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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

SATURDAY, 15 OCTOBER, 2011

No 1827 57p

Christmas extravaganza promised in Lamlash

'We want to make this the event for the island'

It may only be the middle of October, but plans are already in hand for a Christmas extravaganza in Lamlash.

Following the spectacular success of the village Christmas lights last year, it promises to be an even bigger and better show this year, lasting all weekend.

Geoffrey Dallamore, of Glenisle Hotel, said: 'Put a date in your diary for the weekend of 26 and 27 November.'

'This is going to be a major community event and we (Glenisle) volunteered to be the main sponsor. We are working with Lamlash Improvements Committee, VisitArran, Arran Events and Isle of Arran Distillery.'

'It will be a Christmas extravaganza of great food, live music and entertainment, and Christmas markets.'

'We'll have large marquees and stalls on the front green - 15 stalls have been booked so far.'

'The best that Arran has to offer will be on show.'

It will run from 2pm to 8pm on the Saturday with Santa Claus making a spectacular arrival at 2.30pm. On Sunday it runs from 11am to 4pm with a hog roast planned for noon. The tree-lighting in the hotel grounds will be at 6pm on Saturday, followed by a pyrotechnics display.

REPORT
by HOWARD DRIVER
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Arran Events is arranging a stage, and up to eight live music acts are expected to be performing. Lighting of the traditional tree opposite Jimmy Gordon's will be incorporated into the weekend.

Claire Richardson of VisitArran said: 'We have a lot of marquees booked; one will be floored with a bar and eating area. The timing on the two days should encourage people to come over on the ferry for a day trip. We want to make this the major Christmas event for the whole island.'

Faye Black, visitor centre manager at Lochranza distillery said: 'We'll be arranging for licences and helping out with staffing.'

'And there will be discounting of five different whisky bottlings; we're calling it the five gold rings of Christmas.'

Geoffrey added: 'It will be like last year only bigger and better.'

Last year the amazing firework show brought oohs and aahs from the crowd as large display fireworks and guided rockets lit up the front green. Anyone wanting to take a stall should contact Geoffrey at Glenisle or Claire at VisitArran.



Ian Small and his dog Jimbo are presented with their hamper by Marion Logan of the Isle of Arran Cheese Company in Brodick. 01_b41jim01

Prize time for Banner's photo winner

Ian Small and his dog were presented with a wonderful hamper of goodies from the Isle of Arran Cheese Company this week.

Ian from Brodick won the people and animals category in The Arran Banner's 2011 photo competition with his stunning picture of his dog Jimbo sitting in Glen Rosa.

'When I opened The Banner on Friday and saw my picture I was stunned,' said Ian.

'I am absolutely delighted to have won.' From the moment our judges saw Ian's photograph they knew it was a winner.

One judge commented that the picture was in the vein of the great animal painter Landseer, who specialised in animal portraits in the great outdoors.

Every single picture that we received this year has come from enthusiastic amateur photographers both from the island and all over Britain.

It is never an easy task to narrow it down to four winners but after finally creating a shortlist we eventually chose the champions.

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

The runners-up will each receive a 12-month subscription to our sister publication, Scottish Field.

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Police Files:

Internet fraud

A 27-year-old Arran woman has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal for internet-based fraud.

Golf money theft

A quantity of money was stolen from the automatic vending machine at the Balmichael golf driving range during the day on Saturday 8 October.

Enquiries are continuing and police are appealing for any information.

Drinking in public

Police report that 'numerous' people have been issued with fixed penalties for drinking in public in the last two weeks.

Sergeant Colin Young said: 'We would ask licensees to be aware that customers are taking alcohol outside with many walking home drinking. There is a responsibility on them to discourage this.'

Vehicle enforcement checks

Following the offer by all five Arran garages to carry out free winter vehicle checks, local police will be carrying out enforcement checks to identify any vehicle not coming up to standard.

Sergeant Young said: 'With winter weather on the way this is a road safety issue. We hope drivers will have taken advantage of this opportunity.'



New zip slide for Brodick Castle

There will no doubt be shrieks of joy from the younger members of our community when they read this story.

The Zip Slide at the Brodick Castle play area has finally been replaced and the new longer slide unveiled this week.

Ken Thorburn, property manager at Brodick Castle, said: 'The zip slide had been out of use for quite some time but it took us a while to find a company that was registered to do the work.'

'There are so many rules and regulations these days that we had to ensure the work was done to a top-notch standard.'

The new slide is now 25 metres long and is well worth a visit.

The new extended zip slide at Brodick Castle is bound to be a hit with the island's youngsters. 01_b41zip01

Social worker became too close to child and mother

A social worker who became too involved with a child in her care and treated the child's mother 'as she would a family member' has been suspended for a year.

Fiona Borland from Whiting Bay, a social worker with at least 25 years' experience, was allocated to Child BB, who cannot be named for legal reasons, in March 2008.

However, she began to blur the lines between her personal and professional life by forming a close relation-

ship with the child's mother, the Scottish Social Services Council's conduct sub-committee heard.

In December 2009, Mrs Borland privately arranged to look after Child BB in her own home for a couple of weeks.

This was not part of the child's care plan and did not have the approval of North Ayrshire Council's social work department, where she worked.

'Borland treated [the moth-

er] similarly to the way she might treat a family member,' the sub-committee found.

The report also stated: 'She offered unconditional support, thereby breaching professional boundaries.'

On one occasion, Mrs Borland delayed the removal of Child BB from the mother, even though the child was at risk.

Mrs Borland was removed from the case and Child BB was made subject to a child protection order.

The sub-committee said: 'Over a period of approximately 18 months, [Borland] allowed her personal relationship with [the mother] to influence her actions in relation to the protection of child BB, which should, at all times, have been her primary concern. [The mother] represented a serious risk to Child BB throughout this period.'

Fiona Borland had a long and unblemished career prior to her involvement with this family.

She admitted misconduct but, while the sub-committee took this into account, it remained concerned about Mrs Borland's apparent belief that she did the right thing, despite the departures from established practice her conduct demonstrated.

It decided to suspend her from the register for a year.

More telephone and email scams hit islanders

Police report that a number of local residents have received emails from individuals and companies claiming that they have won large sums of money and asking for bank details. Constable John Kerr said: 'These are not bona fide emails. Anyone legitimate is not going to ask for bank details. We seem to be getting a spate of these at the moment. Islanders are urged to be on their guard.'

This week the Banner heard of two new telephone scams to hit Arran residents.

Tony White said: 'The caller said that my computer was sending out spurious signals and that he could fix it.'

'I told him it was impossible because I don't even have a computer.'

Marie Young said: 'I had a call from someone claiming to be Euromillions Lottery International saying that I had won £225,000 and asking for my bank details.'

Marie soon smelt a rat and told them that she didn't do the Lottery.

Nevertheless, some people must get caught out, so it pays to be very cautious with unsolicited calls.

Flying the flag for Arran

Members of the Tartan Army were flying the flag for Arran on Saturday when they were spotted on the telly at the Lichtenstein game.

Davie Ross of Lamlash was seen flying the Isle of Arran Tartan Army Flag at Scotland's 1-0 victory over the European side on Saturday night.

Fellow Tartan Army member Dougie Macfarlane wrote on facebook: 'For all the people interested in the Isle of Arran Tartan Army flag seen last night at the Lichtenstein game, the material was purchased by me in Salisbury believe it or not, then brought back up and given to Janelle Paton at the Curtain Shop in Lamlash and she did the rest.'

'Looks pretty good and has been at every game since!'

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House captains, Alison Provan, Carly Miller, Jessica Miller, Danielle Mutch and Jasmine Scorey, organised a Jeans for Genes day at Whiting Bay Primary School.

01_b41gen01

Fundraising is in the jeans at Whiting Bay primary school

Children at Whiting Bay Primary School swapped their usual school uniform for their denim on Friday to help celebrate Jeans for Genes Day.

Held once a year, on Jeans for Genes Day people are asked to donate a small amount of money to go to work or school in their jeans.

As well as raising money

for charities devoted to helping children with genetic disorders up and down the country, the event helps to raise awareness of some of the more rare and obscure conditions people may have.

Impressive

The event at Whiting Bay Primary was organised by the school's house captains and raised an impressive £89 for the charity.

Laura Pattison, Jeans for Genes campaign director, said: 'By holding a Jeans for Genes Day, the school is helping thousands of people across the UK who are affected by genetic disorders.'

'Your donations will enable families in the UK affected by genetic disorders to access the expert information and support they need to care for their child.'

Concerns over future of elderly care on Arran

At a recent meeting of the island's Elderly Forum, concerns were raised about the Care at Home provision for older people on Arran.

Brenda Stewart, the health representative for the Isle of Arran Community Council said people want to live

in their own home as long as possible but pointed out there is a shortage of home carers. Stewart Clark voiced concerns about the size of Montrose House given the aging population of Arran.

Tony Fisher from North Ayrshire Council's commu-

nity health partnership said: 'As changes in the home care service take place, the need for higher numbers of folk in residential care will be reduced.'

He said the day care service would be developed and be expanded.

Business fury at change to road works

Businesses in the northend of the island have been up in arms this week about changes to the road closure schedule.

Poor weather at the end of last week meant that North Ayrshire Council was forced to put back the works on the Boguille, extending the closure of the road.

It also resulted in a delay to work being carried out on the Ballarie and Catacol bridges.

'The communication from the council has been atrocious,' said Faye Black, visitor centre manager at the Isle of Arran Distillery in Lochranza.

Disbelief

Faye told The Banner that after being informed the Catacol Bridge would be closed on Wednesday and Thursday she altered staff rotas to ensure they would get to work on time.

'You can imagine my disbelief when I then found on

REPORT

by JENNIFER LYON
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Wednesday morning that the road wasn't closed at Catacol. And in fact work had begun at the Ballarie Bridge just outside the distillery instead.'

Since the work on the Boguille began the distillery has recorded a 65 per cent drop in takings.

Faye added: 'We know that these works are important but the council should have kept us more informed about the road closures.'

'We've lost a lot of business because of the lack of communication which could well have been avoided.'

On Wednesday The Banner received this updated schedule of road works.

A spokesman from the council said that the weather and disruptions to the Ardros-

san ferry means that the work on A841 North Glen Sannox will not be finished until Friday 14 October.

Works at Ballarie Bridge, Lochranza, will take place on Wednesday 12 and Thursday 13 October.

Work at the A841 from the Heritage Centre, Brodick, to the A841/B880 String Road junction will now begin on Monday 17 October and will be completed by Friday 21 October.

Closure

A road closure will be in place at Catacol during works on Monday 17 October and Tuesday 18 October.

Improvement works to Blackwaterfoot car park will not be affected by these delays.

All dates are dependent on the weather.

North Ayrshire Council would like to apologise for any inconvenience.

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Get your flu jab before its too late

After Scottish Flu Awareness Week last week, it's been revealed that almost half of people aged under 65 in the NHS Ayrshire & Arran area who are entitled to get the flu jab didn't take up the offer last year.

Health professionals are urging people in the 'at risk' groups to get their annual flu jab before it is too late.

The campaign aimed to raise awareness of the benefits of the flu jab and to encourage the almost 20,000 people or 44 percent of the 'at risk' group living in the Ayrshire & Arran NHS board area who didn't get the vaccination last year, to get it as early as possible this year.

These figures don't include people over 65 who are also eligible for a free flu jab.

The key target groups that are eligible are under 65s with existing long-term medical conditions such as asthma, diabetes, cystic fibrosis, multiple sclerosis and other heart, lung and liver diseases, pregnant women, and unpaid carers of any age.

Protection

Flu is a serious illness and the vaccination is the most effective protection from it, including the swine flu virus. People in the 'at-risk' groups can be hit harder with the flu and suffer more complications.

Dr Gill Hawkins, Flu Immunisation Co-ordinator at NHS Ayrshire & Arran, said: 'Flu strikes suddenly and can take immediate and severe effect. If you are in one of the at-risk groups,

then the impact of flu can be even more serious, with symptoms hitting you harder and lasting longer. In severe cases you could even end up in hospital.

'I strongly urge anyone who is in one of the at-risk groups to make an appointment with their GP to get the free vaccination. It only takes a few minutes to be vaccinated but will give you protection against the flu for around a year.

'Don't make the mistake that you think you're immune, nobody is and the potential consequences mean it's not worth the risk.'

It takes about 10 days for you to be protected against the flu after having the jab so it's best to get it as early as possible in flu season.



Lookout is no more as demolition finally takes place

After 16 years of lying derelict, the Lookout in Lamlash has finally been demolished.

The former restaurant and the adjacent Bank of Scotland building is now just a pile of rubble after John Thomson Construction workers

tore it down this week.

The company are demolishing the building to make way for a two-storey, three-bedroom detached house with garage and associated parking. 02_b41look01

Wind-powered sign blown over by the wind

The fancy sign indicating the speed of an approaching vehicle is now leaning at an acute angle into Lamlash golf course.

The sign that was put in place two years ago on Lamlash Hill to warn drivers to reduce their speed is powered by a small windmill, but it appears to have succumbed to the recent stormy weather itself. Local police confirmed that it had not been hit by a car, but just blown over by the wind.



The speed warning sign on Lamlash Hill blown over by the wind.

02_b41sign01

Inspector's Choice for Kilmichael

For the 15th year in a row, Kilmichael Country House Hotel in Brodick has been recognised as an 'Inspector's Choice Hotel' by the AA.

This is 'the AA's supreme accolade for hotels, regardless of size or type of operation'. It reflects the hotel's long-standing and consistent commitment to the highest standards of comfort and service. For the 13th year in a row, the hotel's restaurant has also been awarded two rosettes for culinary excellence.

Kilmichael is the only hotel on the island to achieve

a VisitScotland Gold Award and is currently rated number one on tripadvisor.com

Owners Geoffrey Botterill and Antony Butterworth expressed their delight at the awards and their thanks to their small but dedicated team of staff.

Special Place

Among the 87 guest reviews on tripadvisor are 'this is a really special place attention to detail, lovely living and dining rooms, great food and hospitality', and 'it really is like being a house guest in a friend's country home, but better'.



Kilmichael owners Antony Butterworth and Geoffrey Botterill outside their award-winning hotel. 02_b41ki01

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HAVE YOUR SAY - COME ALONG TO THE LOCAL HOUSING STRATEGY FORUM

North Ayrshire Council, Housing Services are holding the next Local Housing Strategy Forum on Friday 28 October 2011 at Ardeer Community Centre, Stevenston. The twice-yearly forum acts as a sounding board for the ongoing development and implementation of the Local Housing Strategy's Action Plan. It provides local residents and stakeholders with the opportunity to discuss, agree or comment on a range of housing issues. The forum is free to attend, is open to everyone and will run from 10am until 2pm. Lunch will be provided and Housing Services can also help individuals with travel arrangements. If you wish to join the hundred or so tenants, residents, volunteers and professionals who attend the forum, you should contact Caroline in the Development & Strategy Team on 01294 324031 prior to Wednesday 19 October.

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Waiter Richard Wright serves Jimmy MacMillan, Nan Lowe, Ella McKechnie, Hellen Thorburn. b41loc03

Villagers enjoy Lochranza Hall open day

Residents from the northern end of the island gathered at Lochranza and Catacol Village Hall last Wednesday for a very special Open Day.

The hall committee were hosting the event, offering a light lunch with refreshments, to show off the addition of a new kitchen to the building.

The kitchen has been extended to make the hall more suitable for hire for big receptions and events.

Changes have also been made to the hall entrance creating a separate foyer and bar area.

Kate Hartley, chairman of



Young Michael Innes tucking into a tasty sandwich. b41loc02

the hall committee said: 'We wanted to show our appreciation to all the people whose advice and support have made this project possible.'

'We have been looking forward to thanking everyone who has contributed by way of funding, advice, fundraising and continuing support to this project and we're delighted to see so many people here.'

Village residents, young and old, gathered to enjoy a lunch made by the hall committee.

All seemed very impressed with the new kitchen and said that it made the hall an even better venue for island events.



Lorna Halliburton and Margaret Kerr rustle up some home-made soup in the new bar area. b41loc01



Jennifer and Richard Hill enjoy a hearty bowl of soup. b41loc04

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Bob is pictured catching up with the news from his beloved island with his wife Nan and close friend Robbie Glen.

Robert Allan MBE 1924 - 2011

Robert 'Bob' McMillan Allan MBE, who was born at West Knowe, Brodick, in February 1924, died in Edmonton, Canada, on 2 October.

Bob was educated at Brodick Primary and Rothesay Academy.

On leaving school, he joined the RAF and went to Alberta for air crew training.

On returning to the UK in 1944, he was transferred to the Royal Artillery and saw service in India until demobilised in 1947.

After the War, he met Nan and they married in 1951. Bob had joined the Civil Service with the Department of Agriculture in Stirling and remained there until he and

Nan emigrated to Canada in 1958.

As a couple, they became very active in Canada promoting Scottish culture through the activities of the Edmonton Scottish Society, in which Bob was President for many years and latterly Executive Director with Nan acting as coordinator of the Society's activities.

Bob brought a bit of Scotland to Alberta for over 30 years in a monthly radio programme and 'A Touch of Scotland' which was broadcast on television for five years.

He served as President of Tarbolton Batchelors' Club of Edmonton; President,

Secretary and Treasurer of Edmonton Burns Club at various times and as the Scottish representative on the Alberta Cultural Heritage Council.

Bob was employed in Canada by the Edmonton Teachers Association as a Business Manager, retiring in 1989.

Honoured for his work in promoting Scottish Canadian culture, Bob was invested as an MBE by Her Majesty the Queen at Buckingham Palace in October 1989.

He occasionally returned to Arran for a holiday but never forgot the place of his birth about which he loved to chat.

On Bob and Nan's lounge wall are paintings of West Knowe and Brodick Bay.

He enjoyed reading The Banner, watching the webcam and savouring the products of Lochranza when available.

Nan and Bob were very active in the Edmonton First Presbyterian Church, of which Bob became Chairman of the Board of Managers in 1992, being responsible for keeping the buildings in a good state of repair and effecting a number of significant structural improvements and where a Memorial service for Bob was conducted on 8 October.

Bob is survived by Nan, his wife of 60 years and several nephews and nieces.

RG

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Farmers' dinner fully subscribed

Tickets for the special dinner dance at Kinloch Hotel to celebrate the 175th Arran Show are now fully subscribed.

Arran Farmers Society secretary Christine McBride said: 'Many thanks to everyone who has already booked tickets.

'We have reached our maximum limit and are looking forward to an excellent evening on November 26.'

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

Arran Camembert is a winner at British Cheese Awards

There were cheesy grins all round at the Bellevue Cheese Company this week after one of its products was highly commended in the Oscars of the cheese world.

The Arran Camembert, which is made in Blackwaterfoot, picked up a silver award at the British Cheese Awards.

Bespoke Outlets

Calum Chaplin, dairy manager at the Bellevue Cheese Company, said: 'Each one is handmade with care and available at most bespoke outlets including Island Cheese Shop at Duchess Court where you will also find Bellevue's Arran Blue and Arran Mist Brie.

'It just backs up the long held belief by many that Arran's food and drink producers don't stint on quality.'

He added: 'I hope you get as much joy tasting it as we do making it!'

The Arran Camembert, which is made in Blackwaterfoot, picked up a silver award at the British Cheese Awards.
01_b41che01



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Council secure millions in affordable housing grants

Isle of Arran homes has secured £2.44m to help build 56 new homes at Benlister in Lamlash.

The money was awarded to Trust Housing, which incorporates Isle of Arran Homes, after North Ayrshire Council successfully bid for £6.5m of government funding.

The local authority and two local housing associations secured funding from the Scottish Government's Innovation and Investment Fund, which will see 182 new affordable homes built in 2012/13.

Bids were submitted to the Scottish Government in May this year seeking funding to subsidise a series of house building projects in North Ayrshire that will help to regenerate the local area and address a significant shortage of affordable homes.

Councillor Tom Barr, North Ayrshire Council's spokesperson for the environment, said: 'The council has identified a shortfall of around 2,700 affordable homes in North Ayrshire and is committed to addressing this. I am delighted we have been able to secure funding for our own council housing building projects and were able to support both Trust Housing and Cunningham Housing Association in their bids to the Scottish Government through the Affordable Housing Contribution. All five of these projects will help regenerate the area, address the shortfall of affordable homes in North Ayrshire and improve the standard and quality of housing provision for older people.'

Missionary visits from Malawi

Helen Scott is a mission partner with the Church of Scotland working in Ekwendeni School in Malawi.

She will be talking about her work and showing slides in Lamlash Church Hall at 2pm on Monday 24 October. Everyone welcome.

Rotary Club marks 15-year milestone with dinner

The Isle of Arran Rotary Club held a special dinner on Tuesday night to celebrate their 15th anniversary.

Founded in 1996, the club has become an important and much-respected part of Arran life.

The current president, Jim Lees of Sannox – himself a founding member – said he was proud of what the Rotary Club had achieved in 15 years.

'I am proud to be a member,' said Jim. 'We have helped a great number of local charities and individuals.'

'We've donated money to youngsters that were going off on research trips as well as raising funds for local charities.'

As part of Rotary International the club have also raised money for overseas projects in country's hit by natural disasters.

The club has become an important part of the island's community and hosts a number of events, including the annual Youth Speaks competition.

This competition is soon to be joined by a Young Chef of the Year award, which Jim thinks is rather pertinent given the nation's never ending interest in celebrity cooks.

Recently the club welcomed a group of Rotary members from Chile and they spend a lot of their time liaising with international groups.

'I suppose it's nice to know that even here on Arran you can be a part of a huge community of people all over the world,' said Jim.

He explained that the Rotary Club here was formed by a group of like-minded professional people.



Members of the Isle of Arran Rotary Club at their 15th anniversary dinner at the Auchrannie on Tuesday night. 01_b41rot01

He said: 'As much as the charitable side to the club is very important to all of us, the main aim of the club is to provide members with a fun and sociable meeting place once a week. I've made many friends through the club and it is a very enjoyable group to be a member of.'

The Rotary Club currently has around 14 members but they are always looking to welcome new faces. They meet at 7pm on Tuesday nights in the Glencloy suite at the Auchrannie Spa. All welcome. Please come along and see for yourself what it is all about.



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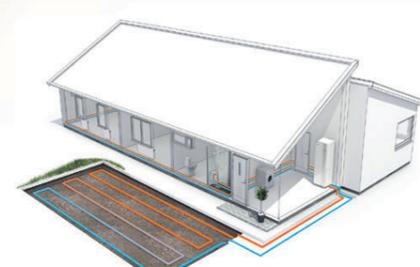
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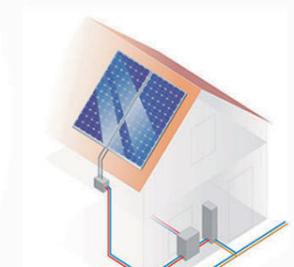
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THE ARRAN BANNER

Severe weather or just winter weather?

Brrr! Is it just me or is it getting cold out there.

With the decidedly wintry weather at the end of last week I think most of us have accepted that autumn is well and truly here.

The temperature may still be hovering around the 11 degrees Celsius mark – but the island certainly looks wintry.

In the news this week there has been a lot of speculation about the forthcoming weather.

There have been reports that we are in for another severe winter, with temperatures below freezing and widespread snow. As people struggled to get off the island at the weekend to catch much anticipated October holiday flights to the Med, I couldn't help but think that in actual fact, the severe cold is a better friend to islanders than high tides and strong winds.

At least when the temperature is below freezing on Arran we can expect flat calm seas and no disruption to ferry services.

It is no fault of CalMac's but Arran's ferries have been interrupted rather frequently in the past few months by the weather. Many people have said that these 'summer storms' are a relatively new phenomenon but a quick glance through the old Banners shows that this is not the case.

Twenty years ago the island was rocked by storms in September.

Fifteen years ago the ferries were often cancelled throughout June because of the bad weather and even just a few years ago we reported storm damage in October.

I'm sure the national press is right and there will be plenty more spells of 'severe' weather over the coming months; it happens every winter!

However, surely it's too early to give an accurate outlook on the whole of winter and how widespread any 'severe' weather may be.

We'll just have to wait and see.

It is also interesting to hear that there is evidence showing a correlation between solar UV emissions and cold winters.

A report by scientists from the Met Office, Imperial College London and Oxford University suggests that low UV emissions during the 11 year solar cycle could play a part in unusually severe winters across northern Europe and the USA.

The report also states that this doesn't have an impact on global warming, instead it's the distribution of hot and cold air which is affected; so for example we cool down in the UK and Greenland warms up.

On that note, I'm off to light my fire!

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The Lord longs to be gracious to you; He rises to show you compassion. For the Lord is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for Him!" (Isaiah 30:18)

press policy

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

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

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

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

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your letters

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

Letters to the Editor



Altruism alive and well

Sir,
Could I please offer my grateful thanks, through your pages to the very kind gentleman who helped my husband and myself whilst we were on holiday on Arran in August. We had parked up on the shingle grassland, overlooking Kilbrannan Sound, just north of Whitefarland/Pirnmill in our white VW campervan.

Whilst trying to drive back onto the road, unfortunately the front wheels sank into the shingle. Oops! Despite the best efforts of my husband, and those of the kind people in the van parked up along from us, we couldn't dig out the wheels. Luckily, a gentleman came along on a tractor and trailer, hitched us up, and pulled us out. He saved our day.

Despite our grateful thanks, he refused to accept any reward, saying it was part of his job.

In these days when we hear so much bad news regarding people's behaviour, it's important to recognise that there are people out there who perform acts of altruism, as part of their everyday lives. So thank you so much, to our anonymous rescuer.

Yours,
**Jan Millington and
Jon Barraclough
Wakefield
West Yorkshire**

Place to be proud of

Sir,
On Friday 30 September we lost a camera from our car between Blackwaterfoot and Whiting Bay.

The only time we stopped, briefly, was on the bridge at the Lagg Hotel as a young girl (about 18 months old) was walking on the road.

My wife opened the car door momentarily to ensure the girl was safe.

I noticed in the mirror that she had walked into the garden across the road and my wife closed the car door and we proceeded to Whiting Bay. We had lunch at the Coast Restaurant and carried on towards Brodick.

Before reaching Brodick I

realised that the camera was missing.

Later that afternoon I was contacted by my mother's Doctor in Dumfries and was advised that she, at 94 years old, had been admitted to hospital with a suspected heart attack.

I returned to Ardrossan on the 9.30pm ferry and then on to Dumfries to visit my mother.

My wife, who had remained on the island with the rest of the family, later spoke to a policeman in Brodick who advised that there was a high possibility that the camera would be handed in because 'Arran is that sort of place with honest folk'.

I, personally, had given the camera up as lost.

On returning home my wife e-mailed *The Arran Banner* with the details of the camera, date of loss and our contact details.

On Friday 7 October we received two phone calls from two young men who had read the article in *The Banner* and they advised that they had picked up the camera and handed it to the reception of the Lagg Hotel.

We contacted the Lagg Hotel, identified the camera and very distinctive photos on it and the camera is being posted back to us.

We wish to say a big thank you to the two young men from Whiting Bay who handed the camera in; to the Lagg Hotel for returning it to us; to the Arran police for their assistance and to *The Arran Banner* for publishing the article regarding the camera loss.

As an aside, when I was travelling home alone, to visit my mother in hospital, on the Friday evening I asked the young man at MacBraynes Ferry Terminal in Brodick, where I could obtain a cup of tea.

He looked out the window and said 'Looks like everywhere is closed'.

Then he made me a cup of tea. How nice is that?

It is 40 years since I was last in Arran, my only previous visit.

Without question we will be back. The courtesy and

honesty of all individuals that we met was so refreshing in this rather selfish world. Thank you Arran. You have a place to be proud of.

Yours,
**Ian and Lindsay
MacPhee
Dumfries**

Useful manure?

Sir,
Dave Patterson and I were delighted to see our lovingly bagged RDA horse manure being advertised in the furniture section of last week's *Banner*.

This is a tremendous accolade for our quality product, although it suggests that the bottom has rather fallen out of the Arran home furnishings market.

Bags of our lovely warm manure would make excellent footstools and, if the tops are secured, then very supportive pillows could be fashioned.

However, we suggest room temperatures be kept very low as heat will hasten composting and could lead to bag explosions.

Our manure also makes very good compost and we currently have quite a pile ready to go.

So whether you are interested in making pouffes or potatoes, please come on down to Oakbank!

Yours,
**Colin Guthrie
Braeside
Brodick**

Nowhere compares

Sir,
My heart was broken several years ago when I heard that the Breadalbane Hotel at Kildonan had been demolished.

My family enjoyed many family holidays there over the years, and we always returned to Manchester with a heavy heart, precious memories and a couple of extra inches on the waistline due to the legendary portions from the kitchen.

To be honest we have not had the heart to return to Arran since the 'Breadbin's' demise.

A recent nostalgic internet search however, revealed a picture of the Breadalbane's holiday flat building intact

with the rest of the hotel demolished.

Does this building still exist? We generally stayed in flat two I seem to remember, and our visits always seemed to coincide with the House Martins feeding their young in the eaves.

The soft light of Pladda lighthouse fell on the wall of the bedroom, this together with the sound of the tide gifted us deep and dreamless sleep.

I have since travelled all over the world and never found anywhere to compare.

Yours,
**Graham Ingham
Baguley
Manchester**

Cheese success

Sir,
Many congratulations to Chris and the team at Tollymill for their recent success at this year's British Cheese Awards.

It just backs up the long held belief by many that Arran's food and drink producers don't stint on quality.

I would like to inform your readers that we were also awarded a silver for our Arran Camembert.

Each one handmade with care and available at most bespoke outlets including the Island Cheese Shop at Duchess Court where you will also find Bellvue's Arran Blue and Arran Mist Brie.

I hope you get as much joy tasting it as we do making it!

Yours,
**Calum Chaplin
Dairy Manager
Bellvue Cheese Company
Blackwaterfoot**



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Islanders dig deep for Arran Archaeology Project

'This is providing powerful and memorable experiences for the children, making learning fun and opening their eyes to the history which surrounds them.'

School and community groups from Arran are digging into the island's past as part of an exciting new educational arts project.

'Arran Archaeology' is a joint venture between Arran Theatre and Arts Trust, Arran Arts Resource and the National Trust for Scotland's Countryside Rangers at Brodick Castle.

The Heritage Lottery Fund has contributed £19,600 to this project, and Argyll and the Islands Leader Local Action Group has contributed £14,000.

The National Trust for Scotland has given £10,000, North Ayrshire Council £1,000 and Arran Theatre and Arts Trust £2,385.

The project runs until December 2012 giving lots of the island's young people opportunities to investigate the history of their local environment through practical and arts activities at archaeological sites and in the classroom.

Currently there are three groups involved in the project, Brodick Primary 5,6,7 class, Shiskine Primary P4-7 class

and the Learning Disability Group.

Shiskine P4-7 began the project on a wet day exploring the Machrie Standing Stones and hut circles.

With the help of ranger Kate Sampson, archaeologist David Aitchison and artists Ed O'Donnolly, Josephine Broekhuizen and Sarah Cook they were invited to picture the landscape 5,000 years ago and imagine the lives of Bronze Age people.

Discovered

Brodick P5,6,7 and the LD Group are focusing on Brodick Castle and Grounds. During their visits they took part in a dig, discovered remnants of ancient buildings and learned how the castle has changed over the centuries.

The youngsters have been working with experts – archaeologists, historians, rangers and artists, learning the skills of archaeology – examining the evidence through observation, recording and documenting their findings.

In arts workshops they will continue to explore the lives and times of our Arran ancestors through art, drama and

digital media.

Colin McLean, head of the Heritage Lottery Fund in Scotland, said: 'Our heritage offers a rich resource for education and it is wonderful to see it being used on Arran in such an innovative way.'

'It is providing powerful and memorable experiences for the children, making learning fun and opening their eyes to the history which surrounds them. Young people are the future custodians of our heritage so their passion for it is vital if we are to keep it from being lost forever.'

Running concurrently with the arts project the NTS Rangers are making preparations for the construction of a replica Neolithic roundhouse within Brodick Castle grounds. Using resources available locally where possible, the building process will be opened up to interested members of the public, giving people of all ages a chance to get involved in an exciting experimental archaeology project and to learn new skills.

Working with conservation volunteers, the rangers have



Pupils from Brodick Primary School examine their 'archaeological discovery' at the castle.

already begun to harvest the bracken required for thatching.

Further workshops, residential camps and other sessions will provide opportunities for groups to work alongside master craftsmen learning the traditional building techniques for thatching, construction of walls and roof and using wattle and daub.

This is also open to local groups, and anyone interested should telephone the Rangers Centre on 302462.

Once built, the roundhouse will provide a venue for workshops and other events.



Once completed, the Neolithic Roundhouse at Brodick Castle will resemble something like this.



Volunteers gathering bracken that will be used to thatch the Neolithic roundhouse.



The bracken for thatching is being stored in the castle gardens.

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The Scotsman

★★★★★
The Guardian

Adapted by David Harrower
From the book by Roger Hutchinson
Directed by Gerry Mulgrew

KA CAMPUS ARRAN, ARRAN HIGH SCHOOL
Sat 5 November 2011, 7.30pm
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Box office: Book & Card Centre / 01770 302 288

National Theatre of Scotland, a company limited by guarantee and registered in Scotland (SC234270) is a registered Scottish charity (SC033377). Photograph of Calum's Road by Colin Campbell.

Banner photo competition



'Kendal of Strathwhillan' Jim Green, Strathwhillan.

'Deer at Sunset' Craig Adams, York.



The Banner's annual photographic competition has been running now for more than 30 years, and it is proving to be as popular as ever.

This year the judges were overwhelmed by the truly superb standard of entries and it was very difficult to pick just four winners.

So this week we have brought you a selection of the photographs that nearly made it.

Arran is one of the most picturesque and beautiful places in the world and each year through our photography challenge we ask readers to capture the perfect island scene on camera.

We may say it every year but the standard of entries contin-

ues to impress us, proving that photography has become a very enjoyable hobby for many of you.

It has been very difficult to choose just four winners this year as we had some stunning shots to choose from.

They are all pictures that our judges marked out as potential winners this year.

The pictures submitted by Craig Adams from York, Bobbi Adamson of Kilmory, Beth Davies of Glasgow, Jim Green of Strathwhillan and Joanne Morrow were all marked out as possible winners.

Well done to them all! Thank you for all your entries. They have been a pleasure to judge.

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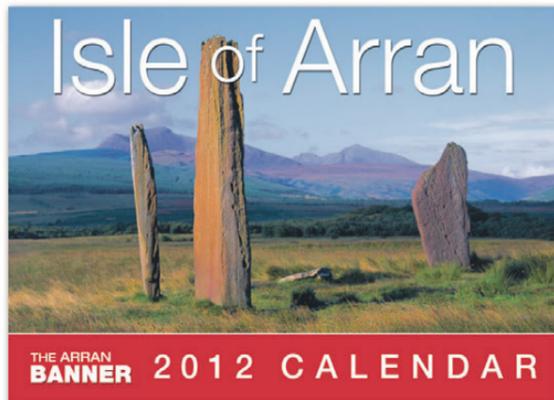
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2011 - the best of the rest



'Learning to crawl, doing fine on Dun Fionn' Beth Davies, Glasgow. b41pic04NO



'Max waiting for a freshly caught lunch' Bobbi Adamson, Kilmory.



'HRH was pleased to see the girls enjoying their day at the 175th Farmers Show' Joanne Morrow, by e-mail.



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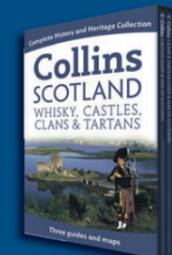
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Stormy seas signal winter's return

Both the Lochranza and Brodick ferries were disrupted at the end of last week, perhaps signalling the start of winter.

High winds

High winds forced both services ashore intermittently between Thursday and Sunday.

The Lochranza to Claonaig service will come to an end this Saturday (October 22) and the daily sailing to Tarbert will resume.

National Theatre prepares for Arran performances

Next month the National Theatre of Scotland is bringing two superb productions to the Community Theatre at Arran High School in Lam-lash.

'Calum's Road' and 'Tall Tales for Small People' have both received rave reviews and islanders will have a chance to see them for themselves on Saturday 5 and Sunday 6 November.

Calum's Road is a road

that really exists. Nearly two miles long, it goes from South Arnish to Brochel Castle on the Inner Hebridean island of Raasay.

Built in the 1960s, it is the single-handed work of Calum MacLeod, an islander who grew so frustrated with the council's failure to construct a road that he just did it himself.

The story is told in Roger Hutchinson's 2006 book Ca-

lum's Road and adapted here in a lyrical, musical and elegiac ensemble production by Gerry Mulgrew for Communicado and the National Theatre of Scotland, on tour with Mulgrew's equally rewarding children's show Tall Tales for Small People.

The appeal of MacLeod's feat is in its classical audacity. Played by Iain Macrae, he is a single-minded man who never stops working and never sits down.

He uses the routes taken by sheep to chart his course, gets materials by picking apart ancient walls and uses nothing but hand tools to boldly go where no man has gone before.

Like a Greek hero, he is one part awe-inspiring, one part hubristic.

The tragedy, in David Harrower's gorgeous adaptation, which circles in on itself like the twists and turns of a High-

land road, is as much ours as his. MacLeod is driven by his desire to halt the island's depopulation but, by the time the council finally surfaces the road, he and his wife are the only ones left in Arnish. His achievement is astounding, and too late.

Seen from the perspective of MacLeod's daughter and her childhood sweetheart, now living far away, the construction of the road is the dying gasp of a condemned culture. Like the Gaelic they no longer speak, it symbolises a way of life that eludes them.

It is not just a road but, like this spirited production itself, a poignant reminder of our collective loss.

Calum's Road will be performed on Saturday 5 November at 7.30pm. Tickets £12/£10/£5.

Tall Tales for Small People is at 1pm on Sunday 6 November. Tickets £7/£5.



Golf

Whiting Bay Golf Club

Sunday 9 October saw the first round of the Winter Cup. This is played over six months with the best three scores to count for each player. Only seven players managed out on a very wet day, with the course standing up very well considering the amount of water that has fallen in the last couple of weeks. 1 Dave Hackett (14)62, 2 Jamie MacPherson (5)65, 3 Ronnie Mann (11)66. Jamie won scratch with 70 and he also had the only magic two of the day.

Fixtures: Sunday 16 October, Hamilton Salver. Sunday 23, Taylor Trophy Green-some.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

This week's games were a double win for Steph Hill. Tuesday 4 October, Winter Cup. 1 Steph Hill 65, 2 Brian Sherwood 71, 3 Denise Sherwood 72. Scratch Brian Sherwood 79. Saturday 8 October, Lochranza Hotel Cup. 1 Steph Hill 39 pts, 2 David Price 31 pts, 3 Brian Sherwood 30 pts. Best Scratch Brian Sherwood 81. **Fixtures:** Tuesday 18 October, Lochranza Hotel Cup 12pm tee-off.

Lamlash Golf Club

Not much golf played this week due to the weather. Results: Sunday 9 October, winter Stableford. 1 Raymond Burke 38 points, 2 Todd Jameson 35 points, Scratch Todd Jameson.

Fixtures: Sunday 16 October, Glenburn Cup 9.30am and 1pm starts. Thursday 20 October, back nine competition make up own groups.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday 8 October, 10 played, CSS 61 (white tees). 1 A McDonald 66-11=55, 2 E McKinnon 58+1=59. Best scratch E McKinnon 59. Magic twos P McKinnon, A McDonald and E McKinnon.

Monday 10 October, yellow tees. 1 L Hartley 66-16=50, 2 W Paul 72-21=51, 3 P Moran 76-20=56. There were twos from K Barclay, J McGovern, D Wilkinson and R Jeffrey. (A few bandits about on Monday 10th) Good to see H Taylor (Spud) back playing again, well done!

Fixtures: Saturday 15 October, Medal Sweep only, white tees, 8.30am, 2pm and 1.45pm. Monday 17 October, yellow tees, 12noon (11.45am for draw).

Brodick Golf Club

Fixtures: Sunday 16 October, Winter Cup, open draws at 8.30am and 1pm.

Sunday 23 October, first round of Clochendichter.

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RANGER SERVICE
WALKS & EVENTS IN OCTOBER

Sun 16th 11am - 3pm DEER RUT WALK
Experience the red deer rut at first hand with local expert Bob Logan. Off-path moorland walk.
Adult £20, child £10
Booking essential, please phone 01770 302462

Tue 18th 10am - 12pm RED SQUIRREL STROLL
Leisurely woodland walk to our squirrel hotspots. Find out all about the furry rodents and how to tell if they're about.
Entry to Country Park + £2/adult, £1/child
No need to book, meet at Brodick Castle Reception Centre

Thurs 20th 2 - 4pm AUTUMN ART ATTACK
Be inspired by nature's brilliant autumn palette and use natural materials to create colourful outdoor artworks.
Entry to Country Park + £2/child Wear outdoor clothing
No need to book, meet at Ranger Centre

Sun 29th 7 - 9pm HALLOWEEN HORROR
Unique chance to experience the DARK side of Brodick Castle - if you dare! Explore the spooky grounds and dimly lit castle corridors, then recover with a hot drink huddled round a cosy bonfire. Prepare to be frightened!
Adult £5, child £2.50 Bring a torch & warm clothing
No need to book, meet at Brodick Castle Reception Centre
PLANT SALE 50% off - STARTS SATURDAY

The Heller Ensemble (Piano Trio)
7.30pm, Saturday 22nd October
Community Theatre, Arran High School, Lamlash
Tickets £8.00 Children admitted free
Tickets available from Inspirations of Arran,
www.arranevents.com or at the door
Concert brought to you by the Isle of Arran Music Society and Arran Active



Fans of island poetry gathered at The Douglas Hotel to celebrate National Poetry Day.

National Poetry Day a great success

'A poet is, before anything else, a person who is passionately in love with language.'

Those were the words of one of the greatest ever poets WH Auden and they never felt more true than at the National Poetry Day event at the

Douglas Hotel on Thursday night.

Forty poetry enthusiasts crammed into the hotel's Piano Bar to hear five invited guests read some poetry. They were, Alison Prince, David Underdown, Cicely

Gill, Diana Riddell and Tim Pomeroy.

Tim explained: 'Occasionally a poet would read a favourite 'weel-kent' poem and there was music from Maureen Robertson from Kildonan and 'Vivace', Juliette Walsh's singing ensemble, to vary the colour of the evening.

'There were two open-floor

sessions where audience members could stand and read their own work and another seven poets took advantage of this - Shelagh Collins, Jason Watts, Asja Baumgartner, Gillian Lockhart, Judith Baines, and Juliette Walsh.'

He added: 'It was a great success all round. Already we're talking about another next year.'

Chamber of Commerce award nomination

VisitArran, the island's destination management group, has been shortlisted for the Tourism Award at this year's prestigious Ayrshire Chamber of Commerce business awards.

The ceremony was held last night (Thursday 13 October) so at the time of going to print we are not sure if the group triumphed or not.

Claire Richardson, operations manager for VisitArran, said: 'We are delighted to have been nominated for this award.'

'We have presented to the judges after beating tough competition and are keeping our fingers crossed that we triumph.'

THE GIRLS ARE BACK!! SWEET INSPIRATION

Dance / Fun Night

Saturday 15th October
Corrie Hall 8pm - 11pm
Music for everyone

£5 at door BYOB Raffle to Corrie Hall

REPEAT SHOWING OF THE OLD FILMS OF ARRAN

Edited by Ed O'Donnolly, From the Mclellan Arts Festival 2011

In Corrie hall Wed 26th October at 7.30 pm

£5 including refreshments & wine



PHOTOGRAPH- ARRAN BANNER 1984

Plus the video from Corrie Capers 1984

All proceeds to go to Corrie & Sannox Village hall energy efficiency upgrade - Scottish registered Charity no SC 009961

LAMLASH BAY HOTEL

Psychic Night

Sunday 23rd October
9pm

Back by popular demand
Magenta and Doctor Alan Curley
Tickets £7.50 Tel 600844
Early Bird Menu available till 8.30pm

Ladies Day

Sunday 13th November
1.30pm - 5pm

Arts & Crafts, Christmas Stocking Fillers
Handbags and Jewellery by Ebony Style
Live music with Jamie Swan
Cocktail on arrival
Tickets £5.00 Tel 600844

Winter Hours

Restaurant will be closed Monday & Tuesday
from 1st November

Due to demand Early Bird Menu continues
6pm - 7pm

Normal Service 7pm Last orders 8.30pm
Wednesday - Sunday

Tea or coffee every day with home baking for £3.50.

Telephone for booking on 600844

Arran news from the archives of The Oban Times



As part of the 150th anniversary of the Oban Times we have been looking back at Arran news reports from as far back as 1861.

Arran railway - March 1919

Schemes for developing the Island of Arran are under consideration.

A light railway from Lam-lash round the south end to Blackwaterfoot has been proposed, but further action is delayed pending the report of the Rural Transport Commission, which visited the island some months ago.

It is also hoped to open up some of the districts by motor; and a scheme is being examined with a view to providing the villages with electric light and power.

In all these schemes it is hoped to interest the islanders, and to secure their support both as regards initiation and management.

Lady Graham and the Marquis of Graham view the proposals favourably, and will give them all the support in their power.

Lochranza - boat wrecked at pier - December 1920

In the gale of 3 December a boat of the Campbeltown fishing fleet belonging to Mr James Wareham was totally lost at Lochranza.

The crew had just discharged their catch at the pier when the gale burst upon them. The sea was so heavy that the crew had to jump ashore for their lives and look helplessly at the boat being smashed to matchwood. The only salvage is the motor engine.

In the present state of the fishing industry and the high cost of boats the loss will be seriously felt.

New Arran hospital - February 1921

The cutting of the first sod on the site of the Arran War Memorial Hospital, Lam-lash, was performed by the Marquis of Graham.

Rev. Mr Kennedy, parish minister, opened proceedings with prayer and Mr A Cook, architect, presented Lord Graham with a soldier's entrenching tool as a memento of the occasion. The Marchioness of Graham, OBE, presided, accompanied by her sons, Lord Kincardine and Lord Ronald Graham.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Captain Morrison, Miramar and Lord Graham acknowledged.

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Email: fmacinnes@obantimes.co.uk

THE ARRAN BANNER

- on holiday . . .



Alistair Forsyth from Glasgow took his Banner on a recent trip to Hong Kong.

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

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

This week we have another fantastic photo from the Rugby World Cup in New Zealand featuring four well-known young men from Arran.

Other pictures this week

have been taken in Egypt, Hong Kong, Florida and Turkey proving that The Arran Banner is still being taken all over the world. Don't forget to pack your copy of the Banner if you are going on holiday.

Photographs

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

When space permits we will continue to print the photos that we have on file.

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



Lewis Anderson, the grandson of Charles and Irene Currie of Blackwaterfoot, was photographed with his Banner at the entrance to the amphitheatre at Letoon, Lycia in southern Turkey.



Boris Tulika and his wife Brenda took their Banner to the Karnak Temple in Luxor, Egypt while celebrating their Silver Wedding.



Alan McGrath, Sam Marriot, Ben Tattersfield and Murray Picken are pictured with their Banner at the Scotland v England rugby match in Eden Park, Auckland. 'Great atmosphere,' said Alan. 'Just a shame about the result.'



Terry McManus, who is originally from Pirnmill, is pictured with his Banner on Daytona Beach in Florida.

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Councillor Bell extremely disappointed

Following the report two weeks ago about the reduction in the Children's Outreach Service on Arran, Councillor John Bell, North Ayrshire Council spokesperson for children's services, has contacted the Banner to comment.

He said: 'We are extremely disappointed by the front page report on the redesign of Children's Outreach Services on Arran in the Arran Banner (Saturday, 1 October).

'In response to the newspaper's query it was made clear that the Children's Service officers based on the island do not simply serve the Arran

community. Children's Service officers remit is across North Ayrshire and one of the main reasons for basing posts on the mainland is to ensure that all areas receive a fair and balanced service.

Important

'Unfortunately, this was not mentioned in the article. It is very important to clarify this point as it is at the heart of the redesign of the service.

'We also explained that the cancellation of the Rhyme-time session at Brodick Nursery was due to an officer taking part in a training session and had nothing to do with the redesign.'

The redesign of the service means that there will no longer be a Children's Outreach officer based on Arran. Mother Jo Totty pointed out:

'All the parents and children know Nina (Hamilton) and Sheila (Gilmore) so well and it will be devastating to lose them.'

Paterson launches VisitScotland biscuit promo

Biscuit manufacturer Paterson Arran has joined forces with VisitScotland's Surprise Yourself campaign, to launch its first on-pack promotion.

Featuring on every 380g box of Paterson's Luxury Shortbread Fingers, the promotion will prompt consumers to enter a free prize draw, with the chance of winning a five-star break to the Isle of Arran in Scotland.

The prize includes a luxurious two-night stay for two people at the island's Auchrannie Resort, which features a hotel, self-catering cottages, spa, three restaurants and a child's play area.

In addition, the winning couple would be treated to dinner, bed and breakfast at the Auchrannie House Hotel, £200 spending money, and £100 travel expenses.

'We wanted to combine the luxurious taste of our product with a prize that captures the essence of Scotland and allows customers to experience the very best aspects of Scotland,' said Amy Coles, marketing manager, at Paterson Arran.

The Luxury Shortbread Fingers are available from selected stockists, including Asda, Morrisons, Tesco and Sainsbury's.

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www.arranbanner.co.uk/digital

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The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday, 11 October, 1991

Parents in class

In a new initiative at Arran High School, adults have been in the classrooms while learning is taking place.

Not mature students this time but mums and dads seeing what wee Johnny does at school.

Seven parents turned up to watch their offspring in the chemistry class on Wednesday and then of course have it explained by teacher Dave Freeman.

One parent said: 'It was interesting to see just how the science department ticks.'

Musical success

Robert Watt of Brodick and his group Cromdale have recorded a special album called 'Homeland'.

Robert left Arran in 1976 and served in the Canadian Police until 1987.

Married to a Whiting Bay girl, Alison Currie, he is now a builder in Ontario but his greatest success has been music, both with Cromdale -

one of Canada's most popular groups - and on the bagpipes.

Dead eagles

When we reported some weeks ago about dead eagles being found on the island we revealed that officers of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries had made an unannounced visit to Dougarie Estate.

We were unable to say at the time what they found but can now reveal that they removed three short-eared owls found in a freezer in a shed that had been badly battered.

One possible reason given by the estate is that vehicles on the road had hit them.

The investigations have now been halted and no charges will be brought.

French exchange

Twenty-three fourth year pupils left Arran last Tuesday in the charge of French teacher Mrs Pattenden to spend a week on exchange visits in the Pelussin, south of Lyon.

The pupils will live with

French families, attend school with them, and, with luck, speak French.

Lords and ladies

Lord Haddington is to visit Lady Jean Fforde in a few weeks time.

A social visit, he is always interested in the paranormal, studies of flying saucers and corn circles etc.

He had recently heard that some people on Arran, particularly in Whiting Bay, were reporting hearing a low hum pervading the atmosphere that has never been explained.

Jacko coming to Arran!

Runrig might be, but Michael Jackson is definitely coming to Arran!

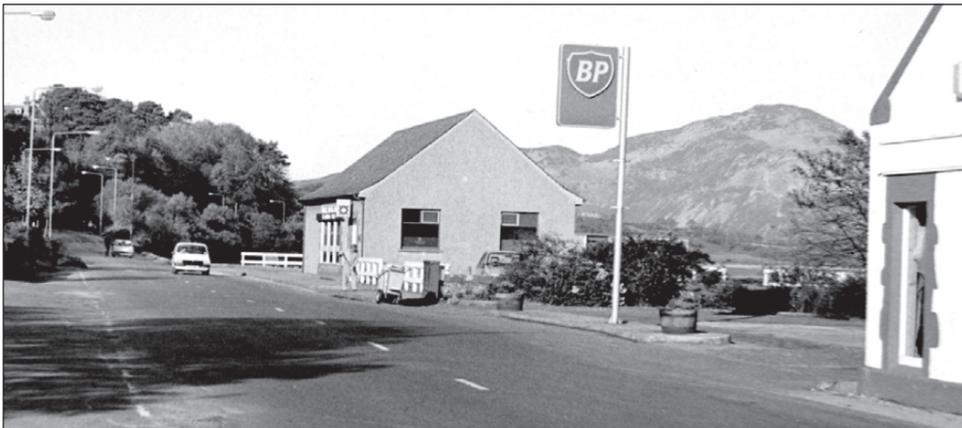
Not the one-gloved eccentric, but a tall blonde politics graduate from Paisley, who happens to share the same name. Michael's band 'Marcha Fresca' is selling out all over Glasgow and they will be performing in Whiting Bay Hall this Friday night.



Celebrating their Diamond Wedding this month are Ann and Bob Thomson of Kirkabister, Whiting Bay. Married 60 years ago, they moved to Arran just seven years ago. b41twe02



This Lada was found in the Cloy Burn on Sunday morning after four youths from East Kilbride decided to take it for a spin after finding it with the keys in the ignition. b41twe01



Villagers are nervously waiting to find out whether the Royal Bank of Scotland in Whiting Bay will re-open after the fire last week. b41twe03

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The Pillar Box

Last week Archie was sitting outside Corrie Hall. First correct answers came from Kevin of Troon, Ann from Ayr, Louise from Macclesfield, Marion of Corrie and doggie pals Spring of Kirkintilloch, Sannox of Holmfirth and Patch from Lochranza. This week he is in the country, but which road is that behind him?



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

Round the Rurals

Kildonan WRI

The next meeting of Kildonan WRI will be held in Kildonan Hall at 2pm on Tuesday 18 October.

Judith Baines will be making Christmas Squares and the competition is a hand-made card.

We hope to see a good turn out of members and friends.

Kilmory WRI

The opening meeting on Monday 3 October was well attended when MR Jim Arnold gave a most interesting talk on old Arran.

Mr Arnold showed many photographs of farming scenes, houses and the piers taken during the early part of the twentieth century.

He then contrasted these with the same view photographed in the present day.

Mr Arnold was thanked by former Kilmory member Gill Edmunds.

The competition for an old Arran photograph was won by May Macdonald and the competition for gingerbread was won by Eleanor McKinnon.

The next meeting will be on Monday 14 November when Sister Jo Earle will talk about looking after your heart.

The competitions will be for a favourite necklace and also for a limerick.

Members wishing to attend the Rally on Friday 11 November, please let Mairi know by the end of October.

Arran livestock sales

United Auctions had forward 8,126 store and prime sheep at their Stirling Agricultural Centre last Wednesday.

Arran livestock prices: Texel cross lambs Craigdhu £80, Moor £66, Balnacoolle £62.50, Margenaish £58.

Suffolk cross lambs Balnacoolle £65, Swallowbrae £64.50, Sheddock £59.50.

Cheviot lambs Cosyden £60, Blackface lambs Margenaish £45.50, Whin £40.

Mule lambs Margenaish £55.50, Texel cross ewes Craigdhu £91.50, Cheviot ewes Cosyden £62.

Linnet or Twite

Bird Notes by Jim Cassels

Both Linnet and Twite occur on Arran, with most records from the west and south of the island.

Both breed on Arran and, in addition, birds on migration add to the numbers present in spring and autumn.

The Linnet is more widespread than the Twite.

The largest group of Linnet reported in the last few years has been 300 on Cleats shore

on 29 August 2008 while the largest group of Twite is considerable smaller being 50 on Kilpatrick shore on 26 September 2008.

Looking at the records of both species over the last five years most records for Twite occur in September and October while most records for Linnet occur from April to September.

Interestingly there are no re-



Twite have a distinctive and rather beautiful orange-buff ground colour to the face and the unstreaked throat.



The rich buff underparts of Linnets and the darker brown buff upperparts are profusely streaked with grey-brown, but this is subdued and rather diffuse.

cent records of Linnet in December, January or February. In the depth of the winter Linnet seem to leave Arran.

In breeding plumage Linnet and Twite are relatively easy to tell apart but it is much more challenging when the birds are not in breeding plumage.

Linnet and Twite out of breeding plumage are both 'little brown birds'.

Both have white flashes in the primaries and tail but here are some handy hints to help tell them apart.

In late autumn and winter Linnets are rather nondescript buffy grey birds. The rich buff underparts and the darker brown buff upperparts are profusely streaked

with grey-brown, but this is subdued and rather diffuse.

The head is grey, with a pattern that is also rather subdued, making the bird look quite plain-headed from a distance.

Distinctive

In Twite the colours are less grey and more orange-buff. Here are three features to look for: a distinctive and rather beautiful orange-buff ground colour to the face and the unstreaked throat.

Brown streaking extends from the sides of the breast rather diffusely down onto the flanks, but the belly and undertail coverts are white.

Darker brown upperparts with darker streaks, and a more prominent wingbar,

varying from buff to whitish, across the tips of the greater coverts.

An obviously yellow bill in winter, contrasting with the face. In summer the bill is grey and it normally starts to darken in March-April.

Look out for both these birds on Arran this year.

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

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Be inspired by autumn at Brodick

Budding young Arran artists are being urged to visit Brodick Castle, Garden and Country Park this Thursday (October 20) to find the artist inside them.

Autumn Art Attack will allow children to come along and let loose all of their creative skills.

Kate Sampson, senior ranger at the castle said: 'We're looking for the children to come along and discover their inner Andy Goldsworthy.'

'We're asking you to create pieces that are inspired by autumn colours, using natural materials found within the grounds of Brodick Country Park.'

The event is suitable for children of all ages with an accompanying adult.

Admission is not included in the event charge, which stands at £2 for children.

Booking is not required and children are asked to meet outside Brodick Country Park Ranger Centre.

Autumn Art Attack runs from 2pm until 4pm.

Whats On

ISLE OF **ARRAN**
BREWERY

in association with Isle of Arran Brewery

www.arranbrewery.com Tel: 01770 302353

EVERYDAY

Arran Brewery
Arran Brewery Tour
Trout Fly Fishing
Brodict Castle, Gardens open daily
Arran Heritage Museum

Open Mon - Sat 10.30am-4.30pm, Sun 12.30pm - 4.30pm
2pm
Loch Garbad, Boat or Bank
9am - dusk
Rosaburn Brodict, 10.30am - 4.30pm

SATURDAY 15th OCTOBER

Karate
Family Games
Fun In The Pool
Over 21's Disco
Arran Dancers (4 years and up)
Teddy Bears Picnic
Kids Family Quiz
Zumba Fitness
Motocross
Sheena MacKechnie Memorial Pool Tournament
Comedy Night
Sweet Inspiration - Dance/Fun Night

Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool 4pm - 5pm
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Arran High School, 10am
The Playbarn, Auchrannie, 2pm - 3pm
The Playbarn, Auchrannie, 5pm - 6pm
Arran High School, 2pm - 3pm
East Bennan, 1pm
Catacol Bay Hotel, 1pm
Arran on a Plate, Brodict, 7pm
Corrie Hall, 8pm - 11pm

SUNDAY 16th OCTOBER

Alcoholics Anonymous
Quiz
Live Music Folk / Rock / Blues
Family Games
Fun In The Pool
Teddy Bears Picnic
Open Mic Session

Church Hall, Brodict, 4.30pm
PHT, Lamlash, 9pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Auchrannie Games Hall 3pm - 4pm
4pm to 5pm Auchrannie Spa Pool
The Playbarn, Auchrannie, 2pm - 3pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 2pm - 5pm

MONDAY 17th OCTOBER

Over 50's Badminton
Badminton
Weight Wise
Ladies Netball
Citizens Advice
BreathWalk Class
Table Tennis
Hatha Yoga
Lamlash Bridge
Zumba Fitness
Activity Time
Come Dance with Me - LeRoc Modern Jive
Scottish Country Dancing for Beginners and Improvers
Quiz
Arran Antiquarians - "Donations to Glasgow Museum"
Kiddy Kapers

Lochranza Village Hall 2pm - 4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Hospital Bungalow, 5pm - 5.30pm
High School Sports Hall - Seniors 7.30pm - 9pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 10am - 2pm
Kinneil, Lamlash 5.15pm
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
Arran High School, 6pm - 7.30pm
Lamlash Golf Clubhouse, 7pm
Arran High School, 6pm - 7pm
The Playbarn, Auchrannie 1pm - 2pm (toddlers) 5pm - 6pm (school kids)
Whiting Bay Hall, 7.30pm
Corrie Hall, 2pm - 4pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 9pm - 11pm
Brodict Hall, 2pm
Kinloch Hotel, 10.30am - 12.30pm

TUESDAY 18th OCTOBER

Lochranza Swimming Club
Army Cadets
Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Citizens Advice
Youth Club
Rotary Club
Junior Hockey Club
Melody Movement. Ballet Class - 2½ yrs up
Dudes & Divas Funky Dance Class - 2½ yrs up
Youth Club
Zumba Fitness Class
Scottish Country Dancing
Zumba Fitness
Chalk and Cheese

Kinloch 11am - 12pm
Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodict Church Hall - 2pm
Ormidale Pavilion, Brodict, 10am - 2pm
Kildonan Hall - 6.30pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
Ormidale Pavillion, 6pm-7pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.30pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 2pm
Brodict Hall, 6.30pm - 8pm
Brodict Hall, 8pm - 9pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30pm
Arran High School, 6pm - 7pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 9pm - 11pm

WEDNESDAY 19th OCTOBER

Hockey
Tae Kwondo
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Selt Making Class
Senior Badminton
Museum, Archives & Geneology Service
Yogalates
Live Coutry Music
Aquafizz
Musical Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones
Kids Games
Friends of Brodict Castle "Scottish Porridge" Robbie Glen
Elderly Persons Forum

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
Shipfield, Lamlash, 10am - 4pm
High School Games Hall, 8pm - 9pm
10.30am - 12.30pm and 1.30pm - 3.30pm
9.30am to 10.30am Auchrannie Studio
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45am - 10.30am
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am
The Playbarn, Auchrannie, 5pm - 6pm
Castle Tearoom, 7.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 11am

THURSDAY 20th OCTOBER

General Knowledge Quiz
Lochranza Craft Club
Coffee Morning
Youth Club
General Knowledge Quiz
Zumba Fitness Class
Brodict Embroidery Club
Brodict Bridge Club
The Wee Blether

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Hall, 2pm
St Molios Church 10.30am - 12pm
Youth Cabin, Lamlash 7-9pm
Kinloch Bar, 9pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 8pm - 9pm
Brodict Library, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Brodict Golf Club, 7pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 11.45am - 1.30pm

FRIDAY 21st OCTOBER

Quiz
Aquafizz
Yogalates
Rock Disco
Arran Youth Foundations
Kids Party Games
Senior Badminton
Arran Ceilidh Group

Whiting Bay Golf Club, 9pm
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45am to 10.30am
Auchrannie Studio 10am - 11am
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Church Hall, Brodict, 7pm - 9pm
The Playbarn, Auchrannie, 5 - 6pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 2pm
Lamlash Church Hall. 8pm - 10pm

SATURDAY 22nd OCTOBER

The Heller Ensemble (Piano Trio) Community Theatre, High School, 7.30pm



To appear in What's On telephone the Arran Banner 01770 302142

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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 may be examined at Corporate Services, Cunninghame House, Irvine*, between 9am - 4.45pm weekdays (4.30pm Fridays) or at www.eplanning.north-ayrshire.gov.uk *and at The Council Offices, Lamlash.

Written representations may be made to the Solicitor to the Council (Corporate Services) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 04.11.11. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2008 REGULATION 20(1)

Format: Application No; Address; Proposed Development

11/00669/PP; Fairways, Brodick, Isle of Arran; Erection of extension to side of detached dwelling including new attached garage and vehicle access.

11/00630/PPM; Site to South of 4 Benlister Road, Lamlash; Erection of 56 dwellings (affordable housing) and formation of new access, new road and parking within the development and landscaping.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND BUILDINGS IN CONSERVATION AREAS) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 1987

Applications for Listed Building Consent.

11/00610/LBC; 4 Alma Terrace, Brodick, Isle of Arran KA27 8BA;

Installation of 2 no. conservation area style rooflights to front, replace existing door and window to front, replace window to rear and internal alterations to provide ensuite bathroom.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE KA12 8EE



BRODICK HEALTH CENTRE FLU CLINICS

This year the Clinics are open to patients of Brodick Health Centre and also Lamlash Medical Centre patients who RESIDE in Brodick.

Flu jabs are for those patients who are 65 and over, or who are under 65 and receive a free flu vac for chronic medical conditions such as lung and heart problems, diabetes, kidney disease or a lowered immune system.

Open Flu Clinics at Brodick Health Centre

on Wednesdays 19th October and 26th October
10am - 12noon & 2.00 - 4.00pm (no appointment required)

Please note these clinics are open to ALL eligible patients of Brodick Health Centre plus eligible Lamlash Medical Centre patients who RESIDE in Brodick.

Brodick Health Centre patients who cannot attend any of these clinics should phone 302175 for an appointment with the nurse
Lamlash Medical Centre patients outwith Brodick - Phone 600516 for appointment with nurse

Arran hospice AGM
Thursday 27th October at 5pm
Ormidale Sports Pavilion
All welcome
Registered Charity SC040995

ISLE OF ARRAN PIPE BAND

AGM

Friday 28th October
7.30pm
Brodick Hall

Everybody welcome

BANNER PUBLIC NOTICES BANNER

WANTED

ATTENDANT STYLE folding wheelchair Tel 07710752085

CARAVANS

ABBEY GT 214 2 berth touring caravan £300 Tel 860208

RECRUITMENT

CARE REQUIRED

Are you able to provide personal/social/domestic care for mature lady with learning difficulties?

Please contact Helen/Jennifer for details
- 01770600242 / 252

BAR & RESTAURANT - LEASE

Lamlash Golf Club is looking for an enthusiastic and motivated Person to adopt the lease for the Bar and Restaurant in the clubhouse from January 1st 2012

Experience in the licence trade and catering is essential, but a desire to serve the public and meet the needs of golf club members is equally important.

This is a well established concern, with scope for growth for the right candidate

Written applications with a full CV should be sent to;

The Secretary, Lamlash Golf Club, Lamlash, Isle of Arran, KA27 8JU, or by e-mail attachment to secretary@lamlashgolfclub.com

Closing date for applications is
Saturday 29th October 2011



We are currently seeking a flexible and hardworking part-time or full-time member of staff to work over the winter period.

Please contact us on 860777 or Felicitys@hotmail.co.uk to apply

PROPERTY

To Let - Furnished Detached Bungalow in Lochranza

3 bedrooms and 3 public rooms
Available from end of October 2011

For information please contact
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Non smokers, no pets.
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Sannox Cricket Club AGM

Douglas Hotel 'Snug' bar
Mon 24th October from
7.30pm.

Items for agenda to be received by weekend
22nd/23rd

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CHURCH NOTICES

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 16 October
 Shiskine, 11am
 Sunday School in the Church Hall
 (Church is between Machrie & Blackwaterfoot)
 Brodick 7pm
 Paul Casey
 All welcome

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 (in full communion with the Church of England)
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 16 October
 Holy Communion, 11.30am.
 Mr John Roberts
 "Building the Vision"
 2nd meeting with Mrs Elaine Garman over working lunch after service.
 Wednesday, 19th October
 Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 (SCO15072)
 Kilmory linked with Lamlash
 "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 16 October
 Rev. Gillean Maclean
 Kilmory 10am
 Lamlash 11.30am
 In both churches
 All welcome, including families; children's area.

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)
Sunday 16 October
 Morning Service 11am
 Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
 Evening Service 7pm
 13 Glen Avenue, Brodick
 Prayer Meeting
 Wednesday 12th 7pm
 7 Glen Road
 Rev.D.N.Macleod
 All 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 16 October
 Brodick Church, 10.30am
 Corrie Church, 12pm
 Lochranza, 9.30am
 Pirmill, 10.45am
 Shiskine Church, 12pm.
 A service of worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 (SCO14005)
Sunday 16 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 and there will be a sale of Traidcraft goods and cards. All welcome. At 6.30pm in the Church transept, there will be an informal evening service of praise and discussion. All welcome.

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

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Sunday 16 October
 Ormidale Pavilion
 Brodick
 11am - Morning Worship
 Tea/Coffee after service
 Home Fellowship Group meets on Wednesdays at 7.30 pm.
 For details Tel 860232
 Everyone very welcome

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)
Sunday 16 October
 Short Meeting at 11 then discussion in Dippin House, Dippin.
 Enquiries to Judith 820 223.
 All are welcome

BIRTHS

Zara and Lewis are proud to announce the safe arrival of a healthy baby boy, Blair James Robinson on Monday 26th September at Crosshouse Hospital. First grandchild for Gay and Donald and Janice and Sid. A great grandchild for Jeanette.



DEATHS
SIM - RICHARD
 Suddenly but peacefully on the Isle of Arran on Monday 10th October 2011. Dick, beloved husband of Val, loving father of Nicola and Julie, father-in-law to Russell and Gary, a proud grampa to Eleanor, Andrew, Lewis, Duncan and Grant. Funeral service at Holmsford Bridge Crematorium on Monday 17th October to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please. Transport available from the 11.05 ferry from Brodick and return 15.15 and 18.00 from Ardrrossan.

DEATHS

Neil Thomson of Corrie, passed away peacefully at Arran War Memorial Hospital, Lamlash on Sunday 9th October 2011, aged 89 years. Sorely missed by his wife, children, grandchildren and his many friends and acquaintances. Funeral service at Corrie church on Tuesday 18th October at 11.30am and thereafter to Sannox cemetery to which all relatives and friends are respectfully invited.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BANNATYNE - Mattie
 The family sincerely thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy received in cards, letters and phone calls following the recent death of their sister, sister-in-law and aunt. We would also like to thank Drs Greg, Faye, Krystyna and the staff of Shiskine Surgery for the health care Mattie received over the last few years. Our special, grateful thanks to the exceptional staff at Montrose House whose kind, professional care, allowed her to stay in a familiar environment right to the end. Heartfelt thanks to Jean for her support and comforting words, both at the graveside and at the Montrose House memorial service to Mattie. The help and guidance with the funeral arrangements from Clair and David was much appreciated, as was the efficient transport provided, on the day, by Alasdair and Charles. The lunch in the comfortable surroundings of the Kinloch Hotel was, as always, enjoyed and much appreciated.

PERSONALS

Love and best wishes
Kirsty
 on your 21st
 Love from all the family
 xx

Joe and Linda Trickett wish to thank all the friends, businesses and service providers who helped make Judy and Sean's wedding such a happy event. Guests were overwhelmed by Arran's community spirit and hospitality. Thank you all.

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Sport

Arran's Weekly Newspaper



Local Motocross enthusiasts gathered at East Benna on Sunday for some expert tuition with professional Jamie Law. Picture by Andy SurrIDGE

Top motocross rider visits the island



Jamie Law.
Picture by Andy SurrIDGE

Motocross may be Arran's newest sport but it is certainly pulling in the fans.

Nearly 20 local enthusiasts of the motorcycle activity gathered at East Benna on Saturday and Sunday for some expert coaching from professional Jamie Law.

The weather may have been cold and wet – but that was just perfect for these guys.

A spokesman for the club said: 'This was a great opportunity for Motocross fans on Arran to see a professional first hand and to learn from him.

'During the two days Jamie took us through all the moves and I feel we all learnt a lot from him.'

More Members

The Isle of Arran Motocross has been gradually attracting more members since it was set up four years ago.

Now that they have a designated practice ground at Benna they are able to train every week and are now able to take part in competitions on the mainland.

Last month Murray Boal, Tom Gilmore and young Thomas Gilmore all attended the Scottish Youth Motocross Championship in Peebles.

It was here that seven-year-old Thomas picked up his first Motocross trophy,

proving that his two years of training with the club are having a great effect.

The club meet every Sunday at East Benna for practice.

If you are interested in the sport come along and give it a go.



The heavy rain may have put off other sportsmen but it was perfect for the Motocross. Picture by Andy SurrIDGE

Arran Pool League - new time limit on shots

A new rule limiting the amount of time a player can take over a shot was introduced at the AGM of the Arran Pool League last Sunday.

In all matches there will now be a two-minute time limit on a shot for singles, doubles and the team game. If the player has not made a shot within two minutes, the referee will call a foul, and the opposing player will have two shots and a free table.

Other changes to the rules are that the balls do not necessarily have to be racked up alternately. The referee may decide how they are racked, and in the event of a dispute, the player winning the toss

can decide on the formation of balls in the rack.

Match scoring has been changed back to two points for a win and one point for a draw.

The first league fixtures will be on Thursday 27 October and fixture lists and rules of play will be circulated to all teams.

The next captains' meeting will be on Sunday 6 November at 2pm in the PHT.

Names and monies for the singles and doubles competition will be taken at that meeting.

Entry fees are £25 per league team and £2 each person for the singles and doubles.

Rugby match rained off

Arran RFC's game against Mid Argyll was cancelled on Saturday after the pitch in Lochgilphead was deemed unplayable.

The fixture had already been rearranged so that it could be played when the Lochranza to Claonaig ferry was still running. It will now have to be put on hold until the service resumes next year.

This Saturday the team are at home to Moffat RFC. Kick off at Ormidale Park in Brodick will be at 2pm.

Arran Bridge results

Brodick Bridge Club

The results for Thursday 6 October were as follows:

N/S 1 Trish Martin and Douglas Hamilton +1300, 2 Eendy McNiven and Roddie Thompson +870, 3 Douglas Bruce and David Scobie +280.

E/W 1 Alison Bilsland and Elaine Duncan +2930, 2 Elizabeth McConnell and Margaret McGill +1130, 3 Linda Trickett and Evelyn Sillars +890.

Lamlash Bridge Club

The results for Monday 10 October were as follows:

N/S Trish Martin and Alison Bilsland +680, 2 Jean Barclay and Jennifer McArthur +510, 3 Pat Adamson and Elizabeth McConnell -260.

E/W 1 Peter Thompson and Roddie Thompson +2110, 2 Helen Boyd and Jean Murchie +1650, 3 Brenda Livingston and Morag Gardner +580.

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