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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER, 2010

No 1772 55p

Loss of school bus for Whiting Bay children 'daft' says MSP

Two weeks ago The Banner revealed that council cuts on free school transport had left seven Arran children without school transport, and in the case of Whiting Bay were actually costing more than before. Now local MSP Kenneth Gibson has described these moves as 'daft'.

By not picking up the seven children, the council was saving no money, but actually spending more by having to employ a lollipop lady to see the youngsters over the road in the middle of the village, much to the disgust of local mums.

North Ayrshire Council is looking to make savings of £150,000 a year across the region by adhering to Government guidelines and changing the qualifying distance for free transport to school from one mile to two miles.

But these changes have resulted in no savings at all on Arran.

The cost of providing transport to school for 49 youngsters in Whiting Bay will still

be £34,912 a year, a saving of not one penny. MSP Kenneth Gibson has told The Banner: 'I have written to Carol Kirk, Corporate Director, Education, asking for an explanation.'

'In the current economic climate NAC can be forgiven for looking to make savings by focussing on delivering their statutory services.

However, what these figures make clear is that for 414 of the 791 children affected, the saving will be nil as they still have to travel by school bus for safety reasons.

Children

'This of course includes 162 children on Arran, including 49 who attend Whiting Bay Primary School.

'Given that each contract for Whiting Bay continues, it seems daft to me that transport services should be cut to some children when such a decision will inconvenience them and their parents without any savings being made to local taxpayers.

'Where children continue to be taken to school for rea-

sons of safety, it seems only sensible that a half-empty bus should continue to pick up other children who have until now received the service.'

Mark Armstrong, NAC head of logistics and infrastructure, said: 'The pupils in question all live less than one mile from Whiting Bay Primary School and previously qualified for school transport as there was no safe walking route.'

'Subsequent pavement upgrading work has brought the walking route up to a safe standard as defined by Road Safety GB. Therefore, even if the Council's eligibility criteria had not been changed, these pupils would no longer be eligible for free school transport.'

'As part of our commitment to pupil safety, we have also provided school crossing patrollers in Whiting Bay to ensure the safety of all pupils.'

The cost to NAC of providing free school transport for primary children on Arran comes to a total of £186,450 a year.



Ann Hart, left, and her sister Heather Raeside are pictured with Ann's daughter Gillian after they completed the annual Lamlash Splash on Saturday. 01_b39lam01

Ann and Heather make a splash for charity

Twin sisters, Ann Hart and Heather Raeside from Brodick, were celebrating the completion of a marathon swim on Saturday afternoon.

They were joined by Ann's daughter Gillian as they completed the annual Lamlash Splash, which saw them swimming 1.3 miles from Holy Isle to Lamlash.

Initially they set themselves the challenge as part of their upcoming 60th birthday celebrations, but they also had a greater reason for doing the swim.

'Last year, my younger son was diagnosed with and successfully treated for testicular cancer,' said Ann. 'In recognition of the superb

care and support he received we decided to use the swim as an opportunity to raise funds for two cancer charities - ArCaS and Cancer Research UK.'

So far the trio have managed to raise more than £1,000 for the two charities and people can still donate online.

'We would be extremely grateful for donations to these worthwhile causes,' said Ann.

'You can still donate to Cancer Research UK online at www.justgiving.com/Ann-Hart.

The site will be open until December 18.

For the full report and pictures see pages 6 and 7.



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Fallen Rocks road opens

The forestry track from North Sannox car park to the Fallen Rocks will be open for public vehicle access on Wednesday 29 September from 10am until 3pm.

This is particularly aimed at the less able who may not have enjoyed this lovely part of Arran before and you can now walk out to the rocks on a suitable path.

Please use the passing places and heed any signs.

The speed limit is 15mph. Hope you enjoy the drive.

Man refused to leave Ormidale Hotel

A 30-year-old Glasgow man was arrested on Friday night after he refused to leave the Ormidale Hotel in Brodick after closing time.

Police issued him with a fixed penalty.

On Saturday night a 40-year-old man from Stirling was detained in custody after an assault in Whiting Bay.

He appeared at Kilmarnock Sheriff Court on Tuesday.



Linda Gillard with the literary trophy she received from novelist Katie Fforde.

Arran author's third book voted top romantic novel

An Arran author's third novel has topped the poll for Favourite Romantic Novel 1960-2010 in Woman's Weekly magazine.

Brodick resident Linda Gillard's novel 'Star Gazing' has just been voted Favourite Romantic Novel 1960-2010 by readers of Woman's Weekly magazine in a 50th Anniversary Poll organised by the Romantic Novelists' Association.

Linda nearly didn't make it to the London event when bad weather meant some ferries from Brodick were cancelled last Tuesday and Wednesday.

But the weather eventually improved and Linda was awarded the crystal trophy by best-selling novelist Katie Fforde at a champagne breakfast in London on Thursday, September 16. Linda wrote Star Gazing when she lived on the Isle of Skye before moving to Arran, and the novel is set on Skye and in Edinburgh.

The novel, described as 'touching and perceptive' by the Daily Express, has been shortlisted for two other awards including Romantic Novel of the Year 2009, but this is no fluffy romance.

Unusually, the romantic heroine is a 45-year-old blind widow and much of the story is told from her point of view.

Linda said: 'Trying to write about somewhere as beautiful as Skye is daunting. What can you say that hasn't already been said?'

'How do you avoid descending into breathless travelogue cliché?'

'But I'd enjoyed writing about the Hebridean landscape of North Uist in my first novel, Emotional Geology, and I relished the challenge of writing about Skye. So I decided I'd write about the landscape, but from an unusual point of view, or rather no point of view. I would make my heroine blind - and not just blind, but congenitally blind.'

'She would have no visual frame of reference at all. I wasn't blind or visually impaired and I didn't even know anyone who was, but I thought it might be interesting to write about landscape from a non-visual angle. 'Some readers with blind friends and relatives have assumed there must be a blind person in my family, but there isn't.' Star Gazing was also shortlisted in 2009 for the UK's first environmental book award, the Robin Jenkins Literary Award, promoting writing inspired by Scotland's landscape.

Jazz Café in Whiting Bay

Arran's own Jazz Café will once again be in action in Whiting Bay Hall at 8pm tonight (Friday) with an eclectic mix of trad jazz music.

The six regular members comprise John Gibson on trombone, Biff Simpson on cornet and vocals, Alison Prince on clarinet, John Tilbury, bass, Tom Buchan, rhythm guitar and Malcolm Kerr on drums.

The band formed in March 2001 following an appeal in the Banner letters page by founder member John Gibson for like-minded jazz musicians to get together on an occasional basis. Their home venue has been Whiting Bay, roughly once a month, but they have ventured out to other villages from time to time.

As usual, the setting will be informal café-style, and the public are invited to bring a bottle to share if they wish.

Rusty old barge bids farewell to Brodick

The rusty old barge that has graced the inner basin at Brodick pier since early March has finally gone.

It was towed away by a tug on Tuesday morning.

The barge, AMC AGEM ONE, was being used as a base by divers for repairs to the underwater dolphins and linkspan at the pier. The work was originally scheduled for 17

weeks but due to an ownership dispute the barge remained moored in the basin long after it was completed.

Now the unsightly vessel has been removed and the travelling public can be reassured that Brodick pier is in sound structural condition.

A spokesman for Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) said: 'The works to the pier and linkspan were essential to safely maintain the ongoing use of the ferry terminal.' Disruption to the general public and local residents was kept to a minimum with most of the repair work being carried out at night.'



The barge being towed away on Tuesday.

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Kildonan waterfall project earmarked for £10,000 boost

Funding of an extra £10,000 for footpath work at Easmor waterfall site near Kildonan has been recommended by North Ayrshire Council.

The project has already received £37,740 from NAC in grant aid. At the meeting of the Executive of NAC on Tuesday afternoon 14 applications for funding under the Landfill Communities Fund (LCF) 2010/2011 were considered.

The LCF is a fund that the Council as a landfill operator collects on behalf of Customs and Excise. The Council is allowed to divert a percentage of tax collected to environmental bodies to carry out works that meet the approved objectives.

The Easmor group requested £22,560 but the report from the solicitor of the council said: 'As we are oversubscribed this year and given that the group have received funding for the last three years it is considered that only £10,000 be awarded.'

This project forms part of a larger plan for the site which includes an ecology centre, reception building and hydro-electric power station. About 800 metres of paths suitable for powered wheelchairs have been laid on the site that leads up to the spectacular Easmor waterfall. The project was started by kenspeckle character Michael Holmes of Mauchline, better known as Albert, who in 1983 acquired the land from the Kildonan high road at the top of Church Brae and up to the waterfall. Over the years he has steadily worked on the path with occasional volunteer help and some outside funding. At 103 feet high, Easmor is Arran's greatest single waterfall drop

and there is already an environmental interpretation log cabin close to the top.

Landfill funding of £37,740 was provided to Easmor over the last three years for path improvement works, boundary fencing and environmental improvements.

The group has asked for funding for the construction of a further 300 metres of paths.

This project has been registered with Entrust, the government-appointed regulator of the LCF.

Since the scheme began in 1997, the Council has given approximately £1,834,309 to a total of 117 projects in North Ayrshire.

A decision on the application has been deferred to the next meeting of the Executive on Tuesday October 12.



Lady Jean Fforde is pictured with the commemorative plaque given to her by the Royal British Legion in commemoration of her work with the organisation.

Legion marks Lady Jean's 90th birthday

The Arran branch of the Royal British Legion hosted a special lunch last Thursday afternoon to mark Lady Jean Fforde's 90 birthday.

As president of the local branch, Lady Jean has been heavily involved with the British Legion for many years.

Certificate

The members of the Legion presented her with a bouquet and she was also given a Royal British Legion framed certificate thanking for her support over the years.

In her reply Lady Jean thanked the branch and commented how proud she felt to be amongst friends.

Arran War Memorial Hospital given clean bill of health

Arran War Memorial Hospital in Lamlash and Crosshouse Hospital in Kilmarnock have received the thumbs-up after a recent Scottish government inspection.

The Healthcare Environment Inspectorate report published on Tuesday September 21 said: 'Both hospitals were clean in all areas inspected and the Arran hospital was praised as a good example of a remote hospital working closely with the wider NHS board to tackle infection control.'

Health Secretary Nicola Sturgeon said: 'I have made tackling hospital infections my top priority and I am pleased to learn that Arran War Memorial

Hospital and Crosshouse Hospital have introduced a series of measures to minimise the risk of infection among patients, staff and visitors.

The inspectors found that good progress has been made, but they also highlighted concerns that need to be addressed.

Confidence

'NHS Ayrshire and Arran has published an improvement plan to deal with these issues and will now work with the inspectorate to tackle these issues and reinforce public confidence.'

The inspections at Lamlash took place on August 9, 10 and 11.

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Thursday - General Knowledge Quiz - 10pm
Sunday - Folk Session 9.30pm

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Shiskine SWRI

The first meeting will be on Wednesday 29 September at 7.30pm in Shiskine Hall, and it should be very tasty and informative as the guest speaker will be Calum Chaplin on cheese and wine.

The competition will be Bramble Jelly and the exhibition is your favourite Wine Stopper.

There will also be a display of 2010 Show Entries, so please bring them along.

It would be wonderful to welcome any new members so please come along and join us.

Kildonan SWRI

The first meeting of Kildonan WRI will be held in Kildonan Hall on Tuesday 28 September at 7.30pm.

The entertainment for the evening is a demonstration of Waxed Painting by Mrs Patsy Keen and the competition is Lemon Curd. There will also be a raffle.

A warm invitation is extended to both past members and new.

Please come along and enjoy an entertaining and friendly evening.

Got a story for The Arran Banner? Call our reporters on 01770 302142.



Young readers rewarded at Brodick Library

A huge number of Arran youngsters gathered in the Brodick Library last Wednesday afternoon to collect some very special awards.

The children from six of Arran's primary schools had all completed a very special scheme run by the library to encourage them to read.

They ranged in age from four-years-old to 11 and each one of them had read at least six books throughout the summer holidays.

The children are pictured with their certificates and a special goody bag given to them by library staff.

01_b39lib01

Win tickets to the Rally of Scotland

The Rally of Scotland, one of the country's top sporting spectacles of the year, takes place on October 15 to 17 and the Arran Banner has two tickets, worth £20 each, to give away for lucky readers to see the high-speed action for free.

The event will be contested by some of the world's best rally drivers, teams and cars on what are among the most demanding and spectacular

competitive timed stages in the forests and around the lochs of Perthshire and Stirlingshire. Last year it was a British 1-2-3 on the podium as Guy Wilks in a Skoda Fabia came out on top of a thrilling battle with Kris Meeke in a Peugeot to take the win with Scottish hero Proton-driver Alister McRae pushing them all the way in third.

All are back for 2010's event but face terrific opposition from their visiting overseas team-mates as well as plenty more top names representing rival makes such as Ford and Subaru.

The Rally of Scotland forms the crucial penultimate round of the Intercontinental Rally Challenge and starts at Scone Palace on the Friday night before heading into Perthshire on Saturday and then

the Trossachs on Sunday. Our competition winners will win day passes that will give full spectator access to all stages on Saturday October 16, plus a complimentary souvenir official rally programme.

To enter all you need to do is answer the following question:

At which historic Scottish landmark does 2010's Rally of Scotland start?

Answers to be sent to Wyvex Media on the coupon, right, by Monday October 4.

Admission to the 2010 Rally of Scotland on October 15 to 17 is free for children aged 15 and under. Adult tickets cost £10 on Friday, £20 for Saturday and Sunday.

More information can be found at www.rallyofscotland.com. Ticket hotline 0844 847 2488.

Rally of Scotland competition

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Completed coupons must be returned to Wyvex Media, PO Box 1, Oban, Argyll, PA34 4NL, by Monday October 4.

Normal Oban Times rules apply. The Editor's decision is final. Photocopied entries will not be accepted. No cash alternative.

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ARRAN COMMUNITY COUNCIL ELECTION MEETING 2010

Notice is hereby given that at the close of the period for nominations of persons for election as the 12 elected Community Councillors, the undernoted nine valid nominations have been received. Since the number of nominations is less than the prescribed number of elected Community Councillors the undernoted persons are deemed to have been elected: -

Candidate	Address	Proposers
Charles Colin Macleod Currie	Thornwood, Blackwaterfoot, Isle of Arran KA27 8HA	Margaret Stewart Bannatyne Gillian Ingham
Henry Davidson	Tulloch, 17 Alma Park, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8AJ	John Sillars Kenneth John Morrison
James Charles McDonald Henderson	Eilean Leodais, Lamlash, Isle of Arran KA27 8JW	Jenny M. Meade Morag M.M.W. Gardner
John Scott Inglis	Red House, High Corrie, Isle of Arran, KA27 8JB	Margo Wheeler David John Underdown
William Archibald Kelso	Nia Roo, Shiskine, Isle of Arran KA27 8EP	Jessie Hutton Yvonne Hazel Randell
John (Ian) McCallum	Ardtalla, Shore Road, Whiting Bay, Isle of Arran KA27 8PZ	George Per Ostman George Jaap Lyle
Richard Alexander McMaster	Springfield, Shannochie Isle of Arran KA27 8SJ	Fiona Mary McMaster Philip Wigley
Alison Mary Prince	Burnfoot, Whiting Bay Isle of Arran KA27 8QL	John Simmons Beverley Hodkinson
Brenda Stewart	Culag, Manse Road, Lamlash Isle of Arran KA27 8JU	Janet C. McArthur James McArthur

Accordingly, local meetings will be arranged on an extended village basis at relevant venues to fill the remaining three vacancies. The first Business Meeting will be held on 28 September 2010 in the Ormidale Pavilion, Brodick at 7.30pm.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
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NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL



Mr Barr explains the basics of technical drawing to his first year pupils. 01_b39ahs03



Mr Steve Evans, principal teacher of PE, talks to parents about the badminton coaching the boys were taking part in. 01_b39ahs01

High school parents see S1 classes first-hand

The doors to Arran High School were opened to parents of S1 pupils last Thursday morning to allow them to see first hand the workings of the school.

Around 30 parents arrived for the annual S1 Parents Open

Morning, which allows them to see how their children are coping with the move up to the High School.

The visitors were split into two groups: one doing a tour from 9.30am and another doing a tour from 11.20am.

House captains from first year were selected as guides for the groups, which visited a number of different classes.

After an official welcome from head teacher Douglas Auld, in which he said he had been very impressed by the way in which the new S1s had adapted to secondary school, deputy head Ian McLaren explained the format for the tours.

Unlike previous open days, this year's focused entirely on S1 classes, which gave the parents an opportunity to see their own child in the classroom.

Group A, led by Oisean Swinton-Boyle and DD McAleer, headed outside first to see the S1 girls playing football before returning inside to see Mr Evans coaching the boys at badminton.

In each classroom the parents stood quietly at the side and enjoyed a 10-minute taster of a real first-year class session.

Then it was off to the School Library to see first hand what a wonderful asset this facility is to the pupils.

Librarian Heather Johnston said: 'The library is really well used by pupils from all years. This year we've seen a lot more S1 pupils coming in here to use the computers and read books at break times.'

After this group A went to see Mr Barr's technical class where he was explaining the basics of technical drawing.

From here it was on to Home

Economics where the girls and boys were making potato wedges – which according to most parents was a lot more exciting than the chicken broth they were forced to cook as pupils.

Each teacher was able to explain what the pupils were doing, why they were doing it and what the rest of the year would entail.

There was also an opportunity for parents to ask questions and speak to the pupils themselves.

Some of the comments from parents afterwards were: 'I can't believe the facilities inside this school, it's truly amazing' and 'It's great to see the classrooms so quiet as the children concentrate fully on the task at hand.'



In the home economics class the pupils were making potato wedges. 01_b39ahs04



Librarian Heather Johnston showed parents the amazing facilities available to pupils at the library.

01_b39ahs02

Scottish Field

IN THE OCTOBER ISSUE: RHONA MARTIN ON HER IDYLIC Ayrshire Childhood ■ LANARK AIR SHOW ■ JACK VETTRIANO ■ INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS FEATURE ■ BADGERS ■ SIR WALTER'S SCOTLAND ■ PORTMORE GARDENS ■ SHOOTING ON A SHOESTRING: OUR TOP TEN BUDGET SHOOT ■ TOP SPA HOTELS ■ RESTAURANT REVIEW: JAMIE OLIVER'S ITALIAN ■ GROUSE HUNTING WITH HAWKS ■ FABULOUS FOOD AT THE ALBANNACH

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Brave souls make a splash for charity



The first group of swimmers prepare to set off from Holy Isle to swim the 1.3 miles to Lamlash.

It may have been a cloudy, dull September day but that didn't stop 36 people donning their wet suits to take part in the ninth annual Lamlash Splash on Saturday.

The brave souls prepared for the 1.3 mile open water swim

from Holy Isle to Lamlash Pier which is organised each year to raise money for charity.

Organisers were pleased this year to see a large number of locals taking part - Neil Gillies, Mike Mellor, Ann and Gillian Hart, Heather Raeside, Dawn

Ulivi, Alison Howie, Sarah-Jane Young, Willie Currie, Glen Sloss, Sally Hunter and Richard Small.

There was even a celebrity competitor this year - Alex Witherspoon who was a runner up on The Apprentice two years ago took part in the event with his brother Oliver.

A record 36 swimmers from all over Britain boarded the rescue boats at Lamlash Pier and were taken over to Holy Isle where they were dropped off for the swim back.

Invaluable

The swimmers were accompanied by 6 RIBs acting as rescue boats and kayaks that were invaluable in keeping the swimmers in a straight line.

Sally Hunter, one of the organisers of the event, said: 'The weather was good for the event with light winds, although the sea was choppy in parts making it difficult for swimmers to breath properly and to see where they were going.'

Many of the swimmers were seasoned tri-athletes and they completed the course

in very fast times. First home was Doug Robertson from Uplawmoor, closely followed by Stuart McPhail and last year's winner Fergus Sim.

The first local back was Glen Loss from Sannox.

The Ali Bodie Memorial Trophy for the person judged to have put the most effort into completing the swim went to Heather Raeside from Brodick who completed the swim with her twin sister Ann Hart and Ann's daughter Gillian.

Heather, Gillian and Ann have raised well over £1,000 for Cancer Research UK and people can still donate online at www.justgiving.com/Ann-Hart.

The site will be open until December 18.

'For most the challenge is just completing the swim and enjoying it,' said Sally.

'Willie Currie of Lamlash was heard, before the start, to say that he was sure Holy Isle was further away than normal!

'Thanks to all of the huge team of people who helped with the event both afloat and onshore.'



Neil Gillies of Lamlash and Mike Mellor of Brodick were some of the first locals to finish the swim. 01_b39lam02



Members of the local Coastguard team kept a watchful eye on all the competitors. 01_b39lam09



Dawn Ulivi, Richard Small and Gillian Hart, all of Brodick, at the finish line. 01_b39lam03

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The local lifeboat team were on duty. 01_b39lam05

Record number of swimmers take the plunge in Lamlash Splash



John Barraclough was just one of the kayakers who were responsible for keeping the swimmers on the correct course. 01_b39lam08



The first local to finish was Glen Sloss of Sannox. 01_b39lam06



Two more locals to complete the swim from Holy Isle to Lamlash were Sarah-Jane Young and Willie Currie who both live in Lamlash. 01_b39lam04



Tri-athletes from all across Britain took part in the Lamlash Splash. 01_b39lam07

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THE ARRAN BANNER

How can people afford to live nowadays?

Figures released by the Office for National Statistics reveal that the increase in the cost of living over the past year has vastly outstripped any increase in average earnings.

More than ever, people are having to tighten their belts and make dramatic economies just to keep their heads above water.

With the 70th anniversary celebrations of the Battle of Britain just passed, it is perhaps poignant that we are seeing the possibility of a return to the austerity of wartime living.

In the past year the cost of fuel has increased by 12 percent, fruit by 9.4 percent, vegetables by 6.8 percent, airfares by 23 percent and travel insurance by a massive 38 percent.

At the same time, average earnings have gone up by 2.3 percent.

Something has to give, or we just have to change our way of living. All local authorities, including North Ayrshire Council, are having to make major savings whilst trying to maintain services to the general public. Job cuts in the public sector seem to be inevitable, but is it any real saving when those job losses only put more pressure on the benefits system?

Interest rates are at rock bottom, making savings vulnerable. Pensions and any nest eggs laid up for the future are actually decreasing in real value. It seems that little will change until interest rates begin to rise with a knock-on effect across the economy and an increase in investment.

One of the old-fashioned ways to tighten the belt is to cut household bills by simple economies. Make-do-and-mend was a wartime philosophy that helped to defeat the Third Reich.

All today's youngsters are taught how to cook and sew at school, but how many of them actually put it into practice in the home? We have all become used to ready meals and off-the-peg clothes rather than cooking real food and mending clothes.

And how many of us make use of nature's great larder? At the moment, Arran's hedgerows are bursting with a bountiful crop of brambles and only a tiny fraction of them will actually be harvested for nutritious jam or jelly.

The good weather in May and June has led to a bumper crop of rosehips and sloe berries, but how many folk realise that rosehips have 1,000 times more vitamin C than oranges or lemons brought over from foreign climes? Rosehip jellies and syrups were a mainstay of wartime diets.

For savings on clothes it would perhaps make sense to consider popping into the ArCaS shop at Brodick pier. The quality of second hand clothes and other goods in charity shops has increased so much in recent years.

So there are savings to be made, but there is no escaping fuel costs with petrol at £1.32 a litre on Arran.

The only answer is to cycle or walk to those hedgerows, but don't forget that it is bad luck to eat brambles after the end of September – folklore has it that the witches will have peed on them.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Look to the Lord and be strong; at all times seek His presence.' (Psalm 105:4)

press policy

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

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

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

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

your letters

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

Letters to the Editor



It's not just volunteers!

Sir,
I was interested to read your editorial 'A novel idea' in the August 28 edition of The Banner, as you mention the George and Dragon pub in Hudswell, North Yorkshire, where I live.

We villagers have just bought the pub and we're delighted to have it open again, as it's a great meeting place and it also now has allotments, a small library and there are plans for a shop, too. You mention our library and the role played by volunteers.

It is great that the community has got together to get the pub reopened and to help to run the library.

However, I think it is important to say the full time library service has played a vital role and that we could not have done it without them.

Volunteers are not the whole story by any means! We also employ a tenant to run the pub. We are proud of the village's achievement and we have investors from near and far. In fact, my mum, who lives in Whiting Bay, has a stake in this North Yorkshire pub.

I have been a visitor to Arran since my childhood and look forward to my next visit soon. In the meantime - cheers, everyone, from the George and Dragon, Hudswell.

Yours,
Linda Wilson
Lindisfarne
Hudswell, Richmond.

Praise for CalMac

Sir,
I write to assure Donald Johnston that CalMac's practical way of dealing with passengers requiring assistance is fine.

I often witness help being given to the needy by the crew.

One winter's night shortly after I'd had a broken arm set under general anaesthetic at Crosshouse Hospital, I was brought to the boat by my nephew.

As I'd suffered other injuries in a fall I looked and felt very ill. The seaman at the gangway

fetches a chair and wheels me aboard.

He kept his eye on me all the way across and was exceedingly kind.

Yours,
Anne Hodge
Whiting Bay
PS If any Arran readers of the Saga magazine were wondering who that girl Anne was (on the back seat of the bus with Tom Conti) - it was me!

Health service commended

Sir,
I was a visitor to the island last week at the Hagan's, Kildonan and became concerned about a painful leg.

I got an appointment at Brodick Health Centre and was very impressed by the care and attention given to me by the doctor I saw.

I would like to thank the doctor who attended to me, also the staff there.

Arran is very lucky to have a remarkable health service.

Yours,
Ivy Charnock
Durham
England.

Which is Arran's capital?

Sir,
On August 13 an error appeared in The Banner that I thought a current native would have corrected, but as none has it is left to this Lamlash exile do it instead.

Lady Jean Fforde was quoted saying that Brodick was the capital of Arran.

She is mistaken. Lamlash is, and always has been, the capital of the island.

Brodick is just the place where the boat comes in.

Yours,
Euan Young Henderson
Inverbervie.

Youth work recognised

Sir,
I have been involved with Arran Youth Foundations from its very beginnings and appreciate the work they have done to support the young people of Arran and their work in creating and developing a youth centre in Brod-

ick. The article regarding the new youth worker that has been employed fails to acknowledge the hard work that has been put in by the youth workers of North Ayrshire Council that are based in the Lamlash Youth Centre. This dedicated team of youth workers, led by Nikki Harris, have been providing a fantastic service to young people for many years and continue to do so.

I think the emphasis of the article was in the wrong place as it emphasised the fact that Graeme (the new youth worker) was the first full time youth worker on Arran but failed to mention that although this is the case there is a dedicated team of youth workers based in Lamlash that provide fantastic amenities and services for the young people of Arran.

I hope that in the future both Arran Youth Foundations and the North Ayrshire Council youth workers will work together and appreciate the work that each other do and give them credit where credit is due.

Yours,
Name and address supplied

Bombing practice at Skipness

Sir,
Whilst visiting Arran recently I took the trip across from Lochranza to Claonaig then walked along to Skipness Castle and the excellent seafood cabin, before going on to look at the ruins of St Brendan's Chapel.

In the village I picked up a pamphlet prepared by Skipness School, which described a 'stoke arrow'. This is actually a concrete strip in the shape of an arrow which was used in the Second World War for bombing practice in the Kilbrannan Sound.

It is situated to the right of the chapel. I would like to know more about this and also what looks like an observation post just off the roadside beyond the village towards Claonaig.

Yours,
Mr Leaver,
Troutbeck
Wildernece
Cumbria.

Whale song heard

Sir,
My friend and I were walking in Arran this weekend and we are certain we heard whale song.

Are you aware of any other sightings/hearings?

It was today (Sunday) around 1.40pm and we were coming down from Dun Fion making our way down to the shore, just around Hamilton Island.

We were stopped in our tracks by what sounded very much like whale song which was loud and clear, coming from Lamlash area.

The island was busy this weekend and someone else must have heard it.

We didn't see anything and would love to know if there was any evidence and that we aren't just mad!

Yours,
Jackie Shuttleworth and Jackie Plenderleith
By e-mail.

Riverside Cottage fire

Sir,
I would like to give my heartfelt thanks to Blackwaterfoot, Brodick and Lamlash fire services, without whose speedy response and efficiency, so much more would have been destroyed by the fire at Riverside Cottage last Thursday.

Thanks for moving so many of my belongings and artwork to safety, saving them from permanent damage. Also a very special thank-you to the Robertsons, who have been untiring in their efforts to clear up the debris, and for making such a quick start on repairing the house. I've been overwhelmed by people's kindness and generosity, too many to mention, but I'd especially like to thank my neighbours Sylvia and Brian Money, who helped so much whilst it was all happening. Until I can move back into Riverside Cottage, I shall be staying at Rowanbank, Machrie (thanks to the Boscawens and Helen) and can be contacted on 840205. Many thanks.

Yours, John Knox
Rowanbank
Machrie.

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Barking House play reading



Author Wilma Stark, singer Amy Allan and actress Margaret Fraser.

At 3.15pm last Sunday 19 September, there was a performance reading of Wilma Stark's new play, *The Barking House*, in Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall.

Acted by Margaret Fraser and directed by Morna Burdon, the play is set in the Barking House, Lochranza in the late 19th century when the village was the centre of the local fishing croft industry. It depicts the trials, tribulations, and drudgery of a lonely woman struggling to cope with a babe in arms, and invalid husband, while keeping the work of the barking house going.

The play shows how the woman is gradually reduced until she is almost at the end of her tether. Margaret Fraser

delivered a powerful script masterfully. She took the audience on a roller coaster ride with emotions, swinging between pathos and despair to hope and elation and back again.

The mood was assisted by background music by Duncan Chisholm, some of which was sung by seven-year-old Amy Allan of Lochranza.

After the reading the author, director and actress held a question and answer session with the audience to garner their opinions as to how the eventual play might be improved.

This was entered into enthusiastically by the audience who had received the reading very well.

After the question and answer session there followed a fund raising auction (to raise funds for the play's expenses) conducted by Jim Lees.

A beautiful watercolour of the Barking House by Agnes Morris of Ardrossan, donated by Kitty Milne of Lochranza, was purchased by Dr Baboolal of Lochranza.

Glencairn Crystal Company had donated a crystal decanter and six glasses etched with a design of the Barking House and presented in a magnificent polished wooden box with

velvet lining. It was a real one-off that will no doubt become a collectors' piece and it was purchased by Mr Andy Knight of Erskine.

The third and last lot was a signed original script of the play and a quaich donated by Arran's own potter Simon Thorborn, purchased by Stuart Gough of Corrie Shore.

There was an excellent turnout of about 75 to 80 people and the feedback indicated that the reading was very well received and thoroughly enjoyed by all.



Andy Knight with the special crystal decanter and glasses.



Dr Baboolal with the painting of the Barking House that he bought at auction.

Castings begin for Lochranza Christmas pantomime

The search is on to find cast members to join the Lochranza Christmas pantomime production.

Anyone interested in taking part please phone Fiona Crawford on 830270.

Rehearsals will be starting in October.

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Pensioners Parliament could be good news for Arran

News of proposals for a Pensioners Parliament could have special significance for Arran.

The island has an unusually high proportion of elderly residents who could welcome the Scottish Seniors Alliance cam-

paigned to set up a Pensioners Parliament. The proposal has already received the backing of local Labour Party representatives in North Ayrshire.

Speaking after the inaugural meeting of the campaign in Ayrshire at the Ardrossan

Civic Centre on Sunday, Labour MP Katy Clark said: 'I have raised the issue at Westminster and lodged an Early Day Motion supporting a Pensioners Parliament. I agree with the Scottish Seniors Alliance that legislation is necessary to ensure that representatives of pensioners have to be consulted about changes that affect pensioners. A Pensioners Parliament is a brilliant idea.'

Prospective Labour Scottish Parliamentary candidate, Allan Wilson, who was also present at the meeting said: 'I was particularly proud to have been part of a Scottish Government that introduced free bus travel, free central heating and free personal care for Scotland's pensioners but these progressive measures are all now under attack and it is important that pensioners are given their own forums to defend these services and ensure

their voice is heard again in the corridors of power.'

Local Councillor Peter McNamara whose ward includes Arran echoed these sentiments saying: 'The meeting heard how progress had been made in Wales and Northern Ireland on this issue and it is important that Scotland's pensioners are not left behind. In North Ayrshire we are pleased to provide administrative and other support to elderly forums but the money to make the necessary financial commitment to set up the Parliament has to come from Scotland's Parliament and I wish the Seniors Alliance success in their campaign.'

Arran Churches together

On Sunday 19 September, the offering on behalf of the Scottish Bible Society at the Local Heroes Praise Service amounted to £182.80.



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The Banner's annual



'Gorge jumping at Sannox', Alison Davidson.



'Hamish and Angus relaxing at Sandbraes', Anne Strachan, Bathgate/Lamlash.



'Two Wee Stars' Celia Sillars, B...

Arran Banner inundated with entries for 30th annual

The Banner's annual photographic competition has been running now for 30 years.

On Friday afternoon the 2010 competition came to a close and once again we were inundated with entries from all over the world.

The winners in both categories this year will receive a super hamper of island goodies kindly supplied by the Isle of Arran Cheese Company at Home Farm, Brodick.

In next week's Banner we will be announcing who those lucky winners are – but this week we have once again brought you a selection of pictures that were highly

acclaimed by the most people in the world of photography capture this part of the world. The standard more and more photography part of people. It has been the winners truly stunning wildlife and Thank you have been a

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'Woody and Buzz at Brodick Castle', Adam Moran, age eight.



'A view of Arran from Cumbrae', Annette C...

photo competition



Brodict.

ated with ual contest

by our judges. Arran is one of the most picturesque and beautiful places in the world and each year through our annual photo challenge we ask the readers to submit their perfect island on camera. The number of entries really does improve every year, proving that photography is becoming a much bigger part of people's everyday lives. It was very difficult to narrow down the entries this year as we have seen some amazing pictures of people, animals, and beautiful scenery. Thank you for all of your entries. They were a pleasure to judge.



'Brodict Highland Games Dance', Alex Ulivi, Brodict.



'The Dark Island', Avril McDonald, Troon.



'Aww...just one more go', Cams Campbell, Brodict.



Gregory, Coynton.



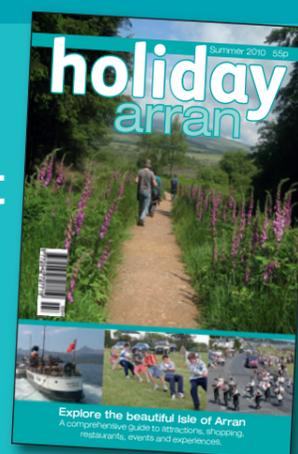
'A Machrie sunset', Kate Farrell, Machrie.



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Charity car wash raises funds for firefighters

Last Saturday the volunteer firefighters from Lamlash and Brodick took part in an annual Charity Car Wash in aid of the Fire Fighters charity.

The crews raised an impressive £445.

Every year, thousands of firefighters are injured whilst protecting the public.

Every 30 seconds in the UK, firefighters are called to an incident, putting their lives on the line, and often sustaining physical injuries whilst carrying out their duties.

The Fire Fighters Charity

is there for all fire service personnel during their times of need, and assists thousands of individuals every year, by providing pioneering treatment and support services.

Reliant

It costs over £9 million every year to keep the charity running, and with no government funding, it is completely reliant upon donations from the general public and fire community.

So thank you to all the generous people who came for their cars washing.



Crews from the Lamlash and Brodick Fire Stations took part in a charity car wash on Saturday to raise money for the Fire Fighters charity.

Kilmory quiz brings the house down

Kilmory Church's annual quiz was won this year by Mr George Shields from Du-noon.

Mr Shields correctly answered all the clues that related to different items you will find around the house. All the money raised will go towards the Kilmory Parish Church funds. Thank you to all for taking part and to those who sold the quizzes for the church.

Answers: 1 A flying tool: plane, 2 Belongs to Basil: brush, 3 What fifty dread: ladder, 4 Rings for kit: skirt-ing, 5 The end of the bird: dovetail, 6 In a nicer street: cistern, 7 No smile for you: emulsion, 8 Just save and hide: adhesive, 9 Often dropped: brick, 10 Cricketer goes af-ter nine: batten, 11 Always found in oats: foundations, 12 An Olympic sport: fencing, 13 Where you see quarts: setsquare, 14 Always behind: lagging, 15 It is nicer for the company: cornice, 16 Account for love: alcove, 17 An eastern concert: concrete, 18 News on the beach: sandpaper, 19 Give Tim a leg up: gimlet, 20 One of the Full Monty: stripper, 21 Ends with a stack: chim-ney, 22 Determined directors: hardboard, 23 Give it all to the pet: pallet, 24 It is a bad result: balustrade, 25 Through on TV: Keyhole, 26 A combination of notes: stone, 27 Some are second class: besom, 28 Could be from Paris: plaster, 29 But-ter for the boat: buttress, 30 Not worn on top: undercoat, 31 Rips the French: pliers, 32 Why the Romans: masonry, 33 Throw in the works: spanner, 34 Poach the bird: chipboard, 35 Not from a smooth mould: roughcast, 36 Could be a card: spade, 37 At the lower junc-tion: trowel, 38 Poster for the French bard: plasterboard, 39 Goes with a bracket: hinge, 40 One to step over: threshold, 41 Clark in the films: gable, 42 Carton for the mail: let-terbox, 43 Gee - a girl: glass, 44 Found in hovels: shovel, 45 Always turned: screw, 46 Take a reading: drainage, 47 Always in the least: slate, 48 Rest in a bin: banister, 49 Could be a KO: punch, 50 For the cake or Christmas: decoration.

Coal Tits reap the benefit of food hoarding habits

Coal Tits seem relatively unaffected by snow or cold in winter.

Perhaps this reflects the benefits of their food hoarding habits, their tendency to feed from the snow-free undersides of branches and, in some areas, their ability to take advantage of food provided in gardens. However long periods of very severe weather may cause high mortality and after the unusually cold winter on Arran this year, I would be particularly interested in

Bird Notes by Jim Cassels

receiving breeding records of this species this year.

In Scotland, the Coal Tit is a common breeding bird throughout most of the mainland and most the islands with the exception of the Northern Isles.

It is absent from exposed treeless areas and in the 20th

century benefited from the establishment of conifer plantations. The winter distribution is very similar to that in the breeding season and reflects the generally sedentary nature of Coal Tit in Scotland.

Primarily a bird of coniferous woodland, even quite small, isolated stands of conifers in deciduous woodland are sufficient to support breeding birds, but they are also found in birch and oak wood. A woodland species, Coal Tits readily come into gardens, especially if there are conifers.

A wide variety of foods, especially peanuts and sun flower seeds, will attract the species to feeders.

The smallest of the European Tits, Coal Tit tends to get picked on by its larger relatives and is at the bottom of the tit pecking order. When able to get to garden feeders, a Coal Tit will often fly off with a seed or nut, only to return seconds later for another, repeating the action many times.

The bird stores the food to eat later. Like a lot of small birds they spend most of the

daylight hours feeding, waking early and roosting late.

Coal Tits nest naturally in holes in trees and stumps, under roots or rocks and in holes in the ground. They will use nest boxes with small holes. From BTO information they were the 10th commonest bird to use nest boxes.

A nest box for a Coal Tit is best sited low down where other tits are unlikely to use them. Coal Tit is the earliest of our tits to breed, beginning in late April, when nine or 10 eggs are laid.

The incubation is about 14 days and after hatching both parents feed the young for about 20 days. There is

normally only one brood.

Coal Tits breed when they are one year old and the average lifespan is two years.

This breeding technique of a single large brood can help to re-establish numbers after a severe winter.

Enjoy your birding.

Please send any bird notes with 'what, when, where' to me at Kilpatrick Kennels, Kilpatrick, Blackwaterfoot, KA27 8EY, or e mail me at james.cassels@virgin.net. I look forward to hearing from you. For more information on birding on Arran purchase the Arran Bird Report 2009 and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk.



The Coal Tit. Photo by Carl Reavey

Arran Branch, Conservative & Unionist Association.

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The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday, September 15, 1990

Paradise lost

For anyone wanting to get away from it all, nothing could be more idyllic than the remoteness of Auchareoch. Miles from the main road and unknown even to the majority of Arran residents, two families live there in a fertile oasis in the deserted interior of the island.

They went there dreaming of paradise but now it has turned to hell.

A series of disputes between Stephen Birch, who sold Auchareoch Farmhouse a year ago but still farms the land, and new owner Stanley Mazur have broken out.

Quarrels about missing property, the state of the road and the care of animals on the farm have seen the police being called up there several times this week alone.

Tourist Board merger?

'It looks as if I will be the last Arran Tourist Officer,' said Charles Currie this week while discussing proposals being put forward by the HIDB to amalgamate small tourist boards into larger units.

It is a move designed to cut the increasing deficits which tourist boards are running up

—Arran is the fourth largest out of 15 in the HIDB areas.

Mistreatment

District social work managers have been visiting Montrose House Residential Care Home this week following a recent complaint that a patient had been mistreated.



The old Kilmory School has been bought by the Island Porcelain company who will be using it to create the much-loved pottery.

b39twe03

The complaint was made to the Elderly Care Officer in Irvine who looked into the matter but has concluded that the claims were unfounded.

However, an overall investigation is being made into the

organisational structure of the care home.

Theatre grant

The HIDB has given a £6,000 grant to the Arran Theatre and Arts Trust towards essential building repairs to the theatre.

This is despite the fact that the theatre has not yet been constructed.

Bus stops condemned

The Arran Council of Social Service does not like the island's new bus stops.

'Members expressed concern at the erection of bus stops all over the island during recent months', read the minutes of their last meeting.

They are contacting the Roads Department to express their concern.

Church listed

St Molios Church in Shiskine has been made a category A listed building in the Secretary of State's list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest.

Fondly known as the Red Church locally, the congregation marked the centenary of the church itself a year ago, although the Shiskine congregation is many centuries old.



The friendly staff at The Ingledene Hotel in Sannox, left to right, Claire Brown, Irene Hodkin, Julia McNulty, Fiona McGill, Jane Allsop, Vincent Brown and Christopher Hodkin.

b39twe04

Right: Hight and Mae Allan of Whiting Bay pictured last week celebrating their Ruby Wedding Anniversary with a party for family and friends in Lagg Hotel.

b39twe01



Married at Lamlash Parish Church last Saturday by the Reverend Douglas Fulton were Caroline, younger daughter of Sandy and Joyce Walker of MacKelvie Road at Lamlash, and Clifford, eldest son of Gilbert and Eileen Latona of Prestwick.

b39twe05



Married at Lamlash Church on Saturday by the Reverend Douglas Fulton were Lynn, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Rodden Middleton of Lamlash, and Murray, younger son of Mr and Mrs George Boal of Brodick.

b39twe02

WHEREVER YOU ARE...

You and your friends can enjoy reading

THE ARRAN BANNER

Under-age drinkers put Shiskine dance in doubt

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Mapping the birds of Arran and Scotland

In a change to the published programme of the island's Natural History Society, Bob Swann has agreed to come along and give a presentation to the group on Thursday 7 October on 'Mapping Scotland's and Arran's Birds'.

Bob said: 'The talk will take a comprehensive look at the current Bird Atlas project

that is currently mapping the distribution and abundance of our birds both in winter and the breeding season.

'It will explain how it is easy for anyone with even a general interest in birds to participate in this exciting project.

'It will look at some of the results of the project so far both nationally and more

locally on Arran. This will show how factors such as land use changes, climate change and even garden feeding are having quite an impact on the distribution of our birds, with some showing marked increases in their range and others major declines.'

Bob Swann's mother maintains that his interest in birds arose from her taking him to feed the ducks in the parks of his native Edinburgh.

True or not, he has certainly come a long way since then. Bob has been involved in an astonishing range of long-term ornithological research projects including seabird monitoring on the Isle of Canna



Bob Swann.

and through being a member of the

Highland Ringing Group his studies have included Buzzards and Greylag geese.

He is presently the Scottish Organiser of the national Bird Atlas 2007-2011 project.

The Arran Natural History Society are delighted that he

is able to come to Arran. The meeting on Thursday 7 October will start at 8pm in the Rangers Centre.

All welcome.



Bob Swann is the Scottish Organiser of the national Bird Atlas project.



The members of the Arran Taekwon-do Club completed their first official grading on Sunday afternoon. 01_b39tae01

Arran's Taekwon-do group completes first grading

A group of Arran Taekwon-do enthusiasts completed their first official grading on Sunday afternoon.

The 15 practitioners of the ancient Korean martial art ranged in age from four years to those in their 30s.

Each one had to complete a number of different moves called 'patterns' in front of chief instructor Catherine Divine.

Catherine is the sister of Arran's taekwon-do instructor John Divine and she travelled to the island specially for the gradings.

'I was very pleased with how it went,' said instructor John.

'We had three A passes from Adrian Cannon, Ryan Wilson and my own daughter Emily

Divine. That was fantastic as it means they are progressing really well.'

All 15 pupils passed which means they have moved up to the next level.

Both John and his sister have more than 20 years experience with Taekwon-do and when he moved to the island in April he started up a class here.

Classes

'I run two classes every Wednesday night at the Arran High School,' he said.

'Children from 6.30pm to 7.30pm and then adults after that from 7.30pm to 8.30pm.'

'It has been great to see so many people taking up the art.'

Taekwon-do is known for its emphasis on

kicking techniques, which distinguishes it from martial arts such as karate or southern styles of kung fu.

The rationale is that the leg is the longest and strongest weapon a martial artist has, and kicks thus have the greatest potential to execute powerful strikes without successful retaliation.

Get set for start of Auchrannie winter bowls

The winter bowling for the 2010/2011 will start at the Auchrannie spa sports hall on Tuesday 5 October and will continue on Thursday 7 October then two nights a week until the end of March.

Bowlers can check out the balance sheet and put forward any suggestions that could improve the game as long as the majority agree before the start of the games on October 5.

A starting time for the bowling still has to be arranged with the Auchrannie so a note will be put in next week's Banner with the correct time.

SENIORS
BADMINTON
Restarting
Friday 1st October
Auchrannie
Games Hall
2pm
All welcome
(Over 50)

Whiting Bay Club of Music & Drama presents
An Evening of Drama
On Sunday Sept. 26th in Whiting Bay Hall
2 x 1 Act Plays
The overall winner of the 2010 Festival
In Room Five Hundred & Four
by Jimmie Chin
Interval
In The Blinking of an Eye
by Jeremy Hylton Davies
Tickets £5
Including a choice of wine, tea, or coffee & biscuits served at Interval
Bookings by phone 700 405 or purchased at door
Doors open 7pm Curtain up 7.30pm

Jazz Café
Friday 24th September
Whiting Bay Hall • 8pm • BYOB

ARRAN RIDING CLUB DINNER DANCE
Kildonan Hotel – Saturday 6th November, 7.30pm
Tickets include meal, entertainment and return transport to Brodick/Shiskine
Prices £30 (£20 children), available from Jayne 860 392
ALL WELCOME

It pays to advertise in the **ARRAN BANNER**

Brodick Red Cross
Coffee Morning
SC0220949
Brodick Hall
Saturday 25th
September
10.30am – 12pm
Cream Teas
Home Baking, Books
Bric-a-Brac, Raffle,
Tombola. Kids Games

Arran Horticultural Society
Arran Garden Club
Achamore Gardens
Speaker Mickey Little
- Head Gardener.
At the Ranger Centre,
Brodick Country Park
Thursday 30
September at 7.30pm
Everyone Welcome

Arran match Tarbert at junior football



Rachael Mulholland excelled for the girls against Tarbert. 01_b39soc02



Arran junior girls football team.

Tarbert Junior Football Club came over to Arran last week with a group of boys and girls for a series of matches with Arran Junior Football Club (AJFC). AJFC fielded two boys teams and one girls team and played a succession of short seven-

a-side games in order to give everyone as much match time as possible.

The Boys A team found it hard going to begin with, losing a couple of games by the odd goal, but they started to find their form as the afternoon progressed with Adam McNicol chipping in a couple of goals allowing them to finish on a high by winning the final game.

The Boys B team hit the ground running and had the edge over Tarbert in most of the games. Matthew McDonald, Lyle Bunyan, Iain Logan and Jak Tulloch were among the B Team's scorers.

The girls enjoyed their first games for quite a while, and honours were just about even with both Arran and Tarbert winning a number of games. The girls were keen to keep playing after the boys had finished and the Tarbert girls had to be dragged off the pitch

after the final game to make sure that they made the ferry. All in all it was a worthwhile experience for all the players who took part.

Thanks to all the parents and friends that came along to give support.



Adam McNicol in action for Arran boys. 01_b39soc01



Arran junior boys football team.

Mountain Festival hailed as a success

Arran's first ever Mountain Festival took place last weekend and despite the rather gloomy weather was hailed as a big achievement by organisers.

'Despite the best attempts by the weather, the festival appears to have been a great success,' said Corinna Goeckeritz, chairman of the Arran Mountain Festival committee.

'Please could I take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers, supporters, sponsors and our funders Scottish National Heritage and LEADER that have been involved with the festival at various points from the outset.

'A huge thank you to all the walk leaders and co-leaders who were all volunteers, and definitely without which the festival could never have happened.'

Corinna also thanked all those who took part in the festival, whether as a walker or coming along to the talk and ceilidh on Saturday night.

'Without your support the leaders and co-leaders would have had a very quiet weekend!' she said.

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SCOTTISH CHARITY NUMBER SC002089

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Where's Archie?

Cottages & Castles

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If you think you know then post your answer on the website
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Or email us at:
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Last week Archie was sitting on the ornate wooden bridge over the Cnocan Burn in the woodland garden at Brodick Castle. First correct answers were from Patricia of Perth and Judith, Stuart and Shep of Crewe. This week he has gone down to the woods, but which forest track is he on? b39arc01

Whats On

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EVERYDAY

Arran Brewery
Trout Fly Fishing
Hawk Walks
Arran Heritage Museum
Brodict Castle, Shop and Tearoom. (except Fridays)
Brodict Castle, Gardens open daily

10am - 5pm
Loch Garbad, Boat or Bank
Lamlash
Rosaburn, Brodict, 10.30am - 4.30pm
11am - 4pm
9am - dusk

SATURDAY 25th SEPTEMBER

Karate
Family Games
Fun In The Pool
Over 21's Disco
Arran Dancers (4 years and up)
Junior Badminton (5 - 11yrs)
Rink Game
RNLI Shop Open
Rink Game
Rink Game
Disco
Annual Fete
Coffee Morning
Red Cross Coffee Morning

Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
3pm to 4pm Auchrannie Games Hall
4pm to 5pm Auchrannie Spa Pool
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Arran High School, 10am
High School Games Hall, 1pm - 2.30pm
Brodict Bowling Club 2pm
Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, 2.30pm
Lamlash Bowling Club 2pm
Lamlash Golf Club, 8pm
Kilmory Hall, 2pm - 4pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am - 12pm
Brodict Hall, 10.30am - 12pm

SUNDAY 26th SEPTEMBER

Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Fiddle Club- Childrens Classes
Family Games
Fun In The Pool
Folk Session
Quiz
BBQ
RNLI Shop Open
An Evening of Drama - Whiting Bay Drama Club

Church Hall, Brodict, 4.30pm
Library Annexe, 1.45pm
3pm to 4pm Auchrannie Games Hall
4pm to 5pm Auchrannie Spa Pool
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Bar Eden, Whiting Bay, 1pm - 7pm
Lamlash Pier, 2pm - 4pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7.30pm

MONDAY 27th SEPTEMBER

Over 50's Badminton
Badminton
Citizens Advice
Weight Wise
Ladies Netball
Arran Junior Football Club Coaching & Games
Junior Basketball (P1 - P7)
Senior Fitness
BreathWalk Class
Brodict Bowling Club Rink Game
Whiting Bay Bowling Club Rink Game
Lamlash Bowling Club Rink Game
Quiz

Lochranza Village Hall 2pm - 4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Open 10am - 2pm
Hospital Bungalow, 5pm - 5.30pm
High School Sports Hall - Seniors 7.30pm - 9pm
Ormidale Park, 6pm
Games Hall, High School 6pm - 7.30pm
9.30am to 10.30am Auchrannie Gym
Kinneil, Lamlash 5.15pm
6.45pm
7pm
6.30pm
Bar Eden, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm

TUESDAY 28th SEPTEMBER

Lochranza Swimming Club
Army Cadets
Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Citizens Advice
Youth Club
Rotary Club
Junior Hockey Club
Open Music Session
Folk Session
Motocross Practice (Weather Permitting)
Melody Movement. Ballet Class - 2½ yrs up
Dudes & Divas Funky Dance Class - 2½ yrs up
Country Dancing
Scottish Country Dancing

Kinloch 11am - 12pm
Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Brodict Church Hall - 2pm
Open 10am - 2pm 4 - 6pm (Appointment Only)
Kildonan Hall - 6.30pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
Ormidale Pavillion, 6-7pm
Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm
Bar Eden, Whiting Bay, 9pm
Southbank Farm Track, 6pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.30pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 2pm
Brodict Hall, 7.30pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30pm

WEDNESDAY 29th SEPTEMBER

Hockey
Tae Kwon Do
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Country/ Blues session
Selt Making Class
Musical Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones
Yoga for Every Body
Senior Badminton
Museum, Archives & Geneology Servie
Aquafizz
Yogalates
Circuit Training
Whiting Bay Bowling Club Rink Game
Lamlash Bowling Club Rink Game
Brodict Bowling Club Rink Game

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm Games Hall
KA Leisure, Kids 6.30 - 7.30pm. Adults 7.30 - 8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm- 9pm
Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm
Ormidale. 9.30pm
Shipfield, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am
10am - 11.30am
High School Games Hall, 8pm - 9pm
10.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 3.30pm
9.45am to 10.30am Auchrannie Hotel Pool
9.30am to 10.30am Auchrannie Studio
Outdoor Green Gym, Auchrannie 6pm - 7pm
7.00pm
6.30pm
2pm

THURSDAY 30th SEPTEMBER

General Knowledge Quiz
Citizens Advice
Lochranza Craft Club
Coffee Morning
Table Tennis
Youth Club
Brodict Bridge Club
Athletics
Senior Fitness
Ladies Night
Pilates
Cricket Outdoors
Pub Quiz
Ladies Night
Wee Blether Soup & Sandwiches
Brodict Embroidery Group
Garden Club - Speaker Mickey Little - Achamore Gardens

The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Open 10am - 2pm
Hall, 2pm
St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm
Youth Cabin, Lamlash 7-9pm
Golf Clubhouse
High School Games Hall, 4.45pm - 6pm
9.30am to 11.30am Auchrannie Spa Gym
Bar Eden, Whiting Bay
6 pm to 7pm Auchrannie Studio
Sannox Oval, 6pm
Kinloch Hotel, 9pm
Bar Eden, Whiting Bay
Whiting Bay Hall, 12pm - 1.30pm
Brodict Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Ranger Centre, 7.30pm

FRIDAY 1st OCTOBER

Arran Pipe Band Practice
Citizens Advice
Quiz
Over 21's Disco
Aquafizz
Yogalates
DJ
Seniors Badminton (Over 50)

Brodict Hall, 7.30pm
Open 10am - 2pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
9.45am to 10.30am Auchrannie Hotel Pool
10am to 11am Auchrannie Studio
Bar Eden, Whiting Bay, 9pm - 1am
Auchrannie Games Hall, 2pm

SATURDAY 2nd OCTOBER



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ACT 1997**
Applications listed below together with the plans and other documents submitted with them may be examined at Corporate Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine* between the hours of 9am 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 Solicitor to the Council (Corporate Services) at the address below by 15 October 2010. 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:10/00594/PP Address: North Cottage, Lamlash, Brodick, Isle Of Arran KA27 8JU Proposed Development: Formation of chimney to rear of semi detached dwellinghouse

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
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11.00 and 11.45am.



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Invercloy House, Brodick, Isle of Arran, KA27 8AJ
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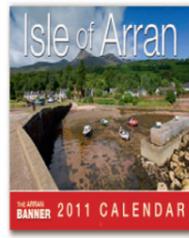
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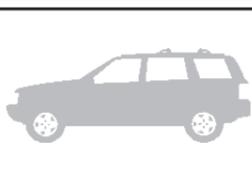
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CHURCH NOTICES

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 26 September
 Shiskine, 11am
 Sunday School in the Church Hall (Church is between Machrie & Blackwaterfoot)
 Brodick, 7pm (Church is behind Post Office)
 Rev David Karoon
 All Welcome, Tel:860426

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
 Vigil Mass 7.30pm
 Sunday Morning Mass 9.30am and 11am

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 (in full communion with the Church of England)
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 26 September
 Holy Communion, 11am.
 Revd Dr Hector Soga, Dollar
 Coffee after service
 Wednesday 29 September
 Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
 ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 Kilmory linked with Lamlash
 "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 26 September
 Rev Gilliean Maclean
 Kilmory 10am
 Lamlash 11.30am
 In both churches:
 Harvest Thanksgiving
 Retiring collection for Tearfund
 Cambodia Appeal
 All welcome, including families; children's area

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)
Sunday 26 September
 Morning Service 11am
 Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
 Evening Service 7pm
 13 Glen Avenue, Brodick
 Rev. J. J. Murray
 Prayer Meeting
Wednesday 29 September
 7pm
 5 Glen Road, Brodick
 Rev. D. Macleod
 All welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH.
 Ormidale Pavilion
 Brodick.
Sunday 26 September
 10.45 - Communion
 Tea and Coffee from 11.10am
 11.30am - For all the family
 Speaker: Rev Willie Wright
 Everyone very welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine.
Independent but working together.
Minister
 Rev Angus Adamson.

Parish Asst
 Mrs Jean Hunter.
 Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times, to which all are invited - Families, young people and children welcome
Sunday 26 September
 Brodick 10.30am
 Corrie 12pm
 Lochranza 9.30am
 Pirmill 10.45am
 Shiskine 12pm
 All above services celebrating Harvest Festival
 Lamlash 7pm
 Service of Prayers for Health and Healing
 A service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (SCO14005)
Sunday 26 September
 Worship for Harvest Thanksgiving will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson, at 10.30am. All welcome. After the service, there will be a harvest lunch and all proceeds will go to the charity TearFund (Charity SC037624). There will also be the sacrament of baptism, with the baptism of Fraser, younger son of Dave and Mhairi Hackett.
 Everyone most welcome.

MEMORIAMS
REID - ELIZABETH (Betty)
 Precious memories of our dear Mum, Mum-in-law and Gran who left us on 24th September 2009.
 Carried in our hearts - Always!
 Elizabeth, Sheila, Joe, Colin Gavin, Donald, Jayne and Neil

MURCHIE - ALEXANDER DONALD
 Passed away unexpectedly on 28th September 2009
 Much loved husband of Jacque and idolised dad of Bradley and Caitlin.
 Son-in-law of John Chapman (dec'd). Dearly beloved son of Betty and brother of Angus
 Those we love don't go away. They walk beside us every day. Unseen, unheard but always near.
 Still loved, still missed and very dear.

A Thanksgiving Service for Nan Linley will be held in St Molios Church, Shiskine on Wednesday the 29th of September at 12 noon. All Welcome.



The members of Brodick Golf Club celebrated the end of another successful summer season on Saturday night with the annual prize giving ceremony in the clubhouse. All 11 trophy winners are pictured with their prizes.

Manx Mountain Bike Club End to End Challenge

Congratulations to Penny Hamilton for completing the Isle of Man End To End Challenge.

Brodick Bridge Club
 Brodick Bridge Club will recommence its winter activities on Thursday 30 September at 7.15pm in Brodick Golf Clubhouse.
 This is a new permanent venue for the club and we are indebted to the golf club for making it available to us.
 A very warm welcome will be extended to existing and new members.
 If you fancy playing bridge regularly throughout the winter then please come along. As usual, there are two trophies at stake - The Duncan Bowl

is awarded at the end of the season to the most consistent partnership on aggregate scoring evenings, and the Helen Boyd Trophy to the couple with the highest score in the match-point sessions. Each evening will also include an opportunity for the customary cup of coffee, biscuit and a natter!
 Further information can be obtained from club President David Scobie (302820) or Secretary Liz McKellar (302230).
 Otherwise see you on Thursday.

lash Golf Club at 7.15pm on Monday 4 October.
 We look forward to welcoming back all our existing members and any new members will be most welcome.
 Anyone requiring information on the club, please telephone Jean Barclay on 600232 or Margaret MacGill on 600312.
Summer Bridge
 The results of the tournament on Monday 20 September were: N/S 1 R Thompson and E McNiven, 2 T Martin and J Murchie, 3 P Thomson and A Carr. E/W 1 BJ Livingstone and M Gardner, 2 J McClure and A McKelvie, 3 H Boyd and J Barclay.

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A wedding at Lochranza Castle on Thursday 9th September was a meeting of many nations. The marriage of Luan Howitt and Melanie Williams was a joyous occasion, with around 60 guests from as far away as New Zealand and Australia, as well as visitors arriving from all over the UK, Spain and Austria. The couple, who live in New Zealand, decided to get married on Arran because of the appeal it would provide to their guests in seeing the Real Scotland. Melanie's mother, Sylvia Money, also lives in Machrie.

Lamlash Bridge Club
 Lamlash bridge Club will begin its new season at Lamlash Golf Club at 7.15pm on Monday 4 October.
Thank-you to all who came to my half century bash, the mountain of gifts and bottles and especially Tommy at the Dale for hosting it.
Andy

Thank you
 To all family, friends and neighbours for gifts, cards and good wishes on my 70th and to Liz & Steve at Sannox Bay. Special thanks to Mark and Tracy for their planning and hard work arranging a night to remember.
Betty



Elsbeth and Hamish Macrae, married September 24th 1960
 Congratulations on Your Golden Wedding Anniversary
 With lots of love from all the family

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The rather more mature Arran 'Oldies' team with their manager Chris Marriott. 01_b38soc01

Arran's 'Oldies' take on Southend

An Arran select team of, shall we say, slightly more mature players took part in an annual friendly match against football league winners Southend last Saturday.

The team were selected from the cream of Arran's former champion footballers with the likes of Alastair Dobson, David Morrison, Alan Johnston and Iain McDonald taking to the field.

Also on the team were Martin Ross, Alistair

Currie, Robert McNeice and Iain 'Ugg' McDonald who still play the occasional game for their village teams.

So despite the fact that Southend were quietly confident of an easy victory over the 'Oldies', the mature players were not going down that easily.

In the end the match finished 2-2 and the 'Oldies' certainly looked happier than Southend with the result.



ALGU

The ALGU held the first competition of the season, the Cir Mhor, over Lamlash on Saturday 18 September. Twenty-two ladies competed and were all delighted that our new President, Sheena Murchie shares past President, Elizabeth Ross's talent for providing good weather for the ALGU. Long may it continue!

The Lamlash course was in beautiful condition although the greens were fast and therefore tricky. The best score of the day, an excellent 64, was returned by Aileen Latona winning the trophy on a BIH from home player Gay MacKay.

Well done to both ladies. As the CSS went up to 65, both will have their handicaps cut. The scratch was won by another Lamlash lady, Jean Barclay on 82. Sheena Murchie presented the trophy and thanked Lamlash Golf Club for the courtesy of the course. She also thanked Janey McIntyre for her delicious sandwiches. It was good to see a reasonable turnout for the competition and the ALGU was delighted to welcome new member Sheila Gray of Shiskine and also pleased to see popular island golfer, Alice Anderson making her debut in the ALGU.

Viv Parks passed out fixture cards to all the ladies present. Would all of those who were unable to play this time, please collect their cards from Viv at the next competition.

Fixtures: Saturday 30 October, The Drumadoun at Whiting Bay. Sunday 7 November, the President's Prize at Machrie.

The entry sheets are now up in all of the clubs and a large entry for both competitions would be appreciated.

AGA

Saturday 18 September, Seniors Handicap played at Machrie Bay. The weather was kind to the 16 golfers who turned up with only light winds and a few showers to contend with.

The course was in excellent condition and thanks go to the green keepers. 1 Douglas Robertson from Brodick with 79-17=62, 2 Alastair MacDonald of Corrie 77-12=65, 3 Willie Kelso of Shiskine 72-6=66.

Best Scratch Willie Kelso 72. One Magic Two from Douglas Robertson at the 5th. Eldest Golfer on the day at 87 years old was Spud Taylor.

Fixtures: Winter League at Corrie the draw as follows: Corrie v Whiting Bay 8.30am, Shiskine v Machrie Bay 9.20am, Brodick v Lamlash 11.50am.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday 14 September, Medal. 1 Brian Sherwood 80, 2 Alastair MacDonald 82.

Fixtures: Tuesday 28 September, SLGU Medal and Sweep, 12.30pm tee-off. Saturday 2 October, Lochranza Hotel Cup, 12.30pm tee-off. Tuesday 5 October, Winter Cup, 12pm tee-off (Please note earlier tee off time).

Corrie Golf Club

Wednesday 15 September, last medal of the summer mid-week medals.

Winner takes all. Winner Alastair McDonald 74-12=62, runner-up John McGovern 73-7+66. Twos from A McDonald and D Logan.

Fixtures: Saturday 25 September, sweep at 8.30am and 1pm.

Saturday 2 October, Captain's Prize at 1pm 'one time only', shot gun start, Stableford.

Also please register at 12.45pm, sponsored holes available.

Shiskine Golf Club

Ladies: Thursday 16 September, Ladies 12 Hole Medal, 9 played. 1 A Anderson 55-9=46, 2 J Turnbull 56-9=47, 3 L Murray 66-15=51. Scratch Alice Anderson 55. Congratulations Alice in very tough conditions and a magic two at the 10th!

Gents: Sunday 19 September, 18 Hole Medal, 10 played. 1 A Pattison 77-9=68,

2 M Sherwood 74-5=69, 3 Q O'iver 96-25=71 BIH. Scratch Mark Sherwood 74. There was a magic two from P Bryceland.

Fixtures: Thursday 30 September, Ladies 18 Hole Medal, 1pm tee-off. Ladies Arran Challenge runs from Friday 1 October to Sunday 17 October. Gents 12 Hole Medal, Sunday 26 September, 1pm tee-off.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Wednesday 15 September, 15 played in the Summer Trophy on a very blustery day, resulting in a CSS of 64. Winner was Nicol Auld (2) 58, second Jamie MacPherson (4) 63 and third Bob Hastings (17) 66. Nicol also won scratch with 60 and had the only two magic twos of the day.

Fixtures: Sunday 26 September, Bogey Competition. Usual draws. Wednesday 29 September, Medal. Saturday 2 October, Mixed Fours Salver.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday 15 September, Flag Competition and prizegiving. There were 40 entries for the Flag Competition, won by Gareth McNicol, who played the 12 holes and almost reached the first green again before his shots ran out. It was a good performance on a sunny but blustery evening. Hopefully Gareth got home safely with his loot. Most of the competitors stayed on to enjoy the excellent buffet provided by Tricia and her helpers, and after the prizegiving, the celebrations continued late into the evening.

Fixtures: Saturday 18 September - AGA Senior Handicap at Machrie Sunday 19 September, Sweep and Hirsell Trophy, open draws at 8.30am and 1pm.

Sunday 26 September, Brandon Final, tee off times from 12 noon, draw will be made 12 noon Saturday 25 September. For non-qualifiers there will be a sweep, open draws, at 8.30am and 1pm, to follow Brandon final.

Youngsters complete Great Scottish Run

A group of eight youngsters from Whiting Bay joined some of the world's top runners and thousands of fundraisers when they took part in one of Scotland's biggest sporting events.

Joel Armitage, Jak Tulloch, Cir Tulloch, James Mutch, Emily Armitage, Kirsty Stewart, Danielle Mutch and Asha Lemay Simpson all completed the junior part of the Great Scottish Run in Glasgow.

Almost 24,000 people took part in the event - setting a new record in the process.

The event included a half marathon and 10-kilometre race on Sunday.

Shorter races for junior competitors took place on Saturday.

Emily and Danielle ran the 1.5 kilometre race while the rest ran the 3k and they were all brilliant - according to James' and Danielle's dad Gavin Mutch. Danielle also managed to raise an incredible £183 for the SSPCA.



From left to right, Joel Armitage, Jak Tulloch, Cir Tulloch, James Mutch, Emily Armitage, Kirsty Stewart, Danielle Mutch and Asha Lemay Simpson.

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