mark Nelson, Southend were unstoppable.

The team from Lochranza actually resorted to bringing on their youngest signing ever, 11-year-old Alistair Innes, but it was to no avail.

With the league now at a close, Arran Football Association chairman Jamie Picken named this season's top goal scorers.

They are Southend's Nicky Emsley with 22, Archie McNicol of Brodick also 22 and Brodick's Kyle Barbour with 17.

Brodick won the league with 34 points, ahead of Southend with 28, Shiskine 18, Lamlash on 9 and Northend on 0.



Martin Wallbank scored the first goal of the night for Northend Thistle – a very rare occurrence. b35ba101NO



Nicole Bunyan with her two most recent gold medals.

01_b35nic01

More gold for Nicole

Nicole Bunyan, one of Arran's shining athletic stars, picked up two gold medals last Wednesday night at Dam Park in Ayr.

The medals were awarded for coming in first place in the 100 metre and 400 metre races.

Nicole who has been running since she was at primary school is pleased that she is continuing to win prizes now she has moved into the senior women's section.

'This was the last meeting if the summer season,' she said. 'I was running for Irvine Athletics Club and I was up against some tough competition. It's good to still be coming in first.'

Nicole said that it was a sad fact that some athletes who start at a young age like she did lose interest when they don't win every race.

'When I don't win a race it spurs me on even more to do better the next time,' she said.

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FOOD CHAMPIONS: Our guide to the best local produce in your area.

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Youngsters flying high with Ayrshire Kestrels



Ewan Bulger of Corrie and Robbie Bayne of Lamlash joined the Ayrshire Kestrels rugby development squad for their first match last week. b35rug01

Ewan Bulger from Corrie captained the Ayrshire Kestrels rugby squad to success against the Dumfries and Galloway Bulls in their first fixture of the season last Wednesday night.

In last years' matches Arran had the honour of one of their own, Matt Evans (now enjoying success with the Glasgow Giants Pathway side, captaining the team).

This year saw Ewan Bulger nominated as pack leader which is quite an achievement as he came to the pathway programme as a back and was subsequently moulded into an excellent second row forward by his coaches.

Robbie Bayne of Lamlash was also a member of the team that has been chosen from the best 50 players in the region to play four matches for the Kestrels.

Neil Hunter of Lamlash had also been selected but a foot injury forced him to withdraw.

Intensive Training

The selection process got underway in March with all the players receiving three months of intensive training leading up to the matches.

A large crowd of relatives and friends, boosted by a large contingent of Cumnock Rugby club members, were on

hand to cheer the Kestrels on at their first game. The Kestrels have the proud tradition of never having lost a match and this success was to continue with an outstanding display of power and pace.

At half time the score was

19-0 to the Kestrels.

Several changes were made at the break to give the whole squad a run and the Kestrels upped the intensity from the beginning of the half finally gaining domination in the scrum and line-out thanks

mainly to the outstanding work of the front five with Ewan Bulger to the fore.

All credit to D&G for sticking to their task and they were rewarded with a consolation try from winger Ben Goodrich late in the game.

Coach/manager Stevie Edwards said: 'This was an outstanding start by the Kestrels and reward for their hard work in training. They played hard, entertaining rugby and we hope to carry this form through into our next match.'

Shock win in McKinnie Cup



Isobel McDonald, the 2009 McKinnie Cup winner with the most senior member of the McKinnie Clan, John Hartley.

Seventeen members of the McKinnie family assembled at Brodick Golf Club for the annual McKinnie Cup golf competition last weekend.

Following a magnificent game of golf that included five threes in the first seven holes and only 23 years after giving birth, the outstanding winner of the McKinnie Cup 2009 was Isobel MacDonald with 27 points.

Isobel filled the cup with a refreshing G&T in memory of McKinnie favourite, Elinor Bannochie, who died earlier this year.

Prior to the prize giving 48 of the family assembled on the first tee for a one minute silence to remember Elinor who loved this yearly event.

The 2009 team prize, the Robin McKinnie Quaich, was won by the most senior McKinnie; John Hartley, the furthest travelled McKinnie; Robert Watt and Brodick Golf Club's

lady champion circa 1995 and 2007, Isobel MacDonald.

This year the Elinor Bannochie salver was presented by the Hartley family to the leading lady who this year was Kate Nichols a worthy, weepy winner.

Runner-up was Kate Hartley and third was Elaine Hartley - again Lenny asked to see his card.

Previous Winner

In the gents - third was Nicol Hume (a previous winner), second was Andy McCrindle again a previous winner and in first place was Robbie MacDonald with 25 points.

Affectionately known as the Jingly Jangly Jug - the decision was taken this year to play just 12 holes.

The golf was played in record time and by 8pm everyone was back in the club ready to tuck into the buffet produced by several of the clan.

Motocross fundraiser success

Arran Motocross Club managed to raise £550 through their 'guess the last three digits on the £100 note' competition. The note was kindly donated by Bill Smith proprietor of Filtec.

The lucky winner was David Paterson of Lamlash. All proceeds are going to help build the club's new track. Thanks to everyone involved.

Summer Bridge

Results for Monday August 24: N/S 1 E McNiven and R Thompson, 2 D Cattanach and A Cattanach, 3 D Bruce and M Bruce. E/W 1 L Robertson and L Trickett, 2 E McKellar and I McArthur, 3 J Beattie and J McBride.

SPORTSDESK
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Whiting Bay Bowling Competition
Open Pairs Competition
Re-scheduled for Sunday September 6th at 2.30pm
All welcome



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