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Home dialysis a shot in the arm for Kitty

All fired up on Arran ferry

Kitty McAllister now has her own special medical treatment centre at home in her cosy Sliderry cottage. Kitty is in her 70s and after suffering chronic renal failure, she has had to travel to Crosshouse Hospital three times a week for renal dialysis for the past six years. Now she is being dialysed at home twice a week by members of her family. She wants to keep a link with the hospital and for her third weekly session she has chosen to continue to travel to Crosshouse where her condition and treatment can be monitored.



Kitty McAllister having home dialysis administered by daughter-in-law Midge and farmer son Willie. 02_b41kit02

Adapted
One of the bedrooms at Sanda Cottage where she lives with husband Charlie has been specially adapted with equipment for the dialysis treatment. Charlie has farmed at Braehead all his life, and 10 years ago he and Kitty retired to Sliderry. Staff Nurse Maire Henry, home haemodialysis nurse from John Lynch Renal Unit at Crosshouse will be present at the first few sessions until Kitty's son Willie and daughter-in-law Midge are fully trained and confident. Then they will be able to perform the four-hour treatment themselves. John Wright, senior renal technician, was also on hand initially to make sure the machinery worked properly. Staff Nurse Henry said: 'The dialysis machine takes out all Kitty's blood, cleans it,

removes excess fluid and then replaces it. The whole process takes four hours.' She has been teaching Willie and Midge how to operate the specialist equipment. Kitty said: 'I'm going to get a television mounted on

the bedroom wall, just like in Crosshouse; it puts me to sleep while my blood is being changed.' Midge said: 'Over these six years many people have ensured that Kitty got to and from Crosshouse on time.

Special thanks go to Margaret Mckenzie and Harry Ross for transport on Arran and Jack Fernes on the mainland. We also appreciate the efforts of ambulance staff, CalMac staff and the Renal Unit at Crosshouse Hospital. Kenneth

Gibson MSP has been a great help along the way. This home dialysis has made a big difference to Kitty's life. She said: 'I'm still able to drive my car and feel fine. It's wonderful that Midge and Willie are doing this for me.'

Clyde Coastguard was alerted to a fire on board the Arran ferry MV Caledonian Isles on Tuesday morning, 10 minutes after the vessel left Ardrossan Harbour.

However, the ferry was simply the setting for a fire and rescue exercise – and not the real thing.

Mr Kerr Bailey from Lamlash is a short wave radio fan and he was tuning in just before 10am when he heard the captain make the emergency report live on air.

'Just before 10am it came over the radio that the Caledonian Isles was reporting a fire in a propeller shaft on board the ship,' said Mr Bailey.

Training
A spokesman for Caledonian MacBrayne said that the emergency radio reports formed part of an exercise carried out with Strathclyde Fire and Rescue as training for their Maritime Incident Response Group.

The spokesman added that they assist the fire service to do these occasionally to make the exercise as real as possible.

'The captain reported on air that they had 179 passengers onboard, 32 crew, 32 vehicles and two commercial vehicles,' said Mr Bailey.

'He then said that all watertight doors had been closed and that fire party one were tackling the blaze while fire party two were on standby.'

Mr Bailey said that while the captain's report made it sound like it was a very serious incident, the crewman sounded very calm and in control of the situation.

The passengers on board the ferry appeared to be unaware of the fire exercise.



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Brodick art on show in New York

Two paintings from Brodick Castle are on show at an exhibition in New York this week.

The exhibition is featuring the work of the 18th century French painter Jean-Antoine Watteau.

'The Enchanter' and 'The Adventuress' by Watteau are on display at the Metropolitan Museum of Art until November 29 in an exhibition called 'Watteau, Music and Theater'.

The paintings are normally displayed in the Drawing Room at Brodick Castle and will be returning to their home in December.

Clare Meredith, National Trust for Scotland head of collections conservation services, said: 'Jean-Antoine Watteau is one of the most influential French painters of the early 18th century and is most associated with Commedia dell'Arte characters and elegantly dressed men and women in parkland settings, such as the two paintings from Brodick.'

Beautiful

'We are thrilled that these two beautiful items are being enjoyed in a very different setting for a few weeks.'

The Watteau paintings were once owned by the renowned art collector and politician William Beckford whose daughter was married to the 10th Duke of Hamilton of Brodick Castle.

Beckford's extreme wealth and fabulous collection were legendary and the paintings that came to Brodick are still on display there.

Another Brodick painting, The Temptation of St Anthony, which normally hangs in the Boudoir Landing was also sent to the exhibition.

Car window smashed

A car window was smashed in an act of vandalism in Lochranza between last Friday and Saturday. Police are appealing for information.

Warden pounds his new beat

Arran's first traffic warden stepped off the ferry on Tuesday to be greeted by bemused stares from island residents.

Strathclyde Police traffic warden William Welsh immediately set about his work of patrolling the new double yellow lines in Shore Road, Brodick and around the pier area. He operates within ward 5, Ardrossan and Arran, and has been pounding the beat in Saltcoats and Ardrossan for 21 years. He told the Banner: 'I've been to Arran many times, but never on warden duty.'

On Tuesday he was carrying a book of tickets ready for issue, which carry a fixed £30 penalty for parking violations and £60 for out of date excise licence.

When asked if he had ever been sworn at by irate motorists he grinned: 'Yes, I have suffered all kinds of verbal abuse but fortunately never



Strathclyde Police traffic warden William Welsh on duty at Brodick pier on Tuesday. 02_b41war01

actually been physically assaulted. You can be writing out a ticket and other passing motorists will slow down, open their windows and shout obscenities at you.

'We had one warden who had

been a carer and couldn't take the abuse; she left after five months. If I feel in danger, as a last resort, I have radio backup to call out police officers.'

A Strathclyde Police spokesman said: 'Since the recent

introduction of the restrictions on Arran roads the majority of road users have commented that it has led to an improvement in traffic management, especially in Market Road.

'When you consider that Cal-Mac carried more than 750,000 passengers to the island last year and the announcement that another ferry company may be wishing to operate on the route, it gives an insight into future traffic management challenges around the pier.'

Safety

'The safety of road users and pedestrians far outweigh the actions of the few who flaunt the restrictions for selfish reasons.'

When the parking restrictions were adopted by NAC they fell under the jurisdiction of traffic wardens covering Ward 5 and warden Welsh will be carrying out regular tours of duty on Arran.

Lost walkers found safe

The Arran Mountain Rescue Team were called out last Monday evening to look for two walkers who were reportedly lost on Goatfell.

The couple initially thought they were on the Brodick side of Goatfell but after team members spoke to them by mobile phone, it became apparent that they were unsure of their location.

After a couple of hours the walkers eventually turned up safe and well in North Glen Sannox.

A spokesman for the team said: 'As the hours of daylight get shorter Arran MRT wish to remind anyone venturing out on the hills of the need to be adequately prepared.'

'Take appropriate clothing, a map and compass (and know how to use them), whistle and a torch.'

'If possible, let someone know where you are going and your expected return time as this will greatly assist those concerned should a search and rescue be required.'

Bank closes – to the annoyance of customers

There was consternation among customers this week when the Bank of Scotland in Brodick closed its doors on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon.

Neil Arthur of Shiskine, owner of Broombrae Groundworks, said he was surprised to discover the bank was shut on Tuesday especially as there had been no warning of the closures.

'It makes a big difference to my banking whether a cheque

is cleared one day or the next and I'm sure that is the same for most people on the island,' said Neil.

'I had heard that the bank had been forced to close because with the bank van running there wasn't enough staff left to keep the bank open. That's no good to anyone.'

At the time of going to press no-one from the Bank of Scotland was available to comment.

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Valdete Gjonpalj. 02_b41val01

Help Valdete celebrate her birthday

A young Albanian girl who came to this country for life changing treatment on her legs would like to invite the people of Arran to celebrate her birthday this Saturday.

Valdete Gjonpalj would like all her friends and well-wishers to come to Rosemount in

Whiting Bay for a special open day. This is to celebrate her 19th birthday and to say 'mirupafshim' (good bye) as she has to return to Albania soon.

The house will be open from 3pm and there will be wine, tea, coffee and a light buffet. See you there.

Music and drama club in crisis

The Arran Music and Drama Club desperately need a rehearsal pianist.

The group are preparing for their performance of 'Guys and Dolls', the hit West End musical, next summer and they have an enthusiastic cast ready to go. All they need is you!

Club secretary, Lynda Davidson, said: 'Our rehearsals com-

mence on Thursday November 5 and take place every Thursday evening from then on.

'The production goes to the stage the first week in June for six nights but without the services of a rehearsal pianist we have a real prospect of cancellation.'

If you think you could help please call Lynda on 601225.

Shocked response to red squirrel death toll

There has been a shocked response to the Banner story about the number of red squirrels being slaughtered on Arran's roads.

Colin Stobbs was pictured holding a squirrel warning sign at his Kirkend Nursery gardens three weeks ago. This week he said: 'People have been really shocked at the level of road deaths.'

'Red squirrels have only one real predator on Arran, and that is the wheels of passing cars. Some of our customers have even made up posters with my photo from the Banner saying: 'This man needs help. Join the ginger revolution.'

Arran is one of the last strongholds for red squirrels. The larger and more aggressive grey squirrels have forced reds out of most parts of the UK but fortunately they have never made their way to the island. Now Colin wants to kickstart a campaign to help the reds.

He said: 'I am looking into the possibility of a full size advertising poster on the ferry MV Caledonian Isles. Our own Kirkend

Nursery has one of the posters and the advertising does work for us. Tourists coming to the island would be made aware of the reds and how to look out for them.

'I have discussed this with NTS head ranger Kate Sampson at Brodick Castle. She has figures for road kills and locations. We could make a large map of the island showing all the hotspots.'

Attractions

This will cost up to £700 for the ferry poster, and Colin would appreciate ideas as to how people could help to raise money to save our squirrels. He said: 'They are one of our simplest and most natural tourist attractions. We should be protecting them.'

Heather McRobb of North Ayrshire roads and signage has met with Kate Sampson about the possibility of erecting official squirrel warning signs. She said: 'The squirrel deaths are an awful problem. We have to get permission from the Scottish Executive to put prescribed signs up in specific locations. It may take some time.'



An official red squirrel warning sign in Stirlingshire.

Arran praised by travel writer

Arran has just had a marvellous review in a major Cotswold weekly newspaper.

The Gloucester Citizen is published in Cheltenham and last week it carried a centre-page travel feature on the attractions of the Isle of Arran.

Reporter Aled Thomas said: 'One of the strange things about the place is that its not at all remote. The sense of slight but real isolation means there's a sense of community and togetherness; the local paper, the Arran Banner, is said to be read by 94 percent of the population. Rupert Murdoch would kill for an audience reach like that.'

Mr Thomas and his wife stayed at Viewbank House in Whiting Bay and enjoyed island experiences such as the Arran Brewery, Lochranza Distillery, Creelers restaurant and Arran Power and Sail.

He said: 'I'm definitely visiting again. But beware. The place might get a grip of you.'

Elderly forum up and running

Arran's Elderly Forum is up and running.

An open meeting at the Ormidale Pavilion on Wednesday September 16 has set the ball rolling. Following an original get-together at the High School in January a new committee has now been formed to run along the same lines as similar organisations on the mainland.

Secretary Janet Lacey said: 'We had a lot of positive rapport and will be pulling together a formal but simple constitution. Our plan is to meet once a month with a brief presentation by a speaker followed by a business meeting.'

'There is a lot of support and information, particularly in the health sector, that we can give older people. There is no specific age stipulation, but officially you are old at 55!'

The group has applied to North Ayrshire Council for a modest financial support towards postage and rent.

Fiona Brown has been appointed chairperson, Jessie Clark membership secretary, and Janette Price treasurer.

The next meeting is at 11am on Wednesday October 21 at the Ormidale Pavilion when the constitution will be confirmed.

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Answer to affordable housing needs 'lies in Glen Cloy'

A well-respected local architect believes that the entire island community should be involved in plans to build affordable housing in the Glenclay area of Brodick.

Ian Ferguson of High Corrie has practiced as an architect for 15 years on Arran and he believes that building in the Glen could solve the island's housing problem.

'My idea is that this would be a community project, with everybody involved from the landowner to the various funding bodies,' said Ian. 'Designs would be worked up by people themselves, with professional guidance and positive support from the planners.'

His suggested site for a development of homes and related facilities primarily for disadvantaged people is in Glenclay, Brodick on land near or adjacent to the Auchrannie Spa.

'It would be simple to de-

velop. Access to shops, village services, medical and social centres and the primary school would be on foot or cycle along safe, non-trafficked routes,' he said.

Flats

He would like to see the accommodation to include small flats for single people, sheltered housing for the elderly and handicapped and homes for larger families, as well as the normal mix of 2-4 person cottages.

The homes would be comprised of social-rented, shared ownership and owner-occupied dwellings.

He believes that a new settlement in this location would be an opportunity to incorporate many low energy features, including wood-burning appliances, ground-source heat pumps, wind generators, passive ventilation and hydro-electric power from the Glenclay

Burn.

A spokesman for HIFAR (the Housing Initiative for Arran Residents) said: 'These are ambitious and innovative plans put forward by Mr Ferguson and we wish him every success in making them a reality.'

'The more people involved

in the solving of the affordable housing problem in Arran, the better. In the meantime, smaller development projects geared to the protection, enhancement and more immediate needs of the rest of Arran must continue to be investigated.'

Arran Banner forced into switching printers

The Arran Banner has been forced into an urgent change of newspaper printers following the decision by Johnston Press plc to close its Caledonian Offset print works in Edinburgh.

The island's weekly newspaper has been printed at the modern Edinburgh-based plant since April 2007 and the closure news has disappointed staff at the Banner's office in Brodick.

Arran Banner senior reporter Howard Driver said: 'It's a great disappointment to us that Caledonian Offset is to close. They have provided an excellent service to The Arran Banner for more than two years and they will be a very difficult production partner to replace. However, we can assure our readers that their Banner will be available each week and we are working hard behind the scenes to quickly resolve this problem.'

Editorial director Stewart MacKenzie said: 'We are sorry to lose the services of Caledonian Offset and offer all the employees there who now face the prospect of an uncertain future our heartfelt thanks for their considerable efforts on our behalf.'

'The national newspaper print market is going through a difficult period and few printers have the spare capacity available to handle a weekly tabloid title such as The Arran Banner. However, we are in the final stages of negotiation with one of our company's main suppliers and I am optimistic that a solution will be forthcoming that will allow the uninterrupted publication of the Banner.'



Glenisle chef John Boyd at work in the kitchen.
02_b41gle01

New chef at Glenisle

John Boyd is the new chef behind the scenes at Glenisle Hotel and Restaurant in Lamash.

Originally from Strathaven, he has been coming to the island since he was two years old. 'We used to have family holidays at Lenamhor, and latterly my parents retired to Kildonan,' said John. 'It felt like coming home when I took this job. Having the opportunity to work here was great.'

'I would call myself a cook rather than a chef, and I enjoy

working with the best of fresh local produce.'

John has spent many years cooking in restaurants and large private houses and describes his style as 'modern, homely and refined'.

Festive nenu

The restaurant will be staying open until December 23 taking party bookings and offering a festive menu.

John added: 'The kitchen is being made over in the New Year and we will launch into the new season with gusto.'

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Salvation Army raises vital funds

The Salvation Army raised the magnificent sum of £264.38 through their door to door collections for their annual appeal last month.

All of the money collected

goes directly into providing funds for the army's social service provisions across the UK.

Lexie Andrade, territorial envoy for Arran and Irvine, said: 'In this time of recession these

services are in greater demand, and so your generosity is truly appreciated.'

'Many thanks to the folks on Arran who gave so generously to the Salvation Army.'

Seashore fun for youngsters

Youngsters will be able to discover all the sights and sounds of the seashore on Wednesday in a specially designed seashore safari.

Organised by the rangers at Brodick Castle, children of all ages can explore the beach's rockpools that are teeming with all kinds of curious creatures of the sea. Whether tickling sea anemones, catching prawns or avoiding the powerful pincers


of a crab, all children will be sure to have a 'whale' of a time.

Slippery

While the event is suitable for all ages, parents are advised that there will be some walking over slippery rocks.

The event runs from 2pm until 3.30pm on Wednesday 14 October.

Ticket price is included in country park admission cost.



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Highest award for Lamlash Cub Scouts

Two young Arran boys received the highest awards a Cub Scout can achieve last week.

Fraser Mackenzie and Ben Leslie, both of Lamlash, were given the Chief Scouts Silver

Award by Dr Alastair Grassie, Deputy Lieutenant of Ayrshire and Arran.

The ceremony took place in the dance studio of Arran High School on Thursday night in

front of an audience of family and friends.

Rachel Armitage, Akela and leader said: 'This is the first time in Lamlash Cubs in 15 years that anyone has gained

this award and we are so proud to have two boys, Fraser and Ben, getting it at the same time.

'They have had to complete six challenge awards over the last three years so it is quite an achievement.'

Both boys are looking forward to moving up to join Scouts and will be joining the Shiskine Scout Troop run by Alan Stout.

Scout Troop

Former Cub leader Graham Tinto said: 'It's a pity that there isn't a Lamlash Scout Troop. There are between six and 10 boys who would be keen to join.'

Rachel added: 'Scouting is open to boys and girls, but we need a scout leader for Lamlash. It doesn't need any qualifications, just a desire to love the outdoors and be active.'

'The Scout Association will provide all the necessary training. There are 27 youngsters in the Lamlash Beaver Colony so scouting is alive and well in the village; we just need a volunteer to lead Scouts.'



Ben Leslie and Fraser Mackenzie with their Chief Scouts Silver Awards and Akela, Rachel Armitage and Baloo, Ninna Crisp. 02_b41eub01



Fraser Mackenzie and Ben Leslie with the other members of the Lamlash Cub Scout Pack. 02_b41eub02

Corrie Film Club

Film of the Month: Tokyo Sonata (2008 Japan. 12)

To open the new season, Corrie Film Club presents Kiyoshi Kurosawa's acclaimed portrait of a very ordinary family in modern Japan faced with the trauma of redundancy and unemployment in a culture which despises such things.

When Ryuhei Sasaki is unceremoniously dumped from his 'safe' company job, his family's happy, humdrum life is put at risk. Unwilling to accept the shame of unemployment, the loyal salaryman decides not to tell anyone, instead leaving home each morning in suit and tie, briefcase in hand, searching for work and lining up for soup with the homeless.

Inevitably this has disastrous consequences and director, Kurosawa ratches up the unsettling atmosphere with chilling results. But there is hope...

All welcome this weekend in Corrie Hall. Members and prospective members are respectfully reminded that subscriptions for season 2009/2010 will be due from this month. Sunday 11 October 8pm Corrie and Sannox Village Hall.

Details in this week's What's On.

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Arran's Riding for the Disabled group goes from strength to strength

The Riding for Disabled Arran group has successfully established itself at the home of Barbara and Graham Tinto in Lamplash. It has proved to be a great asset for a significant number of Arran youngsters. Chairperson Barbara Tinto gives an update on the progress made by RDA.

The last RDA session was exciting and fun with all our riders growing in competence and confidence. It finished with the fun week in July including games, a picnic hack out to the Drift Inn, our gymkhana, and a visit to see Janis Murchie's driving ponies in action. Children had great fun taking turns at sitting in the carriage and in some cases, driving. Many thanks to Janis.

Dan, our new Norwegian Fjord pony is settled in well and much loved by all.

Applications

We are waiting for the outcome of applications for grants for a proposed indoor arena. If the venture comes to fruition the shed would be built on land belonging to Kenneth Bone at Glenkiln, on the basis of a long lease. The indoor arena would belong to RDA, but would be able to be hired out to other groups and individuals when not in use.

I would particularly like to thank our treasurer Grant Keir and Rona Fulton for the huge amount of work they have put into this project. It has involved massive amounts of research, paperwork and computer hours. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the organisations and individuals who wrote letters of support for the RDA Arran Indoor Arena. We have now received planning permission which will help with ongoing grant aid applications.

We have had several enquiries from people on holiday on Arran about the possibility of a child or adult with a disability coming to ride during their holiday. This poses problems for us on various fronts. We are not a riding establishment with someone present all the time to take bookings, organise rides etc. like a riding school or trekking centre.

The group functions from a private home, and the ponies are brought from fields in the village specifically for the organised RDA lessons twice a week. We are a charity and depend solely on volunteers, many of whom are working.

Our instructors are only insured to give lessons to riders who have signed the appropriate forms, one section of which has got to be completed by the rider's GP or equivalent professional – teacher, social worker etc. The RDA association is geared towards riders riding on a regular basis, forming ongoing relationships, progressing physically, psychologically and socially. I'm sorry that we cannot, therefore, offer the opportunity for holiday experiences and thankfully there are two excellent riding establishments on the island who do this.

Appreciate
I would like to thank everyone who is involved in RDA in any capacity and all those who have generously given donations and contributed to our fundraising efforts. I would also like to give a particular mention to the two gentlemen, neither of them I think would like to be named, for the sterling work they do picking up the horse dung from the fields – we truly appreciate you both!

And finally, as ever, we are in need of volunteers, both to be hands-on with the children and ponies, and also to do other work such as secretarial or fundraising. Please contact any of the following: Rona Fulton 600752; Janis Heaney 600553; Fiona Macgilchrist 600618; or Barbara Tinto 600517.



Paul and Jodie McGarrie with pony Tabitha.

Protection for Scottish families facing debt

Proposals for a new law to protect people affected by debt have been published in the Scottish Parliament.

Local MSP Kenneth Gibson said: 'The Scottish Government recognises the responsibility it has to take prompt action where it can to help the Scottish people, particularly in the context of continuing economic uncertainty.'

The Home Owner and Debtor Protection (Scotland) Bill is the first of its kind in the UK to review protection available to homeowners and to address practical support for those in financial difficulty.

Protection

The main proposals in the Bill include, improving protection for Scottish home owners faced with repossession at each stage of the process, in particular by ensuring that all repossession cases are heard in court (except where there is evidence that the property has been voluntarily abandoned); requiring lenders to demonstrate in court that they have taken reasonable

steps to avoid repossession; allowing lay representation from approved organisations to make it easier for homeowners to present a defence in court; extending of debt relief offered by bankruptcy to some who cannot presently meet bankruptcy criteria by introducing a certificated route into bankruptcy; and extending the protection currently offered for the family home in bankruptcy and trust deeds.

Mr Gibson added: 'With an increasing number of families facing financial difficulties, it is imperative that they are protected with the full weight of the law.'

'Acting on the recommenda-

tions of the expert Debt Action Forum and the Repossessions Working Group, I am pleased that this Bill has attracted backing from across the political spectrum.

Repossession

'When families are feeling the pinch, it is important that politicians pull together to increase protection for those facing repossession or who become bankrupt.'

'Through the forthcoming Housing and Debt and Family Homes Bills the Scottish Government is committed to giving even more support and protection for hard pressed families in Arran and across Scotland.'

Arran livestock sales

United Auctions had forward 1,089 store cattle and 4,186 store lambs and feeding sheep at their Stirling Agricultural Centre on Wednesday September 30.

Arran prices:

Simmental heifers: £690 Clachaig.

Texel cross lambs: £58.50 Moor, £48 Sheddock, £46.50 Whin.

Suffolk cross lambs: £53.50 Sheddock, £49 Whin.

Suffolk ewes £50 Moor.



New pony Dan being held by Yollie Campbell at summer camp when volunteers, children and ponies went to the Drift Inn for a picnic. b41rda02

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First Responders mark incredible 50,000 hours of service

The North Arran First Responder Association celebrated a monumental milestone in their seven-year history last week as they marked 50,000 hours of continuous service.

The emergency volunteers gathered at the distillery in Lochranza on Tuesday night to be presented with certificates by the general manager of the southwest Scottish Ambulance Service, Darren Mochrie.

Arran's group are the only first responders in the country to achieve this distinction.

Fiona Laing, chairman and one of the founding members of the association, said: 'This is a great achievement for the First Responders and has required an enormous level of commitment from everyone as it has not all been plain sailing.'

'All the responders, past and present, are extremely proud and look forward to the next 50,000 hours. We are also very grateful to everyone who has supported us over the last seven years.'

The First Responders have been running for seven years with two people on call 24/7 carrying oxygen and defibrillators for 50,000 hours of unbroken service.

Campaigning

Terry Crawley, one of the founding members of the emergency group, had been campaigning for a volunteer emergency ambulance group ever since a friend from Lochranza died of a heart attack.

In many parts of Arran it can take an ambulance up to 40 minutes to reach a casualty.

'There were volunteer groups for everything- like the fire brigade, coastguard, and lifeboat- but no emergency service.'

Terry explained: 'We all recognised a need for a group which could attend medical emergencies while we wait the half an hour for the ambulance to arrive.'

Back in 1995 Heartstart was created which was a similar idea whereby anyone could learn the basics of emergency first aid. But many thought that it wasn't enough.

Terry explained: 'When we first heard about First Responders it was a great idea. We would be a specially trained group who would be able to perform CPR and try and keep heart attack sufferers comfortable until paramedics arrive.'



Arran's First Responders from the Lochranza, Catacol and Pirnmill area of the island celebrated 50,000 continuous on-call hours last week. b41fir01NO

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Glen Cloy Suite, Auchrannie Hotel, Arran

Thursday 29th October 2009. 2pm – 3.30pm & 7 – 8.30pm
& Friday 30th October 2009. 10am – 11.30am & 2pm – 3.30pm

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Forum covering the benefits of Asset Finance to your business. How Hire Purchase and Finance Lease can be cost effective and help cash flow.

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Home dialysis revolutionises people's lives

For Kitty McAllister, her son and daughter-in-law, the opportunity to have kidney dialysis at home has revolutionised all of their lives.

For six years Kitty had to travel to Crosshouse Hospital in Kilmarnock for dialysis treatments which remove toxins and fluids that would otherwise be dealt with by the kidneys.

Dialysis treatments in the UK are most frequently provided at out-patient centres in hospitals but doctors are trying to provide more patients with the opportunity to home-dialyse. When going to hospital, patients must come in to the centre about three times a week to receive treatments that typically last around four hours. For many people like Kitty who live in remote areas of Scotland these weekly trips to hospital must feel like a real burden that interferes with their daily lives. Three weeks ago, Kitty began using a new machine that allows her son Willie, who has received comprehensive training in home dialysis, to administer the treatments in the comfort of her own home in Sliderry. Twice a week Kitty goes upstairs into her bedroom which has been specially adapted to accommodate not only the machine, but the supplies – disposable lines, fluids, drugs – that go with it.

Here on Arran we are incredibly lucky to benefit from big advances in healthcare despite our remote location.

Kitty's life has now been transformed thanks to the support of Arran's doctors and nurses but also by the love and devotion of her family.

Evidence of Arran's rapidly ageing population was revealed a few weeks ago when figures showed that the number of pensioners now exceeds those under 16 for the first time.

This demographic shift is nothing new. On Arran you simply have to look around the streets of all the villages – but in particular Lochranza – to see that old people make up the bulk of Arran's population.

Despite this, the old age pensioners are often the one group on the island who are left behind and given nowhere to air their thoughts and frustrations.

This week we report that Arran's Elderly Forum is up and running.

The idea behind the group is to provide support and information, particularly in the health sector, for Arran's older people.

One of the main issues that the group needs to tackle now is a future of much greater burdens on the NHS if Arran's population is mainly over the age of 70. Based on 2006 figures almost one in four of the population of Arran is now aged over 65 compared to just 18 per cent and 16 per cent in North Ayrshire and Scotland respectively. And the number of people aged over 75 is significantly higher than the rest of the region and Scotland.

The large increase of older people living on the island could lead to more receiving specialised care at home – like Kitty McAllister – in order to lessen the pressure on our hospitals.

Unless there is significant intervention to reverse these trends and attract more young people to the island, the rapidly ageing population will have a detrimental effect on island services.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

'Ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you.' (Matthew 7:7)

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



Save Sannox Church

Sir,
I was appalled to read of the possible demise of the Sannox church.

It would be a huge mistake that would haunt Arran people for generations for the sake of four or five dwellings – how tragic and short-sighted can you get.

I am an Arran visitor with a special link to the Sannox cemetery and surrounding area and this is the way I see it.

Of course, the church and manse should not be left derelict and Mr Smyth only tells me here of one option, which is wrong and sacrilege.

So the fault and inactivity lies with the Synod who should investigate a plan of action for the revival of Sannox Church.

The Banner should contact Arran friends worldwide to publicise the situation, start a fundraising exercise for the refurbishment of the church and manse and plan a revitalisation programme of church events.

The friends of Arran would give you huge support and it would be the biggest, most exciting and worthwhile campaign on Arran for many years.

Come on Synod, save our heritage and the most beautiful set church in the world.

It must be saved!

What would Prince Charles say of our short-sightedness and possible irretrievable island tragedy.

Ask the support of every source you can think of – people may flock to fill the shoes of Mr and Mrs Bulley.

Contact national papers and generate as much publicity as possible for the Save Sannox Church Campaign.

We cannot revert to more tragic clearances in order to appease a building programme.

Yours,
Edward Jackson
Buchanan Drive
Bearsden

Suggestion for Sannox Church

Sir,
This is just a quick message to make a suggestion for the Sannox Church.

I think it would be a great tourist attraction if the community supported an idea for an exhibition space or a museum

of description, perhaps about the clearances.

I feel this would bring increased tourist and local interest to this already popular part of the island.

Perhaps having part of the building used as a museum that is managed by the heritage museum or another society on the island.

Just an idea.

Yours

Scott McMurray Brodick

Outdoor Festival disappointment

Sir,

I read in your issue on September 12 that 'Outdoor Festival organisers have often heard from less confident walkers keen to attempt the Three Beinn's ridgewalk or scramble over Cioch na h-Oighe' and that these were more achievable guided by a mountain leader although a good level of fitness was required. As that sounded just like me I signed up for four walks including the two afore-mentioned.

These I successfully completed, thanks to the excellent leaders. I was not, by the way, the oldest participant as far as I could judge.

As I was staying in Blackwaterfoot and was restricted to the bus and my Brompton folding bike, lifts were arranged to get me to Brodick for the start of the walks, although I was a little surprised to be asked why I stayed in 'such an out-of-the-way place'.

Just as I was setting out for the third trip, however, I was telephoned by the organisers to say that, although the previous walks had been completed within the allotted time, they were not happy about my going on the other two I had booked, up Beinn Bharrain and Cir Mhor, because I was too slow.

I was told that the good of the whole group had to be considered, 'hard decisions' had to be taken and there was even a suggestion that my participation would compromise the safety of the other walkers.

Instead I was offered short walks to Coire Fhionn Lochan and the King's Caves, but both of these I can do without a guide and indeed have done.

So my participation in the Outdoor and Walking Festival, for which I had travelled all the way from St Andrews, came to an abrupt end and left a nasty taste in the mouth. Incidentally, just to reassure myself that I was reasonably fit, I went for a 32-mile cycle from Blackwaterfoot to Corrie via the South End. I was very disappointed at being dropped from the other walks, the only glimmer of consolation being that the weather for the Cir Mhor trip did not look very good, although the Beinn Bharrain one was blessed with sunshine.

It seems clear that the organisers will have to take a good hard look at how they cope with varying abilities among the participants, rather than just barring the slower ones.

I would still very much like to go up Cir Mhor, among other places, but it would not be sensible to do so alone.

I will not, however, be participating in the Outdoor Festival again.

Yours,

Jane Ann Liston
Largo Road
St Andrews

Help sought

Sir,

Among the photos and family memorabilia which adorn the walls of our downstairs cloakroom hangs a hand-painted aluminium plate attached to a lavatory pull chain.

The inscription reads 'Robert Sandford. First provost of Shyskine 1950-1951'.

I can recall this insignia being presented to my father – the above named – with much mock-pomp and hilarity by our host family as we stepped off the bus at the start of our holiday on Arran.

The item represents one of my earliest memories of family holidays, I had then just turned four, and is a cherished memento of many happy holidays on the island in the 50 or more years since.

I would dearly love to hear from any of your readers who can identify the makers or donors of the insignia and the location of the holiday home.

Yours,

Gordon Sandford
sandpyper@hotmail.com

Shark ahoy!

Sir,

I've been coming to Arran every year since I was born 31 years ago.

Even though I live in Asia now, I still try and make time when I come home to visit family.

On a recent trip, one beautiful September evening (the 16th), I took a stroll along to Hamilton Rock from the end of the Shore Road. I was pleasantly surprised to find out that the no-take zone in Lamdash is now in effect. This seems to be having a positive effect. As we walked along to the point, I thought I saw something in the distance swimming around Hamilton Rock. It was moving too fast and too large to be a seal. When we got closer I realised it was actually a shark, swimming between Hamilton Rock and the shore.

Yours,

Donald Walker
Sail Marina Bay
Singapore

Understanding HIFAR

Sir,

Ian Ferguson's interest in housing is welcome and he has all the right aims and a few good suggestions but he needs to understand the players and the process.

With respect to Ian who admits to arriving late into the debate he is putting the wrong focus on HIFAR as if they were the body charged with addressing Arran's social housing need.

HIFAR is not a publicly funded association. It has neither the means nor the responsibility for socially rented housing.

That responsibility rests with the local authority that, in Arran's case, contract Trust Housing (Isle of Arran Homes) to provide and manage the housing stock on the island.

HIFAR is an initiative supported by a number of local young people who wish to find land and permission to address their own housing needs and, as such, with a will but with very little money HIFAR have done a pretty remarkable job so far and have won serious recognition including being identified

Continued on Page 9

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Letters to the Editor

as likely the most appropriate body to further the forestry housing proposal.

NAC commissioned a comprehensive review of Arran's housing need, which was published in 2007.

This was welcomed as a good piece of work and its findings have determined policy and future build proposals through the only RSL (registered social landlord) Isle of Arran Homes.

It is also worth noting that the 'Right to buy' has been removed from any future build of socially rented housing thereby stopping the loss of stock to the private and second homes market.

Further to this, new planning policy determines that private developments of more than four houses require to provide 25 per cent as affordable or, alternatively, to provide a commuted sum of money to the affordable housing budget of the council.

In addition to the Craigforth Report a NAC review of Older Peoples Services for Arran has recently been published the results of which will be fed in both to the housing need survey and to the Local Development Plan.

All of this is very promising. The only constraint is the present financial climate and the need to fund proposals but there is money dedicated to addressing new build albeit perhaps at a slower rate than might be wished.

Yours,
Councillor Margie Currie
Shiskine

Confused about HIFAR

Sir,
Mr Ian Ferguson and your leader writer of the other week seems to be confused about HIFAR's raison d'être.

If they would peruse the HIFAR website (www.hifar.co.uk) they would discover what it is all about.

Mr Ferguson could also note that there would be a housing burden to avoid profiteering from house sales. North Ayrshire Council has the responsibility for providing social housing for the disadvantaged and the elderly. However, Arran's social housing stock seems to be increasingly filled by 'incomers'. This iniquitous NAC policy is forcing local working families to leave the island. With an increasing non-productive and ageing population, an acute social housing shortage, and average house prices at around ten times the average salary, where are the social workers, nurses and carers going to stay? Organizations such as HI-

FAR can, and do, provide a valuable alternative. I know where I would rather live - a grey council terrace (Oh I already live there!) or a beautiful wooden affordable cabin surrounded by acres of woodland.

Yours,
Lenny Hartley
Brathwic Place
Brodick

Saddened by response

Sir,
I was saddened by your response to the letter about naming offenders in last week's Banner.

You state that your reporting of court cases is no different from any other weekly or national newspaper in the country, but surely *The Arran Banner* is a very special newspaper and has a very different coverage from the mainland newspapers.

The more popular tabloids provide the sensational view of events - leave it to them to name names and to shock.

I feel you have a responsibility to the islanders to continue to provide a paper that we feel is our own - one with higher values than a cheap sensationalist paper.

I think we are all aware of the human cost involved when too much personal information is broadcast.

Yours,
Min Finch
Catacol

Pavement for Kildonan Store

Sir,
Your correspondent was incor-

rect in the assertion that the Whiting Bay stores area was the last on the island to be provided with a pavement.

The Post Office and Store at Kildonan is one of the busiest and most popular on the island but not only does it not have a pavement, it has no access road either.

This despite the fact that the place has probably the largest number of visitors outside Brodick, some of them brought here by NAC minibuses for educational visits.

As with the rest of the island, many of the visitors come from all over the world and although they love the place, they are not impressed by the lack of infrastructure.

Believe it or not, there are around 40,000 traffic movements along the access track each year but they are all shared, sometimes perilously, with the many pedestrians who use the track.

It seems to me, and to others, that Kildonan is the forgotten village in that the authorities seem to be totally oblivious (or don't want to know) of the level of neglect, compared with the level of usage.

The roads - look at the state of Church brae and the marker posts opposite The Keys development - the lack of toilet facilities and inadequate parking are just the beginning. Need one continue?

If this letter is published, it will be interesting to see whether there is at least a sympathetic response from somewhere.

Yours,
K Cheshire
Herons Cliff
Kildonan

The Banner on holiday

Throughout the summer, Arran's residents and holiday-makers have been making sure they pack their copy of the Banner to keep up with local issues while on holiday.

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

It could be from Newhaven or New York, 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.



Spud and Jessie Taylor of Lamlash took their Banner with them to the Costa del Sol in Southern Spain where they were holidaying with fellow members of the Haverfordwest Branch (South West Wales) of the Royal Naval Association. Spud first met and joined the branch 25 years ago, when visiting Wales with former members of his wartime ship, HMS Rosemary.

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The Banner 2009 photo competition:



The 2009 Arran Banner photo competition is over.

We have carefully sifted through almost 500 photographs sent in by enthusiastic Arran-lovers and selected the winners.

It is never an easy task, but from a short list we have chosen a winner and runner-up in the two categories of people/animals and views.

First in the views section is an atmospheric photo of sunset over the Kilbrannan Sound by Michael Stewart of Lakin Farm, Torbeg, called 'Four buoys and a boat'. There are many sunset and sunrise entries in the competition, but this one was the most imaginative, and the cloud formation is stunning. A clever caption gave it extra points.

Runner-up is 'Apostle Reflections' from Rosemary Hitchman of Canterbury, Kent. Its subject is the much-photographed row of cottages at Catacol called the 12 Apostles, but Rosemary has chosen a different perspective with bright yellow gorse bushes in the foreground and reflections of the trees in a small pond.

Winner in the people/animals section is a photo of two young brothers on Mullach Beag at the top of Holy Isle. Simply called 'Angus and Hamish', it was entered by Anne Strachan of Bathgate and Lamlash.

Behind the two boys and stretching into the distance we can see the sweep of Whiting Bay and the granite hulk of Ailsa Craig.

It is just a happy family picture with seven-year-old Angus and six-year-old Hamish in almost-matching blue and white tops and looking very pleased with their achievement in getting to the top of Holy Isle.

Runner-up is Maggie Carson of Edinburgh with a close-up portrait of Beano, a lively Schnauzer dog belonging to her aunt, Anne Hodge of Whiting Bay. Maggie said: 'We sometimes come over and dog-sit for her.'

Beano appears to be a spirited dog and is very much 'in your face' and the photo was clearly taken on the gravel banks of Coirre an Lochan. A simple but effective snap that captures a moment on holiday.

Other entries that almost made it were a cheeky robin from Caroline Overzier of The Netherlands, a colourful butterfly perched on the trig point on top of Goatfell from Gerry Watters of Lamlash and Germany, and an eerie shot of the Corrie Viking longboat at sea with all oars raised and mist swirling around, from John Kilbride in Cumbernauld. We could go on and on, but readers will have to wait for next year's competition to see more of this island, its people and holiday views.



Winner: 'Four buoys and a boat' by Michael Stewart of Torbeg.



Runner-up: 'Apostle Reflections' by Rosemary Hitchman of Canterbury.

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The Winners . . .



Winner: 'Angus and Hamish' by Anne Strachan of Lamlash and Bathgate.



Runner-up: 'Beano' by Maggie Carson of Edinburgh.

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Harvest time celebrated at Corrie

There is always something special about the Harvest Supper in Corrie church with the tables laid, candles lit, autumn scents all around from the flower arrangements, hot and cold food and good entertainment to follow.

This year's numbers were stretched by visitors, welcomed to join in sharing our meal with Reverend Angus Adamson leading our thanks for it.

The group of 'Fiddlers Seven and One Guitarist' gave musical variety in their playing and had everyone relaxing in great enjoyment.

Mr John Maclean expressed the group's grateful thanks both to them and to all who had helped in setting up and providing the food, whilst evoking memories of last century's people and events too.

The church congregation is extremely fortunate in the generosity Peter Sloan at Marine Harvest and of the local butcher Hugh McKinnon who donate food to both harvest time and our summer fete as well as the monthly coffee mornings which is greatly appreciated by so many.

Ailsa Craig is popular talk

David Napier is currently giving a series of talks to groups and societies on Arran about the fascinating history of Ailsa Craig.

His talk is accompanied by a film and he tells of the families that lived and worked on the remote granite outcrop. In last week's Banner report of David's talk to Arran Antiquarians, we incorrectly stated that Jimmy Girvan, a friend of David's, had worked on Ailsa Craig from the age of four when it should have been 14.

The ladies of Kilmory Rural enjoyed David's talk and film on Monday night, so look out for more of his interesting presentations.

Brodick Bridge Club

Results from Thursday 1 October: N/S 1 M. Cumming and J McArthur -410, 2 J McClure and A McKelvie -1550, 3 A Bilisland and E Duncan -1610.

E/W 1 J and J Beattie +2910, 2 E Sillars and E McKellar +2710, 3 H Boyd and L Paul +2430.

The Brodick Bridge Club will meet every Thursday throughout the winter at 7.15pm in the Ormidale Sports Pavilion.

Lamlash Bridge Club

The results from Monday 5 October were as follows: N/S 1 J Maclure and A McKelvie +740, 2 J Barclay and E Robertson -290, 3 E McNiven and R Thompson -650. E/W 1 A Bilisland and T Martin +3080, 2 E McConnell and P Adamson +2290, 3 E Sillars and J McBride +1600.

The AGM of the club will be held next Monday, 12 October, at 7pm.

Village 200 Club

The winners of the September draw of the Lochranza and Catacol Village Club fund were: first prize number 137 Ann Baker, second prize number 90 John Hendry.



Up-and-coming band Echofela features Graeme Mack, far-right, who has been a regular visitor to Whiting Bay for many years.

Top band Echofela comes to Arran

One of Scotland's most talked about up-and-coming young bands will visit the island this weekend as part of their 2009 UK tour.

Echofela will be playing at Whiting Bay Village Hall this Saturday night with local band Naked Sunday in support.

Their current line up has been

gigging and writing/ recording solidly since December 2007, and features Graeme Mack who has been a regular visitor to Whiting Bay for many years.

A popular attraction at many established venues such as King Tut's Wah Wah Hut in Glasgow, the band also won

the last 'Rock Against Racism' competition, which landed them a support slot with The Zutons. They recently headlined the new acts stage at Retrofest and have been receiving airplay on Scotland's biggest radio stations including XFM, Forth 1 and Clyde 1.

Having built up a strong and

growing fanbase countrywide, they recently released their debut EP with a superb sell-out show in Glasgow.

They have also started to record new songs for a new album that is scheduled for release in early 2010.

The gig starts at 8pm and entry will be £5 on the door.

2010 Calendars



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Isle of Arran - £6.99



The Oban Times - £6.99



Scottish Field Mini - £6.99

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THE ARRAN BANNER
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The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday, September 30, 1989

To the rescue

A four-year-old Lamlash boy is now safe and well after what could have been a horrific drowning accident last Sunday.

But thanks to the presence of mind of his pal and first aid skills of a Lamlash lady he is now right as rain again.

Ryan Dwyer was playing last Sunday afternoon with eight-year-old Matthew McAlister by the Benlister Burn.

Ryan slipped and fell into one of the deep pools behind Middleton's Yard and disappeared.

Matthew tried to go after him but soon realised how deep it was and immediately ran for help.

Mrs Ishbel Johnson was in her garden nearby and heard Matthew shout: 'My pal's in the burn.'

When she reached the pool Ishbel saw what looked like a tin can but when she pulled it out it was a blue welly boot.

Eventually after searching about in the murky waters she found Ryan.

Mrs Johnson who is a tall lady said: 'It's lucky I've got long arms and long legs or I'd never have reached him.'

Ryan was not breathing when he was pulled from the water but Ishbel - who used to be a nurse - used artificial respiration to bring him back to life.

Doubt over pool

An element of doubt surrounds the new swimming pool at Arran High School.

Given the go ahead over 18 months ago, the plans seem to have hit one snag after another, most concerned with the bureaucratic machinations of

Strathclyde Education Department.

A meeting earlier this month to try to find finance for the now increased cost was inconclusive.

Headteacher David Oakes, said; 'It is not a foregone conclusion that we can have a swimming pool. If they can't provide the money needed to build it then I doubt the pool will ever be built.'



On course to win the Arran Open is Kevin Jackson of Whiting Bay. At present he is the best junior golfer on the island but with winning the junior cup last week at the age of 12, who knows how good he'll be in a few years. b411we03

Curling stones from Ailsa Craig

Ailsa Craig is not the sort of place you'd expect to find a CalMac ferry but three weeks ago Douglas Munro took time off from the Lochranza to

Claonaig route to sail the MV Rhum to the island.

On arrival at Ailsa Craig, fork lift on board, they found that natural granite boulders had already been selected for them, some were as big as three tonnes in weight.

In all they out 150 tonnes on board with the forklift and transported the granite to Girvan.

From Girvan the granite boulders go to Andrew Kay and Company of Mauchline who turn them into curling stones - only Ailsa Craig granite is good enough.

Rugby

**Kilmarnock 3rd XV 7
Arran 26**

Arran got the perfect boost before their league campaign with a comfortable victory over a stuffy Kilmarnock side who had two or three first team players in their line-up.

Arran went behind early on to a penalty goal but took the lead shortly after when Graham Dobson trundled onto a through kick to score at the posts.

Morrison converted and then Jameson increased Arran's lead shortly before half time to leave the score 3-10.

The second half was dominated by Arran with Morrison keeping Kilmarnock pinned in their own half with some telling touch kicks and Calum Rae doing the rest with three excellent tries, two of them converted.

Kilmarnock scored a late consolation try but the match was already won by an under-strength Arran side who for the second week running put in a good strong performance.



Sarah Campbell (8) and Louise Logan (6) celebrated their birthdays this week with all their classmates from Brodick and Lamlash Primary Schools and a magician in Lamlash Community Centre. b411we04



Lamlash Pier has an additional wreck this week after the high seas of last weekend overwhelmed the cruiser 'Kintail' ripping off her wheelhouse and filling her with water: this is likely to inflame already heated talks about the state of the pier area. b411we05



Matthew McAlister raised the alarm when pal Ryan disappeared into a deep pool in Benlister Burn. b411we02



Ryan Dwyer is safe and well after his ordeal. b411we01

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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK
Tuesday - Pop Quiz (suits all ages) - 10pm
Wednesday - Country/ Blues Session - 9.30pm
Thursday - General Knowledge quiz - 10pm
Friday and Saturday - Over 21s Disco - 10pm
Real Ale (Recommended CAMRA Good Beer Guide)



Wedding Album



Fiona Thomson, daughter of Robin and Helen Cook of Corriecravie, was married to Ewan Durie on September 19 by the Reverend Angus Adamson in Dunfermline Abbey.



John Page from Glasgow and Alison Krzyzanowska of Edinburgh were married on September 19. They spent a few days honeymooning in Paris before heading back to their home in Lamlash.

Above: Morven Ross-Bain, oldest daughter of Isabelle and Ian Adamson and the late Barrie Ross-Bain of Kildonan was married on Saturday 19 September by the Reverend Gillean MacLean in Kilmory Church to Robert Buckby oldest son of Heather Fish and George Buckby of York. The couple will live on Arran with their children Cameron and Izzy after honeymooning in Windermere. Morven is a staff nurse at Cooriedoon Nursing Home and Rob is an HGV driver.

Photograph supplied by Amanda Trotter www.amandatrotter.com



Greg Devine and Dominique Eza were married on Friday 28 August at Lamlash Registry Office by registrar Loretta Adamson in the presence of their daughter Heather and their parents. Gregor is the son of Donald and Marion Devine of Dippen and Dominique is the daughter of Jacques and Elizabeth Eza who reside in London. Arran has always been one of the places they escape to when they are looking for some peace and relaxation.

Photograph supplied by Amanda Trotter www.amandatrotter.com

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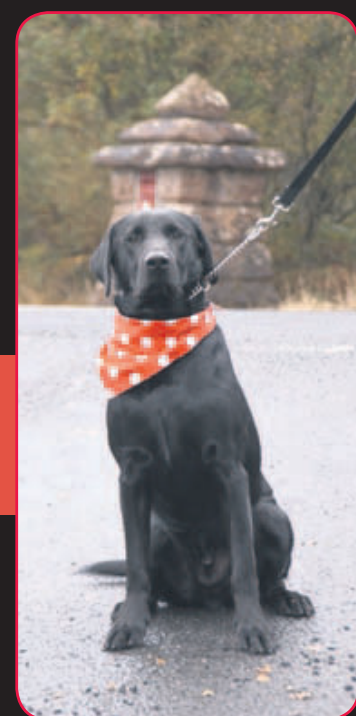
If you think you know then post your answer on the website

www.arranbanner.co.uk

Or email us at:

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Last week Archie was on the rocks opposite Kildonan Hall with Bennan Head in the background. Judith, Stuart and Shep were right and said: 'Returned from two wonderful weeks on Arran. Sorry we didn't meet Archie at Sandbraes; we couldn't get up early enough. See you in May.' This week he is on the road but which road? 02_b41arc01



Unexpected visitors arrive on Arran

Bird notes by
JIM CASSELS

After the deluge in August, September was much drier, with a quarter of the rain of August and half the rain of last September.

September sees the start of the peak migration season when many birds are on the move. It is the time to expect the unexpected.

This year was no exception, with an adult sabine's gull and a cory's shearwater both reported from the Caledonian Isles on September 3.

This species of gull was last reported in Arran waters in 1994 and this species of shearwater was last reported in 1997.

In addition there was the second report of the rare sooty shearwater this year with seven in Machrie Bay on the 6th.

Migration

Shore birds on migration included: a greenshank at Clauchlands on 3rd, seven dunlin and two knot at Blackwaterfoot on the 18th, a bar-tailed godwit and a whimbrel on Kildonan shore on the 20th, and more than 100 golden plover at Machriewaterfoot on the 25th.

Also on the coast the passage of other birds on migration was noted including: two white wagtail at Kildonan on the 10th, more than 50 meadow pipit at Kilpatrick Point on the 10th and more than 50 pied wagtail at Kildonan on 22nd.

Birds on migration were not only reported from the coast but also inland including a female merlin in



A pair of swallows were seen still feeding their young in a nest in Lamlash on the September 30.

North Glen Sannox on the 9th and 12 wheatear on the Castles ridge on the 16th.

At this time of year, birds begin to flock together, often in preparation for migration. Reports included: 80 goldfinch at Dippen on the 3rd, 40 siskin in Sannox on the 12th, 50 linnet at Kilpatrick on the 14th, and also at Kilpatrick on the 26th 50 twite and more than 300 starlings.

On the coast, there were 80 gannet in Whiting Bay on the 4th, more

than 200 shag in Lamlash Bay in the early morning of the 19th and around 1,500 kittiwake in Whiting Bay on the 20th.

With the approach of winter some birds move to the milder coast. Dipper was reported at Lochranza on the 8th and Clauchlands on the 17th and kingfisher was reported from near the mouth of the Rosa Burn on the 16th and from Cordon on the 18th.

Other birds more associated with winter included two rooks in Shiskine

on the 4th and eight wigeon at Cleats Shore on the 30th.

Having said that, some summer visitors were still around including: a Swift over Dippen on the 3rd, two house martins in Kilpatrick on the 14th, a chiffchaff in Brodick on the 17th, a willow warbler in Shiskine on the 22nd and a pair of swallows still feeding young in a nest in Lamlash on the 30th.

All three divers were reported this month including 13 black-throated divers off Cosyden on the 18th, a great northern diver in Machrie Bay also on the 18th and five red-throated divers in Whiting Bay on the 22nd.

Woodpecker

Other sightings this month included a great spotted woodpecker in Lagg Wood on the 13th, a water rail in Machrie on the 14th and a number of coveys of red grouse on high ground with more than ten birds in each covey.

Finally, October should see the last of the swallows departing south and the first of the greylag geese arriving from the north.

As always I would be interested in last and first dates. 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 2008' and visit this website www.arranbirding.co.uk

Autumn gardening hints Tulips and daffodils

By Bob McGaw

Types of tulips worth mentioning are Kaufmanniana and Gregii.

Kaufmanniana bloom long before any other tulip and individual varieties grow between 12 to 20 cm. Gregii varieties also have brilliant and beautiful blooms and an added attraction is the striped or marbled effect on the leaves. They also grow taller up to 45cm. Both are good for rockeries and borders.

Darwin hybrid tulips produce the largest and brilliant coloured blooms on long erect stems of between 60-70cm. They are commonly used in parks displays planted in amongst wallflowers. They flower mid April to May, but unfortunately need to be replaced every year.

Wordsworth wrote about a host of golden daffodils and he was right; there are hundreds of varieties to choose from.

Two of the best miniatures are minnow which produces two to four dainty little soft yellow flowers on a stem in mid March and grows to a height of 20cm. Little Gem is the smallest of the trumpet daffodils and only grows to a height of 10cm. Both these varieties are suitable for rockeries.

For large daffodils or yellow trumpets try Dutch Master or Golden Harvest. They flower early March, are what we would call traditional daffodils. If you would prefer something different, try large cup narcissi such as Johan Strauss which has a white perianth with an orange cup blooming in mid March. Orange Progress is also what I would call stunning with its orangy/yellow perianth and deep orange cup.

Double narcissii do not have trumpets or cups but petals. Delnashaugh has a white perianth with a well-filled centre of apricot pink petals. Ice King has pale yellow outer petals and the centre is fully filled with darker yellow petals, producing a lovely mix of lemon and cream and as the flower matures turns to an ivory white.

Hopefully I have given you some ideas about bulbs and maybe instead of just buying bulbs, look for individual varieties. Bulbs are like any other flowering scheme, you need to think about what will give or produce colour over a long usually dreary period from January to April. Bulbs are worth going a little over budget for especially when they return every year.

Topaz shines for hawkers

Members of the Scottish Hawking Club made their annual visit to the island last week.

This year they were accompanied by members of the North American Falconers Association.

They had several sessions of flying birds in the open and the star attraction was Topaz, a golden eagle/ornate eagle hybrid, bred and flown by Andrew Knowles-Brown of Moffat.

Ian Struthers of Murray Estate has kept and demonstrated birds of prey on Arran for many years and he said: 'As always, we would like to say a big thank you to the farmers who make this annual event possible.'



Topaz, golden eagle/ornate eagle hybrid bird flown on Arran last week at the Scottish Hawking Club's annual weekend visit.



It is the time to expect the unexpected – a sabine's gull was spotted from the Caledonian Isles.

the National Trust for Scotland		Brodick Country Park & Goatfell		Need to book?	
a place for everyone		What's On in October			
Sun 11 th	Deer Rut Walk strenuous Join us for a hill walk at this atmospheric time of year for a unique experience of the rut.	10am-4pm	£15	yes	
Wed 14 th	Seashore Scramble Tickle sea anemones, try & catch a prawn & learn how to pick up a crab without losing your fingers! Suitable for all ages, some walking over slippery rocks. Meet at Castle Reception Centre.	2-3.30pm	FREE with entry	no	
Fri 16 th & 30 th	Dig it! - Archaeology workshop for Children Skeletons, treasure and chain mail - uncover Brodick Castle's gruesome past! Have you got what it takes to be a Young Archaeologist?	2-4pm	£5	yes	
Sat 31 st	Halloween Horror Walk Get spooked at Brodick Castle If you dare, join us for a scary saunter around the Gardens & Castle, followed by hot drinks around a roaring bonfire. Fun for all the family. Meet at Castle Reception Centre.	7-9pm	adult £5, child £2.50	no	50% off for anyone in fancy dress

Please phone 01770 302462 for more information & to book.

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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 10th OCTOBER

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
Lamlash Bowling Club, Rink Game	2pm
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, Rink Game	2.30pm
Arran Dancers (4 years and up)	Arran High School, 10am
Soup & Sandwiches in aid of Dr. Graham's Homes, Kalimpong	Brodick Church Hall, 12pm - 2pm
Quiz	Catacol Bay Hotel 8.30pm
Live Music - Echofela plus support	Whiting Bay Hall, 8pm

SUNDAY 11th OCTOBER

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
Corrie Film Club 'Tokyo Sonata'	Corrie and Sannox Village Hall 8.00pm
Folk Session	Ormidale Hotel, 9pm

MONDAY 12th OCTOBER

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
Ladies Netball	High School Sports Hall - Seniors 8pm - 9pm
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
Lamlash Bridge Club	Lamlash Golf Clubhouse, 7.15pm
Kickboxing	KA Leisure, dance studio, 7pm - 8.30pm
Coffee Morning	Whiting Bay and Kildonan Church Hall, 10.30am, - 12pm

TUESDAY 13th OCTOBER

Lochranza Swimming Club	Kinloch 11am - 12pm
Legs Bums & Tums	Auchrannie Spa 6pm - 7pm (Studio)
Army Cadets	Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
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	Auchrannie Hall, 7pm
Junior Hockey Club	Ormidale Pavillion, 6-7pm
Brodick Toddler Group	Church Hall, 10am - 12pm
Body Conditioning Class	KA Leisure, dance studio 6pm - 7pm
Youth Club	Kildonan Hall - 6pm
Senior Fitness	Auchrannie, 10am - 11am
Step Aerobics	Auchrannie Gym, 7pm - 8pm
Rotary Club	Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
Motocross Practice	Southbank Farm track, 6pm - 7.30pm

Scottish Country Dancing
Winter Bowling
Corrie & Sannox Bowling Club
Farmers Market

Brodick Church Hall, 7.30pm
Auchrannie, 7pm
Village Hall, 2pm
Kilmory Hall, 10.30am - 2pm

WEDNESDAY 14th OCTOBER

Hockey
Core Strength
Jnr Rugby Training
Aquafizz
Circuit Training
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy
Kickboxing
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Rugby Club Seniors Training
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Selt Making Class
Lamlash Bowling Club, Rink Game
Whiting Bay Bowling Club, Rink Game
Beavers
Yogalates
Pre school Music & Drama Classes
Healing Rooms
Corrie & Sannox Wednesday Club "Open Days at Rosaburn"

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm (Games Hall)
Auchrannie 5.30 - 6pm
P4 - S4 Ormidale Park, 6pm - 7.15pm
Auchrannie Hotel, 9.45am - 10.30am (Hotel Pool)
Auchrannie, 6pm - 7.15pm (Gym)
10.30 - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 3.30pm
KA Leisure, dance studio, 7pm - 8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall - 7.30pm - 9pm
Ormidale Park, 7.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall 7.15pm
Shipfield, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
6.30pm
High School, Lamlash 6.15pm - 7.15pm
Auchrannie Gym, 10am - 11am
Auchrannie Dance Studio, Various Time
High School, 7.30pm - 9pm
Village Hall, 2pm - 4pm

THURSDAY 15th OCTOBER

Corrie & Sannox SWRI "Travel Tales" by Fiona Crawford
Senior Fitness
General Knowledge Quiz
Citizens Advice
Lochranza Craft Club
Coffee Morning
Cardiac Rehab
Table Tennis
Legs, Bums & Tums Class
Indoor Bowling
Cricket Practice
Smoking Cessation Group
Brodick Embroidery Group
Youth Club
Cubs
The Wee Blether
Brodick Bridge Club
Junior Scottish Country Dancing (P3 - P7)
Winter Bowling
Scouts

Village Hall, 2pm
Auchrannie 10am - 11am
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Open 10am - 2pm
Hall, 2pm
St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
Auchrannie Gym 2pm - 3pm
Kildonan Hall, 3pm - 5pm
KA Leisure, gameshall, 6.30pm - 7.15pm
Auchrannie Hall 7pm
Sannox Oval, 6pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 11am - 12pm
Brodick Library 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Youth Cabin, Lamlash 7-9pm
Shiskine Hall 6.30-8pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 11.30am - 1.30pm
Ormidale Pavillion 7.15pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 6pm - 7pm
Auchrannie, 7pm
Shiskine Hall 8-9.30pm

FRIDAY 16th OCTOBER

Arran Pipe Band Practice
Aquafizz
Citizens Advice
Quiz
Over 21's Disco
Yogalates
Street Dance
Seniors Badminton (Over 50s)
Arran Brass In Concert
Arran Ceilidh Dance Group

Brodick Hall, 7.30pm
Auchrannie Pool, 9.45am - 10.30am
Open 10am - 2pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Gym, 10am - 11am
Auchrannie Gym, 7pm - 8pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 2pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 7.30pm
Corrie Hall, 8pm - 10pm

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PUBLIC NOTICES

SEASONAL FLU VACCINATION PROGRAMME
 All island practices are commencing their seasonal flu vaccination programme for patients who are 65 and over, or who have a serious medical condition such as lung and heart problems, diabetes, kidney disease or who have a lowered immune system
 Brodick Medical Practice – Open clinics (no appointment required)
 Wednesday 14th October 9.30am – 12 noon & 1.30 – 4.00pm
 Wednesday 21st October 2.00 – 4.00pm
 If you cannot attend either of these clinics phone 302175 for an appointment with nurse
 Lamlash Medical Centre – Phone 600516 for appointment with nurse
 Shiskine Surgery – Phone 860247 for appointment with nurse
PLEASE NOTE THIS IS THE SEASONAL FLU VACCINATION CLINIC ONLY.
 Information regarding the HINI (Swine) Flu vaccination campaign will be released at a later date.

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 30th October 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: 09/00554/PP Address: Site To West Of, Allt Beag, Shiskine, Brodick Isle Of Arran Proposed Development: Erection of detached dwelling house including removal of brick pump house

(VARIOUS ROADS) (TEMPORARY SPEED RESTRICTION) ORDER 2009

On the 2nd October 2009 The North Ayrshire Council made the above Order under Section 14 (1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, which will make it unlawful for any person to drive or cause or permit to be driven any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding that displayed on a traffic sign prescribed in Diagram 670 of the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002 on a road specified in the attached schedule, by reason of works proposed to be executed on or near that road.
 The Order will come into operation at 0001 hours on Monday 12th October 2009 and will remain in operation until 2400 hours on Sunday 10th April 2011, and will be identified as being in force when appropriate speed restriction signs are displayed.

NOTE:-
 This Order will only be used in situations when it is considered essential for operational purposes during road works where specific circumstances require low traffic speeds in the interests of road safety. The speed restriction as necessary to comply with these requirements will be indicated by standard mandatory speed limit signs.

SCHEDULE
 That length of the following roads in North Ayrshire.

Description	Route Number
The Irvine-Edinburgh Road	A71
The Kilmarnock-Stewarton-Dunlop Road	A735
The Irvine-Glasgow Road	A736
The Irvine-Kilwinning-Beith-Glasgow	A737
The Kilwinning-Stevenston-Saltcoats-Androssan Road	A738
The Largs-Kilbrinie Road	A760
The Arran Coastal Road	A841
The Dunlop to Beith Road	B706
The Dalry to Auchentiber Road	B707
The Dregghorn-Tarbolton-Patna Road	B730
The Ardeer Access Road, Stevenston	B752
The Irvine to Stewarton Road	B769
The Glengarnock to Lugton Road	B777
The Kilwinning to Fenwick Road	B778
The Nethermains Road, Kilwinning	B779
The Stevenston-Saltcoats-Androssan-Dalry-Kilbrinie Road	B780
The West Kilbride-Munnoch Road	B781
The Highthorne Road, West Kilbride	B782
The Swinlees Road, Dalry	B784
The Montgreenan Road	B785
The String Road, Isle of Arran	B880
The Great Cumbræ Coastal Road	B896
The Ferry Road, Greater Cumbræ	B899
The Chapelton Road, West Kilbride	B7047
The Portencross Road, West Kilbride	B7048
The Moss Drive and Long Drive, Irvine	B7080
The Irvine-Kilmarnock Road	B7081
The Arran Coastal Road	C147
The Ross Road, Isle of Arran	Unclassified

Elma Murray
 Chief Executive
 Cunninghame House
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NORTH AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

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 3. The Publisher reserves the right to cancel or alter the advertisement by giving reasonable notice.
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 5. Cancellation of display advertising must be received by the Publisher before the publishing deadline, failing which, the publisher reserves the right to invoice the customer in full for the whole cost of the advertisement.
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 9. The Advertiser/Advertising Agency agrees to indemnify the Publisher in respect of all costs, damages or other charges falling upon the publication as the result of legal actions or threatened legal actions arising from the publication of the advertisement in any one or more of a series of advertisements published in accordance with copy instructions supplied to the publication in pursuance of the Advertiser/Advertising Agency order.
 10. Adverts under the value of £75 must be paid on acceptance of order by the Publisher. All advertising on a credit basis must be agreed with the Publisher in advance.
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 12. A request to insert an advertisement assumes acceptance of our conditions.

CHURCH NOTICES

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

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

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH
Sunday 11 October
 Worship will be conducted by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am
 Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service
 All welcome.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(in full communion with the Church of England)
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 11 October
 Holy Communion, 11am.
 Mrs Janis Gallagher
 Coffee after service
Wednesday 14 October
 Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
 All Welcome.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 Kilmory linked with Lamlash
 "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 11 October
 Rev. Gillean Maclean
 Kilmory 10am
 Lamlash 11.30am
 All welcome, including families; children's area

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(continuing)
Sunday 11 October
 11am
 Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
 Evening Service, 7pm
 5 Glen Road, Brodick
 Prayer Meeting
 Wednesday 14th, 7pm
 Rev.D.Macleod
 All welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH.
 Ormidale Pavilion Brodick.
Sunday 11 October
 10.45am Communion
 Tea and coffee from 11.10am
 11.30am For all the family
 Speaker: Rev Alan Thompson
 Everyone very welcome

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirnmill 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 11 October
 Brodick Church, 10.30am
 Corrie Church, 12pm
 Lochranza, 9.30am
 Pirnmill, 10.45am
 Shiskine Church, 12pm
 A service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)
Sunday 11 October
 11 am
 2 The Lodge
 North Newton, Lochranza
 Enquiries to Steph 830210.
 All very welcome.

DEATHS

MCINTOSH Douglas George (Tosh)
 Peacefully, after a short illness, at Crosshouse Hospital, Kilmarnock on Thursday 1st October 2009. Tosh, aged 65 years. Funeral service at St Molios Church on Friday 9th October at 1pm followed by interment at Clachan Cemetery to which all friends are cordially invited.

SCOTT - WILLIAM
 At Crosshouse Hospital, Kilmarnock on Sunday 4th October 2009. Willy, aged 80 years, beloved husband of Linny, dear father of Blair, Murray and Gilbert, loving grandfather of the family.
 Funeral service took place on Thursday 8th Oct in Corrie Church, followed by interment at Sannox Cemetery.

PARKINSON - MARY FERGUSON
 Peacefully at Cooriedoon Nursing Home on 6th October 2009. Mary, in her 100th year, much loved sister and aunt of the family.
 Funeral service in Lamlash Church on Wednesday 14th October at 12.30pm and thereafter to Lamlash cemetery to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please.

FERGUSON - JIM
 Peacefully on Sunday 4th October 2009. Jim, aged 75 years, much loved husband father and grandfather.
 Funeral service in Whiting Bay Church on Monday 12th October at 12 noon and thereafter to Lamlash cemetery to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please.

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THIS MONTH IN SCOTTISH FIELD...

READ... ON THE PROWL?
 Reported sightings have increased, but are there really big cats in Scotland?
THE GATHERING:
 Photos of clansfolk from old world and new who came to Holyrood Park.
ARRAN'S AUCHRANNIE:
 The culinary delights of auchrannie on the beautiful Island of Arran.
MALLAIG MARVEL:
 Reviewing a great seafood restaurant with a harbour view new malts from islay Charles Maclean gives his verdict.

WIN...
WIN: A break in St Andrews; **WIN:** A pair of Dubarry Galway Boots; **WIN:** £300 of wet weather gear from Webury.com

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Cameron represents his country in hill running championships

Proud day for Lamlash athlete

For Cameron Paul of Lamlash, one of Arran's most promising young athletes, Sunday was a very special day.

The 16-year-old was representing Scotland at the British and Irish junior Hill Running Championships in the Yorkshire Dales.

Cameron was representing his country for the first time and competed in the under 16 race.

All countries had four runners, with the positions of the first three added together to give the team total.

Cameron had an excellent run, finishing as third Scot and eighth overall.

The team positions of 5th, 7th and 8th left them just short of England (2nd, 4th, 9th) but it was good enough to win the silver medal.

The event, which incorporates the Home International Hill Races, was based at Sedbergh School in the northwest corner of the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

After the gales and rain of the day before, Sunday dawned clear and bright, which gave perfect conditions for hill running.

Steep Slopes

Arran Runners coach Paul Emsley said: 'The courses for the under 14s, under 16s and under 18s were relatively short, but took in some steep slopes that most walkers would try to avoid.'

'But hill runners just have to get up them as best they can, before getting back into the running on the gentler slopes.'

Cameron Paul represented Scotland in the British and Irish junior Hill Running Championships on Sunday.



Brodick Golf Club

Ladies: Tuesday 29 September, Thistle Brooch, CSS67. 1 Fiona Crawford (12)69, 2 Liz Sinclair (15)73, 3 Janette McBride (22)75. Scratch Fiona Crawford 81. There were magic twos from Janette McBride and Liz Sinclair.

Gents: Brandon and Winter Cup, 19 played, CSS 64. 1 David Hendry (10)61 BIH, 2 Alastair Dobson (8)61, 3 Robert McCrae (7)65 BIH. There were two magic twos from Bruce Jenkins and Donald McKinnie. First class Brandon Winner was David Hendry. Second class Brandon Winner was Bryce Walker.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday 1 October, in spite of wet conditions, 20 took part in the first nine-hole competition. Lamlash medal course front nine! Scratch D MacFarlane 32, 1 A Chalmers 38-9.5=28.5, 2 D MacFarlane 32-0=32, 3 Iain Murchie 34-1.5=32.5, 4 H McArthur 42-9=33 BIH. There

was one magic two by Ian Murchie.

Sunday 4 October, Glenburn Cup, excellent weather conditions enjoyed by seven members. Scratch A Winship 79, 1 A Winship 79-13=66, 2 G Tinto 89-20=69.

Fixtures: Sunday 11 October, Stableford competition at 11am. Thursday 15 October, nine hole competition (back nine).

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday 4 October, eight played in the Sunday medal, SSS 63, CSS 63.

1 Graeme Crichton (17)60, 2 John Pennycott (11)62, 3 Nicol Auld (1)63.

Nicol also won scratch with 64. The Mixed Fours Salver due to be played on Saturday 3 October was postponed due to the stormy weather and will now be played on Saturday 17 October at 12pm.

Fixtures: Sunday 11 October, Winter Cup first round. Sunday 18 October, Hamilton Salver.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday 24 September, Sweep played from the yellow tees. 1 David Price 66 BIH, 2 Denise Sherwood 66, 3 Elizabeth Ross 67 BIH.

Scratch David Price 77.

Saturday 3 October, Lochranza Hotel Cup, Stableford. The game went ahead despite the strong wind with the intention of playing 18 holes. This was shortened to nine holes when it became obvious that the number of competing golfers was lessening due to them being blown away. In the event the results were as follows: 1 Drew Crawford 13 pts, 2 Brian Sherwood 10 pts, 3 Alan Jeffrey 9 pts.

Fixtures: Tuesday 13 October, Winter Cup, 12pm tee-off.

Shiskine Golf Club

Sunday 27 September, 12 hole Medal. First class: 1 TW Gowan 41-2=39, 2 W Kelso 43-3=40, 3 A Napier 44-3=41. Second class 1 P King 56-14=42, 2 G Martlew 55-8=47, 3 J A Simpson 57-9=48. Best Scratch T W Gowan 41. There were magic twos from T Gowan (7th), W Kelso (4th), D K Henderson (3rd) and (7th), P King (10th), D Markham (4th), S Black (12th).

Thursday 1 October, Ladies 18 hole Medal. 1 Sally Brookes 92-23=69, 2 Viv Parks 93-22=71 BIH, 3 Carole Stewart 88-17=71. Best Scratch Carole Stewart 88.

Fixtures: Ladies Arran Challenge has begun and is through to Sunday 18 October.

Rory is club junior champion

This year the battle for Arran Sailing Club's junior champion was settled between two brothers - Rory and Neil Hunter.

Over two weeks and five races the two brothers shared first and second place between them.

The reigning champion Neil Hunter was relegated to four second places and one first, while his younger brother Rory took one second and four firsts.

Geoff Norris from Arran Yacht Club said: 'Rory is making a habit of this because the previous Saturday with his uncle crewing he won the Summer Novice Cup round the John Thomson Quaich course while taking third place overall in that race and earlier in the year won the Junior Pladda Cup.'

At the end of day two the results were: 1 Rory Hunter, 2 Neil Hunter, 3 Barney Crockett, 4 Colin MacKenzie, 5= Robert Armstrong and Robert Ingham.



Arran's Junior Sailing Club champion, Rory Hunter, is presented with the Shemozzle Cup by Gus MacLeod.

SPORTSDESK
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