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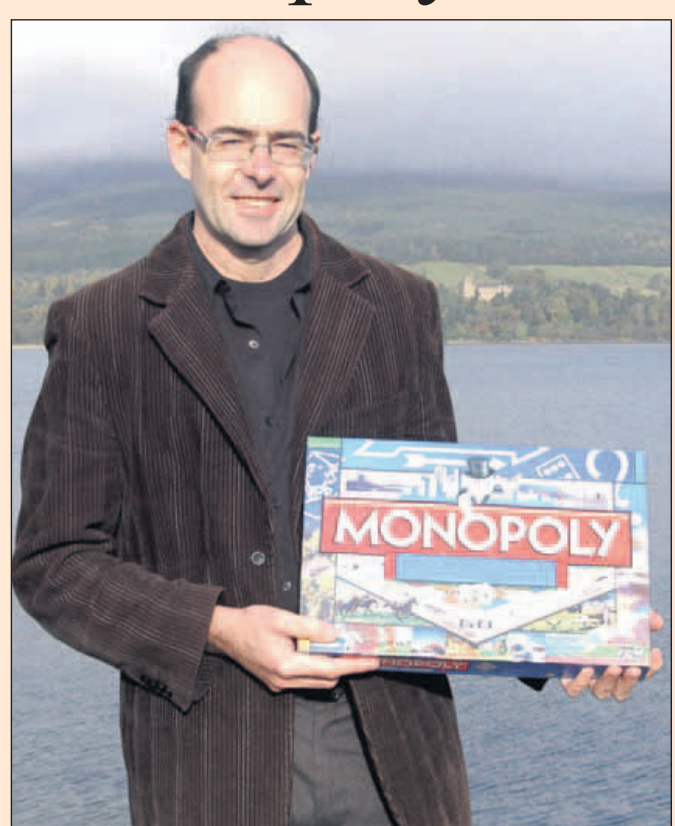
Breakdown in communications between ScotRail and CalMac

Report by JENNIFER LYON
Ferry passengers have blasted a breakdown in communication between ScotRail and CalMac that left 25 passengers stranded at Ardrossan on Sunday night.
They had been travelling to the harbour on a rail replacement bus from Glasgow Central Station when they arrived at 5.56pm in Ardrossan to see the MV Caledonian Isles leaving port early.
Alistair Roberts of Stirling was one of the 25 passengers left stranded in Ardrossan.
He told *The Banner*: 'The bus left on time from Glasgow Central Station but on approaching the harbour we discovered that the skipper had just cast off and refused to return to the harbour wall.
'Added to this the staff inside the ferry terminal appeared absolutely clueless that ScotRail passengers were arriving. It would seem that a complete breakdown of communications took place between CalMac and ScotRail.'
Alistair hit out angrily at the terminal staff that he said showed 'a complete contempt for passengers by refusing to call the ferry back for the many island workers on the last ferry'.
Donald Walker and his wife had been travelling all day from Harrow in Middlesex to catch the 6pm ferry. 'I was the first to enter the pier offices and I asked Linda Wallace, one of two CalMac personnel sitting behind the ticket counter, to contact the captain on the vessel and ask him to return to the berth in order that we could board,' said Donald. 'She refused this request, telling me that the prevailing weather conditions made it too dangerous for the ship to re-dock.
'We were then told that, as the connecting train, which was only running between Paisley and the harbour, together with a coach from somewhere else, had arrived on time

the assumption was that all those who wished to travel on the 6pm sailing to Brodick that evening were on board and the captain was thus informed.
'Nobody had checked to see if our coach, which had been transferring passengers to and from Glasgow Central all day, had arrived.' Donald added that for the ship to return would have undoubtedly been inconvenient for the crew and passengers already on board but he felt this 'pales considerably compared to the plight endured by those of us left stranded on the pier for the night'. The passengers were forced to return to Glasgow on alternative trains or had to find local accommodation for the night.
A spokesman for Caledonian MacBrayne said: 'We are aware the passengers may feel they missed the ferry by a whisker, but the reality is they would have had to be there by 5.45pm to be sure of boarding, and should have been onboard by 5.50pm.'
He added that CalMac has no responsibility for other forms of transport, but given adequate warning will often delay sailings for a few minutes to accommodate buses or trains running late.
'We fully sympathise with these people as they were dependent on the bus running to time, but in the circumstances there was nothing more we could have done,' he said.
ScotRail have now apologised to the stranded customers and are reviewing their procedures.
'CalMac's decision to depart early, combined with our bus being few minutes late in arriving, resulted in customers being unable to complete their journeys that evening,' said a ScotRail spokesman. 'However, Ardrossan station staff were able to find accommodation for those who wanted to stay over in the area.'

Graham takes a 'chance' on Arran Monopoly set

If you've ever dreamt of owning a piece of Arran whether it is Lochranza, Kilmory or even Brodick and Lamlash, now is your chance.
Graham Chappell of Arran Graphics is launching Arran's very own Monopoly set - becoming the first ever island version of the game to be created.
'Hopefully Arran Monopoly will encourage kids to leave their computer games behind for a while and it will also be the ultimate souvenir from the island,' he said.
Graham had to undergo what he described as a 'Dragon's Den' style interview where he was asked to pitch his idea to Hasbro the makers of Monopoly.



Graham Chappell is launching the Isle of Arran edition of the Monopoly board game. 01_b44mon01

Represented
'This will be the only Monopoly to feature private enterprises - all the others are owned by the local authority,' said Graham. 'It will be the biggest single product I have ever invested in but I think it is worth it.' Until its launch in March 2010 the areas that will make it to the coveted 'Mayfair' and 'Park Lane' sites will be kept under wraps but every village will be represented.
'All 22 property squares are up for grabs,' said Graham.

'These have been re-designated as Arran villages for this edition (as well as one which has been designated as Goatfell).
'To be fair to all businesses and individuals, we have decided to offer sponsorship of squares in a 'silent auction' format, where we will accept bids for any available position on the board anonymously until the game is made available for purchase.'
Successful bidders for each square will get the opportunity to have their logo, business name and website address featured for life.



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Concerns voiced about Brodick zebra crossings

Planners need to take account the effect the crossings will have on traffic flow from the ferry

Arran's Community Council have expressed concerns about the position of two proposed zebra crossings in Brodick.

In January North Ayrshire Council revealed plans to place two pedestrian crossings in the village; one near the pier and another in front of the Bank of Scotland.

On Tuesday night Councillor Margie Currie told the monthly meeting of the Community Council that NAC expects to have the crossings in place by the end of the year.

Brodick community councillor Harry Davidson said: 'There has been no strong support for the zebra crossings voiced in Brodick.'

'Many people have concerns about where they are being located and if we had known their positioning was set in stone we would have suggested alternative sites.'

Margie Currie reminded the councillors that a large group of young mothers had lobbied strongly for the crossings.

But chairman Campbell La-

ing questioned whether the crossings are appropriate for the village.

'People wanted yellow lines but there was very little support for a zebra crossing,' said Campbell. 'The site in front of the Bank of Scotland could be very dangerous for drivers. If they pull out of All Days car park and turn left they will be immediately met by a zebra crossing. It is certainly not a good idea.'

Other concerns were raised about the position of the crossing adjacent to the Douglas Hotel at ferry times.

Community councillor Charles Currie said planners need to take into account the effect the crossings will have on traffic flow from the ferry.



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After the induction ceremony, from left, Rev Andrew Rollinson, Ena Wright and new Arran Baptist minister Rev Willie Wright. 02_b44min01

New Arran minister inducted

Reverend Willie Wright was inducted as the island's new Baptist minister last Saturday. The induction ceremony was conducted in Brodick Hall by Rev Andrew Rollinson, Ministry Advisor, Baptist Union of Scotland.

The hall was packed with church members and representatives of the other denominations and congregations on the island. After the ceremony, the company retired to the Ormidale

Pavilion for an afternoon tea and social chat.

Willie is recently retired from full-time ministry and he and his wife Ena have moved into a house in Lamlash. Although he will be working here on a part-time basis he is looking forward to getting involved with the church and community.

Willie is originally from Glasgow and has served in five Scottish Baptist churches.

Rope tangled in ferry propeller

Ferry passengers were left stranded for four hours in Ardrossan on Monday afternoon after a fault with the propeller left the MV Caledonian Isles confined to port.

Travellers were told that the 3.15pm sailing to Brodick was cancelled when it was revealed a rope had become caught on a rudder.

A spokesman for Caledonian MacBrayne said: 'The MV Caledonian Isles had a problem with its port rudder flap, which improves manoeuvrability at slow speeds, for example when it is coming into port.

'It has now been resolved

and the vessel is running as normal.'

Unfortunately the new coffee shop in the ferry terminal has yet to reopen under new management so passengers had to use the café in the nearby Asda supermarket.

Despite this, passengers did praise CalMac staff for keep-

ing them well informed of the ongoing situation.

The ship was only able to leave Ardrossan at 7.15pm after expert divers had removed the rope. According to one passenger the boat could not depart until insurers from Lloyds had seen video footage of the divers' repairs.

Police files

Assault and breach of the peace

An 18-year-old Whiting Bay woman was arrested in the village at 5pm last Saturday and charged with alleged assault.

Last Sunday afternoon a 19-year-old Lamlash man was arrested in Benlister Road and charged with alleged assault and breach of the peace.

Housebreaking

A house was broken into in Blackwaterfoot in the early hours of last Sunday morning. Police are appealing for witnesses.

Stolen ornament

A garden ornament was stolen from Springbank Terrace, Brodick over the night of Friday October 23. Police are appealing for any information.

Theft of building materials

There was a theft of building materials from a site in Shore Road, Lamlash between October 15 and 22. Police are pursuing a positive line of inquiry.

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Traffic lights for Whiting Bay sewage works

Traffic disruption is expected at the southern end of Whiting Bay in coming weeks as traffic lights are installed as part of a key phase in the £1m project to build a wastewater treatment works in the village.

Scottish Water told *The Banner* that 'every effort is being made to minimise any traffic disruption but it is expected that there will be two-way traffic lights required on the main A841 road through the village and there might be a noticeable increase in vehicu-

lar movement during the construction treatment works'.

The project, which started in August and is due to be completed in spring 2010, will help protect the local marine environment and improve bathing waters.

Contractors working for Scottish Water have cleared the site of a new waste water treatment works at the southern end of the village and are about to start construction of the facility and an access road as the project progresses.

Contractors GMJV are carrying out the work in Whiting Bay for Scottish Water.

Stephen Fraser, the project manager, said: 'We cleared the site of the waste water treatment works of top soil and vegetation about a month ago and are about to start work on installing the foundations for the facility and an access road.'

'In about six weeks, we will start work on installing septic tanks and later this year we will begin work on the outfall, if weather and sea conditions permit.'

The new treatment works, installation of a long sea outfall and the completion of associated work such as pumping stations will stop untreated and unscreened waste water from local properties being discharged into the sea via several short sea outfalls.

At the moment there is no waste water treatment works in the area. Some properties have septic tanks while others do not and the waste water from these properties receives no screening or treatment.



Work progressing at the site of the sewerage treatment plant at the southern end of Whiting Bay village. 02_b44sew01

MP to repay phone and furniture costs

Arran's MP Katy Clark has agreed to make a repayment of £336.39 for work-related mobile phone calls and removal costs of £446.50.

The claims were made under the Additional Costs Allowance (ACA) for Westminster MPs.

The mobile phone calls were all work-related but disallowed

because they had been claimed under the wrong heading.

The removal expenses occurred when Ms Clark moved to furnished accommodation in London and had to move her own furniture to her main residence in the constituency.

This expense would have been allowed had the furniture been moved from North Ayr-

shire and Arran to London.

She said: 'I believed these were appropriate claims when they were made and they were cleared by the Fees Office at that time. I voted for independent audits well before the expenses scandal exploded and support the independent audit by Sir Thomas Legg. I will repay the sums requested.'



Arran Brewery sales manager Gwen Bilson pulls a pint at the Troon Beer Festival. b44ale01no

Bottoms up for Arran Brewery at Troon Beer Festival

Arran ale from Cladach was prominent at the recent annual Troon Beer Festival.

There were five different casks of Arran beers on offer which proved to be very popular. Brewery sales manager Gwen Bilson said: 'We had Arran Blonde, Red Squirrel, Arran Ale, Clyde Puffer and Arran Sunset which were all enjoyed.'

'There were over 2,000 people in attendance and the festival actually ran out of beer two hours before the end on Saturday. It was a great festival, especially for the Arran Brewery. There were 114 casks of beer in total and 463 gallons of ale were drunk.'

'It proves that there is a strong demand for real ale locally.'

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Royal British Legion next Arran meeting

The next meeting of the Arran Branch of the Royal British Legion will take place in the MacLaren Hotel in Brodick at 2pm on Thursday 5 November.

All Welcome.

Lost earring

An orange sapphire and diamond earring was lost somewhere between Brodick and Sannox last week.

If found please call 07902595966.

BANNER FORUM

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Round the Rurals

Lamlash

The next meeting of Lamlash WRI will be held in Arran High School on Wednesday November 4 when Vivienne Haigh will give a cookery demonstration

The competition is for four treacle scones and the exhibition is for an unusual kitchen utensil.

Don't forget the Rural rally on Thursday November 12.

Whiting Bay

Jerry Arthur demonstrated that cake decoration can be fun, fast and easy at the October meeting of the Whiting Bay SWRI.

All members thoroughly enjoyed Mrs Arthur's excellent presentation.

Deirdre Cruickshank won the competition for the best handmade bookmark and Dorothy

Harris exhibited the best-written paragraph about an 'inspirational Scottish woman'.

Ms Harris wrote about Arran's Fiona McGovern.

On November 4 Patsy Keen will be leading a workshop in Wax Painting and Portrait Drawing.

The competition is 'the funniest portrait' (created on the evening).

The exhibition is a favourite found object.

All ladies are invited to the meeting at 7.30pm in Whiting Bay Lesser Hall.

Corrie and Sannox

Thursday afternoon, October 15, was the first meeting of the new season of Corrie and Sannox SWRI.

The president Mrs Elma Stevenson welcomed a good turn out of members, old and new.

After the business was discussed, members enjoyed Fiona Crawford's entertaining and informative talk, illustrated by slides about an adventurous holiday to Machu Picchu, high in the Peruvian Andes.

The photographs were breathtaking and it was clearly a never-to-be-forgotten trip.

Elma Bayne proposed a vote of thanks to Fiona and her assistant Joe Perkins.

Heather Donaldson won the competition for a 'holiday postcard'.

The new time of 2pm for meetings will be reviewed after New Year.

The next meeting is on Thursday 19 November at 2pm when 'Crafts for all' will be demonstrated by three of the members and there will be



Six babies and parents at the Shiskine infant massage class on Monday. They are; Matt and Sheena with Freya, Eleanor and Ruby, Claire and Emma, Lorna and Gregor, Emma and Shaila, and Alison with Lisa. 02_b44mas01

Early massage classes for babies

Some Arran parents are taking advantage of the benefits of special infant massage classes with their babies.

The classes have been running in Shiskine surgery for the past five weeks. They support parents to build a strong early relationship with babies as well as giving an opportunity to meet with other parents. The Shiskine classes are being

run by Nina Hamilton of North Ayrshire Council's Children's Outreach Services, based at the high school in Lamlash. Nina said: 'The classes last for an hour and are a great way of bonding with children and socialising with other mums and dads. It's not just mums; we have had dads and grannies here too.'

She added that similar courses

es have been held at Auchranrie and the Learning Centre. 'Parents can learn the technique here and carry it on at home,' Nina said. 'There are different kinds of beneficial massage and we even have a colic routine. The age range for babies is from five weeks to 10 months old. There are no formal postnatal classes on the island so this can help to fill a gap.'

Sheila Gilmore, senior Children's Outreach Officer said: 'There is no charge and transport and childcare for older siblings may be available. If you would like to attend a class or find out more information, please contact your Health Visitor or telephone the Children's Outreach Services on 600247.'

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Brodick's iconic 'bathing boxes' to be reintroduced



Ready for a dip? Arran Heritage Museum volunteer Margaret Bruce demonstrates one obvious use for the huts.

The iconic beach huts that used to line the beach in Brodick Bay could be reinstated if the plans of the village improvement committee get the go-ahead.

The 'bathing boxes', as they were fondly called, added colour while providing shelter for folk of all ages until they were removed in the early 1970s.

Large enough to accommodate a small family for a cup of tea out of the wind; they were also somewhere to keep your clothes dry while you enjoyed a swim.

A recent visitor survey suggested they would prove popular if reintroduced next year.

Ian Small, the chairman of Brodick Improvements Committee, said: 'I think this is a great idea. The colourful

beach huts were extremely popular with visitors, who booked them for the duration of their holiday.

'Although the huts were all very similar, people would reserve the same hut year after year! As a lad I used to earn pocket money keeping Johnny Henderson's huts clean and by showing visitors to their particular hut.

'It was a great opportunity to get to know some of the visitors quite well. I would love to see some huts back on what's left of Brodick beach and think they will prove just as popular today.

'Who knows, perhaps other young people will soon be earning pocket money by looking after them!'

Local councillor Margie Currie said: 'I remember beach huts long ago! They are associated in my mind with families who came year after year and hired a hut for the holiday.

'It was very sociable when people sat at their 'door' and chatted to all going by. They also added a lovely splash of colour to the beaches.

'The cynic in me wonders whether its possible to re-create such scenarios or for what other purpose might they be used or abused but I still think that the beaches look bare without them. On balance I would welcome their return.'

A spokesman for North Ayrshire Council said: 'Beach huts, like any other building, would require planning permission in line with the local plan.

'However, the good news is that the development would be seen as ancillary to the main use of the beach so they would be welcomed by planners.'

Brodick Improvements Committee would you like to hear what Arran's residents think of this idea.

Would you like to see a small number of new huts on Brodick beach? Should the use

of these be free or by paying a fee?

Would you use them? Replacing the beach huts will require resources: do you perhaps remember how they were constructed?

Would you like to help with their construction? Please contact Ian Small 302171 to let the committee know what you think of this idea - and whether you can help.



One of the original Brodick Bathing Boxes, now at Arran Heritage Museum.



Pat Alston and family on Brodick beach in the early 1960s with the bathing boxes behind. Picture courtesy of Pat Alston and Arran Heritage Museum

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Tourist guides aiming to boost island's holiday coach trade

An island visit by a group of tourist guides last weekend may prove to be good for business on Arran.

It is hoped the visit by the group of coach tour guides will boost the holiday coach business on the island.

And Arran Banner readers can also get involved by signing up as tour guides themselves.

The guides are keen to put Arran high on the list of great places to visit in Scotland after 38 of them enjoyed a long weekend of hospitality and inspiring visitor attractions on the island.

Badge

The guides, all qualified Blue Badge members of the Scottish Tourist Guides Association (STGA), spent last weekend on a tour as part of their continuing professional development to ensure the service they offer visitors is always up-to-date and of the highest quality.

The STGA is the accrediting body for tour guides in Scotland and the Blue Badge is recognised as a mark of quality.

Under the guidance of local



The Blue Badge tour guides at Duchess Court on Arran with leader Roy Stewart on the left and coach driver Iain Hendry. 02_b44gui01

coach driver Iain Hendry the party visited visitor attractions on Arran including Brodick Castle, Lochranza Distillery, Arran Heritage Museum and the Duchess Court shops.

They were also treated to the sight of cows being milked at

Clachlands Farm in Lamlash.

Stones

Despite the inclement weather they walked to Machrie Moor standing stones and Kingscross Point and experienced a superb illustrated

presentation on the island's flora and fauna given by Brodick Castle head ranger Kate Sampson.

Norma Clarkson, chair of STGA said: 'The guides were completely bowled over by the warmth of the welcome they

received on Arran. The cheerfulness of the staff, especially at the Kinloch Hotel, and the enthusiasm of all we met on the tour was palpable.

Knowledge

'Everyone gave most generously of their time and none

more so than coach driver Iain Hendry who is a fount of local knowledge. His anecdotes endlessly informed and entertained us.'

STGA is concerned at the downturn in the number of coach visits to Arran this season but say they are ready to improve the situation - and revealed that Banner readers could get involved by signing on as a visitor guide themselves.

Norma Clarkson added: 'Armed with our extended knowledge of the island we are ready for what we hope will be an improved season in 2010.'

Rewarding

Roy Stewart, one of the Blue Badge organisers said: 'Some of the guides are full-time and others part-time or in retirement.

'It's a very rewarding job and the guides are real ambassadors who just love their country. We are looking to recruit more guides at the moment if any Banner readers are interested.'

Application forms are now available from the STGA website.

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Health service reviewed

Island staff and members of the public were able to participate in the annual review of NHS Ayrshire and Arran recently via a video link from Lamlash to Ayr.

Shona Robison MSP, the minister for public health and sport, attended the annual review at Ayr Hospital, which gave her the opportunity to assess the performance and achievements of NHS in Arran over the past year, and to discuss the challenges that lie ahead.

Questions

As in previous years members of the public were invited to submit questions before the meeting.

A number of these were answered on the day during a question and answer session chaired by the minister.

Shona Robison said: 'Our

'We have many challenges to face ... such as meeting our financial targets'

NHS should always strive to provide the best possible care, so holding those who manage our NHS boards to account

in public is the right thing to do - which is what the annual review process does.'

Professor Stevely, who is chairman of Ayrshire and Arran Health Board, said: 'Staff across all of our care settings have worked hard over the past year to deliver the highest quality health standards for the people of Ayrshire and the island of Arran.'

Improve

'We have many challenges to face in the coming year, such as meeting our financial targets and working even more closely with our partners to continue to improve access to primary care and to lower waiting times.'

Special meeting for Arran Show

Arran Farmers Society is holding a special general meeting in Arran High School next Tuesday, November 3 at 8pm.

The location of the 2010 Show will be under discussion. Last year's show was held at Glenkiln, Lamlash and next year's show is planned

to be held at Balmichael, Shiskine. The special sub committee of the society has already held four meetings at the Balmichael site.

There will be a presentation on the two sites and an opportunity for questions. A paper vote will follow. All members are welcome.



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End of an era as Margaret leaves high school

Margaret Wright has just retired as one of the longest serving teachers at Arran High School.

She joined the staff in 1974, and after 35 years continuous service is looking forward to being able to travel whenever she wants, and spending more time on her hobby of genealogy. Margaret is originally from Ayrshire and after a spell at Breadalbane Academy in Aberfeldy she applied for a promotion post in Arran as visiting teacher PE and assistant principal teacher in Guidance.

She retires as principal teacher in guidance and has

seen many changes down the years.

Margaret said: 'There have been a lot of curriculum changes and new initiatives with the latest being the Curriculum for Excellence, but the underlying educational values have been constant. I try to see all pupils, not just those with social problems.'

'Being involved in career direction has been very rewarding. It's good to see how successful some pupils have become.'

She declared an affection for the old high school that was demolished last year, but added: 'I have many fond

memories of the old school, but the pupils today are very lucky to be taught in this new building.'

On Monday Margaret was clearing out her office at the high school. She said: 'I've had a few parties and a lovely send-off last Friday. In the morning interval two of the sixth year pupils sang a song they had specially written for me. There will be an official farewell party in January, hopefully with a lot of former teachers, but I'm going in to Crosshouse Hospital tomorrow to get a new knee.'

Margaret was delighted to receive a gift from her colleagues of an original oil painting by Lamlash artist Josephine Broekhuizen.

A fellow teacher said: 'It's the end of an era. There can't be many local Banner readers between 18 and 45 who have not been taught by Margaret Wright.'



Margaret Wright, retired as principal guidance teacher at Arran High School.



These youngsters enjoyed having their faces painted at the Lamlash coffee morning. They are Hayleigh McDowall, Jake Young, Lori Murchie, Kayleigh Murchie and Olivia Walton. 02_b44cof01

Arran Halloween parties

Halloween parties will abound on the island this weekend.

On Friday night Lamlash mother and toddler group have a party from 5.30pm to 7.30pm while in Brodick the school and nursery group have their party at the same time in the primary school gym hall.

Kilmory Hall Halloween party starts at 6pm on Friday. On Saturday the residents of Montrose House are holding their traditional party from 6pm. They will be delighted to welcome guisers of all ages to join them in dooking for apples and other Halloween activities. The Kildonan Hall party starts at 6pm on Saturday night.

Kids enjoy coffee morning

Lamlash Primary School and Nursery Class held a successful coffee morning in the school hall last Saturday.

Despite atrocious weather, people still came out in good numbers to enjoy home baking and children's games. The event was organised by the parent council to raise funds towards gifts for the children's Christmas party.

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WHAT'S ON THIS WEEK

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Wednesday - Country/ Blues Session - 9.30pm
Thursday - General Knowledge quiz - 10pm
Saturday - Halloween Over 21s Disco - 10pm
Sunday - Folk Session - 9.30pm

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Remember, Hallowe'en is still a magical celebration

Hallowe'en is a strange celebration.

Looking back through 30 years of *The Arran Banner*, every October there are pages and pages of local kids dressed up in costumes, trick or treating on the island's streets and attending school parties.

For generations, youngsters on Arran have celebrated this autumn festival, but why? There is much more to Hallowe'en than sweets and scary costumes.

The traditional celebrations on the last day of October began thousands of years ago. Samhain was the ancient Celtic celebration on October 31 marking the transition to their new year on November 1. For the ancient people of Arran it would be an important festival because it symbolized the harvest and the prospect of a cold, and often dreary, winter.

Celtic peoples believed that spirits came to earth and shared their presence with the living for the night before the new year. The Celts spent the evening around giant bonfires sacrificing animals to their deities while disguising themselves in animal skins. The bonfires were sacred because they were interpreted as protection from the coming harsh winter. Dress was a significant aspect as well. They dressed in animal costumes possibly in order to prevent the dead from possessing the living. It was essentially a diversion.

Moreover, young adults may have dressed up as the opposite gender, which established a temporary escape from gender norms. It is believed that Celtic people were the first to incorporate modern trick-or-treating. Dressed in animal skins, people would visit one another's homes and act silly in order to receive food and drink.

This year, in Scotland alone, it is estimated that there are around one million children who may trick-or-treat.

In many ways it is sad that Hallowe'en has become another over-commercialised celebration far removed from its original incarnation. Looking through the pages of the old Banners you get a sense that it was all about the trick-or-treating, the costumes and the chance to indulge your creative side. But now, even here, there is sometimes a feeling that it is just another mock holiday that allows retailers to make a quick buck.

Hallowe'en is an amazing hybrid of ancient cultural celebrations that persist in many different guises all over the world. If you celebrate Hallowe'en this year, acknowledge the complexity of its heritage, and don't forget to thank the Celts for a most magical celebration.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honour one another above yourselves." (Romans 12: 9-10)

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



Webcam compulsive viewing

Sir,
My annual holiday on Arran is always something to look forward to.

Sadly we could not go to Arran this year but have booked our place for next July.

Next year will be our sixth visit to Arran. We always stay at the Belvedere guest house with Chris and Jan Atkins.

Earlier this year Chris happened to mention the Arran Banner webcam, but it is only recently that I have logged on to it.

Now I find the webcam is compulsive viewing.

I have noted the arrival times of the Arran ferry and make sure I log on 15 minutes before arrival time.

I can now sit back with some good coffee and watch the arrival and departure of the ferry each morning.

This experience sets me up for the rest of the day.

Next holiday for 2010 cannot come soon enough.

Gerry Woodgate,
Yorkshire

Abandoned by CalMac

Sir,
The skipper of Caledonian MacBrayne Ferries left approximately 25 Scotrail passengers bound for Arran stranded on the harbour at Ardrossan last night (Sunday, October 25) at 6pm.

Scotrail's Sunday rail services are currently replaced with a bus service from Glasgow Central Station while engineering works are taking place on the line, which CalMac is well aware of.

The bus left on time from Central Station and was approaching the harbour at 5.54pm.

The skipper had just cast off and refused to return to the harbour wall whilst staff at the harbour office appeared clueless that Scotrail passengers were arriving.

It would seem that a complete breakdown of communications took place between CalMac and Scotrail.

CalMac however, showed complete contempt for passengers by refusing to return to the harbour wall for many island workers on the last ferry. Passengers were left to return to Glasgow on alternative trains or had to find local accommodation themselves.

This was an appalling service considering weather conditions were deemed OK to sail. Bring on Western Ferries as soon as possible!

Alistair Roberts,
5 Gordon Crescent,
Bridge of Allan

Angus saves the day

Sir,
My family and I holiday on Arran every September and it is always the highlight of our year. This year however, we became victims of car vandalism.

During the night someone decided it would be fun to lift windscreen wipers on parked cars into an upright position.

However, they didn't realise that our front wipers are not designed to easily lift in this way and therefore applied a bit too much force resulting in one missing front wiper blade and a hefty crack up the middle of the windscreen where the wiper arm had smashed back down onto the glass.

Had we been on the mainland, a trip to the nearest motoring spares retailer would have replaced the missing wiper blade but with only 24 hours to go before we were due to begin our long drive home, we were struggling to find anyone on the island who had the correct sized wiper in stock.

Without a front wiper the car would be illegal to drive (as the police kindly informed us). Then we were reminded of one of the main reasons why we love visiting Arran so much.

One phone call to Angus Lambie in Brodick and he assured us that he would order a new set of wipers that would arrive via the last ferry that day and if we dropped the car in to him first thing the next morning he would fit them for us.

So the following morning I took the car to Angus but to our dismay they had sent the wrong set of wipers!

Fortunately, after much gentle persuasion Angus managed to get them to fit so they were at least functional for our journey home later that day.

So a huge thank you to Angus for helping us out of a tight spot and enabling us to make the journey home in our own car.

People like him are a credit to the island and we always appreciate the kindness and generosity shown to us when we are visiting.

It is unfortunate that there are always a few who insist on making trouble and causing other people distress. Thankfully they are in the minority.

Despite the upset caused by the vandalism and the inconvenience/expense of having to replace our front windscreen and wipers, we're looking forward to our next visit to Arran.

R Bates,
Burton-upon-Trent

CalMac crew praised

Sir,
I am now a privileged person indeed having on Monday night being given (temporary, it has to be said) use of the Cally Isles television remote control whilst divers were beneath the waves in Ardrossan fixing our poor, ailing, only means of transport.

For a change I have heard every word of the six o'clock news and would have heard Ann Robinson prior to that had I not decided to turn the sound down as I usually do when that lady is on screen.

Having done my shift on the VisitArran ferry desk I was due to leave the ship at 4.10pm but the whole plan changed when the ferry didn't sail and I left at around 8pm instead!

It reminded me of two previous situations on another small ex-CalMac ferry which on one occasion went south down the Sound of Jura with one port side engine out of action getting closer and closer to the rocks.

There was another occasion off the island of Rum when after sheltering in Loch Scriden overnight we ventured out to find dozens of Manx

shearwaters had taken over the ship hiding from the storm among the ropes on deck and had managed to get into every nook and cranny.

The joys of sea travel can sometimes be frustrating and even hazardous but one thing it has taught me is the professionalism if the ship's crew have to spring into action immediately.

And on Monday night, as like previous experiences I have mentioned, it was there for all to see.

Having been 'stranded' on board for several hours, I want to record the friendliness, consideration and hospitality I was shown.

Everyone was busy cleaning and restocking the ship that had left Ardrossan at 7am so the crew must have been very tired at the end of their long day.

When they eventually returned to Ardrossan late on Monday night it must have been tough knowing they had to sail again at 7am the next day.

Thank you on behalf of those who made it home last night, after all, I enjoyed the experience as it turned out and DJ has his remote control back.

I am sure he is glad he is off on leave soon - his cheeky comments kept us going!

Gilleen Bussell,
Lamlash

Looking for actors

Sir,
I am a student filmmaker at the University of Westminster and I am making a film in Arran.

The film will be based on Scottish folk tales.

I will be requiring two actor/models; a man in his 20s with dark hair and a woman in her 20s with long dark hair.

I will also require a voice-over artist to narrate the piece, preferably an older person with a characterful local accent.

If you are interested in any of these roles, please telephone me on 07957710621 or email me at lorraineshaw08@hotmail.com

Lorraine Shaw, Poplar,
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Budding entrepreneur Holly opens for business . . .

Arran's Business Gateway advisor is celebrating another success this week as a young budding entrepreneur opened her own business.

With help from advisor Derek Shand, 22-year-old Holly Tulika from Shiskine has been able to take over the Rosaburn Café at the Arran Heritage Museum in Brodick.

Holly has worked in the café for nearly eight years and when leaseholder Susie Williamson announced her retirement, the young woman felt it was time to take over.

Nervous

'I suppose it had always been at the back of my mind that I would take over the business some day when Susie retired,' said Holly. 'I am quite nervous about opening on Wednesday

but I'm also excited too.' The Rosaburn Café opens its doors again this week and will be open from Wednesday until Saturday throughout the winter season.

Involved

It was when Holly decided to take on the business that Derek Shand and the Business Gateway got involved.

'It was fantastic to have Derek guide me through all the processes,' she said. 'I am sure it would have been one hundred times more stressful without him.'

Derek's job as a North Ayrshire Council Business Gateway advisor is to help budding entrepreneurs turn their dreams into reality.

'With Holly and other young people in a similar circumstance

my job is take them through basic business training on a one-to-one level,' explained Derek.

'From business planning and finance to marketing and employing staff, it is my job to teach them about all aspects and support them through the process of starting a business.'

'Since I started in this role it has been great to help so many young people between the ages of 22 and 25 get set up in business.'

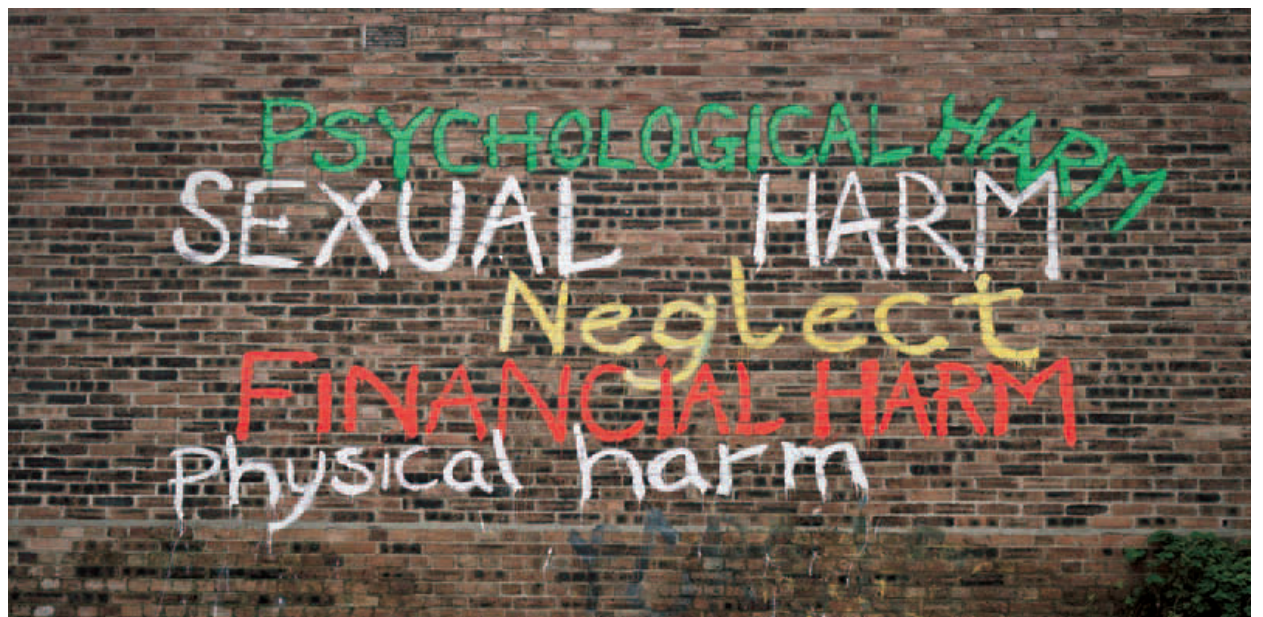
Provide

Whatever stage your business is at, Derek can provide the help and support needed to help get things moving.

To contact Derek for advice and support call 01770 302676.



Holly Tulika, aged 22, has taken over the Rosaburn Café at the Arran Heritage Museum. She is pictured with Business Gateway advisor Derek Shand and Susie Williamson the café's former leaseholder. 01_b44ho101



Act against harm

Throughout Scotland, adults are at risk from all kinds of harm. Thankfully, there's now a new law to help and support people who find it hard to protect themselves.

If you're being harmed yourself, or you know someone being harmed, call or visit the website for information.

0845 389 4000

infoscotland.com/actagainstharm

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Saturday 14th November 7:30pm for 8pm

Tickets available now from the book and card centre at £6
Limited tickets at the door - BYOB



Cottages and Castles to strengthen

Arran continues to show strong evidence that it is still one of the most popular holiday destinations in Scotland

Scotland's leading specialist holiday lettings agency, Cottages & Castles Ltd, are holding an Open Day in the Glencloy suite at Auchrannie next Thursday November 12. The firm acquired Arran Hideaways, the Brodick-based self-catering holiday letting agent in October 2008, adding 140 properties to its Arran portfolio. It has enjoyed a successful 2009 summer season achieving almost 2,000 bookings for properties on Arran with many more reservations still coming through. Sue Bourne, manager of Cottages & Castles said: 'A year

on since we took over Arran Hideaways we have been delighted with the response received from home owners, both existing and new, as well as the increased number of enquiries received from potential holiday makers. 'Being the island's dedicated self-catering agent and representing more than 140 properties, we are now strengthening our position and are looking for a new dedicated representative to work with us as we continue to grow.' The holiday market in Arran continues to show strong evidence that it is still one of the



Banner Cottage in Brodick, former offices of the Arran Banner newspaper. b44cot01



Spiral staircase inside Banner Cottage. b44cot04

most popular holiday destinations in Scotland, according to the latest annual survey commissioned by North Ayrshire Council which evaluated visitor numbers for 2008. The survey revealed that the

tourism industry contributed £30.07 million to the Arran economy in 2008, an increase of four percent on 2007, representing the ninth straight year of growth in tourist revenue for Arran.

Additional data produced by VisitScotland over the same period shows that there was a national decline in visitor numbers by six percent and a corresponding fall in revenue of five percent.

So in terms of revenue growth, Arran is outperforming the industry nationally.

The survey also indicated that the number of self-catering and short break holiday-makers continued to grow, a trend supported this year by Cottages & Castles.

Property owners Mr & Mrs John Millar have been in the self-catering holiday lets business since 2004 owning two pretty sandstone cottages in Brodick that are let through Cottages & Castles. A third they look after themselves on a long term lease.

The Millars own Banner Cottage, the former office of the Arran Banner newspaper which Mr Millar used to own.

Banner Cottage was renovated by Mr Millar along with a local builder, to establish a luxury cottage offering a distinct experience. Paying meticulous attention to detail and showing appreciation for its original purpose, a large stained-glass window was created as a reminder of the many local events that were covered annually in the Banner, along



Lounge of Banner Cottage with stained glass window. b44cot05

SAVE THE CHILDREN
Christmas Fayre
Brodick Hall
Saturday 7th November
10.30am - 1.30pm
Teas/Coffees/ Snacks/ Soup & Sandwiches
Baking, Tombola, Plants, Books, Crafts, Cards Raffle
All welcome

Fancy Dress Charity Disco for Children in Need
BRING BACK the Eighties
Saturday 28th November
FUNKY DUNKY
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Jazz Café
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Whiting Bay Hall
Friday 6th November
8pm
BYOB

WHITING BAY GOLF CLUB CLUBHOUSE WINTER HOURS

Wednesday	=	12 noon - 5pm
Friday	=	5pm - Midnight
Saturday	=	12 noon - 6pm
Saturday Night	=	6pm - Late
Sunday	=	12 noon - 6pm

It pays to advertise in the Arran Banner

their presence on the island . . .

with floor tiles depicting the newspaper's logo.

The second cottage, Moss Cottage, formerly a gardener's cottage built over 100 years ago, sits beside Banner Cottage and offers an abundance of character and traditional features.

Both cottages are for two people and tend to attract the 40 plus age group. Situated in the heart of Brodick, one of the best locations on Arran and being only one minute from the ferry, bus and local shop, the cottages are conveniently located yet wonderfully private.

Cottages & Castles provide the booking service and the customer liaison, whilst the Millars retain the hands-on management of the cottages including cleaning and maintenance.

John Millar said: 'We did have reservations when we were informed that Cottages & Castles were taking over Arran Hideaways and felt in a way that we were being sold on.

'However, deciding to stay quiet and see how it would work out over time, we became a lot more at ease with Cottages & Castles and are perfectly happy with the efficient service we receive from the responsive and friendly staff.'

Cottages & Castles have helped the Millars maintain a successful 98 percent booking rate throughout the season, a rate they do not wish to lose.

Cottages & Castles are looking to increase the number of holiday homes on their Arran portfolio and Sue Bourne will be hosting an Open Day for prospective clients to speak to professionals from the company.

The Open Day will be held on Thursday, November 12 at the Auchrannie Resort's Glencloy suite from 9.30am to 5.30pm and is open to anyone who wishes to come along on the day. Cottages & Castles were established in 1983 and have 12 offices throughout Scotland.



Moss Cottage, adjacent to Banner Cottage. b44cot02



Sue Bourne, manager of holiday lettings agency Cottages & Castles. b44cot03



Old Pier Tearoom

Lamlash
01770 600249

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The Arran Banner Office

Arran's future direction under debate

'All indications are that North Ayrshire will continue to treat us as an extension of the mainland'

Fourteen people attended a public meeting in Whiting Bay Hall last Friday to discuss the island's contribution to the new Local Development Plan (LDP).

This was part of an island-wide consultation on the proposed plan for Arran. The meeting went through the draft response drawn up by John Inglis of Arran Community Council (ACC) to the Local Plan currently being considered by North Ayrshire Council.

Among the topics under discussion were business, tourism, housing, energy, transport and health.

In attendance were ACC chairman Campbell Laing and community councillors John Inglis, Alison Prince and Howard Driver.

John Inglis said: 'We want to speak to North Ayrshire with one voice and let them know how we would like to see the island developing.'

'As regards building and housing, a free market is not serving our needs.'

Compulsory Purchase

The draft document by ACC calls for present allocations of building land to be cancelled and compulsory purchase orders considered. Another proposal is that Arran should have a university college dedicated to geology to 'raise the island's profile and be a venue for visitors with an international dimension'.

Arran exports waste for landfill on the mainland and among this is garden waste, John said: 'Can you imagine grass cuttings being transported by ship; it's madness. Exporting our rubbish is not viable, desirable or accept-

able.' Tom McNeish brought up the problem of keeping young people on the island. He said: 'You need people and businesses. I think it's imperative that we have a better ferry service so that folk can live here and work on the mainland. Commuting would bring in a proper calibre of wage. Open the island up and let the money come in.'

Absolute Disaster

Henry Murdo criticised the current NAC planning system for being urban in its outlook and for failing to allow him to build on his own land outside the village boundary. He said: 'They don't appreciate rural values. The concept of village envelopes is an absolute disaster.'

Bill Roberts echoed the thoughts of most when he said: 'All indications are that North Ayrshire will continue to treat us as an extension of the mainland.'

John Inglis summed up: 'Arran in the future should remain a beautiful island that has retained its rural aspect but it should have broadened its economic base and improved its transport system.'

'It needs to develop innovative, sustainable new housing, generating its own needs in power and contributing to the grid by sustainable means. It should reduce and recycle its own waste and realise ambitious educational plans based on its geological and archaeological inheritance.'

The draft response to the LDP will now be amended and discussed at a future local meeting.

Safety first on bonfire night

Remember, remember, the fifth of November.

Also remember to stay safe and treat fireworks and bonfires with care and respect.

Next Thursday night, November 5, fireworks and bonfire parties will be taking place all over the island.

Nationwide, up to 1,000 people are injured every year by fireworks.

Alan Webb, principal inspector in Health and Safety Executive explosives said: 'If you are holding a local firework display you need to plan it responsibly. That means thinking about who will light the display and what you'd do if something went wrong.'

A Strathclyde Fire and Rescue spokesman said: 'We ad-

vocate attending an organised firework display. A simple sparkler reaches a temperature of up to 2,000 degrees Celsius and a rocket can travel at up to 150 miles an hour.

'All fireworks need handling with extreme care.'

Under current legislation, it

is illegal to let off fireworks in a street or public place, or between 11pm and 7am.

The only times that firework displays can take place without a special licence is on bonfire night, and New Year celebrations, including the Chinese New Year and Diwali.



The new Arran cheese in M & S stores countrywide.

New Arran cheese for Marks & Spencer

Torrylinn creamery has created a new premium, unpasteurised mature cheese for prestige High Street retailer Marks & Spencer.

The Kilmory Cheddar is produced, matured, packed and distributed from the creamery at Torrylinn.

The cheese will be stocked in all Marks & Spencer's Scottish stores.

Kilmory Cheddar is hand made to an exclusive recipe in a partnership between the retailer and First Milk, the farmer-owned business, which operates the Isle of Arran

creamery. First Milk sales and marketing director, Richard Hollingdale said: 'This is our first venture with Marks & Spencer and both of us have taken time and great care to ensure we are delivering a first class product for the discerning Marks & Spencer customer.'

Just three farmers produce milk on the island, the vast majority of which is supplied to the Isle of Arran creamery at Kilmory to create award-winning cheeses.

Under manager Alex Home, the seven staff at the creamery use time-honoured methods passed down through generations of cheese makers to produce a traditional Dunlop cheddar and a similar process is followed to create the new unpasteurised Kilmory.

Just three weeks ago the creamery scooped a silver and two bronze medals at the British Cheese Awards for Isle of Arran Dunlop, Arran Mature Cheddar Truckle and The Torrylinn, a new cheddar.

Lamlash Cub Pack
CO-OP
BAG PACK
Saturday 7th
November
10am-3pm

LAMLASH IMPROVEMENTS GROUP
Bonfire & Fireworks
 Opposite Lamlash Bay Hotel
 Saturday 7th November at 6.30pm
 The bonfire will be built on Saturday 7th at 11am.
 Anyone with wood to burn, please take to the location on the day.
 For uplifts in Lamlash please phone Jim Stewart 600685.
 A warm welcome to everyone to come along and join in the fun.

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 to play if you
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THE
AFTERNOON
TEA DANCE
 with cream tea
 Wednesday, November 4th
 2 till 4pm
 £4 each and
 £2 for non dancers
 SCO18338

The Arran Banner 20 years ago

Saturday, October 28, 1989

When the boat came in!

'It was like a carnival' was how one Brodick man described the day HMS Brecon came to Arran.

He was referring of course to the interest and pleasure shown by Arran people to the highly embarrassing situation when the Royal Navy minesweeper found herself on the rocks in Brodick Bay.

Somehow, no one knows how, HMS Brecon proceeded at speed, in broad daylight, onto the rocks just beyond Brodick pier.

There were no injuries caused by the incident but the Navy are conducting an enquiry into how she could run aground in fair weather.

Apostles granted quarter million

Cunninghame District Council is to spend a quarter of a million pounds bringing the Twelve Apostles in Catacol back to their original condition.

It is some time since anxiety was first expressed over Number Three which was in the worst condition and the owner of which could not be found.

Since then CDC have designated the row a Housing Action Area which allows them to carry out the work on private properties.

Only four of the houses are in permanent occupation, the rest are holiday homes.

Police car vandalised

A police car was vandalised in Shiskine two weeks ago while sitting outside the Greenan Hotel.

Constable Alan Hill and Special Constable Donald McNivan called at the hotel at 1.30am on Sunday October 15.

A party to mark the change of ownership was taking place and the police were checking all was in order.

When they came out they discovered that the windscreen wipers had been removed from their car, all tyres let down and one tyre slashed with a sharp implement.

First class return

Arran people get nothing but the best service and tonight, on television, an Arran lady will make just this point.

Mrs Margaret Hood of Machrie will present that eternal whipping boy, British

Rail, with a Heart of Gold award on Esther Rantzen's show tonight.

It was almost a year ago that BR showed what they were prepared to do to get one Arran pensioner to the ferry on time.

On December 1 last year Margaret Hood was at Waverley Station in Edinburgh waiting to return to Arran but when her train was late she realised that she was going to miss her connection to the ferry.

After speaking to the station master Margaret was told that a taxi would meet her at Glasgow Queen Street and drop her in Kilwinning in time to get the Ardrossan train.

Safely home, Margaret decided to write to *The Banner* to applaud BR and later contacted Esther Rantzen.

Cold castle

Brodick Castle has been left without heating this week after the boiler, which operates the system burst.

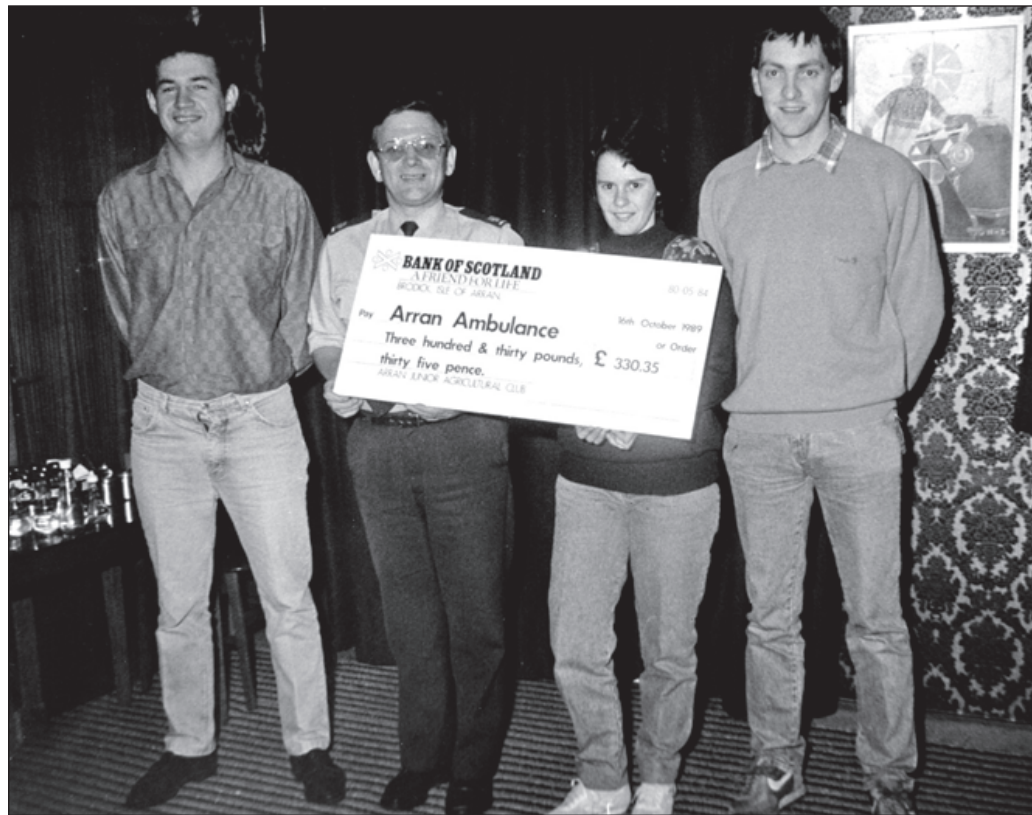
It is hoped that it can be repaired or replaced soon before the dampness begins to affect the furniture or exhibits.

School board elections

Arran High School held its first school board elections this week.

Sixty-six per cent of parents at the school voted as follows: Sheila McLeod 235, Stef Holmer 179, Angus Cameron 162, John Dalby 81, Sally Brookes 78, Hilary Mutch 70, Bill Hay 60.

The first four of these names will now make up the first Arran High School board along with staff representative Mr Brian Miller.



Arran's Young Farmers presented a cheque for £330.35 to the Arran Ambulance on Monday. The money, which will be used for equipment for the ambulance, was raised at the young farmer's market dance in July. Shown in the picture, from left to right, are Neil Gillies, Bobby McMaster, Hazel Hamilton and Alistair McKenzie. b44twe01

Lifeboat finally to be launched

Although in service now for more than 18 months and with almost 20 emergency calls under her belt, Arran's newest inshore lifeboat has yet to be officially launched.

This is to be remedied next Saturday when representatives of the Fred Olsen Shipping Line, which bought the vessel for the island, will come to Lamlash for a short dedication ceremony.

Arran Provision vandalism

Letters have been stolen from the new stone framed sign outside the Arran Provisions factory in Lamlash.



Angus Lambie addresses the TV cameras that flocked to the island to witness for themselves the Royal Navy minesweeper stranded on the rocks in Brodick Bay. b44twe03

On the assumption that the thief might have had a practical purpose rather than mindless vandalism, we wonder if the company has hired an analyst to find his identity.



Karen, daughter of Russell and Sheila Dobson of West Knowe Farm, Brodick was married to Iain Barbour on Saturday. b44twe02

Where's Archie?

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

www.arranbanner.co.uk

Or email us at:

editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Last week Archie was at the Scottish Water building near Bridge Farm, Shiskine. Fiss was spot on: 'Archie has gone to Shiskine. He won't come to any harm!' Andrew from Fife thought he had dropped into the distillery for a dram, Stuart, Judith and Shep said he was at the bus garage at Brodick pier and Cailean of Bearsden said: 'You are at Lamlash lifeboat station; love you Archie!' This week he is in front of an imposing house, but where? 02_b44arc01



Corrie kids are in the pink



Pupils at Corrie Primary School were in the pink on Friday as they dressed up for charity. The youngsters dressed up for national Wear It Pink Day to raise money for breast cancer charities. The children also had their own home baking stall and they managed to raise a total of £252.50 including donations. Headteacher Mrs Susan Kelly said: 'Thank you to everyone who contributed home baking and donations.' b44cor01NO

BTO

Collared Dove winter

Many common birds like the collared dove are not reported so they do not look very widespread from the data collected.

Bird Notes - Looking for common birds this winter

By Jim Cassels

Over 120 birds have been recorded on Arran over the last two winters.

As part of the work on the national Bird Atlas, volunteers on Arran have been out recording the birds in specific areas.

In addition many people have contributed by sharing their bird sightings with me and these have been entered into Bird Atlas.

A great start has been made collecting data for the local Arran Bird Atlas that the Arran Natural History Society would like to produce for the wintering and for the breeding

birds on the island. Half way through the four years of this project, I would like to share the findings with you and seek your help.

Some birds like blackbird, mallard and oystercatcher have been recorded in every month of the year while others like barnacle goose, goldeneye and waxwing have only been recorded in the winter.

Some birds like black redstart, firecrest and great crested grebe have been recorded only once, while others like buzzard, robin and wren have been recorded in many areas around Arran.

In some areas of Arran, over 50 bird species have been recorded, while in other areas no birds have been recorded.

This may be partly due to remoteness of some areas, but other factors may be at work.

Take one of our more populated places, the areas in and around Lamlash. Data from the first two years seems to show, that there are more areas around Lamlash containing long-tailed tit than containing blue tit.

Species

In addition, in one area in Lamlash, 59 species have been recorded and in another area 13 species have been reported.

The difference in number of species reported may reflect differences in habitat but it

may reflect a difference in the enthusiasm of the people for reporting from that area.

There are lots of 'gaps': areas where even common birds have not been reported.

Here is just one example; collared dove, the small familiar sandy coloured dove that often visits gardens and farms does not look very widespread from the data collected, but is probably more widespread.

Arran Birding

If you would like to see a list of the birds seen in every area in Arran or to check where any bird has been seen on Arran go to this link <http://arranbirding.blogware.com/blog/ArranBirdAtlas>

The Arran Natural History Society would like to produce an Arran Bird Atlas for the wintering and for the breeding birds on Arran.

No matter what your knowledge is of birds you can help by sending in your bird sightings to me – especially of common birds, such as robin or blue tit.

Over the coming winter, November to February, please use the information on the website to help fill in the 'gaps' and find any 'missing species'.

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.

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The Oban Times - £6.99



Scottish Field Mini - £6.99

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THE ARRAN BANNER

- on holiday . . .



The Cordon Caravanners - Ron, Anne, Liz and Humphrey are pictured reading *The Arran Banner* at the Udderbelly, a big purple upside down cow at the Edinburgh Festival in August.

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.

This week the Banner has once again been taken all over the globe, this time to exotic Malaysia, stunning Japan, the beautiful county of Yorkshire and Scotland's capital city.

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.



Keith I'Anson of Pirnmill is photographed catching up on Arran's local news at the beautiful old harbour in Whitby, Yorkshire.

Natural History Society

At the last meeting of the Arran Natural History Society on Thursday, October 1, members were brought up to date on two of the society's activities.

Jim Cassels, bird recorder, spoke about the Arran Bird Atlas which is now almost two years into the four year project. His presentation included maps showing the distribution of certain bird species on Arran in winter.

The second part of the meeting was an update on the Arran

Wildlife Festival by members of the organising committee. Lucy Wallace, the co-ordinator, presented her report on the 2009 festival which included over 70 events and had the support of a wide range of individuals and organizations throughout the island. The resulting discussion looked towards the 2010 festival that will take place from 12 to 19 May next year.

At the next meeting of the society on Thursday, November 5, Sally Campbell from the Community of Arran Seabed Trust, will speak about the activities of COAST and the Lamlash Bay no take zone, the sustainability of the marine environment, the role of politics and the effect of climate change on the seas around the UK.

It should be a most interesting presentation. The meeting starts at 8pm in the Ranger Centre in Brodick Country Park.

Outdoor meetings this month are two bird walks. For the one on Saturday, November 14, meet at Kilmory Hall car park and for the one on Saturday, November 28 meet at Lochranza Hall car park.

Both start at 10am and will last a couple of hours.



Michael Coppelov from Lancashire took his Banner all the way to the five-star Raffles Hotel in Singapore.



Mrs M McNichol of Brodick took her Banner to see the flowering cherry trees in Japan. b42ban01NO



Flyer for the 2010 Arran Wildlife Festival.

Wednesday Club

There was a very good turnout for an excellent start to the Corrie and Sannox Wednesday Club's winter programme.

Everyone found Tommy MacLeod's 'Open Days at Rosaburn' talk very interesting. The members of the group agreed that islanders are very lucky that a group of people had the foresight to institute such a wonderful working museum on Arran.

The club watched with interest as he showed film of the blacksmith at work shoeing a horse, sheep being shorn and butter being churned. All recorded for posterity by Tommy.

Next month the Corrie and Sannox Wednesday Club look forward to Grace Small's talk on 'Holy Isle' (with husband Verner's slides) - another treat!

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SATURDAY 31st OCTOBER

Blackwaterfoot Junior Football
Karate
Family Games Kids & Adults
Fun in the Spa Pool
Halloween Over 21s Disco
Arran Dancers (4 years and up)
Youth Cafe (High School Pupils)
Farmers Market
Folk session
Quiz
Youth Cafe (High School Pupils)
Halloween Party
Saturday Social
Halloween Party
Halloween Disco
Winter Points

SUNDAY 1st NOVEMBER

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

MONDAY 2nd NOVEMBER

Senior Fitness
Over 50's Badminton
Badminton
Cardiac Rehab
Circuit Training
Citizens Advice
AB Attack
Aerobics Class
Weight Wise
Ladies Netball
Quiz Night
Arran Junior Football Club Coaching & Games
Lamlash Bridge Club
Kickboxing
Community Meeting
Badminton Club

TUESDAY 3rd NOVEMBER

Lochranza Swimming Club
Army Cadets
Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Citizens Advice
Pulmonary Rehab
Open Music Session
Indoor Bowling

Loch Garbad, Bank
Lamlash
Auchrannie Spa & Gym

Coaching, 10.30am - noon
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am - 12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
The Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Arran High School, 10am
Brodict Church Hall, 7pm - 9pm
Kilmory Hall, 12pm - 2.30pm
Kildonan Hotel, 9pm
Catacol Bay Hote, 8.30pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7pm - 9pm
Kildonan Hall, 6pm
Whiting Bay Golf Club, 6pm - Late
Montrose House, Brodict, 6pm
Auchrannie Cruize Bar, 9.30pm
Cairnhouse, 11am

St Margarets Church, Whiting Bay, 4.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm - 4pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Auchrannie Pool, 4pm - 5pm
Library Annexe, 1.45pm
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm

Auchrannie 9.30AM - 10.30am (Gym)
Lochranza Village Hall 2pm - 4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Auchrannie Gym 12.30pm - 2pm
Auchrannie Spa, 6pm - 7.15pm (Gym)
Open 10am - 2pm
KA Leisure, fitness suite 6.30pm - 6.50pm
KA Leisure, dance studio, 6pm - 7pm
Hospital Bungalow, 5pm - 5.30pm
High School Sports Hall - Seniors 8pm - 9pm
Eden Lodge Hotel Whiting Bay, 9.30pm
Ormidale Park, 6pm
Lamlash Golf Clubhouse, 7.15pm
KA Leisure, dance studio, 7pm - 8.30pm
Kildonan Hall, 7.30pm
Auchrannie Spa, 7.30pm - 9.30pm

Kinloch 11am - 12pm
Auchrannie Road, 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Brodict Church Hall - 2pm
Open 10am - 2pm 4 - 6pm (Appointment Only)
Auchrannie Gym 12pm - 1pm (Gym)
Catacol Bay Hotel, 8.30pm
Auchrannie Hall, 7pm

Junior Hockey Club
Brodict Toddler Group
Body Conditioning Class
Youth Club
Senior Fitness
Step Aerobics
Rotary Club
Motocross Practice
Scottish Country Dancing
Winter Bowling
Indoor Bowling
Arran Farmers Society Special General Meeting

WEDNESDAY 4th NOVEMBER

Hockey
Jnr Rugby Training
AquaFiz
Circuit Training
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy
Kickboxing
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Rugby Club Seniors Training
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Selt Making Class
Beavers
Yogalates
Pre school Music & Drama Classes
Healing Rooms
Tea Dance

THURSDAY 5th NOVEMBER

Senior Fitness
Step Aerobics
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
Brodict Embroidery Group
Youth Club
Cubs
Arran Branch of Royal British Legion Meeting
The Wee Blether
Brodict Bridge Club
Junior Scottish Country Dancing (P3 - P7)
Cam's Open Mike Night
Winter Bowling
Bonfire Night
Scouts

FRIDAY 6th NOVEMBER

Arran Pipe Band Practice
AquaFiz
Citizens Advice
Quiz
Over 21's Disco
Yogalates
Street Dance
Seniors Badminton (Over 50s)
Arran Ceilidh Dance Group
Lamlash Friday Club
Foundations at The Cabin
Open Folk Night
Bonfire & Firework Display
Save the Children Christmas Fayre
Jazz Cafe

SATURDAY 7th NOVEMBER

Lamlash Cubs Bag Pack
Bonfire and Fireworks

Ormidale Pavillion, 6-7pm
Church Hall, 10am - 12pm
KA Leisure, dance studio 6pm - 7pm
Kildonan Hall - 6pm
Auchrannie, 10am - 11am
Auchrannie Gym, 7pm - 8pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie 7.15pm
Southbank Farm track, 6pm - 7.30pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30pm
Auchrannie, 7pm
Corrie & sannox Hall, 2pm - 4pm
Arran High School, 8pm

Auchrannie Hall, 7pm - 8pm (Games Hall)
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
High School, Lamlash 6.15pm - 7.15pm
Auchrannie Gym, 10am - 11am
Auchrannie Dance Studio, Various Time
High School, 7.30pm - 9pm
Lochranza & Catacol Village Hall, 2pm - 4pm

Auchrannie 9.30am - 10.30am
Auchrannie Studio, 7pm - 8pm
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
Brodict Library 7.30pm - 9.30pm
Youth Cabin, Lamlash 7-9pm
Shiskine Hall 6.30-8pm
McLaren Hotel, 2pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 11.30am - 1.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion 7.15pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 6pm - 7pm
The Cabin, 7pm - 9pm
Auchrannie, 7pm
Kildonan Hall, 6pm
Shiskine Hall 8-9.30pm

Brodict 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
Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm - 10pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 2pm - 3.30pm
The Cabin, 7pm - 9pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 9.30pm
Catacol Bay Hotel, 8pm
Brodict Hall, 10.30am - 1.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 8pm

Brodict Co-Op, 10am - 3pm
Front Green, Lamlash 6.30



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PUBLIC NOTICES

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

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

Written representations may be made to the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Protective Services) at the address below by 20th November 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: 09/00731/PP Address: The Craggs, Blackwaterfoot, Brodick, Isle Of Arran KA27 8HA Proposed Development: Erection of one and a half storey extension to rear of detached dwelling house

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
IRVINE
KA12 8EE



AGM

Arran Council for Voluntary Service
Annual General Meeting

to be held in Arran CVS Office, Park Terrace
Lamlash at 7.30pm on
Wednesday 25th November 2009
Scottish Charity No. SC004057

Arran Farmers Society

Special General Meeting

Regarding proposed location of the 2010 Arran Show.
Arran High School
Tuesday 3 November, 8pm
Open to all members

Kinloch Hotel

Saturday 7th November

Due to a wedding taking place on the grounds, the Kinloch Hotel and Leisure Club will be closed all day.
No food will be served.

The Public bar will remain open for drinks only from 11.30am- Midnight.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

STONEMASONRY

GENERAL STONE WORK

Stone walls
Stone facings
Stone features
Also mini digger work and landscaping

Richard Walkinshaw
Tel 850573
or 07736 118872

BANNER PUBLIC NOTICES

Isle of Arran Horticultural Society

AGM

Brodick Library
Saturday 7th November
2.30pm

All welcome

CLASSIFIEDS

MISCELLANEOUS

RANSOME Gang Mower. Some TLC needed. Offers over £100 Tel 860592
YAM 280 Ti inflatable with seat and pump. £250 Tel 700566
CONCEPT COMBO 2310 Digital telephone with answering machine plus one handsfree phone (boxed) £25. Tel 600238
BANDSAW BLADES various sizes. Tel 600238
FIELD GATE 102" x 41" sliding bolt £45 Tel 700542
MOTORBIKE Yamaha RT100, suit 12 - 15 yr old £550 ono Tel 07825835433
EDDIE IZZARD tickets, SECC 11th November. Tel 302558
HEAVY DUTY steel shelving. 9 sets 2000mm x 600mm x 1850mm with 5 shelves. Northern Tool UK. Half Price of catalogue .Tel 303886 day or 303505 eve.
QUICK ASSEMBLY metal shelving units. 7 sets 2000mm x 300mm x 900mm with 6 shelves. From Northern Tools UK. Half Price of catalogue Tel 303886 day or 303505 eve.
PETROL GENERATOR Suzuki 2500kw 230/110v £1750ono. Tel 303886 day or 303505 eve.

SOUND/VISION

TECHNICS SLPg490 CD player,hardly used, with remote. £30 ono. Tel 810607

JVC TV 30" widescreen .Silver. Matching stand with glass shelves. Under £30. 700275 or 07747 466293

HEATING

LPG COAL effect fire. Portland regency package. Black and silver with cream stone surround. Cost £1,400 new, selling for £600. Tel 700796

WHITE GOODS

WASHING MACHINE, white. Good con £100 Tel 700796
INDUSTRIAL DRIER £200 Tel 700796

COMPUTING

COMPUTER. Complete with monitor and keyboard. £75 Tel 700796

KITTENS

READY SOON. Needing patient and loving homes. Vaccinated/neutered/microchipped. Tel 820611 evenings.

HEATING

NEW MULTI FUEL stove 11k output. Attractive glass door £550 Tel 850553

FURNITURE

3 SEATER couch. Multi cushioned £180 ono Tel 850553
2 SEATER quality tartan couch. VGC. £200 ono Tel 850553

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CHURCH NOTICES

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 1 November
 (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
 Sunday Morning Mass 11am

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH
Sunday 1 November
 Sacrament of Communion will be celebrated by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am
 The Young People's Church will meet as usual in the Hall. Tea and coffee will be served in the Transept after the service. There will be a service in Coorie doon at 2.30pm and in Craigelea at 3.15pm.
 All welcome.

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
 (in full communion with the Church of England)
 St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 1 November
 All Saints: Holy Communion, 11am
 Revd Paul Fletcher.
 Angels and Devils BBQ after service.
Wednesday, 4 November
 Holy Communion
 12.15 pm.
 All Welcome..

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
 Kilmory linked with Lamlash
 "A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 1 November
 Rev. Gillean Maclean
 Kilmory 10am
 Lamlash 11.30am
 In both churches
 Sacrament of Communion
 In Lamlash
 Service of Communion
 Wednesday 4th November
 2.30pm.
 All welcome, including families; children's area

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND (continuing)
Saturday 31 October
 7pm
Sunday 1 November
Communion Service
 11am
 Trust Housing Lounge, Glen Estate, Brodick
 Evening Service, 7pm
 5 Glen Road, Brodick
 All welcome

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH.
 Ormidale Pavilion
 Brodick.
Sunday 1 November
 10.45am Communion
 Tea and coffee from 11.10am
 11.30am For all the family
 Speaker: Group from Latin Link
 Everyone very welcome

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

Minister
 Rev Angus Adamson.
Parish Asst
 Mrs Jean Hunter.
 Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times, to which all are invited - Families, young people and children welcome
Sunday 1 November
 Brodick Church, 10.30am
 Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
 Corrie Church, 12pm
 Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
 6.30pm
 Sacrament of the Lord's Supper followed by a Service of Thanksgiving
 Lochranza 10.15am
 Sacrament of Baptism
 Shiskine Church, 12pm
 A service of Worship will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm

ARRAN CHURCHES TOGETHER
 Taizé worship
 St Margaret's Episcopal Church
 Thursday 5 November.
 8 pm
 All are very welcome.

DEATHS

McIlwham - James Hunter
 Suddenly at Crosshouse Hospital on 25th October, 2009. James Hunter, beloved husband of Janette, loving father of Danny, daughter-in-law Fiona, and much loved Papa. Funeral service at Sannox Cemetery on Friday 30th October 11.30am to which all family and friends are respectfully invited. Family flowers only please.

FORGIE - William Kirkwood, died peacefully at the Royal Hampshire County Hospital, Winchester, on Thursday 22nd October 2009. Formerly of Glasgow, London, Invercloy Hotel and Brodick, beloved husband of Dorothy and dear father of Gillian and Eunice. No flowers please.

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

ELIZABETH HAMILTON REID nee DICK (BETTY)
 Elizabeth, Sheila, Joe, Colin, Gavin, Donald, Jayne & Neil would like to thank family, friends & neighbours for their very kind support, flowers, cards and letters which have been a great comfort to them at this very sad time.
 Our heartfelt thanks to the staff and Drs at Shiskine Surgery, NAC Carers, friends Ellen & Bella, who all supported Mum at home, Paramedics in attendance and the caring staff at Arran War Memorial Hospital. Very many thanks to Rev Jean Hunter for a lovely service, Rev Angus Adamson for spiritual support and to Clare & David Hendry for their kind and efficient funeral arrangements.
 Finally thank you to all who attended Shiskine Church - we were very touched.
 Donations collected amounted to £683 and will be divided between the Arran Hospice and Arran Hospital Supporters

PERSONALS

CAFÉ ROSABURN
 Susie would like to thank all "my girls" and friends for the lovely gifts and cards... you are a devious lot!!
 Thank you also to my regular customers at the Café over the last 10 years and all the local suppliers of good produce.
 I wish Holly every success for the future and hope that Café Rosaburn continues to flourish

Happy 40th Mandy



Surprise, Surprise
 We didn't forget
 Lots of love from family and friends

Billy Burrows is home and on the mend.
 A big thanks to the nursing staff at Arran, Crosshouse 5B and Beatson B1 for great care given throughout his illness. Also a big thanks to family and friends especially the phantom kitchen cleaner.

BANNER CLASSIFIEDS



Golf Arran Golfers Association

The Arran Grouse finals at Machrie Bay golf club on Saturday October 24 were cancelled. The competition will be re-arranged at a future date.

Brodick Golf Club

Wednesday 21 October, the fourth round of this year's Wednesday Winter Cup competition took place. Eleven played on another dry day.

A warm welcome was given to Wolfie Kroner and his brother in law Bryce Walker both making their first appearance in this year's competition. Wolfie was very vocal (unlike him) about how badly he has been playing golf this year. He then went out and carded a gross 73 less 14 handicap for a net 59 to win the sweep, Don Rudge was second with a gross 78-16=62. There was no magic twos this week so the pot rolls over to next week.

Whiting Bay Golf Club

The Taylor Trophy due to be played on Sunday 24 October was postponed due to the wet weather and will now be played on Sunday 29 November.

Next week the Whiting Bay team play Brodick in the Winter League at Machrie.

Shiskine Golf Club

Thursday 22 October, Ladies October 12-hole Medal. Silver: 1 A Anderson 57-11=46, 2 E Kerr 56-9=47, 3 J Turnbull 58-10=48 BIH. Bronze: 1 S Brookes 57-13=44, 2 M Tod 69-23=46, 3 J Hutton 67-18=49. Best Scratch E Kerr 56.

Sunday 25 October, October 12-hole Medal. 1 D Logan 51-6=45, 2 H Bannatyne 50-3=47, 3 C Rutherford 64-14=50. Best Scratch H Bannatyne 50.

Fixtures: Arran Challenge, until Sunday 8 November. Saturday 14 November, Annual Dinner.

Machrie Bay Golf Club

Tuesday 20 October, Lochranza Hotel Cup, Stableford. 1

Brian Sherwood 34 points, 2 Hugh McClelland 31 points BIH, 3 Elizabeth Ross 31 points. Scratch Brian Sherwood 78.

Fixtures: Tuesday 3 November, Winter Cup, 12pm tee-off. Saturday 7 November, Lochranza Hotel Cup, 12pm tee-off.

Lamlash Golf Club

Thursday 22 October, Final day of nine-hole competition, 19 competed. Scratch I Bremner with a 31. 1 I Bremner 31-4=27, 2 D Wales 32-4=28, 3 N McIntyre 33-4.5=28.5. Overall winner of the nine-hole October competition was W O'Connor with 59.5 and the runner-up was I Bremner with 61.

On Sunday 25 October there was no golf at Lamlash due to rain.

Fixtures: Every Thursday 15 hole competition. Saturday 31 October, Glenburn Cup at 11am. Sunday 1 November, AGA Winter league at Machrie Bay Golf Club.

Corrie Golf Club

Saturday 17 October, weekly medal, 1 C Pattenden 55, 2 J McGovern 56, 3 J Innes 57, Scratch J McGovern 63.

Magic twos from J Innes (2), J McGovern (2) and A Smith (2), B Sherwood, B Barr and A Napier.

Monday 19 October, 1 A Smith 55, 2 A MacDonald 58, 3 B Barr 59(BIH), Scratch S Beardsley 64. There were magic twos from J McGovern, B Barr, A Macdonald, B Rooney and A Smith.

Monday 26 October, 1 H McArthur 55, 2 J McConachie 57, 3 G Welford 58, Scratch A MacDonald 69. There were magic twos from H MacArthur, A Smith and A MacDonald.

Fixtures: Saturday October 31, Joe McKenzie, 12pm start. Monday November 3, Monday Cup, 12pm start.

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Frazer Barr's trusty boot scored five points for Arran on Saturday while captain Murray Picken (pictured behind) scored the only try for the island team. b37rug03

Moffat frustrate Arran

Island side retain fourth place in league after frustrating defeat away from home

West Division Two
Moffat 16
Isle of Arran 10

Arran's fight to move up the ranks in the Scottish Hydro Electric West League Division Two was thwarted by the team from Moffat RFC on Saturday.

The island team travelled to the southwest spa town determined to notch up another win but Moffat had other ideas.

Despite throwing themselves headlong into the match Arran were defeated by 16 points to 10.

A try from captain Murray Picken was converted by Frazer Barr.

Later on the in the match Frazer secured a much needed penalty to give Arran 10 points, but it wasn't enough to win.

Player Sandy Kerr told *The Banner*: 'It was a good game but we just didn't play well enough to win. I suppose we all knew that Moffat would be a hard team to beat.'

However, it wasn't all bad news for Arran as they retain their position in fourth place below Uddingston, Moffat and Jordanhill.

Attack

The local team are also still playing well in both defence and attack having had only 63 points scored against them compared to first place Uddingston who have 85 points against.

This weekend Arran are at home to McLaren RFC at the Ormidale Park in Brodick.

The game will kick-off at 2pm.

Please come along and support the team.

West Division Two

	P	I	W	D	L	F-A	Bs	Pts
1 Uddingston	8	7	0	1	182-85	3	31	
2 Moffat	8	6	0	2	131-78	3	27	
3 Jordanhill	8	5	0	3	116-85	2	22	
4 Arran	7	4	0	3	161-63	5	21	
5 Strathaven	7	4	1	2	140-95	3	21	
6 McLaren	7	2	0	5	116-119	3	11	
7 Clydesdale	6	0	1	5	46-119	2	4	
8 Cowal	7	0	0	7	26-284	0	0	



Dawn Murchie of Cairnhouse Riding Stables in Blackwaterfoot. b28daw01

Winter Points beaten by the weather

Last Sunday's Winter Points competition was cancelled due to the wet and windy weather.

Organised every winter by Dawn Murchie at Cairnhouse Riding Stables, the horseriding event has become very popular among Arran's riding fraternity, particularly with youngsters.

Dawn said: 'The forecast was terrible and it was awfully wet so it was not fit for horses or riders.'

The six Sunday competitions run throughout the winter, subject to weather conditions, and culminate with a prizegiving in March.

Dawn took over the riding stables in 1979 after her grandmother Helen MacAlister had founded them in 1959.

In 2004 the stables were appointed a 'yard of excellence' by the British Horse Society.

Last Sunday's Winter Points competition has been rearranged for this Saturday October 31 at 11am, subject to weather conditions.

Bridge Club results from Brodick and Lamlash this week

The results from Thursday 22 October at Brodick Bridge club were as follows:

N/S 1 Douglas and Margaret Bruce -280, 2 Janette McBride and Pat Adamson -

1070, 3 Linda Tricket and Mel Jones -1370.

E/W 1 Helen Boyd and Liz Paul +4030, 2 Trish Martin and Douglas Hamilton +3630, 3 Janie McClure and

Anne McKelvie +3010.

At Lamlash Bridge Club the results from Monday 26 October were N/S 1 H Boyd and L Robertson + 5550, 2 A Bilsland and T Martin +4260,

3 M Jones and L Trickett +3300.

E/W 1 J Maclure and A McKelvie -1290, 2 J Barclay and J McArthur -1600, 3 E McNiven and E Paul -2430.

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