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Arran's Weekly Newspaper

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Arran misses out on 4G scheme

Operators rush to upgrade urban centres while rural areas lose out

REPORT
by **HUGH BOAG**
editor@arranbanner.co.uk

Arran is missing out on a huge opportunity to get 4G under a government scheme - because of good mobile phone connections available in mainland North Ayrshire.

The UK government's Major Infrastructure Project (MIP) promised improvements in 2G mobile phone coverage but unfortunately it appears this project is being targeted at those local authority areas that have less than 98 per cent population coverage and while Arran has much less coverage, North Ayrshire as a whole meets this target.

'Arran is therefore being excluded from MIP developments because of the much better levels of connectivity enjoyed by mainland North Ayrshire,' said one leading campaigner for improved mobile phone coverage on the island.

Dr Andrew Inglis, who is the lead consultant in intensive care at the Southern General Hospital in Glasgow, has been at the forefront of trying to improve mobile cover for medical emergencies on the island.

Hee says that poor digital

connectivity on the island affects many services as well as health, such as, education, transport, tourism and agriculture.

'Why should rural areas struggle for access to 1990s technology (2G) when urban areas, with good current services are 20 years ahead with 4G?' he asked.

He said operators are rushing to provide 4G cover to those urban areas that already enjoy good fixed broadband and 3G cover, but currently there seems to be no plans to improve coverage for Arran or any of the islands.

Potential opportunity

He said he believed there is a potential opportunity for a mobile phone network operator bold enough to provide 4G cover in areas with poor current connectivity.

'The opportunity to become the default broadband provider in an area would generate higher 'average revenue per use' than simply providing 2G cover.

'So whilst 2G provision alone may have been judged uneconomical, 4G may be viable,' Dr Inglis argues.

Cunninghame North MSP Kenneth Gibson raised the matter last month at First Minister's Questions at the

Scottish Parliament, as reported by The Banner.

Now deputy first minister Nicola Sturgeon has written to the UK government seeking an update on the MIP programme.

Ms Sturgeon has written to culture minister Ed Vaizey asking: 'Whilst I'm aware of the department's announcement relating to the first live MIP site in North Yorkshire which is a positive development, I would be grateful if you could provide me with a general update on the status of MIP deployment in Scotland, which also specifically addresses Mr Gibson's concerns with regards to Arran.'

Mr Gibson said: 'I am pleased that the issue of mobile phone coverage on Arran is being pursued at the highest level in Scotland and hope that Mr Vaizey responds soon and positively.'

Dr Inglis added: 'Those rural areas that have been successful in securing 4G coverage have enjoyed strong support from the local authorities including Cumbria and the Northern Fells.'

'North Ayrshire Council has a detailed digital services strategy and given the current poor levels of connectivity on Arran it would be reasonable



Shiskine guides before the concert in Glasgow.

Guides enjoy Tartan Gig in Glasgow

Arran's Girl Guides enjoyed a trip last month of a rather different kind.

They travelled to the SECC in Glasgow for the first show of the day at Girlguiding Scotland's pop concert - Tartan Gig 2013.

This is a concert solely for girls aged 10 and over who are involved in guiding and Shiskine was part of a 2,500 strong audience of girls and their leaders.

There was a fantastic line-up on the day that included, Little Mix, StooShe, Gabriel Aplin, The Luminites, Amy Macdonald and Connor Maynard.

The whole event was presented by Scot-

tish comedian Iain Stirling.

Mairi Duff, the guide leader, said: 'This was a fantastic day out and the noise during the concert was amazing - can you imagine 2,500 screaming girls and the noise that it makes? It is deafening.' She added: 'It was a great day out and not something I thought I would ever do with the guides - a pop concert?'

'It was fantastic and showcased the fantastic organisation that these girls are involved in.

'The next one you ask?...2015 all being well.'

to expect the council to be proactive in trying to secure improved coverage for the island.'

One mobile provider EE has unveiled plans to boost

4G connectivity in rural areas with a launch of broadband deals targeted at areas not served by superfast fixed broadband.

The service branded '4G

powered home broadband products' will launch next month.

A statement from EE said: 'This will offer huge benefits to rural areas.'

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Wait for land sale decision

A decision on a bid by Lam-lash Golf Club to sell-off land has been deferred.

The club had hoped to hear last week if it was to get the go ahead to sell a parcel of land with planning permission for a house, in a bid to boost club funds.

But the North Ayrshire Council planning officials want further discussions with the club and the submission of a detailed business plan.

Two objections and one representation have been received over the proposal to sell-off the waste ground in Manse Road as a housing plot.

An amended application was 'called in' and will be decided by councillors after the original plans were rejected by planning officials.

The application will now be considered at the next plan-

Court clarification

In last week's Banner, it was reported that Stewart Murray, of Knockandon, East Bannan had been charged with 'stalking' a woman.

It has now been pointed out to us that is not the case and the charge Mr Murray faces is one of shouting at her, before following her, pointing his mobile phone at her and making remarks, despite being told to stop, thereby placing her in a state of fear and alarm near Kilmarnock Sheriff Court in July.

The case, at the same court, was adjourned without plea.

Arran rescue team bids to show they are real heroes

Arran features in the final episode of the TV series to find Scotland's most deserving community heroes tonight (Friday 1 November).

The Arran Mountain Rescue Team have been nominated for the courage award in the RBS - Finding Scotland's Real Heroes series for their work during the snowstorms earlier this year.

But they face stiff competition from Lynn Murray from Drymen who has battled cancer three times and raised more than £300,000 for charity, and fishermen Mark Sheldrick and Darroch Fulton from Tarbert, who saved a colleague from drowning after he plunged 50 feet into the sea.

STV has been to Arran to film the rescue team training and the footage can be seen on tonight's show which is at 8.00pm. After the show people will have a short window of just five days to give the Arran team their backing on the show website, with voting closing at midnight on Wednesday 6 November.

The winners will be announced on STV during the awards ceremony on Friday 15 November.



Team members Robbie Mallinson and Kirstie Smith with the anniversary calendar. 20_b44cal01

Meanwhile, the rescue team's 50th anniversary calendars are selling well.

All the proceeds from the sales will go to support the work of the team which was founded in 1964.

The calendars, which features old pictures of the res-

cue team and some stunning Arran mountain views, are on sale at outlets across the island, on the ferry and can now be purchased on the team website at www.arranmountainrescue.com.

They also plan a pre-Christmas sale day at the Co-opera-

tive store in Brodick in December.

Team member Kirstie Smith said: 'They really would make a great stocking filler and it is important to point out that every penny of the £8 cost will go straight into team funds.'

Electronic signs removed from road closure

Large electronic signs have been removed from each end of the northend road closure.

Instead the closure will be controlled by metal signs at the side of the road which will be laid flat when the road is open.

The electronic signs at Lochranza and Dougarie were intended to give as clear a picture as possible of when the C147 was open and closed.

The road is closed on weekdays from 9am till 3.30pm between Catacol and Pirn-mill for road improvement works to the switch backs.

But there has been criticism that the signs have not been changed when the road is open and a direction to 'follow the local diversion' was misleading as there isn't one.

Also, as the signs were solar powered, they were not always on.

Island officer Gus McLeod told Arran Community Council that the electronic signs had now been removed.

This is understood to be because of the expense and the fact that there are now few visitors on the island.

He said: 'Metal signs have now been erected at the side of the road and these will be laid flat when the road is open.'

Updates will also continue to be posted on the North Ayrshire Council website.

Vice chairman Bill Calderwood said it had been confirmed to the community council that the road would be open on Sunday 10 November for Remembrance Sunday services.

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Shared heads for primary schools after pilot success

The number of primary school headteachers on Arran is to be cut on a permanent basis.

There will be one headteacher for Brodick, Corrie and Pirmill primary schools and a joint head for Shiskine and Kilmory.

There are 272 pupils at Arran's seven primary schools, plus nursery pupils, and until three years ago each of the schools had their own head teacher.

But falling rolls saw Susan Kelly appointed the principal teacher for Brodick, Corrie and Pirmill last April and North Ayrshire Council says the scheme has been so successful it will now become permanent.

While Brodick has a healthy 62 pupils, Corrie has just 11 and Pirmill 14.

A report by Carol Kirk, corporate director (education and skills) to the council cabinet stated: 'A number of factors

have contributed to the success of the shared headship. 'These include, crucially, the commitment of the head teacher, staff and parents of the three primary schools to making the arrangement work.'

Mrs Kelly told The Banner: 'I am delighted with the challenge and I think the shared arrangement has been a big success.'

Since August last year Shiskine headteacher Irene Markham has been the shared head of Kilmory on a pilot basis. Both schools have 32 pupils.

According to the report: 'This model has worked well. Timetables of both schools have been aligned to facilitate parents' rights, festivals and events.'

'Travelling time between the two schools is 20 minutes or less. Both schools are rural with a similar pupil popula-

tion and a stable and experienced staff group.'

Referring to the situation at both schools, the report goes on: 'One of the challenges for small schools is that a small team is responsible for the same range of curriculum developments as in larger schools.'

'The shared headship model gives access to a wider team, a broader range of specialisms and educational opportunities.'

'Workload is potentially reduced, there is a sharing of good practise, shared CPD activities and improved cluster working.'

'There would be opportunities to enhance the quality of learning and teaching and to improve performance and policy development within the context of Curriculum for Excellence.'



Some of the VisitArran directors and trustees of the Arran Trust before the dinner. 20_b44visit01

Inaugural dinner raises £2,000 for Trust funds

The inaugural dinner of VisitArran was held last weekend at the Auchrannie Hotel.

Chairman Kenneth Bone welcomed a company of partner businesses and friends to the Brambles restaurant.

Mr Bone informed the company that proceeds from the event would go towards the Arran Trust, and asked Sheila Gilmore to give a brief explanation about the trust, how it works and some of the island projects that had been supported.

Support

Scottish and Southern Energy sponsored the event and Rodney Grubb, director of operations for Scotland, spoke about the snow last March and how Arran's won-

derful community support had greatly aided all the SSE workers and sub contractors to restore the power supplies all over the island.

The company enjoyed a lovely dinner followed by a

light hearted 'blether' from local man Alistair Hume about his time with the Arran Mountain Rescue Team.

The dinner generated around £2,000 towards Arran Trust funds.

Walkers rescued near the Saddle above Sannox

The Arran Mountain Rescue Team was on high alert on Tuesday afternoon after two walkers were reported missing.

The pair had become disorientated in low cloud above Sannox and had wandered from the path.

Members of AMRT located them near the Saddle and they were assisted off the hill to safety.

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Arran Dark goes down well in Canada

An Arran ale has received international praise at the Toronto Beer Festival from one of Canada's leading beer bloggers.

The 'Thistry Wench' reviewed the festival and in first place in her highlights was her tasting of Arran Dark.

She said: 'This really took me to a happy place. Whenever I try a brown ale I expect a certain flavour: rich, mild, warming, slight fruit with a dry finish at the end.'

'This beer had it all and was a wonderful experience. I could honestly have had that all day and been perfectly content.'

High praise indeed when you consider that more than 230 cask ales from all over the world were on show.

Arran Brewery international marketing manager Veronica Michaluk said: 'Our beer have been very well received in Canada where they have their own thriving craft beer industry and this is praise indeed.'

The brewery hopes to start exporting its beers to Canada next year.



Hamper of goodies for photo competition winner

Lorna Logan and her daughter, Catherine, from Lochran-

za were delighted to accept recently a fantastic hamper of goodies kindly donated by the Isle of Arran Cheese Company. Lorna's photograph of Catherine jumping from a swing at Lochranza pier was chosen as one of the winners in this year's Arran Banner photo competition.

Well done to Lorna!

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Excavations begin on Iron Age roundhouse

Work has begun to excavate an Iron Age roundhouse as builders prepare to start work on an extension to the Auchrannie Spa in Brodick.

In 2001 when the spa was built, archaeological monitoring during topsoil stripping revealed the presence of a well-preserved, substantial roundhouse.

Now experts have returned to the site to explore a series of underground chambers beneath the structures, which may have lain undisturbed for more than 2,000 years.

Among the relics revealed by the first dig were two coal bracelets, thought to have been made by the inhabitants, and a bronze spiral finger ring.

An open space underground, known as a 'souterrain', was also identified, and the team plans to carefully excavate it

in the coming weeks ahead of fresh building work at the hotel.

The Auchrannie souterrain was not disturbed during the 2001 excavation and remains underground.

From evidence gathered at the surface, it has been established that it is made of two curved underground passages with two connected stone-lined cells.

These could have been used for storage of craft goods and food or as hiding places during times of strife on the island.

Previous examples of souterrain found in Scotland are thought to have been used to possibly house animals.

Excavations are being carried out by Rathmell Archaeology from Kilwinning and archaeologist Claire Williamson said it could reveal

a great deal about the people who once lived there.

She told The Banner: 'There is the potential for the souterrain to hold a treasure trove of artefacts from the Iron Age.'

'If this is the case we may gain an unparalleled insight into lives of the inhabitants of Glen Cloy from this distant time.'

Claire said that the plan was to excavate the area and remove the roundhouse and souterrain so that they can be preserved.

The roundhouse at Auchrannie consists of an outer ring of up to six deeply-set posts in an area of about 14m in diameter.

With the exception of examples at Tormore, there are no records of excavated roundhouses on Arran and so far, little to draw on for comparison.



Claire Williamson excavating the souterrain. 20_b44dig01

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New care home takes shape in Glen Cloy



The foundations have been laid at the Glen Cloy site. 20_b44mont03

The home is being built to high quality specification

This is the first image of how the new £5.7million Montrose House development will look when it is complete next year.

Work on the Glen Cloy site is progressing well. In the two months since work started the site has been cleared and the foundations of the replacement care home dug and building work started.

Site bosses say the recent good weather has helped progress on the site as construction firm Kier have been given a tight 12-month schedule to complete the work.

The new care home and resource hub is being built on a 1.65-acre site and will replace the existing nearby care home and Stronach Day Services.

It will provide 30 residential places for vulnerable older people and create a resource centre to support older people to remain in their own homes for as long as possible.

The home is being built to a high quality specification which includes en suite bathrooms and access from each bedroom to secure gardens featuring activity space, seating and shaded areas.

The care home marks the first construction project to be carried out under hub South West, a partnership that includes North Ayrshire Council, the Scottish Futures Trust and a consortium of private sector partners.

Kier Construction, an equity stakeholder in hub South West, worked with North Ayrshire Council and local residents to develop plans for an affordable quality facility.

Brian McQuade, managing director of Kier Construction's Scottish business, said: 'Kier is delighted to be working together with North Ayrshire Council on behalf of

hub South West on the new Montrose House care home and resource centre.

'This is a significant investment into the north Ayrshire economy and we look forward to working with the local community and providing additional employment.'

Residents should be able to move into their new homes in September next year.



An artist's impression of how the new Montrose House will look. Image McLean Architects.



A drawing of the finished development. Image McLean Architects.



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John Stewart and Charlie Weir during sponsored cycle.

Bike ride round Arran boosts Malawi funds

Two Arran High School pupils have just completed a sponsored bike ride round the island.

John Stewart and Charlie Weir, both 14, completed the gruelling challenge covering a total distance of 55 and a half miles in six hours.

They spent the summer seeking sponsors and took a stall at the Shiskine Sports Day to drum up support.

In the end they managed to raise a total of £417 which they plan to use to help fund a school trip to Malawi in 2015.

John and Charlie said: 'We would both like to thank all the kind and helpful people who sponsored us on our bike ride round the island and are grateful for all the support we got. We plan to do other events in the near future and would be grateful if we got the same support as we did on this one.'

Iconic island game launched

An exciting new pastime for children and adults modelled on the iconic game 'top trumps' has been created on the island.

Arran Graphics, the company behind the very popular Arran Monopoly, this week launched the card game Arran Icons.

The idea of the game is to select a category of card, be it a place, event or an animal from Arran, that has a high number and will beat all the other players.

Whoever wins each round with the highest percentage, oldest age or biggest size collects the top cards from all other players.

The Arran Banner features on one of the cards as does the Waverley, Brodick Castle, Marvin's seal, the stone

sheep, gannets, and Sleeping Warrior as well as many others.

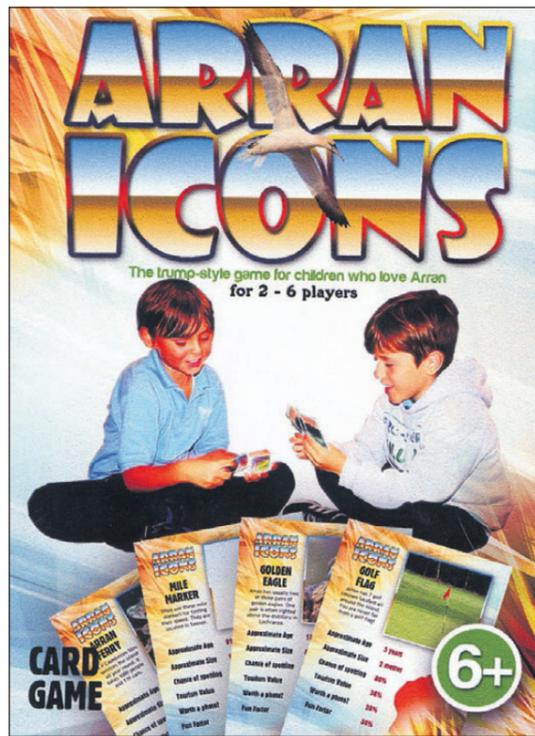
Success

Graham Chappell, managing director of Arran Graphics, said: 'The monopoly was an incredible success and we have sold nearly 5,000 editions but we are not manufac-

turing any more so they will probably be sold out before Christmas.

'The Arran Icons game will hopefully replace the monopoly in terms of popularity.

'The best thing about it is that it is pocket sized so it can be played anywhere and at anytime.'



The idea of the game is to select a category of card that has a high number and will beat all the other players.

Horticultural society celebrates 105 years

The Isle of Arran Horticultural Society will celebrate its 105th birthday at its annual general meeting on Saturday 9 November at 2pm in the library in Brodick.

John Sillars of the society said: 'When in 1908 the members of the horticultural section of the Arran Farmer's Society broke away and set up the Isle of Arran Horticultural Society it is doubtful their thoughts would have envisaged the society still being in place more than a century later.'

'Rather, the focus would have been on the show to be held in Whiting Bay hall in August of that year.'

'Yet despite considerable gaps during two world wars, the society is still very much in place; having kept apace with gardening innovations, and expanding its interests to include a spring show, a successful gardening club, and coach trips to mainland shows and nurseries.'

The AGM is open to anyone interested in hearing about the society's plans and to express your views.

Kilmory SWRI

The Kilmory SWRI president Mairi Duff gave a warm welcome to old and new members who attended the first meeting of the new session on Monday 30 September.

The guest speaker for the evening was Patricia Sloss who gave a very interesting talk on weaving.

Patricia brought along various examples of weaving projects she has undertaken over the years.

The ladies were surprised when Patricia produced, literally from under the table, a weaving frame for each member to try their hand at weaving.

The results were colourful and interesting! Thanks went to Patricia and the ladies look forward to your next visit.

The competition for bramble preserve was won by Phyllis Picken and an autumn photo by May Macdonald.

The next meeting will be on Monday 11 November at 7.30pm in Kilmory Hall when Patsy Keen will give a talk on wax painting.

The Rural Rally will be held at the Kinloch Hotel on Thursday 7 November where Kilmory SWRI looks forward to meeting up with rural members from around the island.

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Arran High School news

News of events, achievements and goings-on at Arran High School were once a regular feature in The Arran Banner.

But over the past few years the High School News has been sadly missed so we are delighted to be bringing it back.

A great group of youngsters at the school have formed the news group and we look forward to printing everything that they write in the coming months and years.

Zombie apocalypse

Arran High School had its own zombie apocalypse when 'Zombie Science - worst case scenario' took over for an afternoon to educate the students on the real science behind the undead.

The team based at Glasgow University showed a spoof tutorial to the pupils to help them know what to do if a real zombie epidemic were to hit Arran.

Kirsty Crawford S3

Arran music students visit National Orchestra

On Tuesday 24 September a group of Arran High School music students from S3-S6 travelled to Glasgow to see a performance at the Royal Concert Hall by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra.

A pupil who went on the trip said: 'It was a very interesting trip and I enjoyed the performance.'

'The venue was also very atmospheric and it was a new experience for most of us.' The Royal Concert Hall is located in the centre of the city where it opened in 1990 and was originally built as a replacement for St Andrews Hall which was destroyed in a fire in 1962.

Before attending the performance, the pupils had recreational time at Buchanan Galleries where they could enjoy the wide range of shops and food outlets.

The trip was planned by the faculty head of music Mr David Lambert and the main aim was to allow students to watch and listen to professional performers in their own environment.

The students hope there will be similar trips in the future.

Ineka Aitcheson-Hogge S4

National brass band experience for Jessica

A talented young musician from Arran had the opportunity to perform with some of Scotland's best brass and percussion players recently at a special event in Stirling.

Jessica Demazeux from Brodick took part in a six-day course with the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland (NYBBS) that culminated in a sell-out concert on the Saturday.

The 14-year-old has been playing the tenor horn with Arran Brass Band for seven years and this is the second time she has attended the course.

Jessica explained that the course involves five days of tuition and youngsters between the ages of 13 and 22 are chosen to play with three separate bands that play at different levels.

For the second time Jessica was chosen to play in the reserve band which meant she had a chance of making the main band on the day of the concert.

She said: 'This was my second year at the course and yet again I could feel the improvement in my playing.'

'I've played tenor horn for about seven years and

I passed my grade five this year.

'NYBBS is great fun, we practice for six hours a day in two-hour blocks, and there is a great family feel to the whole thing.'

'We all have our group of friends who we keep in touch with between the years and the tutors and house staff are all very friendly.'

The course normally takes place in St Andrews but this year the reserves and children's bands were based in Stirling and the senior band was in Perth.

The final concert took place in Perth Concert Hall.



Jessica Demazeux played with the National Youth Brass Band of Scotland.

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THE ARRAN BANNER

Scotland in miniature

A stag called Thor has apparently triumphed in the rutting season at the Highland Wildlife Park at Kincaig.

Park staff said the battle for control of the site's herd of almost 50 red deer equalled fight scenes from the new film, *Thor: The Dark World*.

The stag, the park's oldest at 14, had to see off a challenge from a younger rival called Atlas.

But sadly Thor is likely to face greater competition next year as several other males are expected to join the rut.

The annual deer rut is something that we are well aware of on Arran.

Throughout October, the deafening roars can be heard coming from the hillsides, particularly in the northern half of the island, indicating that Arran's stags are single and ready to mingle as they begin once again to look for love.

And there really is nothing more amazing to see than some of our largest mammals lock antlers in a head-to-head battle.

The incredible noise of these animals can sometimes be loud enough to keep Banner reporters awake at night!

Arran's rutting season is a perfect example of the unique Scottish events that bring thousands of tourists to our shores every year.

Many visitors have spoken of their delight at coming to the island during the October holidays simply to see, and hear, the deer rutting.

So is it any wonder that Scotland was this week named one of the top countries in the world to visit by travel guide Lonely Planet.

It was voted third best country to head to, behind Brazil which took the top spot and Antarctica which came second.

Lonely Planet said Scotland's 'jam-packed schedule of world-class events' made it 'the place to be' in 2014.

The Commonwealth Games take place in Glasgow next summer and the Ryder Cup will be held at Gleneagles and next year is also Scotland's Year of Homecoming.

The book also cited the country's many Highland games and the Edinburgh festivals as events that will draw travellers to Scotland next year.

But it was Scotland's unrivalled landscape and exceptional wildlife that was cited as being the major draw for tourists.

And since Arran is often referred to as 'Scotland in miniature', we can only hope that the Commonwealth Games and Ryder Cup effect will reach these shores as well.

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



A little consideration

Sir,
Recently in a news report on television I heard of schools introducing a ban on birthday invitations being distributed by hand and verbally to classmates during the school day or in the playground in order to avoid the obvious upset caused to those children not invited.

I couldn't agree more. It is unfair to the distressed children and to the school staff.

I would welcome such a policy here on the island, as I have just spent almost five hours trying to console my eight-year-old autistic son, who could not understand why he was left out today when birthday party invitations were distributed.

He has been invited to many parties over the years whether he could attend or not, and to those thoughtful parents, my husband and I are extremely grateful.

Obviously I am not expecting him to be invited to every party but it is very upsetting to see your child crying and asking why he was ignored.

A typical child would indeed be upset, but can deal with it and eventually move on, an autistic child cannot.

He is a very clever boy and is completely aware when he is being treated differently from everyone else, as am I.

Thank you to the wonderful class teacher and staff who dealt with the situation this morning and tried to distract him.

However, today's upset affected the remainder of his school day and the ability to work as well as he does every other day.

Perhaps parents could organise their invitations out-with the school? It is not as if we live in the city where you are unlikely to see, on a regular basis, the parents of the children lucky enough to be included on your invitations list?

Yes, perhaps I am overprotective, but until you have spent time feeling helpless and upset trying to console a crying special needs child, only

then would you have reason to question my thoughts and feelings on this subject.

Today's incident could have been avoided, it was unfair to my son and any other child, unfair to school staff, and in my opinion, a little consideration goes a long way!

Yours,
Roseanne Finnigan Brodick

Highland games generosity

Sir,
On behalf of The Arran Trust I would like to thank Brodick Highland Games' committee for its very generous donation of £4,000 towards heritage, conservation and environmental projects on Arran.

This money will be used to support a variety of island projects.

The Arran Trust is primarily a visitor gifting scheme, and benefits the whole island. Community groups can apply for match funding towards specific projects that all go to enhance and maintain the beauty of Arran, to ensure that it can be enjoyed by generations in years to come.

Community groups supported so far include Arran Access Trust, Roots of Arran, Eas Mor Ecology, Shiskine Valley Trust, Arran Beekeeping Group, Brodick Primary School Pupil Council, Arran Yacht Club and many others.

Future projects approved by the seven voluntary trustees include Forestry Commission Scotland's car park plans at Dippen, and also the Arran Natural History Society's publication of an Arran Bird Atlas.

More information on all these projects can be seen on our website www.arrantrust.org.

If you feel your group might be eligible for funding please don't hesitate to contact us at info@arrantrust.org.

Many thanks once again to the committee of Brodick Highland Games for this amazing gesture, and to all the visitors for their contributions.

Yours,
Kenneth J Bone
Chairman,

The Arran Trust Organist remembered

Sir,
Those of us who knew John Dick were greatly saddened by his lengthy, horribly restricting illness, and finally by his passing.

Before his illness, his contribution to Arran life - most notably musical life and Kilbride Parish Church in Lam-lash - was a very considerable one, and merits public recognition in *The Banner*.

Long before we came to live on Arran, while holidaying here, we were aware of his fine organ-playing in Lam-lash.

We have heard from others of his sterling work as accompanist for the Isle of Arran Chorus under the leadership of the late John Hollingworth.

He was actively involved with the Arran Gilbert and Sullivan Society. As head of music at the high school, I am sure he will be remembered fondly by his former pupils who must have benefited greatly from both his musical expertise and his love of music. I know his impact on music-making in the school was considerable, and that musical activities expanded greatly under his expert guidance.

Many of his former colleagues have spoken of him with great fondness. He was also the initiator of the annual carol concert in Lam-lash Church.

The John Dick Carol Concert on the first Monday of December is for many Arran folk the event which most appropriately marks the start of the Christmas season on Arran.

This is now supported by many of the singing and musical groups on the island and from the schools, including the Rowan Singers, of which John had been an active member. His service to Kilbride Parish Church, Lam-lash was not limited to his work on the organ, which was distinguished by a pursuit of musical excellence.

He also spent many hours

producing videos, to which he added his own soundtracks, which were sold for church funds.

This openness to new avenues was shown shortly before his illness by a desire to revisit the school music department to see the new computer-based developments in music.

The church also benefited from the sale of a small book researched and produced by John about the organ, and the organists of Lam-lash Church. John was a man of many talents who will be remembered fondly by many people - former pupils, colleagues, friends in the church and in the wider community - all of whom can be grateful for his expertise and commitment in everything he did, and for his friendship.

Our sympathies go to Betty and the family, whose loving care sustained John over the years of his illness.

Yours,
Douglas Hamilton
Glenburn
Lamlash

Shoe box appeal

Sir,
I would like to thank most sincerely the members and many friends of all the Arran churches for such a magnificent response to the above appeal. In total 190 shoe boxes have been sent on their way to the less fortunate people of eastern Europe and northern India, together with £490 in donations.

A big thank you to Valerie Cross and Anne Mitchell for checking and packing the boxes for dispatch, an onerous task done with care and much laughter.

I am indebted to Tony Morrow and his staff at Arran Deliveries for the carriage of the boxes to Glasgow, a big thank you for your contribution.

Finally, to all those who helped in any way, you have brought joy and laughter this Christmas to many people less fortunate than ourselves and belief that there are those who care for them in this world.

Yours,
Hamish Mitchell
Brodick

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History Channel borrows Arran's Viking longboat

A little piece of Arran could be appearing on the big screen in the coming months.

The Black Eagle, a replica Viking longship from Corrie, has spent the summer at Ashford Film Studios in Ireland.

Built by the Arran Viking Longship Society (AVLS), the boat was used in the filming of series two of the 'Vikings'.

This Canadian/Irish historical drama television series, has been written and created for the History Channel. John van Bogerjen, and other members of the AVLS, Matt Goodchild and Simon Gee took part in the filming as Viking helmsmen. John said: 'The Black Eagle was used on location at Lough Tay and Lough Dan in the Wicklow mountains.

'We were lucky enough to be able to take part in the filming and had a great time being costumed up in Viking clothes.' The AVLS are now planning to purchase a road trailer for the boat to enable her to be transported undercover for repair work this winter. The society is also keen to attract new members.

Anyone wishing to help work on the boat, row and sail a Viking longship next season should contact the secretary Margo Wheeler on 810617.



Above: The Black Eagle was used in the filming of the History Channel's 'Vikings'.

Left: John van Bogerjen from Dippin was one of the members to star in the Viking film.

Lend a helping hand if the weather gets bad

The snowstorms in March really showed the community spirit that exists on Arran.

And as we all prepare for winter it is worth remembering that severe weather leaves some people vulnerable and that helping each other a little can make a big difference.

Here's how you can play your part in making your community more prepared:

- * Identify family members or neighbours who may need an extra helping hand if severe weather strikes;
- * Have their phone numbers to hand;
- * Offer to help with grocery shopping or other essential tasks;
- * Clear ice or snow from pathways;
- * If you are part of a community group, think about what your group can do to help others during bad weather.

A Scottish Government spokesman said: 'Local authorities do all they can to keep essential services running during periods of severe weather. However, severe weather may cause some change to routine local services. Check with your local authority for the latest information and advice during severe weather.'

Our guide to where to stay on the mainland

Winter is here and as we have already found at the weekend the season of cancelled ferries is already underway. There is nothing more frustrating than being stuck on the mainland when the boat fails to sail and nowhere to stay.

But now help is at hand with our guide to some of the best places to stay on the mainland. But why wait till the boat fails to sail. Why not treat yourself to a days Christmas shopping on the mainland and make a day of it with an overnight stay.

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Ayr advice centre manager Bob Baillie. 20_b44energy05

Islanders keen to learn o

Islanders showed their interest in going green during the Home Energy Scotland roadshow at the weekend.

Dozens of people attended the events where they could get free impartial advice on how to save energy in the home.

Drop in session

More than 50 people attended a drop in session with specialist energy advisers in Whiting Bay on Friday.

But the main event was the showcase exhibi-

tion held in Brodick Hall on Saturday which attracted a steady stream of visitors all day.

Energy advisers were joined by a number of accredited installers allowing islanders to find out more about switching to greener sources of energy and to hear about the range of renewable technologies that could prove to be a realistic and more affordable source of heating.

Among the exhibitors were Arran Energy, Barr Renewables, Solar and Wind Applications, Eco-living, Gibson and Goold and Energywise.



Duncan Mulholland tells visitors about Arran Woodfuels. 20_b44energy03



Alistair Barr had a busy day giving out information about Barr Renewables. 20_b44energy02

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Be prepared for the

Arran faced the worst disruption of the winter so far at the weekend.

Ferries were delayed and localised flooding was reported as winds and heavy rain lashed the island.

While the west of Scotland has so far missed the severe storms which have hit the

south of England this week, residents on Arran are being urged to get ready for winter.

While we can't be sure what the winter weather will throw at us, with the worst snowstorms in living memory still fresh in people's minds, a new Scottish government campaign reminds people

that severe weather can strike at any time, so taking action now will serve them well in winter, and all year round.

Launching the campaign, minister for transport Keith Brown made specific mention of the snowstorms that hit Arran as he urged everyone to be prepared. While 44 per cent of people in Scotland say they feel prepared for severe weather, according to new research published, people are being asked to consider how prepared they are for all kinds of challenging conditions through this year's Ready for Winter campaign.

The campaign sets out the simple steps we can all take in the home, before a journey - whether driving, cycling or on foot - at work and in our communities. It also encourages people to look out for others, especially the more vulnerable, when bad weather strikes.

Findings from the survey carried out jointly by the British Red Cross and the Scottish Government show that:

*There's a five per cent increase in public preparedness for extreme weather on last year - 44 per cent in 2013 versus 39 per cent in 2012.

*People are most concerned

about extreme weather, power cuts and being cut off from their water supply.

*Many car owners think they're doing enough just by having an ice scraper and deicer.

In the last four years, parts of Scotland have been badly affected by severe weather - from high winds and blizzards that affected the country last February, to the snow and freezing temperatures of previous winters.

At the launch Mr Brown, said: 'While we can't stop the weather causing disruption, we can be well prepared to deal with it. Our winter preparedness campaign reminds us of this and the simple actions we can all take to prepare ourselves. With the clocks changing, the campaign calls on everyone to use the extra hour to get ready in the home, before a journey, at our place of work and in our communities. This will serve us well not just throughout the winter months, but all year round and in a range of emergency situations.'

'As we have seen in Scotland, severe weather can strike quickly and at any time of year.'

'In March, we saw the impact of severe snowstorms on communities in Arran, Kintyre and

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of benefits of going green

Advisers were also on hand to arrange free home visits where they can talk through renewable technologies best suited to different properties and circumstances.

Costs and savings

They can also explain savings and discuss any technical or planning issues or discuss directly actual costs and savings.

Home Energy Scotland Ayr advice centre manager Bob Baillie said he was delighted with the response.

He said: 'This is the third year we have held the event and it has proved very popular again.'

'People on Arran have a real interest in renewable energy, because there is no gas on the island and we are also pleased to offer information and advice whenever we can.'

Energy advice

'Our advisers make regular trips to the island to offer energy advice. We had more than 50 people at the Whiting Bay event and arranged 23 home visits which was excellent.'



Energy saving trust advisers who regularly visit the island Alex Hamilton, Andrew Filby, Brendan McCann and Ruth Sutherland. 20_b44energy06



Jim Faulds at the Gibson and Goold stand. 20_b44energy01



Visitors get energy advice at the roadshow. 20_b44energy04

worst of the winter

Dumfries and Galloway. The weather can cause a range of problems but we can be ready for them. So whether it is making your home energy efficient, protecting your pipes, packing an emergency kit for the car or looking out for vulnerable neighbours, we can all play our part in helping Scotland get ready for winter.

'I'm delighted the campaign is again being run in partnership with the British Red Cross and will be supported by a variety of other partners across the public, private and voluntary sectors in Scotland.'

David Miller, operations director for the British Red Cross, said: 'At the Red Cross we know that severe weather, including snow and floods, can happen quickly and have serious consequences.'

'However, with a few simple steps you can make yourself and others more able to cope with the disruption it can bring. You can prepare an emergency kit for your home and car, jot down your emergency phone numbers and check on any neighbours, family or friends to see if they will need any help. Each year the Red Cross helps people across Scotland

cope with the effects of severe weather and this winter we'll be prepared and ready. We urge everyone to take some time to get ready too.'

COSLA spokesman for education and young people, Councillor Douglas Chapman, said: 'The past few years have demonstrated how unpredictable our weather can be and the risks of being underprepared for it. Councils have contingency plans in place to minimise the effects of severe weather on services this winter but we encourage individuals to also work together to ensure their communities are prepared.'

Inspector David Carballo, trunk road policing group, Police Scotland, said: 'Winter safety is not just about severe cold weather.'

'We all know that the Scottish weather can be very unpredictable and drivers can sometimes experience a variety of different driving conditions during a single journey.'

'Effective planning plays a huge part in everyone getting safely to their destination and, in support of the Ready for Winter campaign, Police Scotland will be working with road safety groups and organisations

to offer free advice to road users.'

Phil Evans, the Met Office's Director of Government Business, said: 'We are pleased to continue to work with the Scottish Government,

Transport Scotland, SEPA and many more agencies this year. By working together we can ensure the Scottish public are well informed and able to prepare for any severe weather ahead.'

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Society hears of hunt for gigantic bank voles

A university professor has discovered that there is a variation of body size in island populations of small mammals.

John Gurnell, professor of ecology at Queen Mary, University of London gave a fascinating talk about his findings to last month's meeting of the Arran Natural History Society.

Animal species that are 'trapped' on islands provide ecologists and evolutionary biologists the opportunity to test out their ideas.

Many islands around the world have, or have had, unusual sized animals.

For example, last year fossil records analysed from the Greek island of Crete collected more than 100 years ago revealed the smallest dwarf mammoth found on islands, standing at under four feet, about one metre, at the shoulders.

John explained that many different factors affect body size, but that limited resources on islands could be a factor in larger animals becoming smaller through natural selection.

On the other hand, a lack of

predators or competitors on islands can result in smaller animals becoming bigger compared to their mainland cousins.

Ecologists have come up with the 'islands rule' which predicts that on islands larger animals may show signs of dwarfism, while smaller animals show signs of gigantism.

John has carried out research on the behaviour and ecology of mammals, especially rodents, for more than 40 years.

One of John's particular interests has been in the study of bank voles.

To test the 'island rule' John set out to compare the size and behaviour of bank voles on islands around Britain with those found on the mainland.

It has been known for some time that bank voles on Skomer island, off the Welsh coast, are significantly larger - almost twice the size - than mainland bank voles. During his studies John also noticed that Skomer voles were more placid, and were less likely to take chunks out of researchers fingers.

Their behaviour and size

could be due to the lack of ground predators on Skomer.

So far so good, but of the 13 small islands where John studied the bank vole populations, only four showed signs of gigantism.

From John's studies it appears that the 'island rule' is not hard and fast and that many factors come in to play.

So what of Arran? Unfortunately John's study did not extend to Arran.

However, while he was visiting he did put out a few traps to see if he could find the elusive bank vole.

There are very few records of bank vole on the island but they are known to be here. The main difference between a bank vole and the



A giant Skomer vole.

more numerous field vole is the length of the tail relative to body size.

Field voles have tails only about as long as 30 per cent of their body length, whereas bank voles have relatively longer tails.

John plans to revisit Arran and hopes to catch some bank voles to see if Arran conforms to the 'island rule' or not.

So if you think you've seen

a gigantic bank vole thumping about the woodlands or your garden, let us know and we'll send John over with his measuring tape and traps. Don't worry, all small mammals caught by John are then released unharmed, although they do sometimes tend to bite the researchers.

One way we may be able to help is to do a 'what the cat brought in' survey; this will

be launched in the new year so watch this space for details.

The next indoor meeting of the society will take place on Thursday 7 November at 8pm in the Rangers Centre in Brodick Country Park.

At that meeting Sarah Cowan from Kildonan will give a presentation on 'Flower Essences' to which all are welcome. KS

Clear car windows and don't drive off like a tank commander

'One of the biggest causes of accidents during the winter is not the weather but poor driving,' according to Sgt Allen Dodds of Police Scotland based on Arran.

'During the winter months motorists and cyclists have to deal with increased flooding as well as frost, sleet, snow, icy winds, icy roads, fog and the usual frozen locks and non-starts.

'Even if you are in a 30mph area it may mean you have to travel more slowly because the weather is bad.

'Before setting off on your journey make sure you have performed the crucial checks on your car, especially if kept outdoors and that the vehicle has been recently serviced by

experts and deemed safe to drive,' he said.

Here is the advice from the AA for safe and trouble free driving through the cold, dark months ahead.

Get up at least 10 minutes early to give yourself time to prepare the car.

Don't drive off like a tank commander, with a tiny hole cleared in the windscreen. Clear all windows using a scraper and de-icer.

Use a cigarette lighter to warm a key for a frozen lock. Don't breathe on the lock, as the moisture will condense and freeze.

Keep the windscreen and other windows clear - if your vision is obscured through ice or snow you could face

a hefty fine. Clear snow from the roof as well as from windows as this can fall onto the windscreen obscuring your view. It can be a hazard to other road users as well.

Gentle manoeuvres are the key to safe driving in snow and ice with stopping distances 10 times longer.

Wear comfortable, dry shoes for driving.

Cumbersome, snow-covered boots will slip on the pedals and pull away in second gear, easing your foot off the clutch gently to avoid wheel-spin.

Lights, heaters and wipers put high demands on the car battery. If your driving is mainly dark trips, the battery will give out eventually. Batteries rarely last longer than five years. Replacing one near the end of its life can save a lot of time and inconvenience at the side of the road.

A continuous squealing noise as soon as the engine is started is a sign the water pump is frozen - it's the fan belt slipping on the pulley.

The cylinder block could be frozen too. Stop the engine immediately and allow it to

thaw out. This may take several days unless the car can be moved to a heated garage.

If the car begins to overheat a few miles from home it's likely that the radiator has frozen preventing coolant from circulating.

Stop straight away to avoid serious damage and allow the radiator to thaw.

Keep the windscreen and other windows clear - if your vision is obscured through ice or snow you could face a hefty fine.

Clear snow from the roof as well as from windows as this can fall onto the windscreen obscuring your view.

It can be a hazard to other road users as well.

The AA recommend at least 3mm of tread for winter motoring, and certainly no less than 2mm.

Don't reduce tyre pressures to get more grip - it doesn't work, and reduces stability.

Consider changing to winter or all season tyres - these have a higher silica content in the tread which prevents it hardening at lower temperatures, and therefore gives better grip in cold wet conditions.

Yes Scotland Arran 
Polski Dzień Niepodległości

Event informacyjny w Whiting bay hall sobota 9 listopada w godzinach 11 - 16 Serwujemy herbatę, kawę i polskie ciasta. Przyjdź i dowiedz się więcej na temat Szkockiego referendum i jak zarejestrować się aby móc oddać swój głos, oczywiście jeśli tego Państwo jeszcze nie zrobiliście. Serdecznie Zapraszamy Wszystkich.

Jeśli potrzebują Państwo transportu na spotkanie prosimy o kontakt na yesscotlandarran@gmail.com lub pod numerem telefonu 01770 810601

A my postaramy się pomóc.

The 'Conker Cup' will be held at Kilmory Hall on Sunday 10th November at 2.30pm

It pays to advertise in the ARRAN BANNER

Lamlash Bonfire Night & Fireworks

Saturday 2 November on Lamlash Green

Contribute items for the fire

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7:30pm - fireworks

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Arran's young people have their say

Bargain bus fares and the standard of school toilets were the main talking points this week at a joint meeting between senior councillors and the North Ayrshire Youth Council executive.

The meeting in Garnock Academy, Kilbirnie is the latest in a series of regular get-togethers involving young people with the Cabinet of North Ayrshire Council.

One discussion at the meeting was on reduced rate bus travel for young people throughout North Ayrshire.

Concession passes are issued from the bus company's office in Irvine but it was reported that there was no facility for this on Arran.

It was agreed that information on travel ticket prices be placed on the council's website and that a representative of bus operators Stagecoach be invited to a meeting on Arran to discuss transport options in detail with young people.

Another topic being discussed was the standard of school toilets throughout North Ayrshire.

Head teachers were asked to contribute to a review of the facilities after Youth Council members raised the subject at a previous meeting.

A full report is being compiled for consideration at a future meeting.

Talent show

A talent show will be held tonight (Friday 1 November) at 7.30pm in the community theatre at Arran High School.

Tickets for the Duke of Edinburgh show are still available from the school office priced at £5 each or can be bought at the door.

Every member of the audience has the chance to vote for their favourite act on the night.

The annual presentation of Duke of Edinburgh awards achieved this year will also be held during the evening.

Everyone is welcome and refreshments will be available as well as a raffle and a guess the weight of the 'large cookie' contest.

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Antiquarians hear of monument restoration

Former caretaker of Arran Heritage Museum gives talk on monument restoration

The man in charge of the restoration of statues and monuments in Edinburgh has been back to Arran to speak about the challenges he faces.

Paul McAuley entertained 55 members of The Arran Antiquarians at their October meeting with his talk on the Edinburgh 12 Monuments Restoration Project.

Paul is no stranger to Arran, having lived here from 1982-88 when he spent six years as gardener, handyman and caretaker at the Isle of Arran Heritage Museum at Rosaburn.

He planted the flower borders, the Donald Mackelvie historic potato varieties and the prehistoric Gingko Biloba tree, and also helped to install the wooden 'Ross' bench, the horse threshing mill and the RAF memorial.

He moved to Lincoln College of Art and Design to study conservation and restoration, and stayed on after his course as technician/demonstrator to students.

He became interested in sculpture, ceramics, terracotta and stained glass, working for a short time on the German stained glass in Glasgow Cathedral.

He now works with the City of Edinburgh Council museum service on diverse collections in different locations.

Paul works alone but employs students or contractors to work on the monuments.

A large part of his job is trying to look after the nearly 200 statues, monuments and sculptures across the capital, including war memorials and water features, an almost impossible but interesting job.

The 12 Monuments Project is funded by a collaboration of Edinburgh City Council and the Edinburgh World Heritage Trust, and encompassed the time between 2007-2013.

He began by showing the antiquarians a slide of a painting 'Capriccio', Monuments of Edinburgh 1862 by David Rhind, and proceeded to highlight on the picture the monuments included in the 12.

The 12 monuments ranged from the large - the unfinished National Monument on Calton Hill ('Edinburgh's Disgrace'), the medium sized

statue of a mounted Charles II in Parliament Square, to the water fountain marking the first piped water supply to the city in 1685 situated in Grassmarket, and the much loved Greyfriars Bobby, whose restored nose was vandalised the very next day.

Poor Charles II on his horse was looking very insecure and needed intensive restoration.

This is one of the oldest lead statues in the UK and was designed by Girling Gibbons in 1685.

The horse's oak and metal internal frame was replaced by steel tubing and Charles himself was foam filled to reduce the weight on the horse, lead being a very soft metal.

The audience was shown restoration work done on monuments to Adam Smith, a principal figure in the age of enlightenment, the Duke of Buccleuch, the biggest landowner in Britain, Adam Black, the founder of Black's Publishing House, who published the first novels of Sir Walter Scott, and the David Livingston memorial in bronze by the eminent female sculptor, Amelia Paton Hill in 1875.

The Melville monument in St Andrew's Square deserves a mention. Henry Dundas, the 1st Lord Melville, a member of William Pitt's government, was impeached for embezzling the government's money, so the lovely statue by Sir Francis Chantry is admired if not venerated.

The Black Watch memorial on the Mound to the memory of men killed in the 1899-1902 South African War was by William Rhind.

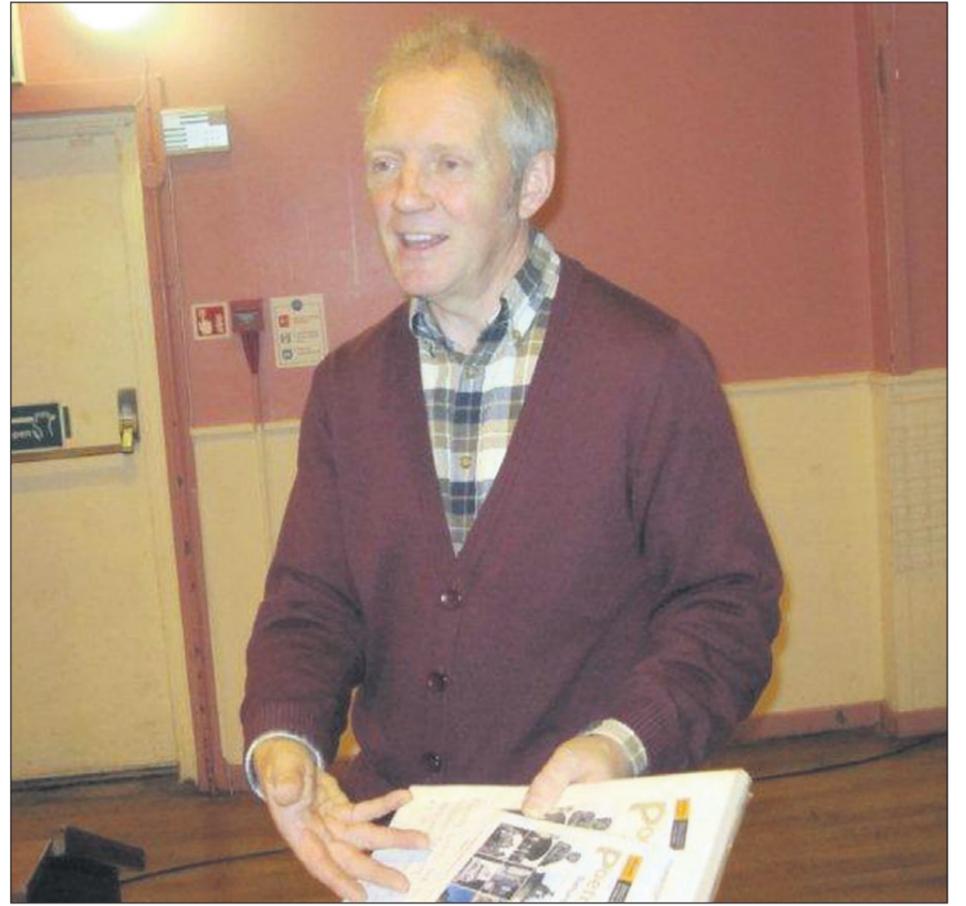
The figure in bronze of a kilted Highlander needed pressure washing, and took five weeks to clean.

Cleaning is usually painstakingly done by hand using just soap and water. Stonemasons are involved with damaged stonework and large pieces like Charles II and his horse had to be sent down south to specialist conservators.

Paul finished by showing work done on the Robert Burns memorial in Regent Road which is identical to the one in Alloway.

It had 1,000 visitors on Doors Open Day 2013.

Perhaps the most amazing was one which is less well known, St. Bernard's Well in



Paul McAuley gives his talk on monument restoration.

Leith. This was an Alexander Nasmyth design based on the Temple of Hygeia (the Goddess of Health) at Tivoli, near Rome and the feature still pumps water.

It incorporated a statue of the goddess, some beautiful roman mosaic work and a three feet high gilded finial.

The latter was restored by Paul himself with gold paint and gold leaf, saving his employers many thousands of pounds when he did the job

in his own workroom for the cost of £700 in materials.

Next time members look up to any monument and particularly those in Edinburgh, they shall do so with a different attitude.

Next month's talk is the final one for 2013 and a complete contrast, when Captain James Murchie of Shiskine will tell members about, 'Arran to Antarctica - a Life at Sea'.

ND

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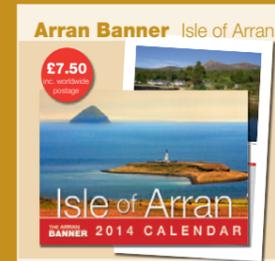
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THE ARRAN

BANNER

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Saturday 6 November, 1993

Farmers retire

Jim and Neil Dewar have retired after an entire lifetime living and farming at Torlinn.

A displacement sale was held by auctioneers for the farm equipment and the animals this week.

Quiet folk, their grandfather had the Lagg Hotel and then, in 1898, their father signed a lease for Torlinn at an annual rent of £112 - quite a lot at that time.

The three children grew up there, Jim, now 81, Neil, a few years younger, and May, who died last year aged 75.

None of them got married and the three of them worked away all their lives looking after the farm and being good neighbours.

Another displacement sale was held this week at Catacol Farm after a bitter dispute between Jimmy and Ellen McMaster and landlord Stephen Gibbs which saw the family leave the farm.

Churches to close

A decision has finally been taken to close Pirmill Church.

Under threat for a long time, Ardrossan Presbytery asked the Church of Scotland hierarchy for permission to close the church and this has now been given.

Rev Andrew Barrie said that the congregation was very disappointed and that he did not know what would happen to the building.

Worship is continuing in the church while another place is sought within Pirmill to conduct worship.

Kildonan Church is also to close although



Neil and Jim Dewar who have retired after a lifetime farming at Torlinn. b44twe03

the congregation there asked to merge with Whiting Bay.

Quarry study

An environmental impact study has been ordered into proposed further quarrying at Sannox.

The study has been ordered after an application to continue quarrying at Mid Sannox for another 10 years and extend the area to almost three times the present size.

The study has been ordered by the planning department of Cunninghame District Council.

When the quarrying began over 10 years ago strict conditions were laid down with which Arran Estates had to comply. Subsequently the workings were taken over by John Thomson Construction.

For sale

Arran Estate Agents had four houses for sale - the most expensive being Kelvingrove, a three bedroom 1930s bungalow in an elevated position in Brodick on sale at offers around £69,000. A mid-terrace cottage in nearby Mid Mayish was available at offers over £49,000.

In Lamlash a two bedroomed terraced cottage villa in Murray Place was on sale at offers over £39,500 while a semi-detached cottage near the golf court in Lochranza was available at offers over £25,000.



More than 150 people attend the displacement sale at Catacol Farm. b44twe04



Halloween has always been popular on Arran and 20 years ago these guisers were out in Lamlash. They are: David Hamilton, James Thomson, Ewan Murchie, John Thomson, Craig Lindsay and Miller Crawford. b44twe01



Carry on don't lose your head - but do you know the guisers? b44twe02

What's on

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www.arranbrewery.com



Everyday

Trout Fly Fishing
Brodict Castle, Garden Open
Arran Brewery

Arran Brewery tour

Loch Garbad, Boat and Bank fishing
Daily 9am-Dusk
Open Mon & Wed 12.30pm-5pm Tues, Thurs,
Fri & Sat 10am-5pm Sun 12.30pm-4.30pm
2pm

Metafit
Whiting Bay Firework Display
Coffee morning
Brodict Firework display
SFA Early Touch Football
Quiz

Arran High School, 6-6.30pm & 6.30-7pm
Putting Green, 7pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 10.15am-12noon
Brodict Beach 7pm
P1-P4s, Arran High School, 6-7pm
Drift Inn, Lamlash, 9pm

Saturday 2nd November

Army Cadets
Over 21s Disco
Karate
Family Games
Arran Dancers (4yrs & up)
Lamlash Bonfire
Junior Football

Auchrannie Road 11am -1 pm.
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 11.30am-12.30pm
Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Arran High School, 10am
front green, Lamlash from 7pm
P4s and upwards, Arran High School, 11am-12.30pm

Wednesday 6th November

Hockey
Tae Kwondo
Alcoholics Anonymous
Arran Brass Rehearsal
Yogalates
Aquafizz
Music Mayhem Class Parents & Little Ones
Arran Heritage Museum Archives & Genealogy service
Whiting Bay Bowling Rink Games
JogScotland beginners group
Mixed ability running group
Yoga-Arran
Elderly forum
Lamlash SWRI
Sports Club

Auchrannie Games Hall, 6.30-7.30pm
Arran High School Kids-6.30-7.30pm Adults-7.30-8.30pm
Lamlash Church Hall, 8pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7-9pm
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 10.45am
10.30-12.30 & 1.30-3.30
Whiting Bay Bowling Club 7pm
Auchrannie Spa car park, 5.15pm
Auchrannie Spa car park, 6pm
Kinneil, Lamlash, 7-8.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 11am - 1pm
P4-S2s, Arran High School, 6-7.30pm

Sunday 3rd November

Family Games
Fun in the pool
Cocaine Anonymous (& all other drugs)
AA Meeting
Martyn Joseph & Willy Porter

Auchrannie Games Hall, 3pm-4pm
Auchrannie Spa Pool, 4pm-5pm
Ormidale sports pavilion, 2pm - 3.30pm
Brodict Church Hall, 4pm - 6pm
Brodict Hall, 7.30pm

Monday 4th November

Quiz
Over 50s Badminton
Badminton
Citizens Advice
Senior Fitness
Table Tennis
Badminton
Arran Junior Football Club
Yoga
Lunch club
Yoga - Arran
Shirley & Sarah fitness class
Wee Blether cafe
Scottish Country Dancing
Bridge Club
Metafit

Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay, 8.30pm
Lochranza Village Hall, 2-4pm
Lochranza Hall, 6.30pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 9.30-1.30pm
Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
Corrie Hall, 6.30pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 7-9pm
Ormidale Park, 6-7.30pm
Corrie Village Hall, 11am - 12noon
Brodict Sheltered Housing, 12.30pm
Kinneil, Lamlash, 3-4.30pm
Lamlash High School, 6.30-7.30pm
Whiting Bay Hall, 11.30-1.30pm
Beginners & improvers corrie Hall, 2-4pm
Lamlash Golf Clubhouse 7pm
Shiskine Hall, 5.15 -5.45pm

Thursday 7th November

Senior Fitness
General Knowledge Quiz
Lochranza Craft Club
Live music
Weight Watchers
Yoga
Shirley & Sarah fitness class
Brodict Embroidery Group
Quilt Arran
Winter bowls
Bronze age roundhouse experience
Metafit
Bridge Club

Auchrannie Gym, 9.30-10.30am
Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Lochranza Hall, 2pm
Eden Lodge, Whiting Bay 8.30-11.00pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 5.30pm
Corrie Village Hall, 6pm - 7pm
Lamlash High School, 6.30-7.30pm
Brodict Library, 7.30pm
Lamlash Fire Station, 2pm-4.30pm
Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm
Brodict Castle, 2pm-3.30pm
Auchrannie sports hall, 6-6.30pm
Brodict Golf Clubhouse, 7pm

Tuesday 5th November

Pop Quiz
Alcoholics Anonymous
Youth Club
Rotary club
Streetly Dance pre school
Streetly Dancing minis P1-3
Streetly Dancing Juniors P4-7
Streetly Dancing Seniors
Youth Club
Weight Watchers
Junior Hockey Club
Healthy Outdoors
Lawn Bowls (weather permitting)
Food and craft market
Winter bowls
Scottish Country Dancing

Ormidale Hotel, 9pm
Brodict Church Hall, 2pm
Kildonan Hall, 7pm
Glencloy Suite, Auchrannie, 7.15pm
Auchrannie Dance Studio, 1.45-2.30pm
Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4-4.45pm
Auchrannie Gym Hall, 4.45-5.30pm
Auchrannie Gym Hall, 5.30-6.15pm
Brodict Hall, 6.30 - 8pm
St Molios Church Hall, 7pm
Auchrannie Sports Hall, 6-7pm
10am-1pm NTS Ranger Centre
Blackwaterfoot Bowling Club, 1.45pm
Ormidale Pavilion, 11am - 4pm
Auchrannie sports hall, 7pm
Brodict Church Hall, 7.30-9.30pm

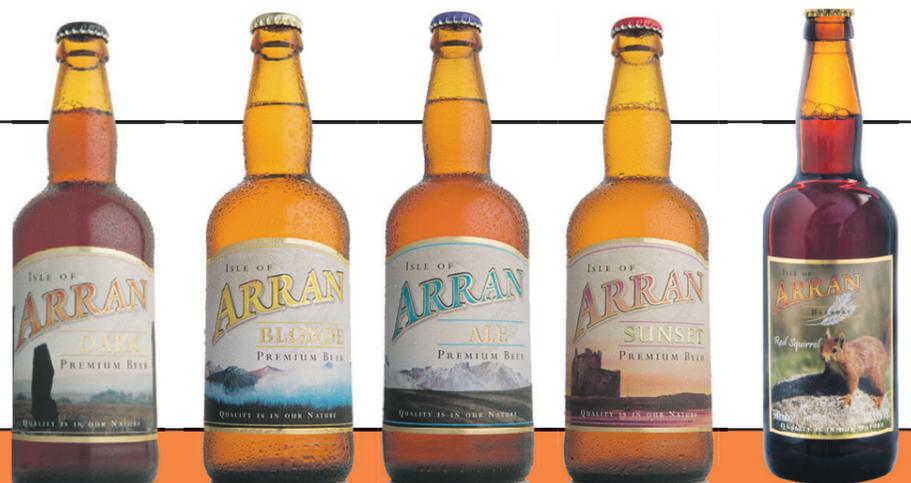
Friday 8th November

Aqua Fizz
Yogalates
Arran Youth Foundations
Lochranza Kids Badminton
Lochranza Adults Badminton
Disco
Brodict Farmers Market
Active Buggies
Arran Ceilidh Dance Group

Auchrannie Hotel Pool, 9.45-10.30am
Auchrannie Studio, 9.30-10.30am
Church Hall, Brodict 7pm-9pm
Lochranza Hall, 6-8pm
Lochranza Hall, 8pm
Ormidale Hotel, 10pm
Auchrannie Road, 8am - 6pm
Ormidale Park, 10am
Lamlash Church Hall, 8-10pm

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Public Notices



PUBLIC MEETING Brodict Terminal Redevelopment

Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd (CMAL) have now started the detailed design stage of the infrastructure improvements at Brodict Ferry Terminal, and would like to update local individuals, groups and businesses on the project progress. You are therefore invited to attend a public meeting where CMAL will present the latest information regarding the redevelopment.

Public Meeting:
Brodict Hall, Brodict, Isle of Arran
Wednesday 6th November 2013 19.30hrs

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BANNER 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 may be examined at Development Planning 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 Corporate Director (Development & Environment) at the above address or emailed to eplanning@north-ayrshire.gov.uk by 22.11.13. Any representations received will be open to public view.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (SCOTLAND) REGULATIONS 2013 REGULATION 20(1)

Format: Application No; Address; Proposed Development
13/00615/PP; Braehead Farm, Whiting Bay, Brodict, Isle of Arran; Erection of detached dwelling house with associated access, parking and drainage.
13/00593/PP; Vedo Mare, Brodict, Isle of Arran, KA27 8DW; Demolition of existing house and erection of new dwelling house.
13/00604/PP; Auchrannie Hotel, Auchrannie Road, Brodict, Isle of Arran; Siting of single storey modular building to provide accommodation for a hotel manager.
13/00620/PP; Village Shop, Whiting Bay, Brodict, Isle Of Arran; Erection of extension to side and rear of existing shop to form a delicatessen and sandwich bar.

Elma Murray
Chief Executive
Cunninghame House
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Congratulations to Rosemary and Victor Southgate on your Golden Wedding Anniversary.

Love Kate, Jim and family.



Congratulations to Grace and Verner Small who celebrated their 65th Wedding Anniversary on Tuesday, 29th October from Murray, Janice, Ian, Moira, Family and Friends.



Married in Holy Cross Church 14th September, Pauline Donnelly from Brodick, The happy couple spent their honeymoon in Sardinia.

Classifieds

OVER £30

Gents bicycle - 'Crestview Diamond Back' 21 speed, new tyres excellent £70 Tel:700542

Hedge Trimmer - 2 stroke, just serviced, very good condition £65 Tel:700542

VW Golf estate auto, 4 new tyres, mot Feb 14 £200 Tel: 302714

Electric Fencing Kit: 2 metal end-posts; 10 metal posts with insulators; 36 plastic poly-posts; electrotape, insulators, gate handle insulator. £75. Tel. 87029

WANTED

Electric Cooker, fridge, freezer and washing machine Tel: 870291

Multi fuel stove Tel: 850296

Greenhouse, 8 foot by 10 foot or less. Tel: 302 979

UNDER £30

US Mailbox, brand new £25 Tel: 700542

Golf Maxfli Irons 3 to pw £20 Tel:07585 269526

N W Gold Irons 3 to sw £30 Tel: 07585 269526

Dog-Crate, 36" x 22" x 24", folds flat, base tray, little used. Cost £65 new, will accept £25. Tel. 870295

Music system, cd/cassette/radio Sanyo good condition £25 Tel: 700542

Pine internal door with 12 glass panels (1885mm x 765mm) £10 tel:600238

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Arran Golfers Association

The Ken Western Greensome was held at Brodick Golf Club last Saturday with the morning boys getting the best of the weather.

The afternoon was okay till the back nine when the heavens opened and didn't let up till everyone had completed their rounds. The course was in good shape with the greens good for the time of year. Thanks to Brodick for hosting and to Keith and his boys for the condition, also to James in the shop for getting everyone started.

Results: 1 John Mckeen and Bruce Jenkins 65 less 8.2 nett 56.8, 2 Stewart Cree and Paul Bremner 70 less 7.4 nett 62.6. Magic twos - two from Ewan Mckinnon and Gordon Hendry at the 3rd and 8th, Len Hartley and Nicol Hume 4th and 15th, Ian Sillars and Jimmy Armit at the 4th and John Mckeen and Bruce Jenkins at the 12th. Best scratch and winners of the competition with a superb 65 were John and Bruce.

Fixtures: Winter League/ Duncan Trophy 2013/2014 first round at Brodick on Sunday 3 November. Draw: Brodick v Lamlash at 10am, Corrie v Machrie Bay at 10.50am, Whiting Bay v Shiskine at 11.40am.



Ken Western Greensome winners John Mckeen and Bruce Jenkins with association chairman Donald Logan.

Brodick Golf Club
Wednesday 23 October, 12 played on a trying day. There

were a couple of good performances one from Derek with three twos the other from Bryce. 1 B Walker 76-16-60, 2 N Frost 89-24=65, 3 D Robertson 80-14=66. Twos from D Roxburgh 3 and J Dick 1.

Fixtures: Saturday 2 November, Saturday Cup, arrange own times or join open draw at 12noon.

Sunday 3 November, AGA Duncan Trophy 10am, sweep with open draws at 9am and 12noon. Sunday 10 November, Brandon and Winter Cup, open draws at 9am and 12noon.

Whiting Bay Golf Club
Sunday 27 October, the Taylor Trophy was postponed due to adverse weather conditions and will be played at a later date.

Fixtures: Sunday 3 November, AGA Winter League at Brodick against Shiskine, 11.40am onwards.

Machrie Bay Golf Club
Tuesday 22 October, Winter Cup. 1 Denise Sherwood 60, 2 Campbell Laing 61, 3 Sally Brooks 62. Scratch Brian Sherwood 73. Magic twos Alastair MacDonald.
Fixtures: Saturday 2 No-

vember, Lochranza Hotel Cup tee off 12noon. Tuesday 5 November, Winter Cup tee off 12noon.

Corrie Golf Club
Saturday 26 October, 10 played. 1 R Burke 67-11=56, 2 A Burke 72-13=59, 3 B Lewis 75-11=64. Best scratch R Burke 67. There were magic twos from A Burke, J McGovern and J McConachie.

Monday 28 October, Monday Cup, six played. 1 J McGovern 71-7=64, 2 S Cline 96-19=77. Two from J McGovern.

Fixtures: Saturday 2 November, Joe McKenzie Memorial Trophy, shot gun start at 12.30pm. Monday Cup from now until the end of the winter at 12noon.

Lamlash Golf Club
Sunday 27 October, Winter Stableford, CSS 64. 1 Matt Harvey 36 points, 2 Jon Smith 35 points. No magic twos.

Fixtures: Sunday 3 November, Winter League (team game). Lamlash v Brodick 10am start. Thursday 7 November, Yellow Medal 11am start. Sunday 10 November, Winter Cup at 9.30am and 12noon.

CHURCH NOTICES

SCOTTISH EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(in full communion with the Church of England)
St Margaret's, Whiting Bay.
Sunday 27th October
Holy Communion, 11.15 am.
Mr John Roberts.
Visit by Mrs Elaine Garman.
Light lunch after service, followed by Sharing the Vision discussion.
Please note slightly later time.
Wednesday 30th October
Holy Communion, 12.15 pm.
ALL WELCOME

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Parishes of North Arran: Brodick, Corrie, Lochranza, Pirmill and Shiskine
Independent but working together
Minister:
Rev Angus Adamson
Parish Assistant:
Mrs Jean Hunter:
Worship will be conducted in the above churches at the following times to which all are invited.
Sunday 27th October
Brodick Church, 10.30am, Harvest Festival Service.
Corrie Church, 12noon, Harvest Festival Service.
A Harvest Festival Service will also be held in Montrose House at 1.30pm.
Lochranza and Pirmill Churches, 9.30am, Harvest Festival Service at Lochranza.
Shiskine Church, 12noon, Harvest Festival Service.

CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Kilmory linked with Lamlash
"A faith to proclaim ~ a fellowship to share"
Sunday 27th October
Kilmory 10am
Lamlash 11.30 am
In both Churches:
Mr. Ian Watt
All welcome, including families; children's area
Scottish Charity SC015072

WHITING BAY AND KILDONAN CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(Charity Number: SC014005)
Sunday 27th October
Worship will be led by the minister, Rev Elizabeth Watson at 10.30am.
All welcome.
Tea and coffee will be served in the transept after the service.
All most welcome

HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH
Sunday morning mass 11am

BANNER ANNOUNCEMENTS

ARRAN BAPTIST CHURCH
Minister: Rev Vince Jennings
Sunday 27th October
11 a.m. Morning Worship in The Ormidale Sports Pavilion, Brodick
Tea & coffee after the service.
Wednesday at 7.30 p.m.
Home Fellowship Group for Bible Study and Prayer.
Contact phone no. 600222.
Everyone warmly invited.

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
Sunday 27th October
Shiskine 11.00am (Church on road between Blackwaterfoot and Machrie)
Brodick 7pm (Church behind post office)
Mr Howel Jones

ARRAN FREE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND
(continuing)
Sunday 27th October
Morning Service 11am
Trust Housing Lounge
Glen Estate, Brodick
Evening Service 6-30pm
5 Glen Road, Brodick
All welcome

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS, QUAKERS
Quakers meet every Sunday at 11am. For meeting venue ring - 830622, 820223

SALVATION ARMY
House Group/Bible Study.
Mondays 2.30pm.
If you are interested in joining us please ring 810251 for more information.

DEATH

BURNS - John. Peacefully on 26th October at The Hague, Netherlands, John, beloved husband of Marlene, father of Alastair and Graham, grandfather of Penelope, brother of Paul and Geraldine. Requiescat.

MUTCH - Alexander Fraser, 1926-2013. Sandy passed away peacefully at his home in Brodick on Sunday 27th October 2013. He will be greatly missed by his wife Gwen and their children and grand-children. Funeral service in Brodick Church on Friday 1st November at 11:30am and thereafter to Brodick new Cemetery to which family and friends are respectfully invited.

PARKS - Anne Ritchie. The funeral of Anne Ritchie Parks, of Kilmory House, Lagg will take place on Monday 4th November 2013 at Kilmory Church at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations Marie Curie Cancer Care.

IN MEMORY OF

Thomas Andrew Miller
(late of auchenhew).
Forever in my thoughts,
your loving wife,
Jean Miller (Arran.)

DEATH

SAM JOHNSTON
Following the sudden and tragic death of our son Sam in the early hours of last Saturday my family have been comforted and thankful for the many messages of sympathy and support received from the good people of the Shiskine Valley.
Sam had his first holiday in Blackwaterfoot when he was three He learned to swim in the Kinloch pool, honed his cycling skills on the farm roads, fished, camped and most importantly made friends, both locally and with fellow holidaymakers, that he kept all through his life.
Last year his daughter Lily had her first dip in the pool and he was a proud dad.
Thank you all for your kindness and support.

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Narrow defeat for Arran in downpour misery

The outcome could have gone either way as both sides worked hard to put on a good display for the fans

Arran 12
Wigtownshire 16
Arran narrowly lost a closely fought game in horrendous conditions at Ormidale Park on Saturday.

The start of the game was delayed because of the torrential rain which failed to let up throughout the game and left the players having to cope in treacherous conditions.

The game began on a solemn note with a minutes silence observed by both sides and spectators in memory of Connor Smith who was tragically killed in a quad biking accident.

With just one win and a draw this season Arran hoped to see an improvement in a game that completed the first half of the league campaign.

Capitalise

And they hoped to capitalise on the good win at Lanark the week before. The visitors too were hoping to turn their fortunes around having lost both previous games on the road and fielded a strong squad of 22 players.

They were also accompanied by a number of officials and supporters who huddled on the touchline under umbrellas with the hardy Arran fans who were there to give their support.

Wigtownshire fielded Arran's start and set off back into the home team's territory.

Despite the worsening weather conditions, the visitors stuck to their running game, attacking with ball in hand and were

rewarded with a penalty after six minutes.

The kicker stepped up to slot the ball between the uprights for the first points.

'Shire kept the pressure on to keep the home side close to their line and it was only a matter of time before the visitors turned the pressure into more points.

This time a wayward clearance was handled by an Arran player who had been in front of the kicker who converted the three-pointer.

From the start 'Shire set plays were working well but Arran were managing to steal the visitors ball at the tackle and ruck.

Then out of nowhere a chip kick from the visitors in the middle of the pitch was fielded by the home side and run back towards the posts. The 'Shire tacklers fell off Niall McMaster and he was only brought to ground as he crossed the line to score

The conversion attempt hit the cross bar.

The visitors regained their composure and returned to



Stuart McMaster leads the Arran charge as they try to win possession from Wigtownshire. 20_b44rugby02

putting pressure on the home line.

With 25 minutes on the clock they managed to get on the score board again. A solid scrum gave 'Shire good ball and it was passed through the hands to the left wing, back across to the right, then returned to the left. The forward broke the defensive line to score a fine team try.

The conversion put 'Shire 13-5 in front at half-time.

After the break, and with the support of the storm, Arran came out all guns blazing.

They drove straight up the park to see Ben Tattersfield cross under the posts.

The referee arrived to peel the players off the ground and awarded the try. The conversion was a formality and the lead reduced to one point.

The rain continued in torrents and the wind strengthened but players on both sides knuckled down.

It was now Arran's turn to test the visitors' defence. They were not found wanting and the game got bogged down in the middle of the pitch.

Arran was coping better and their scrum was coming into its own.

The visitors tackled their hearts out and took on the ball when they got a chance. Both sides chose the aerial route to gain ground. 'Shire did well in fielding the ball and bring it back up.

With 22 minutes of the half played, an Arran player handled on the ground again, a penalty in kicking range was awarded and, in howling wind, Austin stepped up and added three points.

The home scrum was now

in charge, but under pressure the visitors worked together to keep any possession. The tight five did everything they could to ensure some ball to work with.

Arran had field position and possession, but could not find a way through.

The outcome could have gone either way as both sides worked hard to put on a good display for the fans.

Arran entertain Wigtownshire again today (Saturday) in the semi-final of the RBS West Regional Bowl competition. Kick-off 2pm



The referee leads a minute's silence at the start of the game. 20_b44rugby01

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING

Recycled paper made up 75.5% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 2004



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